and British cities that they all show a considerable advance in amount over 1898, and it is a singular coincidence that the percentage of increase in the London clearing house this year corresponds with the percentage of increase in Canada. All these three countries are now riding on the top of a wave of prosperity. How long the good times will last none can say, but to all the advice is timely, "make hay while the sun shines."

FIRE LOSSES IN CANADA FOR JUNE, 1899.

(ESTIMATED).

DATE.	LOCATION.	RISK.	TOTAL LOSS.	INSURANCE LOSS.
June..				
1	Huntsville......	Planing Mill....	$2,000	Nil
1	Quebec.........	Stores	3,000	$3,000
4	Chatham.	Barns	2,500	1,000
2	Hamilton.	Commercial bl'k.	15,000	12,000
3	Republic, B.C...	do	75,000	20,000
4	Queensville.....	Barns	1,200	1,000
6	Longueuil	Bakery..........	5,000	3,000
6	Quebec.........	Shoe Factory..	35,000	35,000
3	Saltford	Tannery........	4,600	2,000
13	Montreal.	Dwelling	2,000	2,000
11	Colborne	do	1,000	1,000
11	Berlin	Tannery........	12,000	12,000
18	Toronto	Store...........	1,000	1,000
11	Sackville, N.B...	College.........	60,000	45,000
4	Fraserville......	Barns	1,000	1,000
4	Grand'Mère.....	Pulp Mill.......	1,600	1,600
19	Quebec	Stores..........	20,000	18,000
19	Toronto	Glass works	10,000	10,000
20	Montreal	Stores..........	1,000	1,000
25	St. Raymond....	Conflagration...	60,000	45,000
25	Halifax	Warehouse......	20,000	15,000
28	Iroquois........	Water works....	8,000	3,000
29	Toronto	Exhib. bldgs....	15,000	10,000
			$355,900	$242,600
Add 20 per cent. for unreported losses and losses under $1,000..............			$71,180	$44,520
Totals.....................			$427,080	$287,120

SUMMARY FOR CORRESPONDING MONTHS OF 1899 COMPARED WITH 1898.

	1899.		1898.	
	Total Loss.	Insurance Loss.	Total Loss.	Ins. Loss.
For January..	$1,221,240	$ 622,080	$ 434,280	302,160
" February.	1,120,920	625,560	960,240	531,360
" March....	347,040	222,440	558,000	392,760
" April.....	418,320	356,760	411,960	265,080
" May......	990,240	578,160	340,440	201,720
" June.....	....	....	....	....
Totals....	$4,097,760	$2,405,000	$2,8[illegible]5,120	$1,693,080

THE AMERICAN SURETY COMPANY.

Mr. William E. Keyes, the popular secretary of the American Surety Company, has been visiting the principal cities of the Dominion, for the purpose of re-organizing some of the company's agencies, and arranging a more vigorous prosecution of business in Canada.

Notes and Items.

The Wisconsin Insurance Report covering the business of fire and marine insurance for the year 1898 has just been issued. We have to acknowledge receipt of a copy of same with the compliments of the Commissioner.

ROYAL ARCANUM PLANS.—The Supreme Council of the Royal Arcanum, at a recent meeting at Washington, discussed various propositions for a change of the laws and constitution of the order. The most important recommendation came from State Councils in various parts of the country, that the work of deputies, known as agents in other insurance concerns, be very much enlarged in order that competition of other companies may be met. Another recommendation favored insuring members for any sum in integral parts of $500 up to $3,000, instead of merely for $1,500 or $3,000 as at present.

PERSONALS.

MR. H. C. MCLEOD, General Manager of the Bank of Nova Scotia, visited the Montreal branch of his prosperous institution on Monday last.

MR. W. B. ROSS, of Halifax, a director of the Dominion Coal Company, and of the company recently formed for manufacturing iron at Sydney, C.B., has been in the metropolis for some days in consultation with his fellow-directors in the new enterprise.

Correspondence.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for views expressed by correspondents

LONDON LETTER.

29th June, 1899.

FINANCE.

There is considerable activity in the hotel business in England just now. In London here, three splendid caravansaries are being erected, and two more were recently finished and opened. Henry Frederick and Company, Limited, are the largest builders of these palatial edifices, and the holder of nine-tenths of the shares in that company is Sir J. B. Maple. Sir John Blundell Maple is the founder and managing director of Maple & Co., the furnishers and upholsterers of Tottenham Court Road, and apparently largely went into the hotel business to find avenues for the sale of his firm's goods. He is a jubilee baronet, is fifty-four years old, and his only daughter has married Baron Von Somebody of the German Embassy. The "H. F. & Co." hotels are really exquisitely beautiful structures, and they are being floated as a limited company with a capital of $9,500,000.

* * *

The South African market in London has been affected lately less by the condition of affairs in the Transvaal than by movements in Paris. The fall of the ministry led to sharp and continued selling of Kaffir shares, and prices went very flat, to recover upon the authoritative announcement of a new ministry. In London the occasional spasms of excitement were soothed by the vote of a twenty million