

The Chronicle

Insurance & Finance.

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Proprietor.

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Fire Tables. We regret being unable to present the table showing the business and results of the fire companies in 1904, which is delayed owing to a few of the companies not having sent in their returns. We are receiving inquiries daily which show how eagerly the information to be given in our table of the fire insurance in Canada in 1904, is awaited. We trust to have this complete for our next issue.

New York Life Convention. About the middle of next May the New York Life proposes to hold a Convention in New York to celebrate its 60th year. Representatives of this great company are expected to be present from all parts of the world, 129 from the United States, Canada and other parts of this continent, 36 from Europe, and others from South America, the West Indies, South Africa, India, Japan, China, etc., etc. Arrangements are being made to have the record of the company thoroughly written to show its progress and present position.

A Mismanaged American Life Company. The Superintendent of Insurance, New York, favours us with his report on the examination of the Washington Life Insurance Co., of New York. The report is disagreeable reading. The statement shows that since 1899 a surplus of \$732,128 has disappeared and a deficit now exists of \$80,933. The report reads, "The mismanagement of this corporation is simply incomprehensible. The sums expended in its most futile efforts to secure new business to offset the normal termination of its old policies, calls for censure. The total cost of the new business has in some cases reached the figure of 200 per cent. of the initial year's premiums. The home office expenses have been unwarranted, notably the salary of the president and his son, vice-president. The combined salaries of these two officers lately ap-

proximated \$45,000 per annum. General incoherence seems to have obtained all along the line of management." The report shows "one of the methods in vogue at the home office," was the exchanging of checks between the company and its agents. It is thus described, "An agent is advanced \$2000 during the last two months of the year. Agent agrees to repay this amount by his check on 31st December, with the distinct understanding that the said check shall be held in the drawer of the company's cashier and returned to him on January 1, following." The report charges that false annual returns were made to the Insurance Department by the Washington Life Company.

With the report the Superintendent issues an addendum in which he states that the company has been reorganized and he expresses his very strong conviction that the new management will be marked by "integrity of purpose and honesty in method of procedure." Any Canadian company that switched away from the strait track on to such a line as the above company was running along would be quickly stopped and compelled to retrace its steps.

What is Profit in Fire Business? What constitutes profit, from a fire insurance point of view, is a question on which opinions differ. We have first the idea of those who attack the companies because of their alleged exorbitant rates, the exorbitancy being proved by the losses being so much less than the premium receipts, the entire difference being profit, according to these critics. That a company has to pay management expenses as well as losses out of its premium income never occurs to these brilliant persons, nor that it is their duty to lay aside something to provide for conflagrations, or a series of fires beyond the ordinary. This view seems too irrational to be held by any business man, but, strange to say, persons who, in other matters, are clear headed and reasonable seem to

become otherwise when they engage in comments upon insurance matters.

An insurance manager in writing on this question says: "The average agent thinks that he is entitled to call a profit, whatever remains after deducting from his net remittances the losses that the company pays. This is all a mistake, of course, as the business has to be handled in the field by special agents and in the home office by clerks and officials. It would be better for the business as a whole if everyone understood this matter and realized that the only way to arrive at a real profit is to deduct from the premiums earned (not written or remitted) the losses and expenses incurred of every kind and nature.

"I do not hesitate to say that, with the heavy expense we have in nearly every large city in this country to-day, there is no profit in the business that makes it worth doing, when we consider the sweeping fire or conflagration hazard, unless the losses are kept down to 50 per cent. of the earned premium. I venture further to state, without fear of successful contradiction, that no company doing a general-business has made a dollar of profit during the last ten or fifteen years on the heavy mercantile and special hazard business of our large cities. Whatever profit there has been, and whatever profit there will be, I fear, for some years to come, has been and will be derived from the small business."

Industrial Accidents.

The report of the Department of Labour for last year contains information in regard to the accidents occurring to men in the course of their employment in different parts of Canada. This is a new feature, as before last year no statistics of this character had ever been compiled. The information thus furnished is likely to be of service to companies doing a casualty business. The following table shows the number of persons killed or injured by accidents in Canada during the months of January to June, 1904.

| Trade and Industry. | Killed. | Injured. | Total. |
|--------------------------------|---------|----------|--------|
| Agriculture..... | 46 | 35 | 81 |
| Fishing and Hunting | 9 | 3 | 12 |
| Lumbering..... | 43 | 41 | 84 |
| Mining..... | 49 | 62 | 111 |
| Building trades..... | 19 | 61 | 80 |
| Metal "..... | 41 | 229 | 270 |
| Woodworking trades..... | 6 | 89 | 95 |
| Railway service..... | 101 | 163 | 264 |
| Transportation..... | 38 | 88 | 126 |
| Printing..... | .... | 2 | 3 |
| Food and tobacco preparation.. | 3 | 24 | 27 |
| Clothing trades..... | 1 | 7 | 8 |
| Leathe. "..... | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| Textile "..... | .... | 6 | 6 |
| Unskilled labour..... | 5 | 35 | 40 |
| Miscellaneous..... | 56 | 166 | 202 |
| Totals..... | 400 | 1,013 | 1,413 |

We note the absence of members of fire brigades in above list, also of coachman, grooms, domestic servants. The accidents to agriculturalists were mostly caused by farmers being struck by trains when on their way to market. The building trade accidents arose from men falling from buildings, their utter recklessness, especially in fixing unsafe scaffolds, leading to many deaths.

The fact that in one year between 700 to 1000 men are killed outright in Canada while pursuing their callings, and that from 2000 to 3000 are permanently injured, is enough to direct the attention of legislators to the need of devising means whereby there may be saved this sacrifice of life and human energy.

An English View of the Lawson Affair.

In a caustic article on the Lawson mania, the "London Review" says, "What we cannot make out in England is the want of balance in the American investor, which leads him to throw securities down in the street one day in order to pick them up at a depreciated value on the next. Such a man as Lawson would be put in gaol in England in 24 hours, and in the next place injunctions would be obtained against the newspapers publishing his rubbish, failing in obedience to which imprisonment would follow."

A GRANDMOTHERLY BANKING LAW.

The American National Bank Act, with its amendments, added in July, 1882, contains provisions which are beyond "maternal," they are grandmotherly. One section reads:

"It shall be unlawful for any officer, clerk or agent of any national banking association to certify any check drawn upon the association unless the person or company drawing the check has on deposit with the association, at the time such check is certified, an amount of money equal to the amount specified in such check."

This not being explicit or stringent enough, the amended Act thus deals with any bank officer who tolerates an overdraft:

"Any officer, clerk, or agent who shall resort to any device, or receive any fictitious obligation, direct or collateral, in order to evade the provisions thereof, or who shall certify checks before the amount thereof shall have been regularly entered to the credit of the dealer upon the books of the association, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall on conviction thereof in any circuit or district court of the United States be fined not more than \$5,000, or shall be imprisoned not more than five years, or both, in the discretion of the court."

Why not have made this awful offence punishable by electrocution, and so get rid out of this world of the infamous wretch who had certified a cheque that

was not covered by a cash balance? Of course, English bankers are away behind the times in the judgment of American critics, but they manage to keep on paying dividends of from 10 to 20 per cent., with not more failures in half a century than those in America every month. Yet these bankers pay cheques every hour of the day that are not provided for by "an amount of money equal to the amount specified in such cheques." What is a recognized practice, which is based upon a formal agreement between bankers and their customers in England, is a crime in the United States, that is, punishable as severely as burglary, or highway robbery, or manslaughter!

What is meant by "a fictitious obligation, direct or collateral?" Would what is known as an "accommodation note" come under that designation, or, a cheque given in exchange for one of the same amount to help one drawer to turn a sharp corner? Strictly speaking, both accommodation notes and exchanged cheques severally represent "a fictitious obligation," but, irregular, dangerous, and opposed to sound banking as these notes and cheques are, surely any banker worth his salt has brains enough to avoid any serious loss by these "Kites," and does not need protecting against them by an Act that declares the using of such temporary expedients to be so serious a crime as to deserve five years' imprisonment. The punishment does not "fit the crime," but is so excessive as to prevent its ever being enforced, just as when, a century ago, stealing a loaf or a few coppers was a gallows crime, juries would not convict however plain was the proof of guilt. Fancy a jury of American storekeepers asked to send a banker to jail for 5 years because he honoured a cheque before it was covered by a cash deposit!

According to the precise meaning of the words of this Act, a large proportion of bank accounts in the States are in such a condition as to subject every banker to the penitentiary. The Act reads, that before a cheque is certified it must be covered by "an equal amount of money." Now *money* is one thing and *credit* is another, a distinction which this Act ignores by requiring all cheques before being certified to be covered by a deposit of money. As our valued contemporary the New York "Commercial Bulletin" remarks:

"There are certain terms that need defining. What is it to have "an amount of money" on deposit in a bank? It obviously cannot mean that the depositor must have placed the amount in the bank in actual cash. If he borrows a certain sum of the bank, and, instead of paying it over to him, the bank credits him with it and allows him to draw upon it, he has, in effect, that amount of money on deposit. The loan may be made upon any security satisfactory to the officers of the bank and authorized by its directors. They may take the customer's

personal undorsed note, or "single name paper," if they consider it safe to do so and credit him with the proceeds, and can then lawfully certify his cheques drawn to the amount. The acceptance of such a note as the basis of a deposit upon which a cheque may be certified is a question of sound and safe banking, and whether lawful or not would depend upon other circumstances than the mere taking of the note and entering the credit."

Another aspect of this question is the practice in regard to brokers' accounts by bankers who certify beyond the limit of the customer's actual deposit, provided the account is scrupulously made good the same day, or as agreed. A strict interpretation of the law, as above quoted, renders the banker liable to a ruinous penalty, but, so far as safe banking is concerned, it all depends upon the character and purpose of the transactions involved and the credit and responsibility of the customer dealt with.

