

THE DOMINION BANK'S STATEMENT.

The Dominion Bank's statement just published in anticipation of the annual meeting on January 29, is the best that has yet been issued by this Bank. The net profits for the calendar year, 1912, after making the usual allowances were \$901,529, or at the rate of 18.38 p.c., an increase of no less than \$197,000 over those of 1911, which were \$704,046. A sum of \$500,116 was brought forward from 1911, and the inclusion in the profit and loss account of \$297,201, premium on new stock, makes a total in this account of \$1,698,846. In addition to the 12 per cent. dividend the Bank has given to its shareholders a bonus of 2 per cent. making a total distribution for the year of 14 per cent. This absorbs \$688,536, \$25,000 is contributed to the Officers' Pension Fund, the premium on new stock, \$297,201, is transferred to the reserve fund, making this fund \$6,000,000, equal to 120 per cent. of the paid-up capital of \$5,000,000, and the largely increased balance of \$688,109 is carried forward.

Following are the leading items of the balance sheet in comparison with last year:—

	1912.	1911.
Paid-up Capital	\$ 5,000,000	\$ 4,702,799
Reserve	6,000,000	5,702,799
Circulation	5,256,368	4,649,068
Deposits	59,342,436	53,547,865
Total Liabilities to public . .	67,094,506	58,980,976
Specie and Notes	9,077,884	8,253,890
Call Loans	6,040,075	6,448,429
Quick Assets	29,241,840	27,011,053
Current Loans	46,415,842	40,492,726
Total Assets	79,224,680	70,179,553

It will be seen from this statement that the Bank's operations have been largely extended during 1912. Circulation has advanced \$600,000; deposits by \$5,800,000, while the total assets at \$79,224,680 are over \$9,000,000 larger than at December 31, 1911. The Bank is indeed in a strong position, the cash assets, approximately \$16,000,000, being 23.80 p.c. of the liabilities to the public and the assets immediately available, \$29,241,840, being 43.58 per cent. of the liabilities to the public.

The Montreal branch of this Bank is making rapid progress under the management of Mr. M. S. Bogert.

Insurance Briefs.

Christy Mathewson, the baseball player, has cast his lot with the Aetna Life, opening an office in New York City, where he intends to pitch in for business.

The Prudential Insurance Company of America is said to be considering a plan for mutualizing itself, although no formal statement has yet been issued.

The head office of the Canada Life Assurance Company for the United Kingdom, which has hitherto been at 14 King William Street, London, E.C., has been moved to "Canada Life Building," 15 King Street, Cheapside, London, E.C.

A severe blow was dealt the Royal Arcanum in a recent decision handed down by the New York Court of Appeals, which settles a lawsuit now nearly three years old. Samuel Green, a Brooklyn lawyer, instituted the action because he ob-

jected to the increase of his assessment as a member of the Royal Arcanum. According to the decision of the Court of Appeals, which of course, affects the members of the Royal Arcanum in New York State only, the by-laws of a benevolent association cannot be so changed as to increase the assessment rate of old members. It is generally admitted, says the Insurance Press, that the decision is a critical one for the Royal Arcanum, owing to the fact that there is a very good chance that numerous suits will be instituted as a result of the decision in the Green case by persons seeking to recover excess due on assessments already paid. Whether it will be possible, however, to recover this money, using the Green case as a precedent, is a matter which is already puzzling fraternal lawyers. It is stated that the Green case is likely to be taken to the United States Supreme Court. Thomas I. Crane, grand vice-regent of the Supreme Council of the State of New York, is quoted as saying that if all the members were to be enabled to secure insurance from the Royal Arcanum at the rate at which the Court of Appeals decided that Mr. Green could secure his protection, the order would have to go into bankruptcy.

As showing the actual working of the theory that convertible term insurance would be useful in inducing men to insure their lives and then to change their insurance for a more permanent form, the Northwestern Mutual cites its own experience which bears out the theory only to a limited extent. The company says:

On January 1, 1912, the Northwestern had in force 43,033 policies for \$153,289,103 of term insurance carrying the privilege of change or conversion without medical examination. During the first nine months of 1912 there was issued \$16,423,380 of new term policies (individual). In spite of the heavy increase in total new business during 1912 this was a smaller aggregate of new term insurance than was written the first nine months of 1911. The record would be much more satisfactory if the comparatively small number of conversions did not throw some doubt upon our original expectations, that men induced to insure on this cheap temporary plan would soon see the advantage of conversion to permanent insurance. The facts are that in spite of considerable campaigning in that direction only 1,597 term policies for \$5,767,000 were converted during the first nine months of 1912.

The fire losses in the United States as divided between the cities and country for 1911 show a per capita loss of \$2.62 for cities having 20,000 population and over. This is an increase of twenty-three cents over the per capita loss for 1910. In the group of eleven cities having a population of 400,000 or over, St. Louis had the largest per capita loss, with Boston second, while Chicago was third, with a loss of \$2.59 per capita. Baltimore, which received a salutary warning from its conflagration in 1904, made the best showing of the cities in this group, with Cleveland next. The average per capita loss of this group of the eleven larger cities is \$2.27, which is thirteen cents higher than in 1910.

The proportion on losses supposed to be under first-class fire protection as compared with cities and country shows a large increase, while the losses on property with little protection have fallen off. This is explained by the superior protection of cities being offset by the multiplicity of municipal hazards, which are absent in the country, and with the fact that a conflagration once started makes a big showing on the loss ratio.