of metal which are now made of pulp in the United States from pulp wood sent from Canada. The American manufacturer of these cylinders exports them to Europe, Egypt and India. With some very natural excitement the Minister of Public Works exclaimed: "Why the deuce don't they make them in Canada?" This question covers the whole ground, it demands the attention of our legislators, who, if they grasped the situation, would soon take such action as would cause this industry, as well as allied ones which depend upon pulp wood as raw material, to be established in Canada.

MUNICIPAL VERSUS PRIVATE TRADING.

The advocates of municipal trading in presenting their case have not only published statements that have been elaborately cooked, but have entirely ignored certain considerations of material importance, which bear directly upon the issue. Thus, as we recently showed, the municipalities that have undertaken a certain class of business enterprises do not charge these enterprises with the ordinary management expenses, so that the profits are misrepresented. One item especially is ignored, which is, the total annual charges on the debt which was incurred by constructing, equipping and maintaining the plant of a municipal enterprise. Another item of some moment is the amount of taxes sacrificed by taking trading enterprise out of the hands of private capitalists. A question which is threatening to give trouble in this connection is as to the power of a municipality to make profits out of business carried on outside its boundaries, and, if so, what claims have other municipalities to compensation, for allowing an outside enterprise to operate in their district. The enquiries made under the auspices of the "London Times" prove to demonstration that municipal management is far more costly than private; that extravagance, slowness to make improvements, corruption and other evils are the characteristics of municipal trading. The system changes the whole aspect of local government; it invokes an interference with the manufacturer and private trader; converts industries and business into municipal monopolies, thus undermining the recognized principles of free competition, deprives the individual citizen of incentives to enterprise, of opportunities for the profitable investment of savings, while limiting the openings for employment. Municipal trading also restricts the expansion of trade and commerce since a municipality will manufacture or provide only for its own local needs, outside markets being beyond its capacity or desire to supply.

The "Times" very justly remarks:

"Whether, and, if so, to what extent, a municipality should embark on what are speculative commercial enterprises, pledging the credit of the whole ratepayers in the interest of particular sections, depriving the private trader of his business, instead of ensuring him the opportunity to carry it on with safety, these are grave questions. The spirit of individual initiative, inventiveness. enterprise, dogged perseverance and devotion to the development of industry and commerce which have done much to secure the greatness of the Empire should not be checked by transferring enterprises to municipal bodies whose officials, being devoid of the self-interest on which business success depends, cannot be expected to display the same qualities as are developed by private enterprise."

As the development of municipal trading directly antagonizes the development, obstructs the progress, lessens the opportunities of private enterprise, its advance is a distinct menace to the future welfare of the country.

FIRE LOSSES IN CANADA FOR SEPTEMBER, 1902.

Date.		Location.	Risk.	Ins. Loss
Sept.	1	St. Hyacinthe,	Hotel,	$ 5,900
"	1	Labelle,	Stores, Dwlg. and other Buildings,	29,230
"	5	Martinville,	Store,	1,500
"	6	Kingsville,	Tobacco Factory,	8,575
"	6	Toronto,	Stores,	5,000
"	8		Steamer "Comet,"	4,000
"	13	Montreal,	Stables and Conts.,	15,000
"	14	Charlottetown,	Planing Mill,	700
"	15	Montreal,	Offices,	900
"	16	Valleyfield,	Store,	6,500
"	17	Point Claire,	Dwlg. and Conts.,	2,500
"	18	Carling,	Machinery,	4,000
"	18	Brantford,	Bldg., Factory, Warehouse and Conts.,	58,500
"	22	The Brook,	Store,	6,600
"	23	Rock Island,	Do	1,000
"	25	St. John, NB.,	Coal Sheds, Freight Sheds, Machine Shops and Steamer,	12,800
				$162,705
		Add 20 p.c. for unreported Losses and losses under $1,000		32,541
		Total losses		$195,246

STANDING COMMITTEES FOR 1903 OF THE NATIONAL CONVENTION OF INSURANCE COMMISSIONERS.

Laws and Legislation.—Lloyd Wilkinson, Maryland; E. E. Yates, Missouri; Theron Upson, Connecticut; Henry D. Appleton, New York; Charles P. Wofford, Tennessee.

Miscellaneous.—Henry Yates, Illinois; W. H. Hart, Indiana; Frank F. Merriam, Iowa; John B. Chenault, Kentucky; R. E. Forster, Pennsylvania.

Rates of Mortality and Interest.—Elmer H. Dearth, Minnesota; Williom V. Church, Kansas; George W. Truitt, Maryland; Charles W. Crouter, Colorado; Wm. Bettle, New Jersey.

Blanks.—Frederick L. Cutting, Massachusetts; Elmer H. Dearth, Minnesota; C. W. Fletcher, Maine; Henry D. Appleton, New York; James V. Barry, Michigan; J. J. Brinkerhoff, Illinois; John T. Brasee, Ohio.