The sooner American legislators study the Bank Act of Canada and establish a system based upon it in the United States, and the sooner, by such a system, bank officers are trained to expertness in valuing all manner of negotiable instruments, and weighing "moral risks," as insurance men say, the sooner will the banking record of the United States be freed from the scandal of almost daily failures and such astounding incidents as those revealed in the Chadwick case.

BUILDING CONSTRUCTION IN RELATION TO FIRE INSURANCE.

The construction of buildings and fire insurance are most intimately associated, the nature of the former gives a measure of the results of the latter. It was said, in effect, by Ruskin, that wars would cease were all women determined to have peace maintained. It might be said that, were all the insurance companies so resolved and if they took the steps requisite the construction of buildings would be so improved as to reduce the risks of fire.

This very important question was treated in an able paper read by Mr. Edmund Burke before the Insurance Institute of Toronto on 24th ultimo.

Mr. Burke is President of the Ontario Association of Architects, so he spoke of things of which he has practical knowledge. He thought the Toronto conflagration, in the long run, would prove a blessing in disguise as it would put a stop to the erection of flimsy and faulty structures. This, however, was in the hands of the underwriters, "who, if they relax, will cause the character of buildings to decline." He had listened to comments from underwriters upon the ignorance or conservation of architects in regard to fire risks, and it was his turn to dish up some advice for the underwriters.

Mr. Burke justly said, business men are not pre-

pared to spend more money on buildings than self interest compels and unless they can be convinced that it is cheaper to build well and safely they will prefer the smallest outlay on their buildings and equipments. This false economy, he said, had been fostered by the insurance rates, and the hands of architects had been tied, no arguments of theirs being of force against the logic of circumstances.

Mr. Burke condemned the antiquated code of building laws in Toronto, and censured the City Council for their apathy in regard to the suggestions made by the Ontario Society of Architects. He considered the present requirements of either fire-proof shutters, or wire on practically all the window openings of warehouse and factory buildings, in addition to water curtains or sprinklers as being too drastic or too expensive and as going beyond the requirements of the underwriters. The class of building should be governed by circumstances. The small, roughcast workman's house was probably as good a risk as the underwriters handled and it was necessary to permit and encourage the erection of such dwellings for working men in certain districts.

In congested districts, however, with higher buildings, the case is entirely different, and a much better type of building should be required—in fact, the standard can scarcely be placed too high. It should always be borne in mind that "any number of buildings more than one, if exposed to each other, form a conflagration district." Judging by the experiences of the late conflagration, no building of greater height than four stories and basement, or say 55 feet in height, should be permitted in any part of the city which is not entirely constructed of fire-resisting materials. No stream of water at any practicable pressure is of much use in a gale of wind upon a building of a greater height, and this is the time when the conflagration risk is greatest.

It is an augury of better building construction when the underwriters have wakened up to the necessity of establishing a very high standard of construction with low minimum rates and a graded system of increases or fines for the degree of departure from such standard.

The new schedule of charges, if rigidly adhered to, should result in a gradual improvement in the construction of ordinary buildings. A copy should be put into the hands of every prospective builder, as a matter of education, and in order that he may see that the type of building ordinarily erected is looked upon by experts as much more likely to be destroyed than the type advocated, and that if he persists in the erection of such types, he will be fined or assessed a higher rate for the privilege.

Mr. Burke said that, outside some half dozen buildings in Toronto there was practically no improvement, these only being fire-proof buildings erected after the conflagration's warning.

Mr. C. C. Foster and Mr. J. B. Laidlaw acknowledged the indebtedness of the Institute to Mr. Burke for his valuable presentation of the building construction question from the architect's standpoint.

ENFORCING CLAIMS AGAINST SOUTH AMERICAN REPUBLICS, AND THE MUNRO DOCTRINE.

Owing to the obstinate refusal of the government of Guatemala to recognize the demands made by their foreign creditors—the investors in the bonds of that Republic—and a similar attitude having been assumed by other South American States, an international question has arisen, or rather been revived, of the highest importance between the United States and several European governments, England included.

When the government of any country repudiates its bonds, or other financial obligations, or so acts as to cause embarrassment to its foreign creditors, they have no private means of enforcing their claims, or compelling their government debtor to assume a more honourable attitude. It has been customary for the government of the country of which these creditors are citizens, to intervene for their protection, and to use, or threaten, the use of force to compel the defaulting government to pay its debts. Germany and England, did this with Venezuela, which Republic appealed to its big brother, the United States, for protection against such an outrage as being compelled to pay its debts due to foreign creditors. "Base is the slave that pays," is a sentiment most popular in South American Republics.

This being the situation, the United States Munroe doctrine comes into play. This doctrine, let us say, is of English origin, for it was owing to the suggestion and advice of Mr. Canning, then Prime Minister of Great Britain, that President Munroe avowed the doctrine which ever since has borne his name. In order to enforce the claims of its citizens against a South American Republic, an European Power can only use such force as will involve the seizure of the debtor's territory. It must, in fact, play the part of Sheriff's Officer, and seize the domicile and goods of the debtor. This proceeding, though quite just, is held to be an infraction of the Munroe doctrine, in regard to which Mr. Root, ex-Secretary for War, who is "slated" as next President of the United States, recently said:—

"If we are to maintain this doctrine, which is vital to our national life and safety, at the same time when we say to the other Powers of the world, 'You shall not push your remedies for wrong against these Republics to the point of occupying their territory,' we are bound to say that whenever the wrong cannot be otherwise re-

LIFE ASSURANCE BUSINESS IN CANADA FOR 1904 COMPARED WITH 1903 AND 1903.

Compiled by THE CHRONICLE, from advance figures supplied by the Companies.

CANADIAN COMPANIES.

| COMPANIES. | Net Premiums Received. | | | Amount of Policies New and Taken Up | | | Total Assurances in Force | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------------------------|-------------|------------|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| | 1902 | 1903 | 1904 | 1902 | 1903 | 1904 | 1902 | 1903 | 1904 |
| Canada, Can. bu's | \$2,113,449 | \$2,130,358 | \$2,227,921 | \$4,521,719 | \$4,898,165 | 5,428,992 | 73,764,670 | 75,862,148 | 78,059,149 |
| do Foreign | 501,723 | 668,631 | 815,257 | 3,876,673 | 5,223,974 | 5,654,729 | 14,340,202 | 18,570,295 | 22,467,027 |
| do Total | 2,615,172 | 2,798,989 | 3,043,178 | 8,398,392 | 10,122,139 | 11,083,721 | 88,104,872 | 94,432,443 | 100,526,176 |
| Confederation, Can. | 1,124,775 | 1,166,301 | 1,187,925 | 3,236,003 | 3,571,766 | 4,400,697 | 34,101,368 | 35,752,853 | 38,062,593 |
| do Foreign | 14,279 | 30,510 | 74,420 | 103,392 | 422,673 | 617,291 | 358,100 | 760,167 | 1,285,254 |
| do Total | 1,139,054 | 1,196,811 | 1,262,345 | 3,339,395 | 3,994,439 | 5,017,998 | 34,459,468 | 36,513,020 | 39,347,847 |
| Continental | 78,208 | 100,174 | 127,631 | 1,170,128 | 1,267,724 | 1,273,369 | 2,592,467 | 3,318,971 | 4,053,566 |
| Crown | 38,275 | 67,886 | 109,918 | 1,156,000 | 1,206,850 | 1,264,200 | 1,262,500 | 1,993,350 | 2,985,200 |
| Dominion | 142,559 | 149,259 | 168,299 | 896,835 | 816,648 | 916,35 | 4,81,533 | 5,123,597 | 5,652,761 |
| Excelsior, Ordinary | 152,291 | 181,210 | 217,040 | 1,266,408 | 1,566,131 | 2,238,157 | 4,688,673 | 5,667,724 | 7,619,557 |
| do Monthly | 7,799 | 7,228 | c | 19,061 | 16,662 | e | 174,469 | 157,139 | |
| do Total | 160,090 | 188,438 | 217,040 | 1,285,469 | 1,582,793 | 2,248,157 | 4,863,142 | 5,824,863 | 7,619,557 |
| Federal | 471,453 | 486,722 | 530,524 | 2,614,437 | 2,644,673 | 2,874,565 | 13,601,058 | 14,575,730 | 16,047,806 |
| Great West | 514,920 | 564,411 | 620,929 | 3,098,450 | 4,278,850 | 4,79,595 | 15,127,047 | 17,856,639 | 20,586,565 |
| Home | 100,773 | 119,664 | 129,428 | 1,216,303 | 1,002,901 | 1,093,472 | 3,227,607 | 3,543,600 | 3,949,052 |
| Imperial | 409,277 | 481,545 | 580,325 | 3,928,124 | 3,632,567 | 3,899,468 | 11,640,585 | 13,523,526 | 17,239,934 |
| do Foreign | 12,236 | 17,094 | ..... | ..... | 171,676 | 149,940 | ..... | 327,176 | 432,116 |
| do Total | 493,781 | 597,419 | ..... | ..... | 3,804,243 | 4,049,408 | ..... | 13,850,702 | 17,672,050 |
| London, General | 90,734 | 106,105 | 118,691 | 676,180 | 796,678 | 1,009,450 | 2,959,012 | 3,265,848 | 3,832,565 |
| do Industrial | 201,169 | 217,464 | 236,906 | 915,052 | 1,086,158 | 1,056,325 | 3,868,822 | 4,200,780 | 4,390,500 |
| do Total | 291,903 | 323,569 | 355,597 | 1,591,232 | 1,882,836 | 2,065,775 | 6,827,834 | 7,460,628 | 8,223,065 |
| Man'rs. (and Tem. & General), Can. | 851,861 | 914,613 | 984,577 | 3,631,095 | 4,016,381 | 4,233,797 | 25,725,896 | 27,746,612 | 29,987,445 |
| do Foreign | 202,955 | 304,823 | 436,771 | 1,959,660 | 2,731,411 | 2,873,351 | 4,071,532 | 6,294,096 | 7,611,023 |
| do Total | 1,054,816 | 1,219,436 | 1,421,348 | 5,590,755 | 6,747,792 | 7,107,144 | 29,797,428 | 34,040,708 | 37,668,468 |
| National | 110,021 | 128,207 | 151,590 | 1,405,535 | 1,426,632 | 1,474,594 | 3,227,980 | 3,833,495 | 4,509,754 |
| North Am'an., Can. | 970,674 | 1,040,009 | 1,116,779 | 3,714,384 | 4,001,691 | 4,420,757 | 27,207,507 | 28,887,807 | 31,568,389 |
| do Provident | 6,400 | ..... | ..... | 678,676 | ..... | ..... | 396,644 | ..... | ..... |
| do Foreign | 72,579 | 92,608 | 120,471 | 1,515,125 | 1,518,350 | 1,543,531 | 2,330,176 | 2,794,729 | 3,847,991 |
| do Total | 1,049,653 | 1,132,617 | 1,237,250 | 5,909,185 | 5,520,041 | 5,964,288 | 29,934,327 | 31,682,536 | 35,416,380 |
| Northern | 99,848 | 117,825 | 130,469 | 1,035,387 | 1,071,530 | 1,231,500 | 3,047,337 | 3,495,759 | 4,144,881 |
| Mutual of Can., Can. | 1,107,275 | 1,248,759 | 1,358,437 | 4,181,040 | 4,728,868 | 4,789,506 | 34,106,294 | 37,120,925 | 40,233,510 |
| do Foreign | 5,678 | 6,227 | 10,259 | 32,960 | 17,500 | 84,000 | 14,960 | 217,460 | 243,460 |
| do Total | 1,112,953 | 1,254,986 | 1,368,696 | 4,214,000 | 4,746,368 | 4,873,506 | 34,255,254 | 37,338,385 | 40,476,970 |
| Royal Victoria | 121,198 | 128,873 | 135,604 | 1,228,000 | 1,008,714 | 1,082,150 | 3,568,331 | 3,797,670 | 4,204,683 |
| Sovereign | ..... | 27,659 | 61,820 | ..... | 791,508 | 680,823 | ..... | 737,300 | 1,202,623 |
| Sun Life Can. Gen. | 1,257,263 | 1,361,225 | 1,468,781 | 3,793,829 | 5,449,441 | 6,348,542 | 35,928,115 | 39,348,174 | 42,459,868 |
| do Thrift | 49,112 | 50,746 | 51,892 | 220,318 | 148,928 | 185,263 | 1,097,497 | 1,061,554 | 1,118,449 |
| do Foreign | 1,584,899 | 1,840,053 | 2,138,509 | 6,579,462 | 8,172,651 | 8,749,261 | 29,060,333 | 34,152,052 | 38,644,590 |
| do Thrift | 42,272 | 45,470 | 40,927 | 437,052 | 396,185 | 221,427 | 1,079,607 | 1,103,359 | 993,153 |
| do Total | 2,933,546 | 3,297,934 | 3,700,109 | 11,030,691 | 14,167,205 | 15,504,853 | 67,165,552 | 75,665,139 | 83,216,060 |
| Union, General | 791 | 4,968 | 6,210 | 81,400 | 184,250 | 202,675 | 78,600 | 229,650 | 433,987 |
| do Industrial | 12,338 | 3,308 | 479,310 | 1,086,538 | 5,358,038 | 45,893,842 | 1,443,789 | 3,675,329 | 44,784,586 |
| do Total | 13,129 | 68,276 | 475,510 | 1,167,998 | 5,542,288 | 46,096,517 | 1,527,399 | 3,904,979 | 45,115,573 |
| Canadian, Totals | 10,032,463 | 10,864,589 | 11,951,036 | 45,771,586 | 54,971,754 | 60,518,664 | 307,444,806 | 331,776,000 | 367,104,414 |

