holders will have the pleasure not only of listening to the usual informing address on Canadian conditions by Sir Edmund Walker, the President of the Bank, but also of hearing that the Bank has had a satisfactory year.

ANOTHER BRITISH FIRE OFFICE.

The Employers' Liability Assurance Corporation, Limited, of London, England, so well and favorably known in Canada, through the operation of its liability, sickness, accident and guarantee branches, is about to extend its business to fire insurance in the Dominion.

The Corporation has lodged the necessary additional deposit with the Insurance Department at Ottawa, and has obtained its license to transact fire business.

The appointment of a Canadian fire superintendent will, we understand, be made shortly, and it is anticipated that the new branch will be opened early in the New Year.

The Manager of the Fire Department of the Corporation, Mr. T. E. Keysell, is now on a visit to this country.

CANADIAN LIFE INSURANCE OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Canadian Life Insurance Officers' Association was held on the 25th November. There were present Messrs. J. G. Richter (London), L. Goldman, D. E. Kilgour (North American), G. A. Somerville, J. B. McKechnie (Manufacturers), G. Wegenast (Mutual), D. Burke (Royal-Victoria), F. Sanderson (Canada), J. O. McCarthy (Ætna), J. E. Kavanagh (Metropolitan), E. Marshall (Excelsior), C. H. Fuller (Continental), Colonel Macdonald (Confederation), T. Hilliard (Dominion), Alex. Bissett (London & Lancashire), F. F. Parkins (Travelers), W. Wallace (Crown), F. Sparling (National), T. Bradshaw (Imperial).

In the absence of the President, Mr. J. K. Macdonald (Confederation), through indisposition, the chair was taken by the First Vice-President, Mr. J. G. Richter.

Intimations of regret at inability to attend were received from Messrs. J. Milne (Northern), H. B. F. Bingham (Phœnix), D. McGoun (Standard), G. T. Dexter, Fayette Brown (Mutual Life of New York), D. P. Kingsley (New York), A. R. Howell (Royal), S. P. Stearns (Equitable), T. B. Macaulay, A. B. Wood (Sun), D. Dexter (Federal), A. G. B. Claxton (Metropolitan), E. E. Reid (London), J. L. English (Ætna).

A communication was also read from Mr. B. Hal Brown, expressing regret that owing to his retirement from the general managership for Canada of the London & Lancashire Life, he would not in the future have the pleasure of attending the meetings of the Association. Mr. Brown has been connected with the Association practically from its commencement and his retirement from life assurance is generally regretted.

The Prudential Insurance Company of America was duly admitted into membership of the Association.

A report was submitted by the committee charged with the preparation of a uniform policy provision and uniform extra premiums for the new total and permanent disability benefit which is being seriously considered by many of the life insurance companies.

Several other matters were considered of a routine character. The Secretary-Treasurer's statement for the year was presented, and the election of officers resulted as follows:—

President, J. G. Richter; First Vice-President, L. Goldman; Second Vice-President, G. Wegenast; Secretary-Treasurer, T. Bradshaw; Auditors, E. W. Cox and J. Milne; Executive Committee: The foregoing officers and Messrs. J. K. Macdonald, F. Sanderson, T. B. Macaulay.

The occasion of the annual dinner held in the evening at the Toronto Club, as reported in our last week's issue, was taken advantage of to do special honor to Mr. B. Hal Brown, who was the guest of the Association. Twenty-two members were present.

Notes on Business, Insurance and Finance.

National Surety Company. The National Surety Company, of New York, has received a license to transact the business of guarantee insurance in Canada. The company's chief agency will be in Toronto and Mr. Harry W. Crossin has been appointed the company's chief agent in the Dominion. This company, whose home office is at 115 Broadway, New York, was incorporated in 1897. Its paid-up capital is $750,000. Its total income in 1909 was $3,001,737, while at the close of the year the company owned gross assets of $4,032,164; which gave a surplus over all liabilities of $774,713 or including capital stock, surplus to policyholders is $1,524,713. Mr. William B. Joyce is the President of the company, Mr. David W. Armstrong, jr., its secretary, and Mr. W. I. Hawks, assistant secretary.

Eastern Townships Bank Dividend. Announcement is made that the next quarterly dividend of the Eastern Townships Bank, payable on January 3, will be at the rate of 9 per cent. per annum. The Eastern Townships thus joins the numerous banking institutions, who have lately evidenced present conditions of prosperity in the Dominion by increased dividends to their shareholders. The existing rate of 8 per cent. per annum has been in force since 1903, and for three years previously 7 p.c. with an addition of one per cent. was paid. Although, exceptionally, one year (1875) a 10 per cent. dividend was paid, the Eastern Townships Bank has not previously paid regularly a higher dividend than 8 per cent., and that the directors now feel able to take the step to 9 per cent. is excellent evidence of the Bank's well-being. There will be congratulations to the directors and Mr. J. Mackinnon the general manager. The directors, also, have been authorized to take steps to increase the Bank's capital from $3,000,000 to $5,000,000.