



INSURANCE SOCIETY

"Still achieving, still pursuing,
Learn to labour and to wait."

Vol. II., No. 11.
OFFICE : 102 St. Francois Xavier St. }

MONTREAL, NOV. 20, 1882.

{ SUBSCRIPTION :
\$1.50 PER ANNUM. }

The Office of
"INSURANCE SOCIETY"

IS IN THE
EXCHANGE BANK CHAMBERS,

No. 102 St. FRANCOIS XAVIER STREET, MONTREAL.

Annual Subscription (in advance) - \$1.50

Single Copies (in numbers less than 100) - 0.15

Companies are always wanting reliable agents.

Agents are ever wishing to better their condition.

INSURANCE SOCIETY will always be happy to assist in negotiations—without charge;—if

Companies will communicate with us respecting their wants.

Agents state to us what they want, where they want it, and their qualifications.

We have received a long letter for publication from Mr. Hendry, the Manager of the Ontario Mutual, in answer to some of the charges which have been made against that Company. It arrived, however, too late for insertion in this month's issue, but we will have pleasure in publishing those portions of it which refer to the questions lately asked by INSURANCE SOCIETY in our next issue.

Several communications have been received offering to assist in the compilation of tables from our Fire Records for 1881 and 1882, but in no case have our correspondents advised us as to the "method at once ready for reference, and under such headings as will be practically useful to underwriters."

It was for proposals of this nature that we asked, and as any presentation of statistics in tabulated form must be for the use and service of underwriters who strive to estimate fire hazards at lowest possible rates *with profit*, it is for these gentlemen to suggest the methods of tabulation, and the district and classified headings under which the compilation should be made.

If the general verdict be that this is all foolishness, the amounts are so approximate, the deductions must be so arbitrary, the results never would be worked on, &c., &c., then INSURANCE SOCIETY will mournfully acquiesce, and we, having had our labor for our pains, will not strive further to force our unappreciated services on those who should be benefited by them, and who we believe to be better acquainted with the value of this record than we can presume to be.

There is no doubt that among all the underwriting communities of the world efforts have been and are being made to deduce results, even though but crudely approximate, from such records as may be available.

Many Companies keep accurate statistics and record deductions from their own special business in the most careful manner.. Almost every insurance journal has at times made efforts to present such records to its readers; we can instance the *New York Chronicle, Monitor, Underwriter, the Coast Review*; the *Chronicle* making a speciality of its fire tables, and the *Monitor* of its daily fire record.

During the years 1881 and 1882 INSURANCE SOCIETY has presented monthly records of fires in the Dominion of Canada.

In Ontario, Quebec and Manitoba, collated from daily papers of leading cities, information from special correspondent (to whom thanks is due from their fellow underwriters), and from returns made monthly by head offices of Insurance Companies. During the two years we have been favored with 496 such returns from 31 Companies and 265 from special correspondents.

In New Brunswick, all information has been sent to one gentleman, who has kindly and ably supplied us with records.

In Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, our records are of very little value, as the underwriters of these Provinces have not responded to our constant requests.

The second year's work has been more accurate than the first, as more interest has been shown in the matter, and though some still give us information grudgingly, as if doing us a favor, yet the majority acknowledge our services and assist us as far as their opportunities allow.

The questions now asked by us of each and every member of Insurance Society in the Dominion are:

1. Is this record worth tabulating?
2. How shall it be compiled?
3. What assistance will you render?

The results are plainly to be for your benefit, and it is for you to show interest sufficient to obtain them.

If you can favor us with any memoranda of results of one Company's or agency's business, the promise will be made that such memoranda shall be used only in deducing general results, for the general good, and not published or exhibited against your wishes.

Kindly favor us with proposals or advice without delay, as we hope to be able to get the compilation completed during January, and an early start will be half way to accomplishment.