BRITISH COMPANIES.

| COMPANIES. | Net Premiums Received. | | | Amount of Policies New and Taken Up | | | Total Assurances in Force. | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|-----------|---------|-------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|----------------------------|------------|------------|
| | 1902 | 1903 | 1904 | 1902 | 1903 | 1904 | 1902 | 1903 | 1904 |
| Pelican & Brit. Empire | 227,823 | 212,771 | 226,024 | 275,490 | 147,500 | 265,500 | 6,183,105 | 5,864,769 | 65,950,102 |
| London & Lancashire. | 313,472 | 323,127 | 343,573 | 876,428 | 955,850 | 806,280 | 9,258,846 | 9,604,189 | 9,914,000 |
| Standard | 760,044 | 774,958 | 784,736 | 2,008,216 | 1,722,853 | 1,693,094 | 20,937,093 | 21,402,725 | 22,145,760 |
| Royal | ..... | ..... | 35,636 | ..... | ..... | 266,500 | ..... | ..... | 1,177,047 |
| Star Life | 16,975 | 16,758 | ..... | 46,500 | 19,500 | ..... | 495,576 | 467,488 | ..... |
| Totals | 1,318,314 | 1,327,614 | ..... | 3,206,634 | 2,845,703 | ..... | 36,874,620 | 37,339,171 | ..... |

AMERICAN COMPANIES.

| COMPANIES. | Net Premiums Received. | | | Amount of Policies New and Taken Up | | | Total Assurances in Force. | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|-----------|-----------|-------------------------------------|------------|-----------|----------------------------|-------------|------------|
| | 1902 | 1903 | 1904 | 1902 | 1903 | 1904 | 1902 | 1903 | 1904 |
| Aetna | \$87,573 | \$606,962 | \$645,000 | 1,039,700 | 1,206,435 | 1,600,000 | 16,472,344 | 16,661,729 | 17,050,000 |
| Equitable | 757,962 | 756,963 | ..... | 1,902,390 | 2,993,800 | ..... | 21,769,926 | 22,631,464 | ..... |
| Metr. politan Gen'l. | 229,840 | 281,969 | ..... | 2,437,178 | 2,498,656 | ..... | 9,520,819 | 9,660,759 | ..... |
| do Ind'l. | 659,812 | 762,925 | ..... | 11,530,938 | 11,177,663 | ..... | 20,761,027 | 23,647,668 | ..... |
| Mutual | 1,038,127 | 1,087,320 | ..... | 4,111,945 | 4,511,864 | ..... | 27,294,235 | 29,410,188 | ..... |
| New York | 1,283,481 | 1,418,168 | ..... | 6,445,948 | 7,903,549 | ..... | 35,071,615 | 39,748,438 | ..... |
| Provident Savings | 135,005 | 151,202 | ..... | 839,707 | 649,380 | ..... | 3,945,165 | 3,877,892 | ..... |
| Travelers | 237,020 | 250,985 | 300,000 | 1,006,232 | 882,970 | 1,500,000 | 6,881,880 | 7,142,010 | 8,500,000 |
| Union Mutual | 198,519 | 206,832 | 224,329 | 897,000 | 965,022 | 939,145 | 6,403,163 | 6,911,508 | 7,093,279 |
| United States | 59,759 | 58,203 | 59,657 | 372,500 | 261,000 | ..... | 1,815,015 | 1,804,482 | 1,849,171 |
| Totals | 5,187,098 | 5,591,529 | ..... | 30,663,508 | 33,050,139 | ..... | 146,135,189 | 158,796,138 | ..... |

a Issued. Gross. c Discontinued. d Estimated.

dressed, we ourselves will see that it is redressed."

That is to say, the United States presumes to interfere between European claimants and South American debtors, in order to prevent claims being enforced against these dishonest governments by the only effective process, which is—seizing their possessions. Uncle Sam, or Brother Jonathan, by assuming the position above described, has gone into the debt-collecting business, but has the gall to declare, that it will not allow a South American Republic to be forced by a foreign power to pay its debts by independent process, but that all the Sheriff-like work done on this side the Atlantic, is a monopoly of the United States!

Whether foreign claims against South American Republics are legal; whether the debtor is able to pay; whether he ought to be forced into paying his debts; what terms must be made with his creditors; whether the debts should be wiped out; all these questions respecting the obligations of a South American Republic are first to be submitted to the Government of the United States, and that Government alone is to have the exclusive right to deal with such debts, and enforce European claims, or ignore them, or compromise them, or delay their collection just as the United States Government may decide.

Just now very grave trouble is being caused to holders of Guatemala's bonds, because of their being practically repudiated.

Is it not highly unreasonable for any power to interfere, in order to prevent those claims being enforced? It is not merely the obligations of the governments of South American States that are affected by this policy, but, all debts due by citizens of those States to foreign creditors, are to be subject to the same procedure, that is, the ultimate enforcement of such claims will be in the hands of the United States. This is not a very attractive prospect for investors in the securities issued by any corporation in any South American State. After experiencing the almost certain trouble entailed by holding such securities, the investor will be more than ever convinced that "There is no place like home," for sound, regular interest-paying, and thoroughly reliable securities.

MANITOBA FIRE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

The Manitoba Fire Assurance Company which has recently received a Dominion license for the transaction of fire insurance is now prepared to receive applications for agencies.

As previously announced, the policies of the company are guaranteed by the Liverpool & London & Globe Insurance Co., thereby rendering the security unsurpassed. The head office of Manitoba is at 112 St. James St., Montreal.

BRITISH COLUMBIA MINERAL PRODUCTION, 1903.

