

# The Chronicle

## Insurance & Finance.

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ESTABLISHED JANUARY, 1881

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY

VOL. XXIII. No. 30.

MONTREAL, FRIDAY, JULY 23, 1903.

SINGLE COPY - - 10c.  
ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION - \$2.00

### The Kolapore Cup.

Canadian riflemen have won the Kolapore Cup, at Bisley, which is one of the great prizes in the annual contest. Canada was the first to capture this inter-Imperial trophy. The prize is not much to look at; it will be seen by only a score or two of persons any way, as it is customary to lock up the cup in a bank or private safe from year to year. Still, though no beauty, it is a much-prized symbol. It ought to be insured, which it was not when in Canada.

### The London Fire Brigade.

The report of the Fire Brigade Committee, of the London County Council, for past year, has some interesting figures. In 1902 there were 3,574 fires in the metropolis, of which 76 are described as serious. The brigade has 77 station offices, 159 first-class, 143 second-class, and 615 third and fourth class firemen. Of the fires, 207 were caused by children playing with fire, 189 are attributed to candles, 246 to sparks, 369 to lights thrown down, or cast away carelessly, 300 to lamps, 68 to airing linen, and as many to gas coming in contact with curtains, etc. Escapes of gas caused 155 fires, and 2 arose from stores badly fixed. Out of 3,574 fires, 1,083 arose from "unknown causes." Only 1 fatal accident occurred to the brigade during the year. Considering the extent of the metropolitan area, the report of fires in 1902 was very favourable.

### Caution against Wild-cats.

Mr. Zeno M. Host, Commissioner of Insurance for State of Wisconsin, has sent us a circular in which he warns the public against certain fire insurance companies transacting business in that State in direct violation of the law. As companies of this class seek business in Canada, where they are also outside the law, so far as their responsibility goes to policyholders, who could not collect a dollar from them, we give the titles of the companies

as furnished us by Mr. Host. The names of some of them will be recognized in this country:—

American Trust and Insurance Co., of Illinois.  
American Underwriters, of Illinois.  
Commonwealth Insurance Co., of Illinois.  
Commonwealth Savings and Insurance Co., of Virginia.  
Great Northern Insurance Co., of Illinois.  
Great Western Underwriters, of Illinois.  
Mercantile Fire Insurance Co., of Illinois.  
National Insurance and Investment Co., of Delaware.

Northern Fire Insurance Co., of Illinois.

It will be noted how easy it would be to mistake several of these concerns for reputable companies, owing to the similarity of titles, especially the last one. An American paper asks, what is the use of giving a list of wild-cats in an insurance journal? Much, every way, it is of especial interest to agents to have before them the names of these marauders, so that they can give local property owners a warning against them.

### Impertinence.

Every now and again we come across articles in American papers in regard to Canada, which are unutterably irrational, owing to their argument being based on ignorance of this country and its people. A recent issue of "Harper's Weekly," a paper that has a large circulation in Canada, contains an editorial which is an amazing specimen of impertinence towards Canadians. The writer of this effusion considers that, a good understanding between the United States and Great Britain will never be established until England deals wisely with British North America. How considerate! We never knew that America watched so tenderly over us in this Dominion as to decline being on good terms with England unless the old, the mother country, treated us "wisely." "Harper's Weekly" seems unaware of the fact that, at no time were England and America on such friendly terms as they are at present. The