

THE EXCELSIOR LIFE.

The seventeenth annual report of the Excelsior Life Insurance Company shows larger increases than for any previous year in volume of income, assets, surplus, reserves, insurance written and business in force. The total of insurance in force is now well over the ten million mark, new policies having been issued during the year amounting to nearly \$2,500,000. Net assets now stand at over \$1,200,000, the interest earned on mean assets being 6.62 p.c. for the year. The interest income was sufficient of itself to more than pay all death claims, head office salaries, rent and expenses. The death rate of the company continues to be gratifyingly low, the claims for the year amounting to less than \$40,000. The company's net surplus on policy-holders' account amounts to \$110,000, the reserves for eleven years being calculated on the Hm. 3½ p.c. basis.

General Manager Marshall, of Toronto, has an energetic Montreal lieutenant in Provincial Manager H. B. Mussen, and 1907 business throughout his territory is reported as exceedingly satisfactory.

FIRE AT CAVERHILL, LEARMONT & COMPANY, MONTREAL.

By the fire which occurred on the 8th instant, on the premises of Caverhill, Learmont & Co., hardware merchants, Montreal, the following companies are interested.

On Stock:—Aetna, \$2,500; Alliance, \$5,000; Atlas, \$15,000; British America, \$5,000; Caledonian, \$7,500; Commercial Union, \$25,000; Connecticut, \$5,000; Guardian, \$7,500; Hartford, \$5,000; Liverpool & London & Globe, \$12,500; London & Lancashire, \$10,000; London Assurance, \$5,000; Northern, \$15,000; Norwich Union, \$12,500; Phoenix of London, \$12,500; Royal, \$30,000; Yorkshire, \$12,500; London Mutual, \$10,000; Mount Royal, \$5,000; Lloyds, \$30,000. Total, \$232,500. Loss, about 15 p.c. *On building:*—Atlas, \$2,500; Liverpool & London & Globe, \$12,500; London Assurance, \$15,000; Lloyds, \$2,500. Total, \$32,500. Loss, about 5 p.c. *On fixtures:* Phoenix of London, \$3,000.

LIFE UNDERWRITERS' BANQUET.

At the close of the executive annual meeting of the Life Underwriters' Association of Canada, the Montreal Underwriters' Association tendered the members of the executive a complimentary banquet. This was held on Friday evening last, at the Elks' Club, and some fifty prominent insurance men were present.

President H. E. Vipond, of the Montreal association proved an able chairman and toastmaster. Among the speakers were: Messrs. D. Burke, of the Canadian Association; H. E. Cox, Toronto; A. S. McGregor, president of the London Association; J. R. Reid, T. B. Macaulay, F. H. Haycock, G. H. Allan, and T. J. Parkes. During the evening vocal and instrumental music was furnished by Messrs.

Dumbrill, Dunn, Alloway, Merrill and Dr. Armistage.

An important move was made by the Montreal Association before the banquet, when it was decided to reduce the annual membership fee from \$5 to \$3, by which means it is hoped to greatly increase the membership. During the day a good deal of routine work was taken care of by the executive. A strong committee was appointed to arrange for the reception of the International Association of Underwriters, which will hold its annual convention at Toronto in August, when it is expected that over 500 delegates will be present.

FIRE AT EAST END ABATTOIR.

By the fire which occurred on the 11th inst., at the East End Abattoir, Montreal, the following companies are interested. Loss, average about 30 p.c.

Schedule—

British America, \$7,810; German-American, \$3,905; Guardian, \$7,810; North America, \$15,620; Liverpool & London & Globe, \$15,620; Mount Royal, \$3,905; North British & Mercantile, \$15,620; Norwich Union, \$3,905; Phoenix of Brooklyn, \$5,467; Richmond & Drummond, \$3,905; Royal, \$15,620; Rochester German, \$4,686; Western, \$7,810; Yorkshire, \$4,686; Montmagny, \$4,686; Sovereign, \$3,124; Missisquoi & Rouville, \$3,124; Shawnee, \$4,686; Economical, \$3,124; North River, \$3,124; Nasan, \$2,343; Peter Cooper, \$2,343; United States, \$3,124; Empire City, \$3,124; Dutchess, \$2,343; Stanstead and Sherbrooke, \$4,686. Total, \$133,200.

Stock—

German American, \$2,000; Hartford, \$2,000; Lloyds, \$20,000 and \$15,000; Manitoba, \$3,200; Montreal Canada, \$2,500; North British & Mercantile, \$3,200; Norwich Union, \$1,000; Phoenix of Brooklyn, \$5,000; Queen, \$5,000; Rochester German, \$800; Western, \$2,000; Yorkshire, \$800. Total, \$63,000.

INSURANCE INSTITUTE OF MONTREAL

The annual meeting of the Insurance Institute was held on Tuesday evening, the 7th inst., in the Inglis Building, the 1st Vice-President, Mr. Lansing Lewis, presiding. A letter was read from the President, Mr. Sergeant P. Stearns expressing his regret at being unable to be present at the meeting owing to absence from the city. He also expressed his appreciation of the support which his fellow officers and members of the Institute had given him during his two year term of office. Mr. Lewis announced that no essay had been entered for the prize offered by Mr. G. H. Allan, of the Mutual Life of Canada upon "Field Work in Life Insurance." However, one essay entitled "Fire Insurance what it is and what it does" by Mr. Frederic Ridge, of the Montreal-Canada, had been received for the prize offered by Mr. Lewis. Mr. Ridge was accordingly awarded the prize.

The Hon. Secretary, Mr. A. E. Howell, then read his report, the adoption of which was moved by Mr. C. J. Alloway, seconded by Mr. W. A. Wilson and carried.

The chairman then called for the report of the Hon. Treasurer, and after it had been read by Mr.