The official bulletin issued by the Legislative Assembly, British Columbia, gives the following table showing the mineral production of that province in 1903, compared with other provinces:

| | British Columbia. | Yukon Territory. | All other Provinces. | Dominion Total. |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Gold | 5,873,036 | 12,250,000 | 711,454 | 18,834,490 |
| Silver | 1,521,472 | ..... | 179,307 | 1,700,779 |
| Copper | 4,547,535 | ..... | 1,180,726 | 5,728,261 |
| Lead | 689,744 | ..... | 72,916 | 762,660 |
| Total | 12,631,787 | 12,250,000 | 2,144,403 | 27,026,190 |
| Iron | 6,870 | ..... | 1,623,539 | 1,630,409 |
| Nickel ..... | ..... | ..... | 5,002,204 | 5,002,204 |
| Zinc ..... | ..... | ..... | 48,600 | 48,600 |
| Total value, metallic | 12,638,657 | ..... | 8,818,746 | 33,707,403 |
| Coal | 3,504,582 | ..... | 12,453,364 | 15,957,946 |
| Coke | 827,715 | ..... | 836,010 | 1,663,725 |
| Gd. Total. | \$16,970,954 | \$12,250,000 | \$22,108,120 | \$51,329,074 |

The value of the mineral production of British Columbia for all the years up to and including 1903, according to the official statistics of the Department of Mines, reached a total of \$207,224,492, in the following proportions:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Gold placer | \$65,688,103 |
| Gold lode | 26,862,348 |
| Total gold production | 92,550,451 |
| Silver | 19,997,354 |
| Lead | 11,137,265 |
| Copper | 16,803,754 |
| Coal and Coke | 63,321,869 |
| Building stone, bricks, etc. | 3,325,000 |
| Other minerals | 88,799 |
| Total mineral production | \$207,224,492 |

Gold heads the list, then come coal and coke. By the end of this year, 1904, the total of the latter products will have exceeded that of placer gold, but it is not expected to equal that of all the gold for years, if ever. Copper is likely to show a higher total at the end of next year, if not this year, than silver, though the output of silver and lead are each increasing.

The total production by years was as follows:

| Year. | Amount. | Year. | Amount. |
|-----------------|------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| | \$ | | \$ |
| 1852 to 1889 .. | 71,981,634 | 1897 | 10,455,268 |
| 1890 .. | 2,608,803 | 1898 | 10,206,861 |
| 1891 | 3,521,102 | 1899 | 12,393,131 |
| 1892 | 2,978,530 | 1900 | 16,344,751 |
| 1893 | 3,588,413 | 1901 | 20,086,780 |
| 1894 | 4,225,717 | 1902 | 17,486,550 |
| 1895 | 5,643,042 | 1903 | 17,495,954 |
| 1896 | 7,507,956 | Total | \$207,224,492 |

While the total production during the years 1852 to 1893, inclusive, was \$84,678,482, for the next ten

years was, \$122,546,010, an increase of \$37,867,528. The explanation of the decrease in value of total production of 1902 and 1903, as compared with 1901, is, first, that the prices of silver and lead were much lower, and there was much difficulty in getting a profitable market for those metals, and, next, the price of copper also declined so that although production increased the total value did not increase proportionately to that of 1901.

In coal and coke, Vancouver Island, with its older collieries leads, but the Crow's Nest Pass collieries are increasing their output at a rate that will probably put them in the first place next year.

NORTH AMERICAN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

This substantial company goes on year after year steadily advancing in volume of business, in income from premiums and investments, in total assets, and in policy and other reserves. The following shows the

FINANCIAL MOVEMENT.

| | 1903. | 1904. | Increase + or Decrease — |
|----------------------------------|-------------|-----------|--------------------------------|
| Net premiums..... | \$1,132,617 | 1,237,250 | + 104,633 |
| Interest, &c..... | 248,747 | 269,780 | + 21,033 |
| Total income..... | 1,381,364 | 1,507,030 | + 125,666 |
| Payments to policy-holders..... | 423,218 | 561,136 | + 137,918 |
| Expenses and dividends.. | 355,720 | 376,742 | + 21,022 |
| Total outgo..... | 778,938 | 937,878 | + 158,940 |
| Excess of income over outgo..... | 602,426 | 569,152 | — 33,274 |
| Total assets..... | 5,625,801 | 6,231,000 | + 605,199 |
| Policy and other reserves | 5,015,564 | 5,669,737 | + 654,173 |

It will be noticed that the only item showing a decrease is that of "Excess of Income over Outgo," which is less by \$33,274 than the same item was last year. This is accounted for by the distribution to policy-holders last year having been more by \$137,918 than in 1903. The net premiums were \$104,633 more than in previous year, the increase being \$21,670 greater than 1903 over 1902. The interest received from investments was \$269,780, which exceeds the income from this source in 1903 by \$21,033. The payments to policy-holders in 1904 was \$561,136, being \$137,918 in excess of 1903; which, doubtless, was a distribution highly acceptable to them and advantageous to the company by its creating a favourable impression upon those contemplating taking out a policy of life assurance. The total assets at close of last year amounted to \$6,231,000, against \$5,625,801 at same date 1903, the year's increase having been \$605,199. The increase in the policy and other reserves was \$654,173. Altogether the statement of the North American Life for 1904 is one most gratifying to its policy-holders, shareholders and all associated with the company.

Mr. Goldman is continuing to achieve the success which this company ever enjoyed under its first manager and vigorously and ably, endeavouring to make each year's business and results go beyond the record, in which effort he has had no inconsiderable success. As we have before remarked, the Board of this company is a very strong one, which adds to its prestige, and contributes to the judicious management of its financial interests.

The expenses were rather more than in 1903 which the consulting actuary, Mr. Standen, says in his report, "is very much more than accounted for by the large increase of new business." The ratio of expenses, despite the increase, is 1 per cent. less than last year.

Mr. T. G. McConkey, superintendent of agencies, is doing valuable work, and the business in charge of Dr. Ault in this city and province is well looked after.

NIAGARA AS A SOURCE OF ELECTRICAL POWER.

An address quite unique in its topic, one of fascinating interest, "Niagara's Power, Past, Present, Prospective," was delivered before the members of the Empire Club, Toronto, on 19th inst., by Mr. Frederic Nicholls, vice-president and General Manager of The Electrical Development Company of Ontario.

No natural object has excited more wonder, admiration, curiosity, or scientific speculation, or been the theme of more descriptions and comment by travellers than the Cataract of Niagara. It seems to be entering upon another marvellous phase as the producer of electrical power on an enormous scale. When first seen by a white man in 1697 he cannot but have been overpowered by the sense of the prodigious force of the falls as manifested by the thunderous roar of the waters as they struck the channel 160 feet below the rocks over which they have been pouring for thousands of years wasting inconceivable power. Geologists affirm that the waters which now flow through lake Erie and the Niagara River ages ago ran along the Ottawa Valley and one scientist predicts that in time the great lakes will drain into the Mississippi by way of Chicago.

The water power of the Niagara river is estimated to be from 6,750,000 to 16,800,000 horse power. Sir Wm. Siemens, in 1877, was the first to suggest the utilization of this power by converting it into electricity. Soon after Lord Dufferin, their governor general, urged that a strip of land along the river side be devoted to a public park. This, after a long delay, was done. The land was bought and debentures issued by the Ontario Government to meet the cost. The Park, named after Queen Victoria, was placed in the care of three commis-

sioners who employed an eminent landscape gardener, well known in Montreal, to lay out the land so as to give picturesque views of the Falls. A small charge was made to use the park in the hope thus to cover the interest on the debentures, the salaries of the superintendent, Mr. James Wilson, C.E., who is well known in Montreal, an office-clerk and other officers. The revenue, however, was far below the needs of the park. Numerous offers soon began to flow in from prospectors in the United States and England for the right of constructing works to utilize the river for electrical purposes. Eminent electricians visited the park to report on proposed schemes. One scientist, who was then and remains still in an eminent position as an expert, was not enthusiastic over the project, as he regarded the transmission of an electric current for ten miles as having no promise of commercial success.

Events move rapidly in the electric sphere. Several optional agreements were entered into which came to nothing and there was every probability that the enterprise of "harnessing Niagara" as a producer of workable power would be in the hands of Americans.

In January, 1903, a franchise was granted to the Electrical Development Company of Ontario, the capital of which, \$6,000,000, has been exclusively subscribed and paid for by Canadians. The following directors were elected by the shareholders on 21st March, 1903; Messrs. W. Mackenzie, Col H. M. Pellatt, Frederick Nicholls, Senator Cox, and Jas. Ross. Col. Pellatt was elected president, Fred Nicholls, vice-president, and general manager, and W. MacKenzie, 2nd vice-president. The works will have a capacity of 125,000 horse-power. The ten mile limit of transmission has been so extended that the company has secured contracts to supply power to Toronto, and transmission lines are proposed to other points within a distance of 150 miles from the Niagara Falls Generating Station. It is anticipated that power can be supplied so cheaply that manufacturing enterprises will be established in the Niagara district converting the whole of that peninsula into a hive of industry.

As an exhibit of Canadian financial and organizing capacity the electrical works at Niagara Falls may challenge comparison with any in the world.

The Provident Savings Life has recently leased a very convenient suite of offices in the National Trust building in this city, and will take possession in due course, when the necessary alterations are completed. At present they occupy offices in the Temple building. We also hear from St. Johns, N.B., that the company has rented a very handsome suite of offices in the new Ogilvie building in that city.

THE IMPERIAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY OF CANADA.

The Imperial Life statement for 1904 shows satisfactory progress to have been made last year. The following, as far as the figures are available, shows the

FINANCIAL MOVEMENT.

| | 1903. | 1904. | Increase + or Decrease - |
|---------------------------|------------|-----------|--------------------------------|
| Net premiums..... | \$ 493,781 | 597,419 | x 103,638 |
| Interest, &c..... | 83,863 | 100,754 | x 16,891 |
| Total income | 577,644 | 698,173 | x 120,529 |
| Total assets..... | 2,013,888 | 2,404,941 | x 391,053 |
| Policy and other reserves | 1,472,354 | 1,768,706 | x 296,352 |

When it is remembered that this company was only established in 1897-8 the acquisition of business since then which is shown by the total Assets being \$2,404,941 and the policy and other reserves \$1,768,706 must be regarded as highly creditable to the management. The company has not gone on by "leaps and bounds" but has steadily advanced year by year, its policy being to secure, as far as possible, such business as gives promise of permanence. We have then these comparisons:

| | 1901. | 1902. | 1903. | 1904. |
|-------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Cash premium income..... | 395,170 | 482,326 | 493,781 | 597,419 |
| Interest, &c..... | 53,502 | 81,178 | 83,863 | 100,754 |
| Total assurance in force..... | 11,236,700 | 11,640,585 | 13,850,702 | 17,672,050 |

The increase in net premiums since 1901 has been 51.17 per cent. and in receipts of interest, etc., the increase has been 88.31 per cent.

