

to express their individual appreciation of the "never-failing courtesy, consideration, kindness and sympathy" which has always characterized Mr. Marquand's relations with them.

MR. GEORGE WEGENAST, managing director of the Mutual Life of Canada, passed through Montreal on Tuesday *en route* to Waterloo, Ont., from Quebec. Mr. Wegenast states that the Mutual Life has written an increased volume of business during 1910, and he considers that all round, the year has been the best one in the Company's history. The Mutual Life of Canada is a well-managed institution, which follows a progressive, and at the same time, conservative course.

The Canadian Fire Record.

(Specially compiled by The Chronicle.)

LONDON, ONT.—First floor of Columbia Hotel, gutted, January 4.

YORK MILLS, ONT.—William Egan's blacksmith's shop destroyed, December 24.

WINDERMERE, N.S.—House of Reuben Morse, burned to ground, December 18.

BRANDON, MAN.—Smithy of Creighton & Knox, destroyed with its contents, December 30.

WOOLR, ONT.—Mr. G. Herrington's barn, destroyed, December 25. Most of contents saved.

BRAMSVILLE, ONT.—Large barn and sheds on J. B. Culp farm, destroyed, December 22. Small insurance.

COEALT, ONT.—Engine room, machine shop, and boiler house on Bartlett mines, Gowganda, burned down.

KINGSTON, ONT.—House of Mr. W. Livingstone, of Pittsburg township, destroyed, with contents, December 25.

CLAYDE RIVER, P.E.I.—Cottage of Colin McPhail, postmaster, and his sister destroyed, January 3, and their lives lost.

NORTH BAY, ONT.—J. J. Sullivan's boot and shoe store in the Connec block, damaged, January 1. Heavy loss on stock.

ORILLIA, ONT.—Grocery store of B. R. Keen, damaged by fire which started in cellar, December 29. Loss covered by insurance.

CAMPBELL'S BAY, ONT.—Fire starting in the Ottawa Hotel, December 25, spread to Hodgkin's tin shop and Lawn's general store. The three places were gutted.

QUEBEC.—Nickel Theatre destroyed, December 25. Loss on building covered by insurance, but lessee of the theatre had no insurance on scenery and machinery.

VIRDEN, MAN.—Wainwright building, destroyed, January 4. Occupied by Bank of Ottawa, J. P. Hood, jeweller; Coulter & Singer, barristers, with two residential suites.

LIVERPOOL, N.S.—Roman Catholic Church of St. Gregory, damaged by fire which started in vestry, January 1. House of Oliver Emino, destroyed, January 3, and owner burned to death.

GILBERT PLAINS, MAN.—Brick building owned by Fred. Davis, and occupied by Lewis Bros., as a general store, destroyed, January 2. Insurance on building, \$1,000; on stock, \$400.

INGERSOLL, ONT.—G. G. Barron's chopping mill at Mount Elgin, 10 miles south, destroyed, January 3. Some of contents saved. Loss partly covered by insurance. No fire fighting appliances in the village.

SYDNEY, N.S.—The Carlin block, Charlotte Street, badly damaged, December 28. Firms suffering losses are Morrison & McDonald, and Kirk & Torrie, and a representative of another firm lost all his samples. Morrison & McDonald have the most serious loss with their stock of furniture. Fire started from defective switchboard.

LAKE MEGANTIC, QUE.—Begin block, a three-storey frame building, consisting of Robitaille Bros.' general store, Belgarde's barber shop and a tenement house, destroyed, January 4. Owner, Mr. Denault, of Sherbrooke. Loss, which includes contents, a heavy one. Only fire equipment in village a few lengths of hose. Origin, unknown.

GRANBY, QUE.—St. Joseph's College destroyed, January 4. One life lost. Preliminary estimates place the damage at \$75,000.

DRESDEN, ONT.—Fire starting in C. A. Jeffrey's millinery store, December 25, spread to E. Watson's grocery store, Masonic hall, Robinson's millinery store, John Adkins' billiard hall and Robert Aiken's dry goods store. All were completely destroyed, together with their contents. An explosion occurred of heat and gases in Aiken's store, while the fire was in progress, blowing out the entire front, killing Mr. C. P. Hicks, ex-mayor of Dresden, and seriously injuring others. Loss placed at \$100,000. The coroner's jury enquiring into the death of ex-Mayor Hicks, on January 4, added to their verdict that his death was caused by the explosion, that a proper inspection of the condition of the fire hose, engine and wells would have prevented the loss of the property. Twenty-seven witnesses were heard and the principal evidence was that of members of the fire department. They testified that the well which was supposed to furnish water for the fire protection of the business section of Dresden contained not a single drop of water on the night of the fire. These wells were supplied by an intake pipe from the Sydenham River. The hose was placed in the well and the engine started with the result that no water was drawn and that a quantity of mud was drawn into the hose which became plugged with mud. Chief Hoyle stated that it was a part of his duty to inspect the wells. The last inspection he made of the business section well was in June last.

MONTREAL.—Edinburgh Cafe, St. Catherine Street West, damaged, January 2. Fire started in cellar, and there was heavy damage by water on upper stories. Beaudoin's sash and door factory, damaged, January 1. Small fire in basement of Schlegel Manufacturing Company, 17 St. John Street, January 2. Home of Joseph Gauvin, 675 Sanguinet Street, damaged, to extent of \$500, January 2. Origin, explosion of lamp. Four horses, property of Ald. Lamoureux, killed in fire in stables at 18 Prince Arthur Street West, January