

how the road can otherwise be finished, the only safe way of doing so is to hold fast by the lien and increase the amount of the loan. A release of the lien would prove to be practically a gift of the loan to the company to which all property in the road would belong; and if the enterprise became profitable the government would have furnished nearly all the capital to build the road and the road when built would be the property of the company. It is quite true that some thing like this was contemplated when the contract with the Syndicate was first made; but this was on the understanding that the amount named in that instrument was to be all that was to be given for a completed road. The conditions of the contract will be virtually altered if the government is to increase the original subsidy by thirty, forty or fifty millions. If this were done, it would not be fair that the government should not have a claim on the road for the amount of the extra advance over and above that contained in the original contract. The government ought by no means to release the lien; and if it must make a further advance, it can only do so with safety to the public by retaining an interest in the road which it will be possible to enforce. If the lien were relinquished on the terms proposed or any other, the question would remain whether the company could raise \$15,000,000 on its own bonds; and in case it failed to do so, the next move would be to call on the government for a guarantee of the bonds.—*Monetary Times*.

Deposits of United States Insurance Companies with the Dominion Government.

Much having been said lately of the securities deposited with the Dominion Government by the American insurance companies doing business in Canada, we give them as under from the list issued by the Superintendent of Insurance at Ottawa. We think it likely that the companies will be required to exchange the American securities for Canadian ones, for the same reason that foreign insurance companies doing business in the United States are required to deposit American securities. We would premise that deposits marked (A) are applicable solely to life policies existing March 31, 1878; and those marked (B) to policies subsequent to that date.

The securities of the Aetna Fire, of Hartford (Robert Wood, general agent, Montreal), are \$23,000 municipal securities, \$77,000 U.S. bonds (accepted at \$97,700). Of the Aetna Life, of Hartford (W. H. Orr, manager, Toronto), \$100,000 U.S. gold bonds (A), \$600,000 U.S. bonds and \$25,000 debentures, province of Quebec (A). The Agricultural Fire, of Watertown, N.Y. (Joseph Flynn, chief agent, Cobourg, Ont.), \$100,000 U.S. bonds, 4 per cent. The Equitable Life (R. W. Gale, manager, Montreal), \$100,000 city of St. Louis bonds (A), \$265,000 U.S. bonds (B). The Hartford Fire (Robert Wood, general agent, Montreal), \$55,000 U.S. bonds and \$25,420 stock, accepted at \$100,000. The Metropolitan Life, of New York (Thomas A. Temple, general agent, St. John, N.B.), \$100,000 U.S. bonds. The New York Life (F. W. Campbell,

M.D., attorney, Montreal), \$100,000 U.S. bonds. The Phenix Fire and Marine, of Brooklyn, N.Y. (Robert Hampson, general agent, Montreal), \$100,000 U.S. bonds. The Travellers' Life and Accident (Chas. F. Russell, chief agent, Toronto), \$100,000 U.S. bonds, \$25,000 municipal debentures, \$20,000 Montreal Harbor bonds (accepted at \$140,500), being \$100,000 (A), \$45,000 par (B). The Union Mutual Life, of Maine (Wm. Mulock, agent, Toronto), \$100,000 U.S. 4 per cent. bonds (A), and \$50,000 district of Columbia U.S. bonds, and \$20,000 U.S. bonds (B). The United States Life, of New York (Thomas A. Temple, attorney, St. John, N.B.), \$100,000 U.S. bonds. The following companies have ceased to do new business, but keep up their renewals: The Connecticut Mutual Life, of Hartford (Robert Wood, general agent, Montreal), \$100,000 U.S. bonds. The National Life of the United States (John F. Bell, attorney, Windsor, Ont.), \$100,000 U.S. bonds. The Northwestern Mutual Life, of Milwaukee (M. W. Mills, chief agent, Toronto), \$100,000 U.S. bonds. The Phenix Mutual Life, of Hartford (H. D. Simpson, attorney, Montreal), \$105,000 U.S. bonds.

