

THE CANADIAN CONSOLIDATED RUBBER COMPANY'S annual report shows net earnings of \$573,319, or over 10 per cent. on the common stock—despite the fact that price advances in finished products have not kept pace with the increased cost for raw material, which was 65 cents per pound in 1908 and is \$2 to-day. The company's quick assets are \$3,502,345, or over five times total liabilities to public. The surplus on the year's operations after interest and dividend payments was \$173,549.

LABOUR UNIONS have an ardent champion in Prof. R. Magill, of Dalhousie University, Halifax, who addressed the Montreal Canadian Club this week. Unlike Mr. Adam Shortt (former professor of economics at Queen's), Prof. Magill seemingly fails to recognize that the rising cost of living is in part due to the action of organized labour. Instead, he considers that rising prices are "the economic fact which has produced the labour movement."

MONTREAL STREET RAILWAY earnings for January were \$325,621 gross and \$120,561 net, with surplus of \$84,871—gains over 1909 showing being 10.21 p.c., 25.84 p.c. and 36.29 p.c. respectively. For the four months since October 1, gross earnings were \$1,352,062, with net earnings of \$560,124 and surplus \$428,088—gains being 9.88 p.c., 16.28 p.c. and 19.72 p.c. respectively.

ACTIVITY CONTINUES in Montreal real estate transactions. Last week the present Art Gallery site was sold for \$275,000—which on land valuation alone works out at nearly \$30 a square foot. The property has an area of 9,800 square feet, with frontage on St. Catherine St. and Phillips Square. The preceding week's registered real estate sales in city and suburbs totalled about \$800,000.

THE ST. LAWRENCE POWER TRANSMISSION COMPANY'S BILL, re damming of Long Sault rapids, has been postponed by the Commons Private Bills Committee until March 2, in order to give the Conservation Commission and other objecters time to investigate more closely what the project may involve as to navigation and other public interests.

THE DETROIT UNITED RAILWAY'S president in a public statement this week put himself on record as strongly favouring the work of extending the city lines in every direction asked for, providing the city of Detroit will guarantee the company its natural rights.

THE ORE STEALING BILL was up for discussion in the Senate this week. Sir Richard Scott submitted amendments providing that there must be reasonable grounds for the suspicion that the ore was stolen.

TELEGRAPH COMPANIES, like telephone companies, are to be brought under the control of the Dominion Railway Commission, according to a bill introduced by the Minister of Railways amending the Railway Act.

HON. MR. FIELDING, in reply to a question in the House this week, stated that at present the Government had no intention of renewing the Dominion bounties on iron and steel.

## Insurance Items.

THE GOVERNMENT ANNUITIES ACT is to be amended by a bill introduced by Sir Richard Cartwright, who explained this week in the Senate that the amendment would not add to the expense of administering the act, but would give greater latitude in the sale of annuities to meet demands which had been found to exist. It remains to be seen whether these demands will materially swell the meagre volume of business thus far transacted. To the provision in the present act allowing the sale of annuities for the life of the purchaser the amendment adds power to sell an annuity for 20 years paid to the purchaser and his heirs. Another change raises the age at which annuities may be purchased from 80 to 85 years.

THE NATIONAL PROVINCIAL INSURANCE CORPORATION, at its recent annual meeting passed a resolution to increase its share capital from £50,000 to £250,000 by the creation of 200,000 shares of £1 each. The Chairman stated that this was necessary in order to make the deposit of £20,000 required before operations could be commenced in Canada.

A DAMAGE ACTION against the City of Montreal is being taken by Mr. H. Dubuc, who claims \$6,000 on the ground that owing to lack of proper precautions during the break in the water mains in January last, his house was burned down while the firemen looked for water.

MR. A. E. DYMENT, of the well-known firm of Dymont & Cassels, Toronto, succeeds Mr. A. H. Hoover as president of the Sovereign Life.

THE CANADA LIFE'S plans for its proposed Vancouver building have been completed.

A \$25,000 FIRE took place at 8 Adelaide Street, West, Toronto, on Tuesday night.

## FIRE AT OTTAWA.

By the fire which occurred on the 13th instant, on the premises of Hugh Carson, Limited, Rideau Street, Ottawa, the following companies are interested:

| ON STOCK.             |          |                        |          |
|-----------------------|----------|------------------------|----------|
| Atlas.....            | \$3,750  | Phoenix of Hartford... | \$2,000  |
| Sun.....              | 1,500    | Monarch.....           | 3,000    |
| Commercial Union....  | 2,000    | Hand in Hand.....      | 1,250    |
| Royal.....            | 2,500    | Queen City.....        | 8,000    |
| Norwich Union.....    | 2,000    | Independent.....       | 1,000    |
| London Assurance....  | 3,000    |                        |          |
| Union.....            | 5,000    |                        | \$35,000 |
| Loss, total.          |          |                        |          |
| ON BUILDING.          |          |                        |          |
| Royal.....            | \$10,000 | Queen.....             | \$11,000 |
| Yorkshire.....        | 9,000    |                        |          |
| Phoenix of London.... | 5,000    |                        | \$35,000 |
| Loss, \$7,880.        |          |                        |          |

## FIRE AT FRASERVILLE, QUE.

On the 16th instant, a fire occurred in the Town Hall, Fraserville, Que., completely destroying the building. The following companies are interested.

Atlas, \$1,000; Guardian, \$1,000; North British & Mercantile, \$1,000; Northern, \$1,000; Norwich Union, \$1,000; Royal, \$1,000; Union, \$1,000; Western, \$1,000. Total, \$8,000; loss total.