

THE INTERCOLONIAL'S EMBLEM.

A Chicago paper is printing descriptions of railway trade-marks in a series of articles, and has reached that of the Intercolonial Railway of Canada, namely, a moose head. The idea of this object in this connection is explained most fully and poetically by Mr. John M. Lyons, the general passenger agent, who says: "The moose is the noblest and speediest animal as well as the biggest game in our territory; perfect in form, possessing strength and endurance, which with its great speed enables it to take care of itself. Its fur coat is an Al picture of comfort, as against the wintry blast of our Canadian winter, and the line that has adopted the head of this noble game for its trade mark is famous for its high standard of excellence. Our standard-built and equipped road means that it possesses strength and durability—a perfect form, like the moose, as it were; hence our 'speed,' which enables us to take care of ourselves as against our competitors, and with safety to the passenger. Our elegant parlor and sleeping cars, brilliantly lighted by electricity and heated by steam from the locomotive, is the comfort we give; hence my reference to the fur coat of the moose. To sum up all, we afford the traveller 'safety, speed and comfort.'"

DOMINION COAL COMPANY.

The first annual meeting of the Dominion Coal Company, the syndicate which secured control of the Cape Breton coal, was held in Boston in February. A report of the operations of the company since its organization about a year ago was submitted by Mr. H. M. Whitney, president of the company. Two hundred thousand dollars had been spent on the Louisburg Railway, \$150,000 for discharging plants and mining machinery, and \$100,000 for tugs and barges. The company mined 884,019 tons of coal, exclusive of the output of the Victoria mine, which will appear in next year's statement of business. The shipments increased 90,000 tons, and it appears that the Canadian demand is steadily increasing. A new pit and the improvement of old pits are in progress. The report of the treasurer shows a gross profit on coal of \$231,162, and profit on steamship, barges and gear, \$163,268, a total of \$394,430. For this has been written off to profit and loss expenditures for machinery, tugs, barges and equipment, with 10 per cent. of the cost of the discharging plant at Montreal and 33½ per cent. of the Sydney Hotel investment, \$87,721, leaving a net profit of \$246,709. A dividend was paid on the preferred stock of \$105,000, besides interest of \$14,731 on the sinking fund, leaving \$51,977 profit and loss.

N. W. FIRE INSURANCE CO.

The eleventh annual general meeting of shareholders of the Northwest Fire Insurance Company was held in Winnipeg on the 15th Feb., when some twenty or thirty shareholders were present, either in person or by proxy. Mr. W. R. Dick acted as chairman of the meeting in the absence of the vice-president, Senator Sutherland.

The annual statement was submitted, showing that premium receipts for the past year aggregated \$32,800, and two half-yearly dividends at the rate of 8 per cent. were declared. The insurance reserve fund was increased.

Votes of thanks having been passed to the resident and travelling agents of the company, Messrs. Inkster and Gilroy were appointed scrutineers for the election of directors, and reported the following gentlemen elected for the ensuing year: Hon. John Sutherland, Hon. Colin Inkster, Chief Justice Taylor, Hon. Walter Clifford, G. W. Baker, W. R. Dick, D. S. Curry, Ald. Gilroy, J. A. Christie, W. A. Macdonald, J. Stanley Hough and G. W. Girdlestone.

The directors' meeting was afterwards held, at which, by unanimous vote, the Hon. Colin Inkster was elected president, and the Hon. Mr. Sutherland was re-elected vice-president.

—British exports of coal during last year reached a total of 29,045,114 tons, as compared with 30,453,973 tons in 1892, and 31,084,116 tons in 1891. The average value last year was 9s. 11-7d. per ton, as compared with 11s. 0-4d. per ton in 1892, and 12s. 1-8d. per ton in 1891.

ONE PRICE.

The late William G. Twombly, of Portland, long a unique figure in the piano trade, had a fixed price for each of his pianos, and he would not lower it for any customer, no matter how importunate. "Early in my business career," said Mr. Twombly, not long ago, "I would occasionally ask more than a piano was worth, and then, when the customer tried to beat me down, I would take off what I had added to the regular price. The way I was cured of that was this: A lady came in one day and inquired the price of a piano which had always sold for \$400. Expecting her to ask for a reduction, I told her the price was \$450. 'Very well,' said she, 'I like the piano, and you may send it up this afternoon. My husband will give you a check for the amount to-morrow.' I was puzzled what to do," said Mr. Twombly, "but I finally told her that the piano would cost her only \$400. Since that time I have never asked more than a piano was worth, and I have never allowed myself to be beaten down."—*Lewiston (Me.) Journal.*

CANADA ACCIDENT CO.

A meeting of the shareholders of the Canada Accident Assurance Co. was held on the 21st February in Montreal. The following directors were present: R. Wilson Smith, president; the Hon. Alphonse Desjardins (who was elected vice-president), Messrs. James P. Cleghorn, Samuel H. Ewing and T. H. Hudson, of Montreal, and Mr. O. B. Jeans, manager of the accident department of the Palatine Insurance Co., Limited, of Manchester.

The President said: The premium income of the year, after deducting re-insurances, amounts to \$78,374.21, showing an increase over last year of \$6,740.95. There is also in addition by way of interest to the income, \$1,301.26, making a total income of \$79,675.47. Of the various outgoings, the first is the amount of \$37,951.85 of claims, which includes the sums paid as well as outstanding. Whilst the claims are somewhat heavier than anticipated, the ratio is only 48.42 per cent., commission and agents' expenses amounting to \$23,495.58. These have been increased in consequence of competition and opposition, which have arisen in certain quarters during the past year.

