Henry B. Hyde, the Vice-President of the Equitable, is admitted to be one of the most practical, intelligent and energetic life insurance officers in the United States, and to his efforts and good management the great success of the Company is chiefly due. He has succeeded in popularizing it with the business community, and the wealthier classes to an unexampled degree. This is apparent from the fact that the policies issued last year sustain the high average of $4,500 each. The Canadian management is in the hands of Mr. R. W. Gale, who displays much energy in pressing forward the Society's interests.

LEGISLATION WANTED.

The Dominion Parliament will meet at Ottawa, on the 15th inst. The session promises to be one of much importance. The admission of British Columbia into the Dominion, the Supreme Court Bill, and the exceedingly important Election Bill, will, in all probability, be among the Government measures submitted. The amount of private business promises to be larger than at any previous session of the House of Commons. Application is to be made for a large number of important measures on the part of Companies and private individuals, which will call for the strictest attention and best considertion at the hands of the peoples' representatives.

Three new insurance companies will apply for charters. The Mutual Insurance Co. of Canada, whose headquarters will be Montreal, the Dominion Life Association whose chief office will be in Toronto, and the Mutual Life Assurance Association of Canada, whose headquarters do not appear. The Union Insurance Company of Canada, and the Quebec Marine and Fire Company will apply for amendments to their charters. The latter wants the amendments to "enable it to do a Fire business, and otherwise extend its operations in Marine Insurance."

All the Bank charters, or nearly all of them, require to be renewed during the approaching session. Banking affairs must, consequently, engage considerable attention, and time. The following banks have given notice that they will apply to have their charters continued, in conformity with the Banking Act, passed last session: La Banque Nationale, the Niagara District, the Bank of Nova Scotia, Union Bank of Lower Canada, the Merchant's Bank, the Mechanics' Bank, Molson's Bank, the Dominion and the Ontario Bank.

The following new banks are proposed to be established: the Bank of Rupert's Land The Imperial Bank of Canada, (Toronto) the Metropolitan Bank, and Banque du Canada, (Montreal), the Agricultural Bank, of St. Hyacinthe, and a local Bank at Waterloo, in the Province of Quebec. Judging from appearances, the people of Canada are not likely to suffer from want of sufficient banking institutions.

A larger number of Railway Bills will come before the House than usual. Three charters to construct the Pacific Railway are to be asked for. These are wanted by the Canada Central Pacific, to extend from Fort Garry to British Columbia, with a branch southwards to the American boundary; the Dominion Pacific, to extend from Lake Superior to British Columbia; and the International Pacific, to extend from some point on the G. T. R., to Sault St. Marie, from there to Pembina via Fort Garry, thence on to the boundary of British Columbia. Another interior line extending from Pembina northwards through Manitoba, is also projected. The Government will require to have a policy of its own in regard to Railway connection with the Pacific, and it is doubtful whether any of these charters will be granted.

Charters are to be asked for a railway from Kingston to Pembroke and one from Toronto direct to Ottawa. Power to erect a bridge over the St. Croix River, New Brunswick, to connect the St. Stephens Branch Railway with the Penobscot road, in Maine, is to be asked for; the Canada Southern will apply to be allowed to bridge the St. Clair and Detroit rivers; and the New Brunswick Railway Co. for similar power to bridge the river St. John, near the city of Fredericton, and at two other points. The latter bridges are important and much needed improvements. The Northern, Great Western, Erie & Niagara, and North Shore Railways will all apply for legislation with different objects. The International Bridge Company also desires increased powers.

Several new and important companies will apply to be incorporated. Among these we may mention the following: a Company for constructing, maintaining and working railways and other public works in the Dominion of Canada; the Winnipeg & Hudson's Bay Navigation Co., who propose to improve the navigation of the chain of waters between Fort Garry and Hudson's Bay, by way of Lake Winnipeg and Nelson river; the United Dominion Sugar Beet Root Growers and Manufacturing Co.; and a Company to Mine and Smelt Minerals in the County of Ontario.

Two bills of divorce are to be sought, one by John R. Martin, of Cayuga, and the other by Mary Ardellice Parker, of Norwich. The first of these was before Parliament last session, but failed to get through.

The Dominion Telegraph Co. will ask the "collective wisdom" to amend and extend its charter. The Toronto Corn Exchange Association and the Kingston Board of Trade want to be incorporated. The United Church of England and Ireland in Canada desires power to admit into re-union with itself the Diocesan Synod of Fredericton, New Brunswick; and the Municipalities of Owen Sound and Trenton wish to obtain certain privileges in connection with harbor dues and tolls.

The foregoing measures comprise most of the Private Bill legislation to come before the Dominion Parliament, of which notice has yet been given. The list is quite a formidable one, and, together with the number of measures usually submitted by the Ministry of the day, must tend to make the approaching session a pretty busy one. In all probability the House will be called upon to discuss the terms agreed upon for the admission of British Columbia into the Union. This will be a measure of the deepest moment—the success of which will make Canadian territory extend from the Atlantic to the Pacific—and must add greatly to the Session's interest and importance.

SELLING OUT IN BULK.

Among the various devices of roguish debtors to evade payment of their liabilities and defraud their creditors, selling out stocks *en bloc*, and disappearing with the proceeds, is perhaps the most dangerous, because of the great difficulty of applying to it any efficacious remedy. Some time ago the case of one Ashbaugh, a Hamilton grocer, was made the subject of severe censure in these columns. The purchaser of Ashbaugh's stock was also charged with being accessory to the attempted fraud.

The principal difficulty in dealing with cases of this kind is that the principal offender generally takes himself out of reach of the minions of the law before his guilt is discovered. In the absence, therefore, of any international provision for the extradition of this class of criminals, it seems plain that the purchaser, where he can be shown to have had any knowledge, or even suspicion, that a fraud was being attempted when completing the transaction, should be liable to adequate penalties. In the present state of the law he loses all he may have paid without the chance of redress, but in flagrant cases something more is required in the shape of fines and imprisonment of such severity as to deter, if possible, unscrupulous traders from incurring the risk of being caught in the attempt to perpetrate an act involving such serious consequences.

Elsewhere we give the particulars of a case which, so far as can be judged from present appearances, is exactly in point. There is an air of mystery about it on which it is at-