

SOCIETY NOTES AND ITEMS.

The Revised Assessment of Portage la Prairie amounts this year to \$7,500,000. Last year it was only \$100,000.

Mr. F. Bartels, has been appointed Vice-Consul to the American Government in St. Hyacinthe, Que.

Captain Shaw, Chief of the London Fire Brigade, sailed on the steamer "Baltic," from Liverpool, on 15th inst. for America, to attend the Convention of fire engineers at Cincinnati.

Mr. Frank E. Dingle has been appointed agent for the Commercial Union and Phoenix Insurance companies at Oshawa, instead of Mr. Thomas Hazelwood, who has gone to Winnipeg.

Obit.—W. V. Detlor, agent for the Western and Imperial Insurance Companies, Napanee, Ont., died on July 25th; he also filled the position of clerk of the County of Lennox and Addington.

Mr. Alexander Dixon, Manager of the Norwich Union Fire Insurance Society, Toronto, has been appointed General Agent for Canada for the Norwich and London Accident Insurance Association.

Col. W. R. Oswald now represents the City of London Fire Insurance Co., in Montreal, as general agent for the Province of Quebec and Ottawa city. His brother, Mr. J. K. Oswald, has decided to make Winnipeg his future home.

Mr. J. P. Mackay, of the Citizens Insurance Company, has been appointed Inspector to the Imperial Fire Insurance Company, Montreal. Mr. Edwards, late of the Canada Fire and Marine, has been appointed to fill Mr. Mackay's former position in the Citizens.

A great many new Buildings are going up in Ottawa. The old block at the corner of Elgin and Sparks street, facing the west side of the Russell, and the row in front of the main entrance to that hotel and adjoining post-office, are being torn down and will be replaced by handsome blocks.

Mr. Louis H. Boulton, Manager of the British America Assurance Co., sailed for England on the "Sarmatian," July 29, on business of the Company. Rumor has it that the business of the Company in Europe has been so unsatisfactory that the directors have decided to close the Liverpool Branch.

Dundas is again talking water works. The whole of the business part of the town was not burnt in the late fire, only about thirty-six buildings having been destroyed. How the balance escaped is a mystery even to the worthy burghers of Dundas; they are sure it could not have been their not-much-in-order hand engine, or their we-don't-count-on-them tanks, so for a while they will talk of water works.

The "Mutual Benefit Associates" of Rochester, of which so much was heard a few months ago, and which was, according to the believers in that kind of life assurances, in such a flourishing condition, is now a thing of the past. It has joined the almost innumerable host of its fellows in the land of Nod. We are waiting now for its successor here, the Provident Association of Canada, to join it.

The Sun Fire Office, to mark a favorable year's operations grant a gratuity of 15 per cent. of salaries received to their officers, clerks and messengers at the head and branch offices. May the time soon come when many members of Canadian Insurance Society will rejoice in the participation of a like gift, either from English, American or Canadian Head offices—or from all. A little steady persevering mutual help might bring even that to pass.

The representatives of the London offices of the Royal Insurance Company and the Fire Insurance Association met at Dulwich on the evenings of 6th and 8th June last, to decide as to which Company possessed the highest cricketing ability. The Royal, with over confidence, batted with one man short, and the result of the first match played by the Fire Insurance Association was that they were victorious, with a 43 majority, the scores (one innings each) being 95 and 52.

Mr. James Robb, Manager, Fire Department of the Northern Assurance Company, has been in this City for the past few days. Whilst here our Montreal Fire Brigade turned out for his edification, and we believe he seemed well satisfied generally, making a few suggestions as to desirable improvements. Mr. J. W. Taylor, General Agent for Canada of the Northern and Scottish Imperial Insurance Cos., took the opportunity of entertaining him at a lunch in the City Club, inviting the Managers of the other Insurance Companies to meet him. Mr. Robb also visited Quebec, and may we hope succeeded in waking up this inert old City. After visiting Ottawa he intends returning to Great Britain via New York this week. We trust the result of his tour will be both profitable and pleasant.

Secretary Relton, of the Sun Fire Office of London, has resigned, after 47 years' service with that company. It is said that he and the President were the only two men in the world who really knew the financial condition of this wonderfully secretive London Company. Perhaps Mr. Relton got tired of carrying his half of this enormous secret and so resigned to relieve himself. Wonder if his successor, Mr. Mannering, late of the Northern, will be inducted into the mysteries. If not, maybe Manager Gilbert, late of the Watertown, will be initiated. Somebody should be—for it would be a pity to have the president (now the sole repository of this awful mystery) kick the bucket, and carry with him, into kingdom come, all that is known on earth about the Sun Fire Office of London. Why, what an eclipse that would be, to be sure!—*Insurance Age*.

New Words—The new Edition of Webster's Unabridged Dictionary, numbering 1928 quarto pages, contains nearly 5000 new words or new meanings of old ones. These words range over the fields of science, medicine, invention, discovery, research, etc., departments which in this age are constantly yielding fresh ideas, requiring new words to express them.

That they have not been hastily compiled is evidenced by the accuracy of and careful study given to their etymology and definitions.

The intelligent reader, or any reader who would be intelligent, will find this feature of the Dictionary quite indispensable.