

until 30th June, by which date it is supposed companies will be able to arrive at their losses.

American companies are liable; it is estimated, for \$63,771,000 loss in San Francisco; namely thirty-eight companies of New York State for \$18,944,000, and thirty-six companies of other States for \$44,728,000. These figures are from the same document.

There are eleven Russian, Scandinavian, and German companies whose losses Mr. Hendricks places at \$9,165,000 in all, according to their own estimates up to 12th May.

The Canadian companies involved are the Western for \$400,000, and the British America for \$260,000, according to this compilation. But on enquiry at the offices of these companies yesterday, May 17th, we learn that their latest estimates are about \$440,000 and \$290,000 respectively.

Six United States companies, whose aggregate losses in San Francisco were \$5,258,000, namely, the Traders of Illinois, (loss \$3,748,000), the New York Fire, the United States Fire, the American, Mass., the American Pa., and the Mercantile, Mass., have re-insured or gone into liquidation since 18th April. But the other American companies stand bravely up to the disaster. Of the New York State companies the Continental will have to pay \$1,900,000; the German-American probably \$2,000,000; the Home \$1,500,000. Of other States' companies the heaviest losers are the Hartford, which is down for claims of \$5,750,000; the Aetna, for \$2,700,000; the Connecticut, \$1,775,000; the Insurance Company of North America \$2,000,000; the Fireman's Fund of California, \$2,800,000; the Phoenix, of Connecticut, \$1,600,000, and the Pennsylvania for \$2,250,000.

American insurance journals are foreshadowing a rise in rates, so generally overwhelming and so unexampled has been this latest disaster, and so essential their beginning to provide adequately, as companies have never done before, for the conflagration hazard. Says the "Insurance Press":—

"A reasoning public understands that fire rates, except for the small margin of 5 per cent., are needed to pay normal losses. A reasoning public knows that the extraordinary combination of occurrences in San Francisco could not have been foreseen by anybody. A reasoning public will not expect fire insurance companies to provide for such losses out of current rates."

CANADIAN LIFE ASSURANCE.

A fortnight ago we made reference to the transactions of the life companies doing business in Canada and reporting to the Government at Ottawa. To-day we transfer to our columns (page 1554), a table from the recent Abstract of companies' reports which has been issued by the Superintendent. For convenience of comparison we may here place side by side the figures of the new business done during the last two years by different groups of companies:—

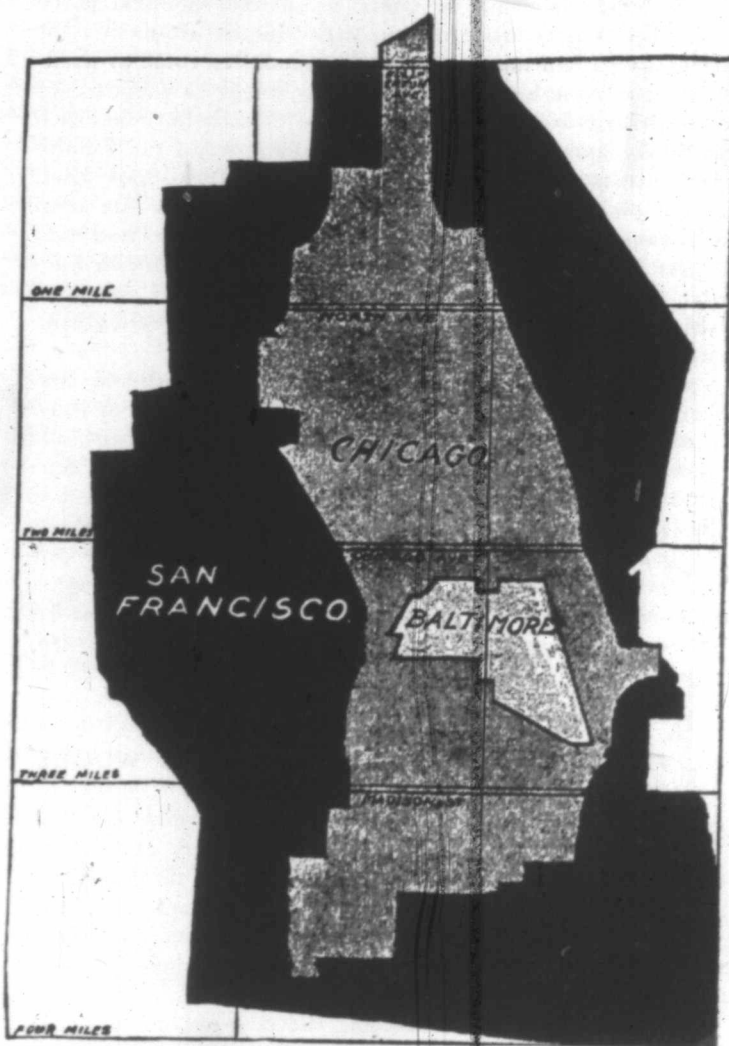
	1905.	1904.
Canadian companies	\$67,348,141	\$59,051,113
British companies	3,881,980	3,109,778
U. S. companies	34,486,215	36,145,211
Total	\$105,716,336	\$98,306,102

How the Canadian companies and their British confreres have gained upon their United States competitors in the business of last year appears from this comparison; for where the American companies had written 36 per cent. of the new business of 1904, they wrote only 32 per cent. of the business of 1905. The Canadian gain is from 60 per cent. of the whole to 63 per cent. on the year. In total in force the companies compare as follows:—

	1905.	1904.
Canadian companies	\$397,946,902	\$364,640,166
British companies	43,869,211	42,608,738
American companies	188,578,127	180,631,886
Total	\$630,334,240	\$587,880,790

The small proportion of the life assurance of Canadians which is done in British companies has often been remarked. Its percentage of only 4.14 which the figures of the new business represent in the table does not, however, hold in respect of total in force. The British companies total in force is nearly nine per cent. of the whole. This discrepancy is accounted for by the fact that out of fourteen British companies whose figures are given in the Abstract, only six take new insurance; the remaining eight doing no new business in this country.

Three Great Fires



(REPRODUCED FROM THE NEWS OF INDIANAPOLIS BY THE INSURANCE NEWS)

San Francisco's Burned Area Compared With Other Great Fires.