

## ALLIANCE ASSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED OF LONDON, ENGLAND.

In considering the report for the year 1918 of the Alliance Assurance Company of London, England, attention is attracted to its fire department, the results of which again demonstrate the exceptionally choice and select character of risks derived by the Company's powerful connections in its wide operations throughout the world. It has previously been pointed out by the Chronicle that the Alliance, unlike the large majority of the British offices, does not operate its fire department in the United States, the premiums derived from this enormous field, contributing a substantial proportion to such other companies total income. Notwithstanding this fact, the company's net fire premiums for 1918 amounted to \$8,079,400 showing an increase of nearly \$500,000 as compared with 1917. The splendid quality of the Alliance fire business, already referred to, has again asserted itself to an extent beyond the average; the loss requirement of \$3,073,945 figuring a ratio of 38 per cent to premium income. Since the opening of the present century, this splendid record has been excelled on three separate occasions, namely, in 1916, 1912 and 1910, when loss ratio percentages of 34.4, 34.9, and 37.8 per cent respectively, were registered.

Including contributions to fire brigades, etc.; commission and expenses of management totalled \$3,733,940, a ratio of 40 per cent to fire premiums. Referring to expenses the chairman said:—the items for British taxation, do not include the large amounts which the company have to pay in the Dominions and in foreign countries and which being included amongst the expenses of management in revenue accounts are to a large extent responsible for the high figure at which those expenses stand. After providing 40 per cent of the increase in premium, to meet the consequent increased liabilities, there was disclosed an underwriting profit of \$1,571,965 which with interest \$400,745 added, makes a total of \$1,972,710 taken to profit and loss from the fire account. The fire insurance fund has been increased to \$11,128,535 at which it represents over 137 per cent. of the annual premiums, a high record irrespective of other magnificent resources.

Transacting an important business in other branches of insurance such as Life, Marine, and Casualty, the total income of the Alliance for 1918 amounted to the huge sum of \$28,106,855 with a trading profit of \$4,217,800 irrespective of interest. The total assets of this wealthy concern amount to \$134,581,915 (not including an uncalled capital of \$22,250,000) at date of the annual meeting the large amount of \$36,509,045 was represented by British Government securities, an increase of over \$10,000,000.

## Canadian Business.

The Alliance of England has become a familiar name in Canada, where it has been operating for over a quarter of a century with a most desirable organization throughout the most important centres of the Dominion. Under the management of Mr. T. D. Belfield the high prestige of the company is well maintained while the results of his underwriting for a series of years, form a most desirable record for any company operating in Canada, allowing for the vagaries and fluctuations of the fire business in some individual years. Very satisfactory expansion is generally taking place in the Canadian business. Last year the net cash received for fire premiums totalled \$357,526 an increase of over \$100,000 as compared with 1916, and about \$50,000 more than those recorded for 1917. The loss ratio for 1918 was higher than usual figuring at 61.22 per cent to premiums, the average loss ratio, however, for the past seven years was excellent, figuring at under 50 per cent to premiums. The Casualty branch of the Alliance in Canada, which has been operating for the past two years, is now pretty well established and a satisfactory expansion in business is recorded with careful underwriting. The Company recently extended its business in Canada to Hail, Burglary and Plate Glass.

## OCEAN ACCIDENT AND GUARANTEE CORPORATION LIMITED.

### Changes in Montreal Branch

The Ocean Accident & Guarantee Corporation, Limited, announces the transfer of Mr. Arthur James, who has filled the position of superintendent in the Province of Quebec during the past seven years, to the United States branch of the Corporation, as resident manager at Boston, Mass.

Mr. John W. Wetmore has been appointed superintendent for the Province of Quebec as from the first August. Mr. Wetmore has for many years efficiently attended to the large eastern claims business of the Corporation, and has also served the Corporation in a broader consulting capacity. Mr. Wetmore's extended claims experience and general knowledge of affairs equip him admirably for the wider scope of the work he is now undertaking.

## BRITISH FIRE LOSSES HEAVY.

According to the Times, London, Eng., the fire losses for June, 1919, in Great Britain are estimated at \$22,881,000 compared with \$2,337,500 in June 1918. The total estimated losses for the first six months of 1919 is given as \$36,565,000 as compared with \$10,860,000 for the first half year of 1918. The heavy total for June this year includes the following fires:—June 13 warehouses at Trofford Park, Manchester, loss estimated at \$10,000,000. June 16 Liverpool Docks, loss estimated at \$5,000,000 and June 26 warehouse at Manchester, loss estimated at \$5,000,000.