The Imperial Life has from the commencement taken commendable pride in the high class character of its investments, thorough soundness being the essential quality required for a security to be chosen.

Mr. F. G. Cox is vice-president and managing director, and Mr. Thomas Bradshaw, F.I.A., vice-president and actuary, both of whom are widely known and respected, the latter being recognized as an able actuary.

The interests of the company in Montreal, are in charge of Mr. A. McN. Shaw, who was previously in charge of the business for the Province of New Brunswick, where his success for the company earned his promotion to a more important branch at Montreal.

NORTHERN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

The total assets of the above company show an increase for the year 1904 of 19½ p.c. over the previous year and now amount to \$486,849.

OTTAWA CLEARING HOUSE.—Total for week ending Jan. 26, 1905—Clearings, \$2,045,231; corresponding week last year, \$1,502,352.

NEW YORK TRUST COMPANY LOANS AND DEPOSITS.

The following schedule of New York Trust Company loans and deposits compiled by the New York Commercial Bulletin is a remarkable exhibit of the enormous financial business transacted by these organizations and their resources and power. The contrast between the amount of the deposits and of the loans is very striking. In the aggregate the total loans amount to only 73 per cent. of the deposits and the total amount of cash on deposit in banks, etc., is under 17 per cent. Some of the company have only cash on deposit in banks, etc., to extent of one twentieth the deposits, others one tenth, one eight, one sixth. Their loans, however, are of a liquid or readily convertible character. The differences between the amount of deposits and of loans are very great, in some cases the loans amounting to no more than 70, 60, 50, or 40 per cent. of the deposits. The aggregate of the loans and cash on deposit in banks, etc., is \$852,508,493, which is \$93,541,459 less than the deposits. A table showing fully in detail the total assets and liabilities of these companies would be interesting:

NEW YORK TRUST COMPANY LOANS AND DEPOSITS.

| Name of Co. | Loans. | | Deposits on which Interest is Allowed. | |
|----------------------|----------------|---|--|----------------|
| | Dec. 31, 1904. | Cash on Deposits in Banks, &c. Dec. 31, 1904. | Dec. 31, 1904. | Dec. 31, 1904. |
| Merchants' | \$ 2,074,000 | \$ 1,391,977 | \$ 3,124,311 | |
| Farmers' Loan..... | 52,262,800 | 11,227,520 | 77,236,300 | |
| Trust Co. of A..... | 12,149,146 | 2,313,792 | 19,075,542 | |
| N. Y. Life & T..... | 20,223,553 | 1,394,543 | 33,337,355 | |
| Fifth Avenue..... | 10,367,789 | 2,533,765 | 17,538,864 | |
| Equitable..... | 34,577,015 | 5,092,023 | 38,218,199 | |
| Wind-or..... | 2,883,128 | 1,071,331 | 5,216,930 | |
| Kings County..... | 8,363,087 | 542,014 | 10,117,532 | |
| Flatbush, Bklyn.... | 1,277,340 | 187,225 | 1,964,944 | |
| Empire..... | 1,956,127 | 1,313,897 | 1,540,000 | |
| Lincoln..... | 5,199,198 | 2,316,813 | 12,499,436 | |
| N. Y. Sec. & T..... | 34,812,827 | 10,645,634 | 48,121,445 | |
| Title G. & Trust.... | 13,269,823 | 3,262,852 | 22,300,697 | |
| Broadway..... | 3,500,315 | 841,668 | 4,315,104 | |
| North American.... | 11,011,362 | 7,542,964 | 16,035,988 | |
| Guaranty..... | 35,393,986 | 13,486,975 | 56,310,315 | |
| Nassau, Bklyn.... | 4,750,788 | 854,813 | 7,714,516 | |
| Holland..... | 98,594 | 1,119 | ..... |  |
| Franklin, Bklyn.... | 4,823,171 | 2,058,834 | 10,115,822 | |
| Real Estate..... | 5,596,520 | 763,165 | 7,576,966 | |
| Manhattan..... | 8,894,286 | 3,625,215 | 15,838,441 | |
| Morton..... | 42,191,898 | 9,963,811 | 46,217,345 | |
| Commonwealth.... | 37,100 | 419,950 | 470,074 | |
| Metropolitan..... | 28,317,457 | 3,195,450 | 25,570,615 | |
| Hamilton, Bklyn.... | 4,681,584 | 911,574 | 7,119,117 | |
| United States..... | 49,887,642 | 8,462,467 | 57,340,050 | |
| Brooklyn..... | 6,894,863 | 2,617,742 | 15,467,639 | |
| Long Island..... | 5,020,625 | 898,818 | 7,777,371 | |
| Standard..... | 8,957,685 | 4,970,180 | 16,957,396 | |
| Central..... | 38,683,512 | 4,790,435 | 42,459,583 | |
| Central Realty..... | 4,864,077 | 1,964,505 | 9,446,893 | |
| People's, Bklyn.... | 9,011,768 | 1,170,054 | 14,328,847 | |
| Washington..... | 10,007,066 | 626,438 | 10,459,175 | |
| U. S. Mtge. Co..... | 17,283,295 | 7,196,665 | 29,702,764 | |
| Colonial..... | 19,938,663 | 5,428,925 | 23,661,291 | |

| | | | |
|---------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| City..... | 13,263,618 | 2,515,640 | 15,371,061 |
| Knickerbocker..... | 39,622,535 | 7,966,896 | 51,811,911 |
| Bowling Green..... | 13,611,664 | 3,568,646 | 16,949,863 |
| Williamsburgh..... | 3,500,479 | 524,440 | 6,070,572 |
| Guardian..... | 2,438,887 | 299,064 | 2,303,127 |
| Mutual Alliance.... | 4,116,548 | 510,780 | 4,229,533 |
| Union..... | 41,537,130 | 1,501,812 | 52,638,645 |
| Mercantile..... | 55,732,782 | 10,372,807 | 71,347,743 |
| Bankers..... | 11,022,630 | ..... | 18,100,530 |
| Totals..... | \$697,766,800 | \$154,741,693 | \$946,019,952 |

From a table issued by the New York State superintendent of banks, we learn that the total resources of the Trust companies of the State of New York on January 10, 1904, were as follows: Bonds and mortgages, \$64,549,929; stock investments, \$295,663,164; loaned on collaterals, \$68,449,715 loaned on personal securities, \$72,346,979; overdrafts, \$39,648; due from banks, etc., \$6,196,122; real estate, \$17,331,755; cash on hand, \$35,133,862; cash on deposit, \$178,233,926; other assets, \$13,073,053. Total, \$1,364,018,157.

The liabilities of these institutions were as follows: Capital stock, \$61,850,000; surplus, \$104,465,543; undivided profits, \$42,875,197; deposits in trust, \$275,665,112; general deposits, \$695,031,064; due trust companies, \$69,152,622; due savings banks, \$42,134,633; due bankers and brokers, \$45,643,669; other liabilities, \$27,200,311. Total, \$1,364,018,157.

Their profits for the year were, \$54,267,074; interest paid, \$25,954,661; expenses of institutions, \$8,031,093; dividends declared, \$9,508,000; taxes paid \$2,137,744; interest bearing deposits, \$1,063,189,423; bonds and mortgages purchased, \$101,968,925; mortgages paid or sold, \$96,953,676.

FIRE ON CRAIG ST., MONTREAL.

By the fire which occurred on the 28th instant, in the establishment of the National Rubber Company and which extended to the adjoining building occupied by J. W. Kilgour and Bros., the following companies are interested:

| NATIONAL RUBBER CO. | | J. W. KILGOUR & BROS. | |
|-----------------------|----------|-----------------------|----------|
| Stock and fixtures. | | Stock. | |
| British America..... | \$3,000 | Royal..... | \$12,000 |
| Caledonian..... | 3,000 | | |
| Northern..... | 3,000 | | |
| London Mutual..... | 3,000 | Loss about 80 p. c. | |
| Alliance..... | 2,500 | | |
| Western..... | 3,000 | | |
| Etna..... | 2,500 | | |
| Norwich Union..... | \$2,000 | | |
| Montmagny Mutual.... | 2,500 | | |
| Equitable Mutual..... | 2,500 | BUILDING. | |
| Ottawa..... | 1,500 | London & Lancashire.. | \$4,000 |
| Equity..... | 1,500 | Guardian..... | 4,000 |
| Total..... | \$32,000 | Loss about 50 p. c. | \$8,000 |
| Loss about 70 p. c. | | | |
| BUILDING. | | | |
| Scottish Union..... | \$3,000 | | |
| German American..... | 3,000 | | |
| Loss about \$5,000. | \$6,000 | | |

SOVEREIGN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

The Second Annual Report of the Sovereign Life Assurance Company for year ending 31st December, 1904, must be regarded as satisfactory by the shareholders and policy-holders. A copy of the report appears on a later page in this issue.

During the past year 359 policies were issued for \$680,823 and 31 applications for \$37,665 were declined. The interest earned by the Company was more than sufficient to pay the claims to policy-holders.

The following table shows the progress made by the company in the past year:

| | 1903. | 1904. | Increase + or Decrease.— |
|--------------------------------|---------|-----------|--------------------------------|
| | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Net premiums..... | 27,659 | 61,820 | + 34,161 |
| Interest..... | 2,079 | 5,582 | + 3,503 |
| Capital stock and premiums... | 111,956 | 123,756 | + 11,800 |
| Total income..... | 141,694 | 191,158 | + 49,464 |
| Paid policy-holders..... | | 6,980 | + 6,980 |
| Expenses..... | 45,011 | 54,638 | + 9,627 |
| Total outgo..... | 45,011 | 61,618 | + 16,607 |
| Excess of income over outgo.. | 69,683 | 129,540 | + 59,857 |
| Reserves..... | 31,522 | 77,326 | + 45,804 |
| Total assets..... | 111,222 | 245,650 | + 134,428 |
| Surplus to policy-holders..... | 79,700 | 168,324 | + 98,624 |
| Assurance in force..... | 737,300 | 1,282,623 | + 545,323 |

An excellent feature of the report is the strong reserves held by the company under its policies, the calculations being based on the New British Offices Mortality Tables with interest at 3 p.c. for participating and 3½ for non-participating policies.

