

who, under a false profession of this religion, deliberately consign some child, or other member of the family, to death by neglecting medical care. To protect the helplessness from this danger the law makes it a criminal offence to withhold "the necessities of life," and medical aid is held to be one of such necessities. The penalty in this case will be nominal, as the Chief Justice stated that the prosecution was only intended to call forth an authoritative expression of the law, and to warn persons against its breach by neglecting to give medical aid to the sick.

The bearing of the above case on life assurance interests is obvious. A contract of life assurance presumes that the policy holder will be influenced by the natural instinct of mankind to use every effort for the preservation of his life when in peril from sickness or other danger. If, however, this universal instinct is practically over-ridden by a conviction that medical aid is useless to the sick there is a risk introduced in regard to the life assurance contract that it does not contemplate.

#### REPORT OF MONTREAL STREET RAILWAY CO.

The Report of the Montreal Street Railway Co., submitted to the 41st annual meeting held on 6th inst., shows net profits for past year to have been \$649,251, against \$647,246 in previous year. Four quarterly dividends of 2½ per cent. each absorbed \$551,700, leaving \$50,000 to be transferred to Contingent Account and \$47,551 Surplus Account. The capital stock of the company is \$6,000,000, compared with \$5,497,055 at same date 1900; its five per cent. bonds due March, 1908, amount to \$292,000, and the 4½ per cent., due August, 1922, \$681,333. The current liabilities in statement include \$1,100,000 "Bank of Montreal Loan," \$139,200 dividend payable 1st inst., and \$302,868 miscellaneous items. These, with \$191,056 Contingent Account, and \$607,870 Surplus Account, made the total liabilities \$9,320,363. The Assets are \$6,079,578, cost of road and equipment \$1,588,739, real estate and buildings \$1,105,485, "Montreal Park and Island Railway Co.'s stock and bonds," which, with \$325,957 cash in bank and in hand, and \$220,602 of miscellaneous items, make the assets \$9,320,363, the amount also of the liabilities. The gross receipts last year were \$1,900,680, which is an increase of \$130,775 over 1900; the operating expenses were \$1,105,266, an excess of \$112,341 over last year. The net income per cent. of capital was 11.80, which is less than in any year since 1896. The passengers carried were 46,741,660, an increase of \$3,379,398 over 1900, and the transfers were 14,215,784, an increase of 1,020,810. The company has obtained franchises from the municipalities of St. Louis and St. Paul, by which a large and valuable territory has been acquired. A special fire insurance fund is about to be established, and a monthly statement of gross and net earnings will be published in the current year.

#### DOMINION MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION, CONVENTION.

The Thirtieth Annual Convention of the leading manufacturers of Canada has been held in this city, which was opened on the 5th by a reception at the City Hall, and closed by a banquet on the 6th at the Windsor Hotel. At the civic reception the Mayor took the opportunity of speaking of this as the "national port," and of Montreal as the commercial metropolis, being the handmaid of the whole country. The President, in reply, said: "Without doubt Montreal ever had been, to-day was and always would be the centre of commerce for the Dominion of Canada." The main topic before the Convention was the effect upon the industries of Canada of the present tariff, various phases of which were discussed. The Convention was a unit in regarding it needful to have the duty on woollen goods so raised as to give effective protection to the woollen mills. This is looked for as from representations made it is evident that the woollen industries of Canada are in a critical condition owing to the severe competition to which they are now subjected. Committees were appointed to consider the tariff on the following items, concerning which suggestions had been sent in: Woollen goods, oatmeal, lumber, folding boxes, agricultural implements, shirts and collars, spades and shovels, reed and rattan furniture, liquorice, when made into confectionary, iron and steel, chemicals, and the providing of more complete machinery for the proper appraising of goods entered at customs ports in competition with Canadian-made goods.

The report of one of these Committees called for changes in railway rates and classifications, to obviate the injustice of better terms being given to outside manufacturers than to Canadian shippers.

The Government was urged to assist by a subsidy, a line of steamships to ply between Canada, South Africa, and Australia. Objections were raised to the imperfect, biased and unreliable matter published in the government's "Labour Gazette."

A resolution was passed as follows:

"That, in the opinion of this association, the Government of Canada should at once take steps to secure reciprocal preferential trade between this country and the Australian Commonwealth; and that this association place itself on record as being heartily in favour of reciprocal preferential trade between Canada and every part of the British Empire, with which arrangements can be effected to their mutual benefit and by means of which each would receive substantial advantage as a result of its national relationship."

Another resolution called for encouragement by bonus or otherwise being given to the building of ocean steamers in Canada. The delay in introducing bankruptcy legislation was deplored, and the government was called upon to deal with insolvency as a