

FIRE INSURANCE PREMIUMS IN MONTREAL.

Amounted to \$2,235,000 in 1908, and about
\$2,275,000 in 1907.

From the annual returns to the city authorities of Montreal, by the fire insurance companies for the purposes of taxation, we give below the amount of city premiums for the years 1906, 1907 and 1908:

| | 1906. | 1907. | 1908. |
|--------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Ætna..... | 39,356 | 45,701 | 44,914 |
| Alliance..... | 39,337 | 39,916 | 40,676 |
| Atlas..... | 36,492 | 38,480 | 37,150 |
| British America..... | 49,286 | 54,191 | 43,232 |
| Caledonian..... | 40,396 | 44,142 | 43,451 |
| Commercial Union..... | 63,891 | 85,601 | 146,837 |
| Connecticut..... | 15,668 | 24,250 | 11,732 |
| General..... | | | 2,091 |
| German American..... | 35,490 | 37,258 | 34,365 |
| Guardian..... | 102,448 | 128,281 | 127,620 |
| Hartford..... | 30,717 | 33,007 | 32,796 |
| Home..... | 46,287 | 50,912 | 42,215 |
| Law Union & Crown..... | 11,105 | 13,594 | 9,464 |
| Liverpool & L. & G..... | 154,679 | 154,722 | 142,964 |
| London & Lancashire..... | 39,146 | 43,768 | 45,858 |
| London Assurance..... | 18,940 | 13,867 | 15,454 |
| Manitoba..... | 13,184 | 13,868 | 16,524 |
| New York U. Agency..... | 17,819 | 19,491 | 18,192 |
| North America..... | 65,293 | 77,551 | 80,275 |
| North Brit. and Mer..... | 143,359 | 154,670 | 160,500 |
| Northern..... | 71,862 | 90,679 | 95,024 |
| Norwich Union..... | 45,890 | 54,467 | 44,147 |
| Pacific Coast..... | | | 1,563 |
| Phoenix of Brooklyn..... | 42,667 | 52,226 | 50,337 |
| Phoenix of Hartford..... | 19,266 | 19,517 | 19,009 |
| Phoenix of London..... | 93,638 | 93,898 | 101,748 |
| Quebec..... | 9,723 | 11,403 | 10,929 |
| Queen..... | 63,779 | 71,856 | 68,587 |
| Richmond & Drummond..... | 9,963 | 19,381 | 19,753 |
| Royal..... | 202,611 | 209,878 | 210,562 |
| Rochester German..... | 15,603 | 14,467 | 14,515 |
| Scottish U. & N..... | 42,590 | 42,490 | 35,255 |
| St. Paul..... | | 4,995 | 12,108 |
| Sun..... | 34,874 | 37,805 | 31,155 |
| Union..... | 57,256 | 48,978 | ** |
| Western..... | 97,855 | 100,294 | 84,967 |
| Yorkshire..... | | 23,093 | 25,041 |
| Rimouski..... | | | 23,170 |
| Eastern Can. Mfrs..... | | 146 | 1,815 |
| Dominion Mutual..... | | | 10,152 |
| Equitable..... | 10,000 | 8,865 | 7,425 |
| Anglo-American..... | 18,320 | 15,138 | 15,734 |
| Dominion Fire..... | | 10,152 | 25,827 |
| Equity..... | 13,876 | 11,795 | 12,141 |
| Canada Mutual..... | 8,202 | 8,200 | 11,016 |
| London Mutual..... | 19,178 | 23,562 | 24,053 |
| Montmagny..... | | 6,832 | 6,063 |
| Montreal Canada..... | 97,350 | 95,229 | 47,446 |
| Mount Royal..... | 50,762 | 64,440 | 64,917 |
| Ottawa..... | 24,638 | 17,843 | 18,753 |
| Ontario..... | | 8,205 | 18,072 |
| Provincial..... | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 |
| Sovereign..... | 2,045 | 12,706 | *** |
| Traders..... | 5,000 | 5,100 | 5,897 |
| La Provincial..... | 3,976 | 5,897 | 5,000 |
| *La Fonciere..... | 10,000 | 10,000 | 10,000 |

* Estimated.

** Included in Commercial Union.

*** Withdrawn.

THE OCTOBER FIRE LOSS.

Dominion's Property Losses thus Far during 1909
are about One-tenth of Combined United States
and Canadian Showing.

The fire loss of the United States and Canada for the month of October, as compiled by the New York Journal of Commerce reaches the sum of \$17,765,200. This, while large, is some \$5,000,000 less than was credited against the same month last year. The following table gives the fire loss figures for the first ten months of this year, in

comparison with the same months of 1907 and 1908, and shows the losses for the balance of those two years. Canada's losses thus far this year probably represent over \$16,500,000 of the whole.

| | 1907. | 1908. | 1909. |
|-------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| January..... | \$ 24,064,000 | \$ 29,582,000 | \$ 22,735,900 |
| February..... | 19,876,600 | 18,489,700 | 16,131,900 |
| March..... | 20,559,700 | 16,723,300 | 13,795,400 |
| April..... | 21,925,900 | 26,009,000 | 19,345,300 |
| May..... | 16,286,300 | 15,181,150 | 17,360,400 |
| June..... | 14,765,000 | 19,512,000 | 14,435,950 |
| July..... | 18,240,150 | 15,323,750 | 15,830,900 |
| August..... | 20,248,000 | 23,123,000 | 16,423,000 |
| September..... | 11,440,400 | 21,431,400 | 15,043,000 |
| October..... | 13,350,250 | 22,722,850 | 17,765,200 |
| Total 10 mos..... | \$180,756,300 | \$208,098,150 | \$168,865,150 |
| November..... | 19,122,200 | 15,834,350 | |
| December..... | 15,783,750 | 14,629,750 | |

Total for year..... \$215,662,250 \$238,562,250

Canada unfortunately contributed an unusually large amount in October—about \$2,500,000. This included the Midland lumber yard fire of \$350,000 and the Quebec wharf losses of \$1,200,000.

The Journal of Commerce states that larger fire insurance companies, having a well distributed business, will have a fairly good year if there are no abnormal losses during November and December. The experience of the first half of 1909 was decidedly bad for most companies, but the third quarter of the year showed more satisfactory results in the United States.

QUEBEC WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT AND EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY RATES.

On January 1, the New Workmen's Compensation Act goes into effect throughout the Province of Quebec. Naturally, employers and underwriters are both giving thought to the changes that will be necessary in premium rates for employers' liability insurance. The accident underwriters have been threshing the matter out in joint consultation at Toronto. That some advance will have to be made in rates is a foregone conclusion—the experience under somewhat similar legislation in other provinces leaves no option as to this. As to the rumour that the advance will be fifty per cent. or over, THE CHRONICLE learns on good authority that this is rather an alarmist report, and that the increase will more likely be around 25 or 33 1/3 per cent.

PIG IRON PRODUCTION in the United States for October, as estimated by The Iron Trade Review, was 2,565,985 tons, establishing a new record. The increase was 189,946 tons over the September output, and 206,295 tons more than the 2,359,690 tons in October, 1907. The total production for the ten completed months was 20,083,345 tons, which compares with 15,680,140 tons for the full year 1908 and 25,297,732 tons in 1907—the Iron Trade Review's figures, though the American Iron and Steel Association gives the 1907 melt as 25,781,361 tons.

THE NATIONAL BANKS of the United States are finding difficulty in keeping out their redundant bond-based circulation. This appears in the fact that the Panama Canal issue of 2 per cent. Government bonds is slipping below par and the regular consols of 1930 are barely above the line.