Mr. Hoover, president and managing director, is to be commended and congratulated upon his making the aim of the Sovereign Life to be, not securing a large amount of business of an ephemeral character, necessitating heavy expenditures, but such business as will be steady, progressive and permanent.

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THE CANADIAN MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION AND THE PROPOSED MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE CO.

For some time past the impression has been created that the above association contemplates the formation of a Mutual Company for the purpose of taking care of the risks of its own members. In the issue of THE CHRONICLE of January 20 and at other times, we pointed out the folly of this course and its almost certain failure. We do not suppose that our suggestion has had much influence with the Manufacturers' Association. Nevertheless, we are in a position to definitely state that no such organization is contemplated. Whatever may be the purposes of the Department recently created—and time alone will tell what they are—we should not look for much success unless the work is confined to that of a purely advisory

character. Apart from every other consideration it is doubtful if the banks upon whom the manufacturers so largely depend, would be satisfied to make advances on the security of a Mutual Company if formed by themselves or such other unlicensed or wildcat scheme as may offer cheap but unreliable insurance.

If the so-called Insurance Department will seek to reduce the tremendous fire waste in this country by improvements in the risks of its members and co-operation with the Fire Insurance Companies in raising the standard of municipal fire protection, they will be doing a service that will alike benefit themselves, the public, and fire insurance generally.

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REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES OF THE UNITED STATES.

The Secretary of the United States Treasury in his report for 1904, estimates the revenues of the Government for the fiscal year 1905 as follows:

| | \$ |
|---|----------------------|
| From Customs..... | 263,000,000 |
| From Internal Revenue..... | 233,000,000 |
| From Postal Revenues..... | 159,472,060 |
| From Miscellaneous sources, as, sales of public lands, profits on coinage, etc., bank taxes, etc., etc..... | 45,000,000 |
| Total Estimated Revenue..... | \$700,472,060 |

The expenditures for fiscal year 1905 are estimated as follows:

| | \$ |
|--|----------------------|
| For the Civil establishment..... | 138,000,000 |
| For the Military establishment..... | 122,000,000 |
| For the Naval establishment..... | 122,000,000 |
| For the Indian service..... | 13,000,000 |
| For Pensions..... | 140,000,000 |
| For Interest on the Public Debt..... | 24,000,000 |
| For Postal service..... | 159,472,060 |
| Total Estimated Expenditures..... | \$718,472,060 |
| Result, a deficit of..... | \$18,000,000 |

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| For the year ended June 30, 1904, the Total Revenue receipts were..... | 684,214,373 |
| Total Expenditures..... | 725,984,945 |
| Leaving a deficit of..... | \$41,770,571 |

This deficit was caused by an outlay of \$50,000,000 for right of way of the Panama Canal.

The movement of the Customs revenue is the feature of special interest to us in Canada. In 1904 the receipts were \$23,000,000 less than in 1903 owing to exceptional conditions. In 1903 the duties on iron and steel and manufactures thereof were \$17,000,000, and only \$9,000,000 in 1904, the native productive capacity in 1904 having been more equal to the demands of American consumers than in 1903. The abolition of the war tax on tea and the counter-vailing duty on sugar caused a reduction of \$2,300,000.

It is noteworthy that the imports of free goods are increasing in greater proportions than in the dutiable goods.

The debt returns show the amount of the interest bearing debt on July 1, 1903, to have been \$914,541,410, and on July 1, 1904, \$895,157,140, a reduction of \$19,383,970 obtained as follows:

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| | \$ |
| Five per cent. bonds redeemed..... | 14,712,450 |
| Other 5 per cent. bonds "..... | 4,672,600 |
| 4 per cent. certificates redeemed. | 110 |
| Total..... | \$19,385,160 |
| Issue of 4 per cent. bonds..... | 1,190 |
| Net reduction..... | \$19,383,970 |

The form of the U.S. debt was changed during 1904 by refunding 3 per cent. bonds of 1908, and 4 per cents of 1907 into 2 per cent. consols of 1930. The amount refunded were as follows:

| | 3 p. c. | 4 p. c. | Total. |
|-------------------------------|-----------|------------|------------|
| | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Amount refunded..... | 4,337,600 | 11,489,000 | 15,826,600 |
| Interest saved on old bonds.. | 628,739 | 1,666,662 | 2,295,402 |
| Interest on new bonds..... | 419,159 | 833,331 | 1,252,491 |
| Premium paid for old bonds. | 147,319 | 700,760 | 848,079 |
| " " new bonds. | 86,752 | 229,780 | 316,532 |
| Net profits..... | 149,012 | 362,350 | 511,363 |

Since March 14, 1900, the following bonds have been refunded:

| | 3 p. c. | 4 p. e. | 5 p. c. |
|--|-------------|-------------|------------|
| | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Refunded into 2 per cent. consols of 1930..... | 119,260,000 | 351,578,650 | 72,071,300 |
| Int'et saved on old bonds.. | 27,283,662 | 89,852,710 | 13,050,355 |
| Interest on new bonds.... | 18,189,108 | 44,926,355 | 5,220,142 |
| Premium on old bonds.... | 8,239,833 | 36,432,250 | 6,872,172 |
| " " new bonds.... | 407,606 | 1,531,778 | ..... |
| Net profit..... | 3,262,327 | 10,025,883 | 957,641 |

All the bonds refunded, as above stated were received at a valuation equivalent to their present worth on the date of receipt for refunding to realize an income of 2 1/4 per cent. per annum. The 2 per cent. U.S. consols of 1830 issued in lieu of the bonds surrendered were delivered at par for those refunded under the circular of March 14, 1900, and at a premium of 2 per cent. for those refunded under later circulars.

The interest bearing debt of the United States outstanding on November 1, 1904, was \$895,157,770. There were \$531,246,440 in bonds held by the Treasurer of the United States in trust for National banks as security for circulating notes and deposits, leaving \$363,911,330 in the hands of other investors. arrangement doubtless secures the note issues of the National banks very effectually, but the security goes for to paralyze their utility as an addition to the resources of the banks.

The annual report of the Secretary of the United States Treasury for year 1904, just issued, is a most interesting document, which is full of evidences of that country's finances being in a most healthy con-

dition. We should have preferred the U. S. Treasury using some other word than "Consols" as the title of the Government bonds. This word has a historic meaning when applied to the bonds of the British Government, and by "Consols," all over the world, is understood the bonds of the British Gov- ply this essentially this historic English term to American bonds.

DEATH OF MRS. GEORGE A. COX.

The Hon. Senator Cox has the sincere sympathy of the community in the heavy affliction which has befallen him and his family by the death of his wife. Mrs. Cox was as active in haritable good work as the Senator is in business. Besides the benevolent institutions to which she devoted a large amount of time, Mrs. Cox was most generous in helping sufferers whose distress was only known to her, themselves and their families. The bereaved family consists of Mr. E. W. Cox, F. G. Cox, H. C. Cox, Mrs. Ames and Mrs. Davis, all of whom have our sympathy.

CALENDARS 1905.

Besides those already noticed we have to acknowledge, with thanks, the following Calendars recently received:

* * * *

THE FEDERAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY'S Calendar for 1905, displays the title, the names of the officers and directors, with details of the company's position very strikingly by an excellent imitation of burnt leather, or wood, which is a fashionable art just now. The lettering catches the eye, can be read readily, at a considerable distance, as also, can the almanac dates. Altogether this is a novel and very effective production.

* * * *

THE RICHMOND, DRUMMOND AND YAMASKA MUTUAL FIRE Co's Calendar is bright and clear.

* * * *

THE ALLIANCE INSURANCE COMPANY'S Calendar card is a very tasteful display of illuminated lettering. The ground of dark olive green makes an excellent artistic foil to the white letters and the centre piece showing an old castle with the date 1824 when the company was founded.

* * * *

THE UNITED STATES CASUALTY COMPANY has sent us a colored litho., showing the portrait of a comely damsel.

* * * *

THE MONTREAL "GAZETTE" Calendar is adorned by photos of winter scenes in Montreal which will be more attractive in July than during the present cold spell.

THE KEYSTONE FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, of Saint John, N.B., has issued a neat calendar, the title being displayed effectively in white letters on a keystone, surrounded by maple leaves.

LIFE INSURANCE BUSINESS IN CANADA, 1904.

In this issue we present a table specially compiled for THE CHRONICLE, showing the business of the life companies for 1904.

The net premiums, Canadian Companies, were \$11,951,036 against \$10,864,589 in 1903, the increase being \$1,086,447. The policies new and taken up were \$60,518,664 as compared with \$54,971,754 in previous year, the increase being \$5,546,910. All the companies, with only two exceptions show an increase. The total assurance in force is \$367,104,414 against \$334,776,000, the increase being \$32,328,414.

The companies have our best thanks for the courtesy they have shown, as in so many previous years, in furnishing the data for the table of life business in 1904. In a few cases the returns are not quite complete, but these do not materially detract from the great value and interest of the table.

QUERIES COLUMN.

In order to furnish our readers with information we propose to devote this column to replies to correspondents. Letters should be addressed to "THE CHRONICLE, Enquiry Department, Montreal."

Answers will only be given to such communications as bear the writer's name, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and only to questions referring to matters of general interest in regard to which the Editor of Queries' Column will exercise his own discretion.

1412.—H. M., Montreal.—The bonds of the electrical Development Company of Ontario seem to be fairly attractive as a speculative investment. The greater portion of the heavy construction of the plant is completed and it is expected that they will be delivering power in Toronto this year. They now have contracts with the Toronto Railway Company and other heavy consumers of power sufficient, it is said, to more than provide for the paid charges of the company.

