THIRTY-FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE

Guelph and Ontario Investment and Savings Society.

DECEMBER 31ST, 1909.

Annual Meeting.

The thirty-fourth annual meeting of the shareholders of this society was held in the board room of the society's office, corner Wyndham and Cork Streets, Guelph, on Wednesday, February 16th, 1910, at 2 p.m.

Among the shareholders present were:—Messrs. H. Howitt, M.D., Charles E. Howitt, Rev. James Harris, Robert Hackney, J. J. Kelso, J. W. Kilgour, J. E. McElderry, John McKinnon, Douglas McGregor, A. B. Petrie, James M. Purcell, George Shortreed.

The president, Mr. A. B. Petrie, occupied the chair, and the managing director, Mr. J. E. McElderry, acted as secretary.

After the notice calling the meeting had been read and the minutes of the last annual meeting confirmed, the secretary read the annual report and financial statement for the year 1909, as follows:—

The directors of the Guelph and Ontario Investment and Savings Society present to the shareholders their report—for the year ended December 31st, 1909.

After paying all cost of management, interest on deposits and debentures, and all other charges, the net profits for the year amount to 62,111.51, which sum, together with $9,101.53 brought forward from the previous year, making a total of $71,213.04, has been appropriated as follows:—

Dividend No. 66, paid 2nd July, 1909	$17,760 00
Dividend No. 67, payable 3rd January, 1910	17,760 00
Amount added to Reserve Fund	25,000 00
Amount carried forward	10,693 04

The reserve fund now amounts to $267,000.00, being over sixty per cent. of the paid-up capital, and the total assets of the Society are $2,500,486.31.

Payments on mortgages were well and promptly met during the year, and after thorough inspection the securities held by the Society have been found very satisfactory.

We have pleasure in reporting a further large increase in the amount invested by the public in the Society's currency debentures. Sterling debentures issued to investors in Great Britain, amount to $59,785.78.

The accounts have been audited each month, and the auditors' report is presented herewith.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. B. PETRIE,
President.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1909.

Profit and Loss.

Dr.

Dividend No. 66	$ 17,760 00
Dividend No. 67	17,760 00
Interest on Deposits	16,385 09
Interest on Currency Debentures	46,157 80
Interest on Sterling Debentures	2,234 63
Commissions, Valuators' Fees, etc.	3,762 00
Municipal and Government Taxes and License Fees	1,281 08
Expenses, including Directors' Fees, Auditors' Salaries and Inspector's Salary	16,996 28
Transferred to Reserve Fund	25,000 00
Balance carried forward	10,693 04
	$158,029 92

Cr.

Balance brought forward	$ 9,101 53
Earnings on Investments, Rents, Interest on Bank Accounts, etc.	148,928 39
	$158,029 92

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

The Assets are as Follows:—

Cash value of Mortgages and other Securities	$2,185,780 82	
Office Premises	20,000 00	
Cash in Bank of Montreal	278,014 52	
Cash in National Bank of Scotland, Limited	6,532 06	
Cash on hand	8,205 58	
Rents accrued	250 00	
Due by Agents in Great Britain	1,703 33	
		$2,500,486 31

The Liabilities are as Follows:—

Savings Deposits	$ 558,971 53	
Currency Debentures	1,109,794 25	
Sterling Debentures	59,785 78	
Interest accrued on Deposits and Debentures	32,481 71	
		$1,761,033 27
Surplus Assets		$739,453 04

The Surplus Assets (Liabilities to Shareholders) Are Composed of:—

Fixed and Permanent Stock subscribed $820,000.00, on which has been paid	$444,000 00	
Dividend payable 3rd January, 1910	17,760 00	
Reserve Fund	267,000 00	
Balance Profit and Loss Account	10,693 04	
		$739,453 04

J. E. McELDERRY,
Managing Director.

We have audited the books and vouchers of the Guelph and Ontario Investment and Savings Society monthly during 1909, and found them correct. We have also examined the mortgages and calculated the value and earnings of the mortgages and municipal debentures, checked the savings department and debenture balances, proved the bank balances, and certify that the foregoing balance sheet is a correct statement of the Society's affairs at 31st December, 1909.

J. W. KILGOUR,
J. M. SCULLY, F.C.A.,
Auditors.

Guelph, January 27th, 1910.

The report was warmly received by the shareholders and unanimously adopted.

The election of directors was then held, Messrs. J. J. Kelso and Douglas McGregor acting as scrutineers. After the ballot had been taken, the following were declared duly elected:—Messrs. A. B. Petrie, H. Howitt, M.D., George D. Forbes, Charles E. Howitt, J. E. McElderry, George Shortreed.

A vote of thanks was tendered to the scrutineers for their services.

Messrs. J. W. Kilgour and J. M. Scully, F.C.A., were reappointed auditors for the ensuing year.

At a subsequent meeting of the Board, Mr. A. B. Petrie was re-elected president; Dr. H. Howitt, first vice-president; and Mr. George D. Forbes, second vice-president.

TO REDUCE THE FIRE LOSS.

Five hundred dollars per minute for every hour of the twenty-four is how Mr. F. H. Wentworth, secretary of the National Fire Protective Association, expressed America's annual fire loss, which totals $250,000,000 per year. Canada's share last year was almost $20,000,000. Speaking to the Worcester, Mass., Board of Trade, Mr. Wentworth said there was but one way to escape this loss and that is to begin rational building construction and then protect that construction against fire. It is the ever-present conflagration hazard which makes any approach to scientific underwriting impossible. "Can you tell me how you would have properly rated the brick bank building in the heart of the Chelsea with twenty acres of wooden buildings on fire to windward of it and a forty-mile gale blowing? That is the problem which the underwriters have to solve."

Concluding, he said, "There is a way to solve this conflagration problem, not absolutely, but at least relatively, and Worcester might become historic by being the first American city to initiate it. You cannot be expected to tear down your city and rebuild it of fire-resisting material, or even to tear down enough buildings to allow broad streets or parkways, by which open spaces conflagration might be arrested. Your present city hall park is an admirable fire stop of this character. The cities must be protected as they stand. What then can be done by you beside furnishing water supplies and fire departments; keeping your city free from rubbish, and prohibiting forever and always the shingle roof as if it were a public crime? I would suggest this plan: In the heart of nearly every city there are streets crossing at right angles, along which for a very considerable distance are buildings of brick, stone or concrete. Looked at upon the map, this shows a more or less maltese cross of buildings which are not wooden, and which operate to divide the wooden-built districts in quarter sections, and which might hold a fire in any one of these sections if they were equipped to do so. These brick and stone buildings are valueless as fire-stops, because their windows are of thin glass and their window frames of wood."