

The Chronicle

Insurance & Finance.

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Proprietor.

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The Chronicle wishes you a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

This being the first issue of THE CHRONICLE in the New Year, we take the very pleasurable opportunity of extending our best wishes to all our friends, for their enjoying health, happiness and prosperity throughout and far beyond the current year.

Next week we propose to issue a special number in celebration of our twenty-fifth birth-day, the date of the first copy of the journal of which THE CHRONICLE is a continuation bearing date 15th January, 1881. In prospect of this we abstain from any extended allusions to the career of THE CHRONICLE which has been marked throughout by an earnest devotion to the interests of insurance, the inculcation and defence of sound principles and the commendation of judicious and prudent practices, both in insurance, finance and government. From this line of policy THE CHRONICLE has never for a moment swerved.

We tender our warmest thanks to all our friends, who are spread over the whole Dominion, and are found throughout all parts of the British Empire, many, indeed, outside its boundaries, for their unwavering, loyal and generous support.

The publishers of over one hundred journals, magazines, and other serials have our thanks for the regular supply sent us of these periodicals.

Valuable contributions of news, comments on topics of interest, and letters of much interest sent us we gratefully acknowledge. At the same time we are in the mood of poor Oliver Twist, whose

unsatisfied appetite moved him to ask for more. If our subscribers were once to get in the habit of forwarding us a periodic letter embodying the news of their locality of an insurance or financial character, they would find the practice a very pleasant occupation, and our readers would appreciate such communications. News relating to local fires giving the property and insurance loss, the names of the companies interested, the cause of the fires are always interesting, and when narrated by one having, not only local knowledge but acquaintance with insurance business, are read with much interest.

In a short time we shall present the returns of the fire and life insurance companies for the year 1904. For the necessary data for compiling these tabulated returns we are now appealing to all the companies and trust to have responses at as early date as is possible. This has been a special and exclusive feature of THE CHRONICLE for a long term of years, and we are naturally desirous of keeping up the record. The past year was a disastrous one to fire companies owing to the conflagration at Toronto, but, outside of that, the Canadian business was favourable. The life assurance companies, on the whole, made progress last year, and enter upon the New Year hopefully and with good prospects.

Since Canada was confederated there never was so prosperous a year as the one just closed, nor was any previous New Year ever ushered in so full of sanguine hope for a long term of prosperity.