

Other deposits after notice	2,882,723 54	
Due banks in the United Kingdom	6,928 86	
		4,348,787 53
		\$6,676,768 09
Assets.		
Specie	\$ 112,551 33	
Dominion notes	108,887 00	
Bills and cheques on other banks	39,410 24	
Due from other banks in Canada	399,410 19	
Due from other banks not in Canada	209,588 99	
Dominion Government circulation redemption fund	44,111 79	
Dominion Government debentures	13,000 00	
Provincial Government debentures	51,666 67	
		\$ 978,626 21
Bank premises and bank furniture	120,931 67	
Current loans, discounts, and advances to the public	5,412,074 51	
Real estate, other than bank premises	52,268 25	
Mortgages on real estate sold by the bank	56,324 00	
Loans overdue, secured	5,293 17	
Loans overdue, unsecured	31,360 82	
Other assets and items in transitu between offices	19,889 46	
		5,698,141 88
		\$6,676,768 09
WM. FARWELL, General Manager.		

ONTARIO MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

The twenty-sixth annual meeting of this company was held in the Town Hall, Waterloo, on Thursday, May 28, 1896.

Among those present were a number of prominent policy-holders and the chief general agents. The meeting was, as usual, characterized by an esprit de corps and a unanimous feeling of satisfaction with the various reports presented, which augur well for the success of this popular company.

The chair was occupied by the president, Mr. I. E. Bowman, and on motion the secretary of the company acted as the secretary of the meeting. The minutes of the last annual meeting having been taken as read, the president read the report of the directors as follows:—

REPORT.

"Your directors beg to submit the following statements as their report of the business of the company for the year ending on the 31st December, 1895, and in doing so they are confident that although the volume of new policies issued is not quite up to the previous year, the result of the year's business cannot fail to be satisfactory to the policy-holders.

"The income from premiums and interest on investments and the surplus of assets over liabilities have all been materially increased, while the death losses and the ratio of expenses have both been lower than in 1894.

"Last year it was announced that it was intended to increase the reserve fund from the Hm. Table and $\frac{4}{5}$ per cent. to the Actuaries' Table and 4 per cent. interest. This has been carried out, and the sum of \$117,231 has been transferred from the surplus to reserve, and during the year the further sum of \$70,280 has been paid to the members of the company either in cash or in reduction of their premiums.

"After making these large disbursements there is still in hand the substantial surplus of \$196,735 for future distribution to the policy-holders.

"The first policies on the quinquennial plan of distribution were issued in July, 1891, so that these policies are entitled to their first dividends this year, and the directors are pleased to be

able to announce that the surplus to be allotted is about ten per cent. higher than the estimates furnished to our agents five years ago.

"The total assets of the company at the close of the year were \$3,136,012.05, and the reserve required to be held as security to the policy-holders is \$2,933,283.

"The number of policies in force is 14,419 for insurance, amounting to \$19,312,477.

"The number of policies issued during the past year was 1,758, covering assurance for \$2,590,218. Applications were also received for \$159,750 on the lives of persons whose health was not up to the company's standard, which were therefore declined.

"The amount of the death claims which occurred during the year was \$130,781 under 99 policies, and the matured endowments amounted to \$36,450 under 25 policies.

"The Executive Committee has again carefully examined the securities and cash held by the company, and found them all correct as reported by your auditors.

"The company have since the last meeting sustained a very great loss in the death of Mr. John Marshall, of London, for many years a most useful and highly-esteemed member of this board. The vacancy has been filled under the provisions of the charter by the election of Mr. Geo. A. Somerville, of London, for the unexpired portion of Mr. Marshall's term."

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

Mr. Bowman said that one feature of the report which seemed to him to be unusual in connection with life assurance was that the surplus results on our first quinquennial policies are about 10 per cent. in advance of the estimates made for our agents.

As intimated in the report, the new business for the past year has not been quite equal to that of the previous year. This is largely due to the fact that we have had for several years past a serious business depression, so that many who would otherwise have insured their lives could not do so for the want of the necessary funds.

It is not always the company which secures the largest volume of new business that can produce the best results for its policy-holders. A fair average new business each year, obtained at a moderate cost, is much better for a company than the expenditure of an excessive amount merely to show a large increase of business.