1413.—B. J. C., Hawkesbury.—The company you mention issues no annual statement to its shareholders and we cannot obtain the information you request. The company seems to be well managed, is in good credit, and pays regular dividends.

FACTIONS AND FRACTIONS.—The question of reducing the brokers' commission on the Montreal Stock Exchange from $\frac{1}{4}$ p.c. to $\frac{1}{8}$ p.c. has occupied the attention of the members this week and the old rate still continues. The faction proposing the change brought forward many incontrovertible contentions in favour of their views, which were met by equally unassailable arguments by those who wished to continue matters as they are.

PROMINENT TOPICS.

THE GRAND TRUNK PACIFIC.—This great enterprise is now universally regarded throughout Canada as having in it "the promise and the potency" of benefits that will give a stimulus to the development and enrichment of the Dominion. Throughout the Northwest the farmers and traders are most sanguine about the results which will follow the inauguration of this transcontinental railway. There are a number of surveying parties now at work providing data from which the precise course of the line will be decided. As soon as the weather permits the survey and construction work should be pushed ahead with all possible vigour, as the country is most eager in its desire to see the Grand Trunk Pacific in operation.

* * * *

MONTREAL STREET RAILWAY.—As we have already said, an enterprise of this nature requires a long franchise to do it justice. What should be paid by a street railway company for the exclusive right of running electric cars through the thoroughfares of a city is a difficult problem. It is clearly tain what that price should be the record of the franchise it has conferred in proportion to its increasing value to the company. This seems a truism. To bring into the consideration of this matter the question of what rate of fare should be charged is at least premature and not strictly relevant. As the city is asked to sell the right to use its streets to a company for a long term of years, it is a business proceeding to obtain for that concession as high a price as possible. To ascertain what that price should be the record of the buyer's business and its prospects must be very carefully studied, so that, on the one hand, the city does not sacrifice a most valuable franchise below its value, nor, on the other hand, impose conditions on the company which will hamper its earning a fair profit. There is no hurry, the existing franchise has 18 years to run, in which period very important changes may, indeed, are, likely to occur in the electrical transmission of power, change too in the movement of population, so there is ample time for the subject being most thoroughly considered.

In any event the interests of the city and the public must be strongly safeguarded. Arrangements made whereby the contract could be modified, either as to fares, or contributions to the civic treasury as circumstances develop.

* * * *

FAST ATLANTIC SERVICE.—At the annual meeting of the Board of Trade on 31st ultimo., Mr. F. H. Mathewson, local manager of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, moved a resolution to effect that, the Board of Trade urges upon the Dominion Government special consideration for the establishment of a fast passenger and mail steamship service between Canada and Great Britain, with a view to the

granting of the necessary subsidy for such service. The resolution was unanimously adopted.

The most desirable policy for the Government in this matter would be to associate the subsidy with the mail service, and not confine it to any one line. A quicker mail service between here and England is most urgently needed. Such a service would necessarily develop a better passenger service and a quicker service for special freight. Indeed, it would raise the standard of the whole steamship service of this port were the mails brought several times a week with extra speed and regularity.

In considering this matter the special, exclusive natural conditions of the port of Montreal must be duly weighed. By the decree of Nature this is the natural national port of the Dominion, its peculiar advantages as the head of navigation, both outward to the sea and inwards from the interior, are not shared by any other Canadian port. If then for any reason the trade does not come to this port it will find its way to Canada through American ports, no other port in the Dominion could hold the trade. The St. Lawrence and Montreal Harbour improvements should, therefore, receive the most earnest and prompt attention of the Government for this city as the national port must maintain its prestige, it must not allow its steamship service to fall below that of American ports, or gradually Montreal will decline. Into our harbour ought to come as fast and well equipped steamers as any which cross the Atlantic. The Government will be blameable if by any indifference or neglect Canada's great port is left to take a secondary position in regard to fast Atlantic service.

* * * *

JUDGES SALARIES.—The question of Judges' salaries has been discussed for several years without any success in the effort to secure more adequate remuneration for these distinguished officials. At the dinner of the Montreal Bar, on 28th ultimo., Mr. Geo. E. Drummond, president of the Board of Trade, announced that, the Board of Trade would continue to press this question upon the Government, which would be supported in making a large increase to the salaries of Judges.

The grave responsibilities of the Judges, the enormous extent of the interests affected by their decisions, the eminent social position they occupy, the responsibility of their being elected from the ablest members of the Bar, whose professional income usually far exceeds the salary of a judge, all combined constitute an argument in favour of enlarging the salaries of judges as, at present, they are notoriously inadequate. Since these salaries were fixed Canada has changed from being a comparatively poor to a very well-to-do, if not a rich country. This change has imposed far weightier duties on the Judges, and with the change has come a rise in the scale of expenditures imposed by social usage upon different classes. It is not credit-

able to a nation to pay its servants to-day, when their social obligations are so much more costly, what was paid them when living expenses were so much below the present standard.

No country in the world has greater reason to be proud of its judiciary than Canada. Our Judges would do honour to the Bench of any nation, but Canada shows a lamentable lack of appreciation of the dignity and the responsibilities of the judicial office, and of the value of a judge's services by paying salaries to these officials which are so inadequate and so unworthy of them and their country.

* * * *

MR. J. H. PLUMMER.—The illness of Mr. Plummer is, we trust, rapidly passing away. He is now under responsibilities so grave as to render it a matter of national concern that his health be maintained so that his whole energies and talents may be devoted to the Dominion Iron and Steel Company's operations and the developments of this vast enterprise.

* * * *

OUTLYING MUNICIPALITIES.—This city is in a most anomalous position in its relation to a number of municipalities by whom it is literally surrounded, like a cordon of outposts. The places that abut upon this city, so far as their local trade and their property values are concerned, are practically dependencies of the city of Montreal. They are like the ivy clinging to a wall, which could not maintain itself without that support. A large portion of their inhabitants live directly by income earned in this city, and the other portion live on the trade they provide. Thus, this city provides the great bulk of the income of the suburban municipalities, whose inhabitants enjoy all the benefits of our civic institutions and services, but towards their maintenance they contribute nothing directly and little indirectly. Unless some comprehensive scheme for annexing these suburban municipalities to this city is carried out there will be such complications arise, and such vested interests, and such physical difficulties created as will prove most embarrassing in the future when circumstances will imperatively compel the city to so extend its bounds as to embrace the suburban municipalities. That necessity is certain to come in the near future, and the quicker this is realized, anticipated, and arranged for the better it will be for all concerned. To put a tight girth around such a growing city as Montreal is an outrage, it may be tolerated for a time, but eventually this city, like a roused giant, will break the bonds asunder which hamper its natural expansion.

* * * *

APPRECIATION.—THE CHRONICLE is glad to observe the growing tendency of its contemporaries to copy its tables and items financial. Typesetting for newspapers is now done by machines and it is no doubt owing to some defect in the typesetters that the giving of credit for the borrowed matter is often omitted.

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY.—The manager in charge of the DeForest wireless telegraphy apparatus in this city placed the instrument in this office on the 2nd inst., in order to give a practical demonstration of the process. A number of prominent citizens were present, amongst whom were, the Hon. A. Desjardins, W. M. Ramsay, Stevenson Brown, J. O. Gravel, B. Hall Brown, several Press representatives, and others. The apparatus consists, as far as we could judge, of two small boxes, the larger being about 15 x 10 x 5, the smaller about one-third these dimensions. From the larger box two wires were run and suspended from a hat stand, with a third placed in contact with a water pipe. Messages were written by gentlemen present and sent under cover to the office of "La Press," some 2000 feet distant. The operator there dispatched these messages to the operator in this office by whom they were written out and shown to the transmitter and the company eliciting exclamations of amazement as the apparatus had no mechanical connections of any kind outside this building, or outside the building they came from. The messages, consequently, must have been transmitted by air waves, or vibrations, which passed through the walls, or window of both the room from which they were sent and the one in which they were received. Wireless telegraphy seems as uncanny as anything in Tam o'Shanter. It is, of course, not supernatural but it extends the horizon of the natural, as heretofore known.

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BOARD OF TRADE.—The officers of the Board of Trade elected for 1905-6 are as follows:

President—Mr. W. I. Gear.

First vice-president—Mr. F. H. Matthewson.

Second vice-president—Mr. R. M. Ballantyne.

Treasurer—Mr. James Thom.

Council—Mr. Andrew A. Allan, representing shipping; Mr. Peter Lyaill, contractor; Mr. A. Hebert, groceries; Mr. George Caverhill, hardware; Mr. E. C. Pratt, banking; Mr. Leslie H. Gault, dry goods; Mr. Alex. Ramsay, paints; Mr. C. B. Esdaile, grain; Mr. G. F. C. Smith, insurance; Mr. H. A. Hodgson, dairy produce; Donald Munro, live stock; Mr. J. I. McGill, manufacturing.

Board of arbitration—Messrs. G. E. Drummond; E. B. Greenshields, J. Crathern, R. Archer, A. I. Hedeson, C. F. Smith, Alex. McFee, John McKerrow, James Davidson, R. W. Macdougall, Rob. Bickerdike, M.P., and Chas. McLean.

* * * *

MANUFACTURERS' LIFE DINNER.—The President and Directors of the Manufacturers' Life Insurance Company, Toronto, gave a Dinner last night at the National Club, which was a highly enjoyable event, at which several able and interesting speeches were made. We regret having been unable to accept the courteous invitation sent to this festive gathering.

* * * *

LANGUAGE OF THE NORTHWEST.—A bank officer in the Northwest gives the following specimen of the language current in that region. The bank asked the attention of a farmer customer to his overdue note, to which he replied: "Just wait until I'm thrashed then you'll get the rocks." The man did not mean as it seems to read, that he anticipated being beaten in some pugilistic contest he was

anticipating, nor that he would ship to the bank a consignment of auriferous quartz, or other ore, but simply that when his wheat was thrashed and sold he would cover the overdue note by a cash remittance.

