clerks, located in various cities, and holding meetings at regular periods to discuss technical subjects and to hear lectures; through the Bulletin, the official organ of the Institute, a bi-monthly periodical, publishing the lectures delivered before the chapters and other matter of interest; and, third, through the Correspondence School of Banking, a system of teaching by correspondence. Twenty-seven chapters are in operation at Baltimore, Boston, Buffalo, Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Denver, Detroit, Grand Rapids, Hartford, Kansas City, Louisville, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburg, Providence, Richmond, Springfield, St. Louis, St. Paul, Salt Lake City, San Francisco, Toledo, Washington, and others are in process of formation. Joseph C. Lincoln, editor of the Bulletin, official organ of the Institute, who has lately visited several chapters, reports them to be in a flourishing condition. We have heard but little of late about the Canadian bank clerks' institute, or a branch or sub-section of the Canadian Bankers' Association. whose functions should be largely academic. Is it concluded that our bank clerks do not need to be educated?

INSURANCE NOTES.

The other day the agents and staff of the Aetna Life Insurance Company's Montreal agency presented Mr. T. H. Christmas, the manager, with three fine steel engravings suitably inscribed. The day of the presentation was the day of the removal of the staff to offices in the handsome building of the Guardian.

We are glad to learn from Montreal that Mr. W. T. Stewart, who left the Canada Life Assurance Company last autumn to represent the International Mercantile Agency as their Canadian general manager, has severed his connection with the latter concern, and returned to the Canada Life. He will feel much more at home.

The Canadian Casualty and Boiler Insurance Company, Toronto, has appointed Mr. A. M. Wickens its chief engineer. Mr. Wickens was until recently chief engineer and boiler inspector to the Public Works Department of the Ontario Government, and the above company is to be complimented on the addition to its staff of such a well-known and efficient expert in the field of boiler inspection.

"The fire and life insurance businesses are lotteries, Simeon Ford told the Home Insurance people at their recent dinner 'In order to draw a prize in the fire insurance lottery you have got to go UP in fire or smoke. In order to draw a prize in the life insurance business— you have to reverse the process.' "—New York Times.

In reply to "R. T. C." we would say that it is true that the Union Assurance Society has secured a controlling interest in the business of the Northwest Fire Insurance Company, of Winnipeg, but the company will be continued as a separate organization, the following gentlemen acting as directors: Geo. R. Crowe, president; D. E. Sprague, vice-president; G. V. Hastings, Thos. Gilroy, G. F. Galt, and J. Stanley Hough.

The few city people who had the pleasure of knowing the little Habitant village of St. Agathe des Monts, up among the Laurentian hills and lakes, northwest of Montreal, as it was some eight or ten years ago, will be surprised to know that it has made sufficient progress since then to organize a fire brigade, the water to be supplied partly from the river and partly from waterworks. A gasoline fire engine is already part of the village's fire protective equipment.

The Indicator Chart is out for 1903. It gives statistics of the condition of American, Canadian and British legal reserve life assurance companies in the U. S. and Canada for 1902. Price 50 cents, published by the F. H. Leavenworth Company, Detroit, Mich. Among the tables which this handy book contains is one showing at a glance the standards of valuation adopted by different companies; table showing amount of assurance issued and in force these five years past; table showing amount paid policy each year since 1898. List of officials in charge of Insurance Departments in the United States and Canada.

Owing to the long continued absence of rain in Manitoba, bush and prairie fires have continued, doing great damage. On both sides of Lake Winnipeg, the forests have been on fire for miles around, and much valuable timber belonging to the Dominion Government has been destroyed. Many farmers have lost their homes and large quantities of stock. The chief area burnt over stretches from Tyndall to Balsam Bay, thence to Gimili,and from Winnipeg Beach down to Selkirk. From the Dauphin district also, bad fires are reported. The mills and all the logs and lumber belonging to the Swan River Lumber Co., at Fisher's Sidings, have been burned, the loss to the company aggregating about $30,000.

The will of William McCabe, the late lamented managing director of the North American Life Association has been filed for probate. The estate is valued at $183,313, made up of real estate, the net value of which is estimated at $44,644; life insurance $29, 143.35, bank and other stocks $54,096, cash in banks $3,495.47, securities for money $6,774.75, a large quantity of lands in the State of Florida. Two large farms on the lake shore west of Bronte, are a valuable part of the estate. Among other minor bequests is $1,200 to be divided among the clerical force of the head office of the North American Life Assurance Co. For five years following his death his subscriptions to charitable institutions in Toronto are to be kept up.

BOOK NOTICES.

We acknowledge with pleasure the receipt of the third edition of "The Copper Handbook, a Manual of the Copper Industry of the World," which is both compiled and published by Horace J. Stevens, Houghton, Mich. The price, in buckram binding, is $5. The major part of the book is devoted to descriptions of no less than 2,207 coper mines and copper mining companies in all parts of the world, and these are in as full detail as the importance of each warrants. The subject is taken up in a general historical way in the first chapter. Then follow the geological aspects of the matter, the ores and alloys of copper, its chemistry and mineralogy. There is a chapter also on recent new uses of the metal. Finally, there is a statistical department which must represent an enormous amount of work in comparing and investigating. As a sort of appendix, there is an advertising section of some 90 pages, with announcements of nearly 200 manufacturers and dealers in mining supplies, mining companies, engineers, metallurgists, chemists, trade journals, railroads, etc., supplemented by a carefully compiled classified buyers' index.

A copy is to hand of vol. 17, the Bankers' Encyclopedia, which brings the information it contains up to date of 20th March of the present year. Compiled by Chas. R. Williams, and published by the Bankers' Encyclopedia Company, of Chicago, it is a new and original summary of the banks, bankers, savings banks, and loan and trust companies in the United States and Canada, with full statements of their liabilities, resources, names of officers, agents, correspondents, and other information in the interests of bankers, attorneys and merchants. More than 20 pages are devoted to Canadian banking matters. and altogether the book seems to be an exhaustive one, and the result of a great deal of labor.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

Neglected Children.—Some one must have taken a deal of pains in the compilation of this instructive and inspiring pamphlet.*

*Tenth Report of the Superintendent of Neglected and Dependent Children of Ontario, 1902.

If it is Mr. Kelso who has done it, in addition to all his other work, he is entitled to praise; for the facts it contains, as well as the way these facts are presented, are often striking. Quite a number of good men and women, the country over, are assisting to look after truant and vagrant children. Mr. Kelso tells us that since the institution of this work in Ontario, "nearly 2,000 children have been rescued from a state of degradation, many of them little boys and girls who knew more of evil practices than most grown-ups had