The results of the year's operations are eminently satisfactory, showing improvement in every important feature of the report. There has been an increase in assets, in reserve for the security of the policy-holders, in the premium and interest income, and our death losses are about \$8,000 less than last year, while our expense account is \$957 less, which shows that our business is economically managed. The ratio of expense to income has been reduced by 2 per cent., and is now as low as that of any Canadian company and lower than most of them. Our aim should be to give our policy-holders safe insurance at the lowest possible cost, and so long as we do this the insuring public will not fail to recognize the superior merits of the Ontario Mutual.

He moved the adoption of the report, submitting the following:—

ABSTRACT OF ACCOUNTS FOR 1895.

Income.	
Premiums, net	\$ 586,385 34
Interest, annuities, etc	149,069 40
Total	\$ 735,454 74
Disbursements	
Payments to policy holders for death claims, endowments, surplus, surrender values, etc. \$	328,427 62
Expenses and taxes	116,501 39
Total	\$ 444,929 01
Assets.	
Loans on first mortgages	\$1,607,592 01
Municipal debentures	730,521 69
Loans on company's policies ..	466,753 34
Real estate	45,968 35
Cash on hand and in banks ...	52,182 74
Other assets	232,993 92
Total	\$3,136,012 05
Liabilities.	
Reserve, actuaries' 4 per cent. ..	\$2,933,283 00
All other liabilities	5,993 39
Total	\$2,939,276 39

Surplus.

On company's standard 4 per cent.	\$ 196,135 66
On Government standard $\frac{4}{5}$ per cent.	315,000 00

Mr. Robert Melvin, second vice-president, said that the reports of the Ontario were generally of the character presented to-day—simple, plain statements of facts which speak for themselves. He contrasted the present standing of the company, as compared with previous reports, showing the steady, substantial progress made from year to year. A reasonable influx of "new blood" was necessary in order to conserve the interests not only of existing policy-holders, but to make the business profitable to all concerned. There is, however, a limit within which, in justice to old policy-holders, the amount of new business should be kept; and while it is desirable to secure as much business as can be obtained at a reasonable cost, he deprecated the mad race of some companies after new insurance at an outlay far beyond its legitimate value to the company. He had much pleasure in seconding the adoption of the report, which in every feature that indicated a healthy growth must be eminently satisfactory to policy-holders.

The report was unanimously adopted.

VOTES OF THANKS.

Mr. Erastus Jackson, Newmarket, moved, seconded by J. L. Wideman, St. Jacobs, "That the hearty thanks of this meeting be tendered to the president, vice-presidents and directors for the care which they have conserved for the interests of the company during the year." He said the report submitted showed that the work of the board had been both efficient and effective, and as one of the earliest policy-holders (the number of his policy was 26) he was in a position to say that from the inception of the company up to the present day he found ample grounds to be exceedingly well pleased not only with his own policy, but also with the management of the company's affairs during the quarter of a century he was one of its members.

Mr. A. Hoskin, Q.C., Toronto, acknowledged the hearty way in which the motion was passed, and said that it must be a source of no little gratification to his colleagues on the board, as it was to himself, to receive from the policy-holders so strong a testimony in appreciation of their efforts to serve the company faithfully, as was set forth in the motion just read. He was glad to find that the agents were never more in accord with the board than at present, and he assured them the board would always be ready to meet any useful suggestion or remove any well-founded grievance they might submit for its consideration.

A great deal of the company's success depended on the hearty co-operation of its agents with such regulations as the board found it necessary to make from time to time for their guidance and the efficient conduct of the business generally. He cautioned them against the evil of rebating, which was neither in the interests of the agent nor the company. Allusion was made this morning at the agents' conference with the board as to insurance on the lives of women. He knew the manager was not in full accord with some of them on that subject. As for himself, he had always advocated insurance on women on very much the same terms as on men. He hoped the subject would receive early attention, with the view of extending more fully the benefits of life insurance to the fair sex.

Mr. Hoskin feelingly referred to the absence from this meeting of one of the directors, the late Mr. John Marshall, who was always the agents' friend, when justice was on their side, and whose high commercial and social standing contributed so much to popularize the company wherever his many estimable traits of character were known.

Mr. E. P. Clement, barrister, Berlin, replying to the resolution, said the directors did not claim to be either heaven-born financiers or insurance experts, but he thought that one of the chief duties of the board was to safeguard the company's investments. He was glad to know, and as a member of the executive of the board he had every opportunity to know, that the large income of the company, exceeding \$2,500 a day, was well and wisely invested, with a single eye to enhance the security and increase the surplus to the policy-holders. He recalled the time when money commanded 8 per cent. and even 9 per cent. per annum, but good investments could not be made now at any such rates, and it cannot be expected that this com-