

MARITIME LIFE UNDERWRITERS.

The Maritime Life Underwriters' convention at Halifax last week was so successful that the gathering is to be made an annual one. The delegates were welcomed by Mr. Marquand, president of the Nova Scotia Association. In the course of his remarks he said:

"This is the first time that a joint gathering of the members of our different associations in the Maritime Provinces has been held. The purpose of such meetings tends to further promotion of good-will, harmony and co-operation between all level premium life insurance agents in the interest of true life insurance. We meet on equal grounds as men behind the rate book to discuss matters pertaining to the good cause of life insurance and the true interests of the companies we represent."

A hearty welcome was accorded to Mr. John R. Reid, president of the Life Underwriters' Association of Canada, who had travelled 900 miles to attend and take part in the meetings.

At a most enjoyable dinner given by the Nova Scotia Association, Mr. Marquand presided. The toasts of the Life Underwriters' Association of Canada, the Nova Scotia Association, the Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick Associations, the Medical Profession and the Press were proposed and honoured.

Among those attending the convention were the following: John R. Reid, Ottawa; J. W. V. Lawlor, W. L. Wilson, W. W. Cooper, F. S. Bonnell, G. C. Jordan, St. John; Joel B. Beaman, Lauder, Man; James A. Hurley, Dartmouth; F. R. Freeman, Liverpool; J. F. Hall, Lunenburg; M. C. McLennan, Wm. J. Kerr, W. B. MacCoy, W. R. C. Hewat, H. Cole Evans, H. Wolley, W. E. Hebb, H. S. Crosby, S. M. Beardsley, W. C. Somers, W. J. Marquand, J. T. Wilson, D. P. Flanery, E. W. W. Sim, Ernest E. Boreham, L. B. Harlow, C. A. Greenwood, R. Allen Facey, E. J. Seeley, A. C. Curry, Halifax.

CALGARY'S PROGRESS DURING 1908.

The civic building inspector of Calgary points out that during last year the number of private residences erected was unprecedented in its history. Architects' and builders' reports show that 1909 will be one of great building activity.

For six weeks ending January 7, Calgary led all Canadian cities in the percentage of increase of clearing-house returns.

The first meeting of the civic finance committee for 1909 proved an important one. The committee recommended to the council that the Alberta legislature be asked to amend the charter of the City of Calgary so that the latter's borrowing power shall be 20 per cent. of its assessment rather than 15 as at present. The change was suggested by Mayor Jamieson and was approved by the entire committee. The financial condition of the city was considered and was found to be as follows:—

The present liability of the city is \$2,200,000. This includes debentures now advertised, but not the street railway bonds. The assessment this year will be about \$10,500,000. The city being allowed to borrow 15 per cent., the present limit of borrowing power is about \$2,925,000.

The street railway is to be built at a cost of about \$250,000, a trunk sewer must be built this year in the centre of the city at a cost of \$100,000 and septic tanks for the disposal of sewage must soon be provided in order to comply with legislation of the government. The first two projects would eat a large hole in the balance of the city's borrowing power. The proposed change would mean an additional borrowing power of about \$1,000,000.

AN IMPORTANT PROVINCIAL APPOINTMENT.

The position of Superintendent of Insurance for the Province of Quebec has been filled by the appointment of Mr. William Chubb, A.A.S., A.I.A., of the staff of the Sun Life of Canada. Mr. Chubb and the Province of Quebec are both to be congratulated; in the meantime messages of condolence are in order as far as the Sun Life is concerned, for that company loses a most valuable servant. Mr. Chubb carries talents of a high order with a bearing as quiet and serene as a Quaker's. His patience will have its testing-times at Quebec, no doubt. Another distinguishing feature in the new Superintendent is that, while well up in his profession, his mind is stored with the results of wide and varied reading.

Mr. Chubb is an associate by examination of the Actuarial Society of America, and also of the Institute of Actuaries of Great Britain, and the high qualifications indicated by these degrees combined with a thorough knowledge of the French language, fit him in an exceptional way for his post in Quebec.

In his travels Mr. Chubb will be easily identified by a very handsome alligator suit case, which was presented to him with heartiest good wishes of the members of the Sun Life office on Wednesday evening. It would be difficult, say his confreres, to find a more trustworthy employee and impossible to have a more genial associate.

FIRE AT CANADIAN ASBESTOS COMPANY.

The plant of the Canadian Asbestos Company, corner of Broadway and 20th Avenue, Lachine, was burned to the ground this week.

The following companies are interested:

| | Building. | Machinery. | Stock. |
|-----------------------|-----------|------------|----------|
| Hartford..... | \$ 3,000 | .... | .... |
| London & Lancashire.. | 3,000 | .... | .... |
| North Brit. & Mer.... | 3,000 | \$ 3,000 | \$ 3,000 |
| Scottish Nat. & U.... | .... | 1,500 | 1,500 |
| Western..... | .... | 1,500 | 1,500 |
| Rochester..... | 3,000 | .... | .... |
| Yorkshire..... | .... | 2,000 | 5,000 |
| Sovereign..... | .... | 1,000 | 1,000 |
| St. Paul..... | .... | 1,000 | 1,000 |
| Richmond..... | .... | .... | 2,000 |
| | \$12,000 | \$10,000 | \$15,000 |

PERMANENT INSURANCE AGENCY, LIMITED.

The formation of the Permanent Insurance Agency, Limited, in Montreal is causing a good deal of discussion amongst underwriters and insurance agents. It is backed up by representatives of some of the leading commercial, manufacturing and transportation companies.