

ance Commissioner of the State of Massachusetts. Ex-Governor Russell is eminently fit for this position, being a man of marked ability, sound judgment, and great experience in a position which is partly judicial. He has appointed Mr. Merrill as his secretary at \$3,000 a year. Here then we have two officials who are especially qualified for their responsibilities, on the ground of fitness no complaint is possible, nor is any made. But it is averred that there have been relations between them which make their respective nominations of each other to office appear to be one good turn having been paid in kind. We cannot see any serious objection to this being done, it is irrational to expect friendliness of feeling to be eliminated in such matters, and so long as appointments can stand the test of merit, any objections on such a ground as personal good feeling are somewhat strained. Messrs. Russell and Merrill have done each other a good turn, but both being highly capable men, as good indeed for their offices as could be got, their personal, mutual friendship seems to us not worth discussing. A more serious objection to any payments being made by the companies to enforce rebate laws is raised by Mr. Jacob L. Greene, who forcibly urges that, it is the duty of each State to enforce its own laws, and as the companies are taxed so heavily, it is unfair for them to be put to any cost in putting laws in force. That is sound doctrine. But the State has no machinery to detect or investigate cases of rebating, hence, unless the companies undertake such work, the law must remain a dead letter. The anti-rebate Convention decided that such machinery was necessary in the interest of the life assurance companies, therefore it also decided to raise a fund for its organization. How far the plan adopted is wise, or the assessments equitable, we think time and experience alone can decide. Give the experiment a fair trial for a year, then it can be continued, or the plan abolished. Meanwhile, personable squabbles over the relations of such honorable men as Ex Governor Russell and Superintendent Merrill are to be regretted.

Premiums or Premia.

OUR East Indian contemporaries have adopted the word "premia" as the plural of premiums. This is philologically correct, as the word "premium" being Latin should, strictly speaking, be also Latin in the plural, which it is not when "s" is added to form the plural, after English custom. Thus we do not say memorandums, but memoranda, and agenda, not agendums. The word "premia" has the advantage of shortness, as well as accuracy. If, however, we adopt the strictly correct plural forms of a number of words commonly in use which have been taken from foreign languages, we should get considerably mixed, as many have come to us filtered, as it were, through various sources which would give us a choice of plural forms. Although then "premia" is a better word than premiums, for correctness and brevity, we doubt the custom of our Indian friends in this respect being adopted elsewhere, though we should not be surprised to find it coming into use in the States, where innovations in language on the line of abbreviation are popular.

THE CANADIAN INSURANCE REPORT, 1894.

Continued from page 416. Oct. 15th, 1895.

ASSESSMENT COMPANIES.

Companies.	Income, 1894.		Assessments.		Interest and other Receipts.		Total Income.	
	Annual dues, etc.	Medical Examiners' Fees.	Assessments.	Interest and other Receipts.	Total Income.	Assessments.	Interest and other Receipts.	Total Income.
<i>Canadian.</i>								
Catholic Mutual Benefit	\$ 441 50	None	125,102 99	\$ 1,263 84	\$ 133,478 42			
Com. Trav. Mutual Bene-								
fit Society	306 00	260 00	18,049 90	1,066 75	23,080 65			
Home	None	None	9,967 57	137 40	10,104 97			
Prov. Provid. Institution	15,570 00	3,224 00	102,523 91	4,963 11	153,118 19			
Woodmen of the World	3,570 00	595 00	9,247 99	553 71	13,615 20			
Totals	19,887 50	4,079 00	264,892 35	7,984 81	335,397 43			
<i>American.</i>								
Covenant Mutual	None	None	83,475 05	1,563 32	85,038 37			
Mutual Reserve Fund	41,048 00	7,809 00	210,970 06	4,857 64	318,385 62			
Massachusetts Benefit Life Association	None	1,123 50	138,910 61	2,011 03	169,723 23			
Totals	41,048 00	8,932 50	453,356 35	8,131 99	573,145 22			

EXPENDITURE, 1894.

Companies.	Paid for Death Losses and Disability Claims.	General Expenses.	Total Expenditure.	Excess of Income over Expenditure of The Reserve.
<i>Canadian.</i>				
Catholic Mut. Benefit	\$ 118,800 00	\$ 15,895 35	\$ 134,695 35	\$ 1,216 93
Com. Travellers' Mutual Ben. Society	22,000 00	3,528 15	25,528 15	2,447 50
Home	4,000 00	11,535 24	15,535 24	5,430 27
Prov'l Provid. Inst.	96,164 29	46,305 20	142,469 49	10,648 70
Woodmen of the World	8,200 00	7,030 10	15,230 10	385 10
Totals	249,164 29	84,294 04	333,458 33	1,939 10
<i>American.</i>				
Covenant Mutual	40,825 00	16,027 17	56,852 17	28,184 20
Mut. Res. Fund	160,594 76	80,194 80	240,789 56	77,594 06
Massachusetts Benefit Life Association	162,608 68	13,168 19	175,776 87	6,053 64
Totals	364,028 44	109,392 16	473,420 60	99,724 62

ACCIDENT AND GUARANTEE INSURANCE IN CANADA, 1894.

The business of accident insurance was transacted by seven companies, viz.: 4 Canadian (1 of which combined it with life insurance and 1 with plate glass insurance), 1 American (also combined with life), and 2 British, 1 of which combined it with guarantee business.

This list of companies does not differ from that of the previous year.