

The Budget,

INSURANCE. FINANCE. COMMERCE.

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The Budget

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W. CAMPBELL, Editor & Proprietor.

All communications for this Journal should be addressed to
34 Victoria Street, Toronto, Ont.

TORONTO, SEPTEMBER, 1893.

IN EXPLANATION.

We have to apologize to our readers for the delay of about a week in the issue of this number of THE BUDGET. The reason is that the affairs of the journal itself have been more or less entangled in those of the printing office carried on by the same company, which office has been closed up under the existing financial stress. The Editor of THE BUDGET, however, never pretended to be a printer, but an insurance journalist, and in this business he proposes to continue.

The difficulties incident to the closing of the Budget Printing and Publishing Company's mechanical department have become known to many insurance men, and to all these we have to return thanks for the kindness they have shown and the good will they have expressed. Contracts made with THE BUDGET will be carried out to the satisfaction of all who have entrusted their interests to it. We have arranged for the continuance of an insurance journal on the same lines as have been followed by THE BUDGET from the beginning, and we expect that the release from the many problems involved in the printing business will enable us to issue a better paper than before and one which will improve more rapidly than ever.

Should any subscriber not receive his paper in regular course the fault will be due to confusion consequent upon new arrangements. We desire to correct any such errors and would ask our friends to inform us of them when they occur.

INSURANCE IN CANADA, 1892.

The report of the Superintendent of Insurance of the Dominion of Canada for the year ended December 31st, 1892, is the beginning of the year, and including the amounts estimated

replete with information of the business of the year, from which we make the following extracts and summaries, omitting the tables. For the principal tables of each branch of insurance, for the year, see THE BUDGET of May last.

FIRE AND INLAND MARINE INSURANCE, 1892.

"During the year 1892, the business of fire insurance in Canada was carried on by 40 companies; of these 8 were Canadian, 24 British and 8 American. Inland Marine Insurance was also transacted by 4 of them (2 Canadian, 1 British and 1 American), and Ocean Marine by 2 of them (both Canadian). This list of companies differs from that of the previous year by the addition of 1 Canadian company, the Mercantile Fire Insurance Company, and 2 British companies, the Alliance, and the Sun Fire, and the withdrawal of one British company, the Queen of Liverpool. One British company (the British and Foreign Marine) carried on the business of inland marine insurance exclusively."

"The British companies above mentioned, to which licenses were issued, were respectively licensed on the 29th day of February, 1892, and the 3rd day of June, 1892, and the Mercantile Fire on the 20th day of June, 1892. The company last mentioned is a provincial company, incorporated by an Act of the Legislature of the Province of Ontario, and carried on business in that province before the issue of the Dominion license."

FIRE PREMIUMS AND LOSSES IN CANADA IN 1892.

"The cash received for premiums during the year in Canada has amounted to \$6,512,327, being greater than that received in 1891 by \$343,611; and the amount paid for losses has been \$4,377,270, which is greater than that paid in 1891 by \$471,573."

The ratio of losses paid to premiums received was, total amount of premiums received \$6,512,327; losses paid, \$4,377,270; rate of losses paid to premiums received, 67.22. For 1891, the rate was 63.31.

The corresponding results for the twenty-four years, 1869-1892, over which the insurance report extends, were; premiums received, \$98,519,114; losses paid, \$68,160,386; rate of loss paid to premiums received, 69.18. This is not a good showing, for if the expenses be added, the result would be the elimination of the premiums, thus:—loss-rate as above, 69.18, expenses 30 per cent, a low rate, result 99.18, losses paid to per cent of premiums received.

The Canadian companies made a poor showing as compared with that of the British and American companies. The loss-rate of the Canadian companies was 71.78; that of the British 68.41; and of the American 66.62. Excluding the year of the disastrous fire of St. John (1877), the average loss-rate would be 62.97.

"Obtaining an approximation to the losses incurred during the year, by excluding the payments for losses outstanding at