

10. Reports of committees, on by-laws; the nominating committee, etc., etc.

The officers of the International Association are, President Edson S. Lott; Vice-Presidents, George S. Dana and Arthur L. Eastmure; Treasurer, Alfred E. Forrest; Secretary, G. Leonard McNeil. The Executive Committee consists of, William Bro. Smith, Travelers' Insurance Co.; Franklin J. Moore, General Accident; H. G. B. Alexander, Continental Casualty; William H. Jones, Equitable; Felix E. Haley, Iowa State; Richard A. Cavanaugh, Illinois Commercial; George C. Pratt, New Amsterdam, Walter C. Faxon, Aetna Life.

On the Transportation Committee are, Francis J. Lightbourn, Ontario Accident; C. W. L. Woodland, Employers Liability; J. William Mackenzie, Maryland Casualty; Claude G. Ryan, Ocean Accident; A. G. C. Dinnick, Canadian Casualty and Boiler Insurance Co.

The whole affair appears to have been thoroughly organized, there being a committee on transportation, reception, entertainment, banquet, auditing, credentials, by-laws, and place of next convention.

That the location in Muskoka will be regarded as exceedingly attractive is certain, Lake Rosseau is one of Nature's choice spots. We trust the whole proceedings will tend to increase the business of accident insurance and render it more profitable to the companies.

LAKE OF THE WOODS MILLING COMPANY.

The directors of this company have announced that an interim distribution of three per cent. will be paid on the 15th of July next to shareholders of common stock of record on the 30th of June. Rumor says that the earnings of this Company continue satisfactory and the conservative action of the directors, for having deferred until the 31st of August, when the company's books close, the declaration of a full dividend, is commended: the general impression prevails that a further distribution of three or perhaps four per cent. may be paid to the holders of common stock, after the company's annual statement has been completed.

It has been announced that the company have decided to erect a mill, with a capacity of 3,000 barrels per day in the West, probably at Winnipeg; and another mill of a like capacity is to be built in the near future, at an Eastern point, possibly Montreal. The company have also decided to erect a number of new elevators this year, having an average capacity of 30,000 bushels each, at different points of 30,000 bushels each at different points throughout the Northwest.

These important improvements, it is said, will be made by the company out of accumulated earnings.

UNCLAIMED BALANCES AND DIVIDENDS.

The Blue Book containing a report of the unpaid dividends, drafts, and bills of exchange and the unclaimed balances of the chartered banks of Canada, which have remained without transactions affecting them for 5 years, has been issued for 1904. It is remarkable that these balances continue to grow in spite of the publicity given to their being held at the disposal of the owners.

It was expected that a very large reduction would be made in these balances when they were advertised. This has not occurred. Looking over the list, we cannot but conclude that the banks would be glad to have some thousands of these petty balances withdrawn, as they are not worth the space they occupy in ledgers. The 13 banks having the largest amount of these balances are as follows, for account December 31st, 1903 and 1904:—

Bank.	Dec 31, 1904. \$	Dec. 31 1903. \$
City and District Savings Bank.....	87,670	98,482
Bank of Montreal.....	77,541	68,710
Eastern Townships Bank	41,295	32,723
Bank of Hamilton.....	40,833	26,346
Bank of British North America.....	38,165	40,426
Merchants' Bank of Canada.....	38,224	35,382
Royal Bank.....	28,167	27,714
Imperial Bank	22,400	8,593
Bank of New Brunswick.....	18,558	40,598
Quebec Bank.....	16,576	16,061
Banque Nationale.....	13,706	10,790
Molson Bank.....	12,860	10,929
Bank of Nova Scotia.....	12,159	18,062
Nineteen other banks.....	60,853	61,202
Total unclaimed balances.....	\$509,407	\$ 496,018
" unpaid dividends.....	\$ 3,816	\$ 3,794
" ".....	£ 46.4.0	£ 48.4.0
" unpaid drafts or bills of exchange....	\$ 22,397	\$ 21,254
" unpaid drafts or bills of exchange....	£747.5.9	£719.16.9

The number of persons whose balances in our banks have stood for 5 years and over without any transactions affecting them is about 30,000. Some of the unclaimed deposits exceed \$3,000. There must be petty general comfort prevailing in a country for so much money to be laid aside which is apparently forgotten by the owners or too small for them to care about.

CANADIAN FIRE UNDERWRITERS' ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Canadian Fire Underwriters' Association was held at the Royal Muskoka Hotel, Muskoka, on the 26th and 27th inst. Mr. Alfred Wright, president, occupied the chair.

The legislation taking off the 15 cents extra rate that was imposed on general mercantile business throughout the country after the Toronto conflagration was passed. This will not affect some of the larger cities, which were otherwise dealt with.