The expenses of management amount to \$14,579.86. You may rest assured that every attention will be given to such outlays, our desire being to keep expenses within moderate lines.

Bad debts, \$309, and ten per cent. off furniture, say \$92, has been written off, leaving a profit balance of \$3,247.04.

Now, in dealing with the balance sheet, you will find the liabilities are capital stock, \$32,940; outstanding claims, to which I have already referred, \$12,702.41; sundry accounts and sums due to other companies, \$1,959.62; Reserve Fund, \$59,862.52, making a total liability of \$98,015.55. Against this we hold investments and cash in hand, \$69,889.67; outstanding premiums and agents' balance, \$27,297.84, of which a considerable sum has since been paid, and office furniture, \$628.04.

The report and statement of accounts were unanimously received and adopted.

BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY.

The annual meeting of the Bell Telephone Co. was held last week in Montreal. Among those present were Messrs. C. F. Sise, president, in the chair; Hugh Paton, W. R. Driver, Robert Mackay, Robert Archer, C. R. Hosmer, Hector Mackenzie, James Williamson, J. H. R. Molson, Alexander Patterson, Selkirk Cross, Jacques Grenier, J. N. Kinghorn, Charles Garth, D. Ross-Ross, R. Maculloch, W. H. Meredith, R. Sims, E. H. Lunn, W. Smith, A. A. Allan, R. P. McLea, W. H. Trenholme, George Hogg, Capt. Clift.

Mr. C. P. Sclater, secretary, presented the annual report. It showed that 2,639 subscribers have been added during the year; the total number of sets of instruments now earning rental being 26,806; 24 exchanges and 15 agencies have been constructed and added to the system; the company now owns and operates 275 exchanges and 256 agencies; 232 miles of poles, and 1,616 miles of wire have been added to the long distance system in 1893; of these 60 pole miles and 1,288 wire miles are in the Ontario department, and 172 pole miles and 328 wire miles are in the east-

ern department. The long distance lines, now owned and operated by the company, comprise 12,071 miles of wire on 5,068 miles of poles. Underground construction has been continued at Ottawa and Toronto during the year.

Continuing the policy adopted last year, the directors have charged to Contingent Fund \$30,009 on account of exchange construction, and \$19,275.10 on account of long-distance line construction, these amounts having been expended on plant to take place of plant already charged to construction.

The gross revenue for the year was\$ 961,174 79
The expenses were 724,791 42
" net revenue was 236,383 37
" paid-up capital is 2,421,600 00
The report was adopted.

Mr. C. R. Hosmer and W. H. Meredith were appointed scrutineers. Mr. Grenier congratulated the directors on the excellent report, and said he thought it sufficient to cast one ballot for their re-election. This was agreed to, and the following were declared elected: C. F. Sise, George W. Moss, W. H. Forbes, Hon. J. R. Thibadeau, John E. Hudson, Robert Archer, Robert Mackay, Wm. R. Driver, Hugh Paton.

ROMAN ADVERTISEMENTS.

Latin inscriptions, advertisements of tradesmen, form an interesting class. Here is one found near Rome: "If you want inscriptions made, or have any need of marble work, you'll get it here." Another enterprising man at Bologna announces: "A bath in town style and every convenience." A similar notice meets us only eight miles from Rome, where, of course, most of the customers would be able to know whether they really had "town style" or not.

A curious example comes from Lyons, France, which may be paraphrased thus: "Here Mercury promises profit, Apollo safety and Septimanus bed and breakfast. He who has been here before will be treated all the better a second time. Stranger, settle on your lodging beforehand." A more independent tone is taken by another inn-keeper, who doesn't hesitate to declare that his house is not intended for people of only moderate means. "If you live in good style, here's the house for you; if in poor fashion I'll put up with you, but I shall be ashamed of having you." There are a good many modern hotels conducted on this principle, but the proprietors are not as a rule quite so frank in expressing their sentiments.—*Macmillan's Magazine.*

—A coaled cellar makes a warm house.

—When money gets tight the gold-cure is the only efficacious remedy.

—The effect of the hard times upon the workingman is different from the effect upon the bunco man, in that the former cannot find anything to do, and the latter cannot find anybody to do.

—Little Ethel—"What is these Anarchist people talkin' about?" Little Johnny—"W'y, they wants everything everybody else has got, an' they never wash theirselves." Little Ethel—"Oh, I see. They is little boys growed up."—*Good News.*

—Lady (to polite laborer who has offered her his seat)—"Oh, no! Keep your seat, my good man; you have been working hard all day." Polite Laborer (sympathetically)—"Take it, ma'am. Thru, o'ive bin carryin' th' hod 'all th' day; but you've bin shoppin'."—*Standard.*

—In one of the bedrooms of a hotel in South Lancashire is displayed the text:—"I will lay me down in peace, and take my rest, for it is thou, Lord, only that makest me to dwell in safety. Immediately under it comes this notice: "Owing to the frequency of hotel robberies you are requested to bolt your door."—*London Truth.*

—The following have been elected as officers of the Quebec Wine and Liquor Merchants' Association: Elzear Dallaire, president; A. Grenier, vice-president; Elzear Paquet, treasurer; P. L. Turgeon, secretary; F. X. Soucy, assistant secretary. Committee of management: L. A. Boisvert, J. T. Donnelly, A. Crawford, F. Bouret, J. Chateauvert, Ed. Trudel, M. Burns, all re-elected.