

Four years' figures of the accidents to employees resulting from the movements of trains are:—

	Killed.			
	1907	1908	1909	1910
Trainmen . . . . .	149	109	113	103
Trackmen . . . . .	53	36	37	70
Switch tenders, watchmen, etc. . . . .	7	11	3	9
Stationmen . . . . .	3	4	2	2
Shopmen . . . . .	9	11	7	4
Telegraph employees . . . . .		2		
Other employees . . . . .	28	51	20	26
Total . . . . .	249	224	182	214
	Injured.			
	1907	1908	1909	1910
Trainmen . . . . .	791	790	693	610
Trackmen . . . . .	104	307	71	136
Switch tenders, watchmen, etc. . . . .	47	40	27	25
Stationmen . . . . .	3	66	10	6
Shopmen . . . . .	16	284	16	41
Telegraph employees . . . . .	3	4	3	3
Other employees . . . . .	167	312	77	105
Total . . . . .	1131	1803	897	926

During the year ended June, 1910, one trainman in every 199 was killed and one in every 33 injured; one trackman in every 550 killed, and one in every 98 injured; one switch tender in every 181 killed, and one in every 65 injured. One passenger in every 508,243 was killed and one in every 132,943 injured from the movement of trains.

#### Canadian Crops in 1910.

A bulletin of the Census Office gives the total area of field crops grown in Canada in 1910 as 32,711,062 acres and the value of crops as \$507,185,500, compared with 30,065,556 acres and a value of \$532,092,100 in 1909. Wheat, oats and barley had in 1909 a total area of 18,917,900 acres with a value of \$289,144,000, and in 1910 with an area of 20,992,900 acres the value is only \$248,738,300. The decrease in value is \$40,405,700, which is \$14,599,100 more than the decrease for all field crops; and a lower production of 18,501,000 bushels wheat, 58,686,000 bushels oats and 9,981,000 bushels barley through drouth and heat in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta from an area sown greater by 1,857,300 acres accounts for the whole loss. The crops of rye, peas, buckwheat, mixed grains and flax had in 1910 an area of 1,793,385 acres and a value of \$28,768,000, compared with 1,487,611 acres and a value of \$26,707,000 in 1909. The hoed and cultivated crops, comprising beans, corn for husking, potatoes, turnips and other roots and sugar beets, have fallen off in both area and value, the area in 1910 being 1,137,417 acres with a value of \$68,006,200, compared with 1,180,095 acres and \$69,737,500 in 1909. Fodder crops, which include fodder corn with hay and clover, show for 1910 an area of 8,787,360 acres and a value of \$161,673,000, compared with 8,479,950 acres and \$147,403,200 in 1909. The production of fall wheat is 16,610,000 bushels, of spring wheat 133,370,600, of oats 323,449,000, of barley 45,147,600, of rye 1,543,500, of peas 6,538,100, of buckwheat 7,243,900, of mixed grains 19,433,600, of flax 3,802,000, of beans, 1,177,800, of corn for husking 18,726,000, of potatoes 74,048,000 and of turnips and other roots 95,207,000 bushels. The yield of hay is 15,497,000 tons, of fodder corn 2,551,000 and of sugar beets 155,000 tons. The 1910 yield of wheat, oats and barley in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta is 277,021,000 bushels, compared with

364,279,000 bushels in 1909. Compared with 1909, also the value of field crops in Prince Edward Island is \$9,988,100 to \$9,213,000, in Nova Scotia \$21,203,000 to \$22,319,300, in New Brunswick \$18,959,000 to \$18,150,900, in Quebec \$97,107,000 to 90,071,000, in Ontario \$204,002,000 to \$200,398,000, in Manitoba \$55,206,000 to \$74,420,500, in Saskatchewan \$84,138,400 to \$97,677,500 and in Alberta \$16,582,000 to \$20,741,000.

#### Insurance in the United States.

(Exclusive New York Correspondence of The Chronicle.)

#### The Legislative Committee's Investigation into Fire Insurance in New York—An Interesting Re-Insurance Arrangement—Personal and Company Notes.

The mountain, in the fable, labored, and brought forth a mouse; and the legislative committee which is now investigating fire insurance in this city is likely to produce about the same comparative results. The work of this committee started, as will probably be remembered, by the revelations of certain amounts of money paid to legislators by fire insurance companies to prevent hostile legislation some years ago. Involved in the matter was the supposedly purchased silence of insurance examiners, which lead to the trouble in the Phenix Insurance Company, and afterwards it was found that to prevent valued policy laws, anti-compact bills, etc., the fire underwriters of New York as a body, had apparently spent considerable money. This, however, is but an echo of the past. The present investigation has apparently sought to find out some condition or conditions in the fire insurance business, which are unfair to the public and which the companies may be forced to remedy. The witnesses examined have been for the most part insurance officials of the highest character, and the effect has been to show that rates could not have been reduced without danger to the companies and hence to the safety of the public, and also that there was no such state of monopoly or oppression as the members of the committees seemed to suspect. Among other things, it has been brought out that there is still the tremendous conflagration hazard in this city which is liable to destroy a large portion of it and bankrupt many fire insurance companies. The testimony of Manager Frank Lock, of the Atlas Assurance Company, was perhaps the most important rendered, and his readiness and alertness came very near "putting the committee out of business." It is time that this farce of an investigation ended, for it has done no good, but has simply stirred up the public mind unnecessarily. It is true that a reduction of rates has been ordered in New York City since this investigation began, but this reduction was decided upon months ago and had no relation whatever to the enquiries of the committee.

#### Interesting Re-Insurance Arrangement.

Somewhat startling was the announcement of the re-insurance in the United States Casualty Company, by the Empire State Surety Company, of all its personal accident, health and liability business, to take effect December 28. The Empire State, it appears, desires to confine itself hereafter to fidelity, surety and burglary business,