The Wool Market.

Taking the sales as an index of the market, business has been a little more active during the past week. The improvement has been "in spots," however, and the market as a whole has continued very quiet. Manufacturers, as a rule are carrying small stocks and are forced to come into the market frequently for such small lots as are required to meet the near wants of the looms. Mills running on Jersey yarns are very busily employed, and, though working to their full capacity, and in many cases late into the night, are unable to keep pace with orders. Low and quarter-blood staple wools, which are used for this class of production, are therefore in good demand, but spinners resist any attempt to advance prices. The worsted yarn mills generally are actively engaged on orders, but manufacturers of fabrics are not, as a rule, pushing production, owing to the backward condition of trade in their products. On all sides there is a disposition to confine actual orders, and except for popular lines of worsteds these are not coming forward as freely as could be desired. As a result of this condition of affairs in the manufacturing trade, there is continued conservatism among buyers of the raw staple; and though a fair amount of wool is changing hands in small lots, prices continue low and unsatisfactory to sellers. There is no apparent weakness in prices of undesirable wools, but the margin over first cost is seldom sufficient to cover charges and afford a fair rate of interest to parties who have been carrying them until wanted by consumers. A good deal of the wool now available consists of short and weak staple that had been passed over as unsatisfactory for combing. This is hard to sell, except at concessions, to manufacturers of cassimere and similar woolen goods, as most of the mills now running on those wools are short of orders and there is no immediate prospect of any improvement in their branch of production owing to the popular preference for worsteds.—*Philadelphia Price Current*.

Eggs by the Million.

A report from Washington places the annual supply of eggs in the United States at 500,000,000 dozen, which, at 16 cents a dozen (the price at which foreign eggs can be laid down in New York), would be worth \$80,000,000. Official reports say the daily receipts of domestic eggs at New York is 4,000 barrels of 70 dozen each, or 280,000 in all. The receipts of eggs at that port since September 1 last, is 27,948 cases of 50 dozen to a case, or 1,397,400 dozen in all that period. Estimating the period since September 1 at 120 days would make the daily arrival of foreign eggs in the port of New York 10,000 dozen in round numbers, which, added to the daily arrival of domestic eggs, makes the total 290,000 dozen arriving in New York daily. Wholesale produce dealers in New York state that there is no means by which the number of eggs arriving there can be officially ascertained, but they consider themselves safe in saying the arrivals of domestic eggs in the city is fully half that of the total arrival at New York, say 140,000 a day. What foreign eggs are sold here are landed in New York. No duty is imposed on these eggs.—*Commercial News*.

Wealth of the Jewish Population of the United States.

The growth of the numbers and wealth of our Jewish population has not attracted the attention it deserves. It is known that some 700,000 frequent the synagogues, but there are many freethinking Jews, and there must be at least 1,000,000 among our population. They have, as a sect, grown enormously rich. The average wealth of the Jew is fourfold that of our citizens. They are monopolizing the most lucrative occupations of the country. They are bankers, merchants, wholesale dealers. They warm at the exchanges, but rarely make their appearance in any productive employment. A Jewish farmer, mechanic or laborer is as difficult to find as a white blackbird. The signs of the business firms in the commercial cities of the nation contains the names of more Jews than any other nationality; indeed they monopolize the wholesale trade of several important cities. The Jewish race is a wonderful one, but so far its amazing prosperity in this country does not seem to have excited any unusual attention.—*Demorest's Monthly*.

The Silk Outlook.

The outlook for the coming year will be two-fold or three-fold greater than last year. When the trees now planted begin to be of use, the annual product should reach a quarter of a million dollars. The industry is making fair and healthy progress. In many of the counties of California there are persons who will make their first experiment next season. From all we hear it would seem to be easy for almost any family in any part of the State to succeed in raising good cocoons. As an illustration of what can be done take two or three examples: At San Rafael, in May last three young ladies made an experiment under the instruction of the Superintendent of the State Board. The