World Commerce. The international commerce of the world is estimated by the Bureau of Statistics of the United States Department of Commerce and Labour as being over $26,000,000,000, of which $13,750,000,000 is imports and $12,500,000,000 exports. Of the imports of countries other than the United States fourteen and one-third per cent., are estimated as drawn from that country, and of their exports, nine and one-half per cent. are sent there. These figures of exports include only the domestic products exported, but do not include the foreign or colonial merchandise brought into the country and re-exported. The total imports of the countries other than the United States are given as $12,513,143,000, and the share of these imports drawn from the United States as $1,798,338,000, or 14.37 p.c. of the total. The total exports of the countries other than the United States are given at $10,770,466,000, and the share sent to the United States at $1,031,113,000 or 9.57 p.c. of the total.

Personal Notes

HON. FRED. E. RICHARDS, president Union Mutual Life Insurance Company, Portland, Maine, was in Montreal yesterday, and favoured us with a call. The Union Mutual is one of the most carefully managed companies in America.

MR. C. M. MANNING has been transferred from the managership of the Bank of Nova Scotia's Fredericton branch to London, Ont., succeeding Mr. Rosborough who goes to New Glasgow. Mr. Benson succeeds Mr. Manning at Fredericton.

MR. RANDALL DAVIDSON, manager for Canada, of the North British & Mercantile Insurance Co., will sail from Liverpool on the 8th instant for New York.

MR. E. L. THORNE, general manager of the Union Bank of Halifax, is visiting Montreal. This enterprising bank has now 46 branches.

MR. WILLIAM MACKAY, manager Royal & Queen Insurance Companies, sailed to-day per Empress of Britain for Liverpool.

CLEARINGS THROUGHOUT CANADA.

Below are given the figures for the Canadian Clearing Houses for the weeks ending with April 25, 1907, and April 26, 1906:

	April 25, '07.	April 26, '06.
Montreal	$26,085,353	$26,616,545
Toronto	22,533,126	23,054,798
Winnipeg	11,077,942	9,002,993
Halifax	1,673,734	1,692,951
Hamilton	1,671,082	1,457,759
St. John	1,243,202	1,094,918
Vancouver	3,433,833	2,386,889
Victoria	1,214,596	757,466
Quebec	1,701,656	1,384,657
Ottawa	3,090,308	2,342,773
London	1,389,738	1,049,307
Edmonton	1,122,389	....
Calgary	1,399,672	....
Total	$77,636,631	$70,841,056

Insurance Items

EX-PRESIDENT CLEVELAND, as counsel for the Association of Life Insurance Presidents, has submitted another brief to that body. It deals with the matter of legislative limitation of salaries to company officials. This brief has been filed with the Wisconsin Legislature among others. The brief points out by a statement of actual conditions, not only that the payment of the salaries condemned by this threatened State legislation does not in the least impair or put in jeopardy the security of the insured, but that its effect on their right to premium dividends or participation in accumulated assets may well be regarded in individual cases a negligible factor. On constitutional grounds also a strong case is made out against the threatened legislation.

THE BRITISH BOARD OF TRADE returns from life insurance companies during 1906, show that the premiums received by 86 ordinary life companies, exclusive of Colonial and United States institutions, amounted in 1905 to £25,332,093, while interest and dividends amounted to over £10,750,000. The outgo included claims amounting to £17,527,265, £1,132,576 in dividends to policy-holders, £1,337,415 commissions to agents and £2,094,516 as expenses of management. The total of life and annuity funds amounts to £296,003,001, while the insurance in force reaches the total of £754,252,481. Industrial policies, numbering over twenty-five million, add £251,556,107 to the amount of insurance protection given in Great Britain by the home companies alone.

THE NEW STANDARD FIRE POLICY proposed for New York State has received direct opposition from the New York Board of Fire Underwriters, and it is unlikely that any immediate change will be made. It is rightly urged by the underwriters that a policy form, whatever its imperfections, which is the product of many years of careful modifying and of known legal interpretation should not be radically changed without the most careful consideration.

A SPECIAL TEST was held this week at various hydrants in the neighbourhood of McGill University by the civic water department in the presence of Inspector Howe, of the Canadian Underwriters' Association, and a number of representatives of interested companies. Mr. Alfred Hadrill, secretary of the Fire Underwriters' Association, states that Inspector Howe expressed entire satisfaction with the pressure and supply generally.

THE CANADIAN MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION has decided to proceed with the organization of its two proposed fire companies, and to make the $100,000 Government deposit from which the Dominion Parliament declined to give exemption.

STATE INSURANCE COMMISSIONER A. T. VORYS, of Ohio, is managing the Taft presidential campaign in that State. Politics and insurance seem still to have their affiliations across the border.

A DISASTROUS FIRE occurred on the 1st inst., on the premises of the Amherst Foundry, Amherst, N.S. Insurance was $100,000 with loss about 60 p.c.