Our correspondent reports that prosperity generally prevails throughout the district northwest of Winnipeg, where sanguine anticipations are entertained regarding the benefits to be derived from the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway.

PERSONALS.

MR. JOHN MILNE, managing director of the Northern Life Assurance Company, London, Ont., was in Montreal a few days ago. He states that the Northern made good progress last year.

MR. JOHN MACKINTOSH, the well-known and highly respected Chartered Accountant, of this city, passed away on 1st inst. He was the senior member of the firm of Mackintosh & Hyde, and the oldest member of the profession in this city.

MR. F. W. PACE, superintendent of the Liverpool & London & Globe, for the N. W. T., was in the city this week for a few days, visiting the head office for Canada. He reports good prospects for extending the business still further in his section of the field. Mr. Pace considers that Edmonton will become a good second to Winnipeg, as a business centre.

Notes and Items.

At Home and Abroad.

MONTREAL CLEARING HOUSE.—Total for week ending February 2, 1905—Clearings, \$21,657,301; corresponding week, 1904, \$17,687,272; 1903, \$19,113,186.

JANUARY LOSSES.—Reports from Western States indicate that the losses in January, 1904, will probably make that month the worst on record.

THE UNION BANK OF HALIFAX has declared a dividend of 3½ per cent. for the current half-year. The annual meeting of the bank will take place on March 8.

THE VAULT OF THE ÆTNA LIFE, AT HARTFORD, after standing a siege of eighteen days, was opened on 23rd January last. This looks as though a safe may be too strong. The door is stated to have weighed eleven tons.

THE TEA-INSURANCE SCHEME IN DANGER.—An effort is being made to have the company which carries on a tea-insurance scheme, wound up. The payments were first cut in half, then again and again reduced, until at last it was decided to pay nothing!

BUFFALO'S WATER SUPPLY.—The insurance companies operating in Buffalo, for the last five years, have paid \$1.17 for every dollar received in premiums on policies covering properties in the congested area, nearest to Lake Erie, owing to deficient supply of water.

HOW NON-ADVERTISING ENDED.—An advertisement-soliciting agent called at the office of a certain insurance company in Ireland. The caller mentioned advertising, but was promptly told by the manager that "he did not believe in it." That non-advertising company is no longer in existence.

LIFE ASSURANCE TRADING.—In the paper by Mr. Turnbull, F.F.A., read before the Insurance Society of Edinburgh, the author says, the initial outlay on new policies was so high that a policy had to be seven years in force, even in an economically managed office, before it became profitable.

A NEWFOUNDLAND ENTERPRISE, in the shape of a large paper mill, is about being established by the Harmsworth firm of publishers, who have bought property from the Government, of the Island, for \$550,000. The entire enterprise will involve an outlay of some four millions of dollars.

Correspondence.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for views expressed by correspondents.

A CALENDAR INTERPRETED.

To Editor of THE CHRONICLE.

Sir:—Just happening to-day to glance over the item, "Calendars, 1905" in one of your issues, and noting you do not presume to interpret the widow and children of the North British and Mercantile Calendar, I am sure you will be glad to be enlightened. The husband and father died from paresis, resulting from overwork in trying to pay the advance of 20 per cent. The writer is an agent who will shortly follow him in trying to collect the same.

AGENT.

LONDON LETTER.

London, Eng., Jan. 19, 1905.

FINANCE.

Despite hopes to the contrary, the creation of further supplies of first-class loans continues. Another \$30,000,000 of 2½ Irish land stock has been issued by tender, at an average price which means a yield to the investor of 3½ per cent., allowing for redemption, possibilities. This is nearly a record for a stock with the guarantee of the British Government behind it.

The latest colonial loan comes in the shape of an issue by New South Wales, of 4 per cent. ten-year debentures at 99½. These are in the attractive form of bonds to bearer, in the following denominations:—\$500, \$2,500, and \$5,000. Of course, both of these stocks have practically been secured by big financial interest, and are now being sold on the market at a premium.

Apart from issues of this superior kind, there have been others. The first crop of new South African mines has been successfully floated, although at the end, the public showed obvious signs of surfeit. On the other hand, the first issue of stock in connection with motor omnibus traffic in London has been made, and it deserves mention as working an epoch in London locomotion.

INSURANCE.

Despite energetic advertisement and the pronounced sympathy of "Truth" and the "Daily Chronicle," the

revised pension and life assurance scheme associated with the business of the great tea-selling firm of Nelson & Co., has not proved workable. The pensions of \$2.50 and \$1.25 per week, to women who became widows, whilst buying the tea, were first reduced a month or so ago to half and then less. Now, payments are altogether suspended, awaiting the issue of some pending litigation. Not only have the pensions closed, but the customers and widow-pensioners are necessarily compelled to keep up the purchase of their stipulated weekly quantity of tea, in order not to forfeit their right to any mythical benefit in the future.

As at least, eighteen cents of the price of each pound of tea is the loading required to pay the requisite premiums for the pension, or lump sum, the 750,000 customers are in the unhappy position of paying premiums without any real chance at ultimate benefit. This, I imagine, is as bad as the worst of the assessment insurance societies which have come to a smash. Surely it will be a lasting lesson to the people who want more for their money than a properly organized insurance company can give them. Mr. Emerson Bainbridge, the chief financier of the undertaking, has this week resigned his parliamentary candidature for Hereford.

The Manufacturers' Life, our latest Canadian newcomer, is steadily opening out across here. Several offices are now ready for business, and it is hoped that the success of the Canada will be equalled. That has been striking.

STOCK EXCHANGE NOTES.

Wednesday, p.m. February 1, 1905.

The news from Russia this week seems to show that the Government has the situation well in hand, and the interview given by the Czar to workmen, will have a tranquilizing effect. There are also rumours of peace negotiations which, although of an indefinite nature, had a reassuring effect on the markets, and the week's business shows an increase in volume and a general advance in prices. The market is yet, however, far from active. The disinclination of present holders of securities to sell, is, no doubt, a factor causing dullness. The general financial situation points to higher price levels.

Twin City came into prominence this week, and was the most active of the local stocks, scoring an advance of over four points. Soo Common continued to improve in price, reaching a new high level on fairly active trading. The traction stocks were all firm, and while the best prices have not, in some cases, been maintained, the general tone at the close to-day was firm and confident. While declines will occur, yet as soon as buying activity develops, prices are certain to advance. The shipments of gold from New York continue heavy, and over \$9,000,000 of metal is going out to-day, but, so far, the movement has not tended to harden money rates, call loans being still freely offered, nor has it appreciably affected exchange, the rates for which continue firm.

The proposal to reduce brokers' commissions on the Montreal Stock Exchange, from ¼ per cent. on the par value, to ⅓ per cent., was voted on yesterday, and the motion was defeated, the old rate of commission remaining in force.

The bank rates for call money in Montreal remain unchanged at 5 per cent. In New York the quotation for

call money to-day, was 2 per cent., while in London, the rate was 2 per cent.

The quotations for money at continental points are as follows:—

| | Market. | Bank. |
|----------------|---------|-------|
| Paris..... | 2½ | 3 |
| Berlin..... | 2½ | 4 |
| Amsterdam..... | 2½ | 3 |
| Vienna..... | 2½ | 3½ |
| Brussels..... | 2½ | 3 |

Canadian Pacific advanced to 134¼ this week, reacting and closing with 133 bid, a net advance of 1½ points for the week, on sales of 2,279 shares. The New Stock was not quoted at the close to-day, and the transactions for the week involved 75 shares, the last sales being made at 130. The New Stock is now 40 per cent. paid up.

Minneapolis, St. Paul and Sault Ste. Marie Common advanced to 99¼, and closed with 98 bid, a net gain of 3 full points over last week's closing quotation. The stock was quite active, and 3,302 shares changed hands in the week's business.

The Grand Trunk Railway Company's stock quotations as compared with a week ago, are as follows:—

| | A week ago. | To-day. |
|------------------------|-------------|---------|
| First Preference..... | 109½ | 109½ |
| Second Preference..... | 98½ | 98½ |
| Third Preference..... | 48½ | 48½ |

Montreal Street Railway closed with 211½ bid, unchanged from a week ago. A fair business was done, involving 847 shares in all. The New Stock on which the final payment of 10 per cent. was made to-day, will, after the next dividend payable the first of May, rank on the same basis as the old stock, and will thereafter receive the full dividend. The earnings for the week ending 28th inst., show an increase of \$4,439.04, as follows:—

| | | Increas. |
|----------------|------------|-----------|
| Sunday..... | \$5,250.19 | \$ 337.13 |
| Monday..... | 6,810.01 | 468.07 |
| Tuesday..... | 5,751.07 | 1,202.16 |
| Wednesday..... | 6,644.65 | 1,137.28 |
| Thursday..... | 6,620.47 | 433.20 |
| Friday..... | 6,506.74 | 468.43 |
| Saturday..... | 7,007.86 | 397.77 |

Toronto Railway which sold at 105 this morning, closed with 104½ bid, a gain of 1¼ points for the week on a total business of 530 shares. The earnings for the week ending 28th inst., show an increase of \$8,714.23, as follows:

| | | Increase. |
|----------------|------------|-----------|
| Sunday..... | \$3,298.95 | \$ 872.10 |
| Monday..... | 6,866.13 | 1,049.08 |
| Tuesday..... | 5,498.08 | 2,032.08 |
| Wednesday..... | 6,054.92 | 1,458.48 |
| Thursday..... | 6,569.86 | 1,023.25 |
| Friday..... | 6,934.00 | 1,162.21 |
| Saturday..... | 7,945.22 | 1,117.33 |

Twin City sold up to 100¼ cum-dividend this week, and closed to-day with 106½ X.D. bid, equivalent to a net advance of 2½ points over last week. The dividend of 1¼ per cent. is due on 15th inst., to holders of record to-day. The stock was the most active in this week's trading, and 4,611 shares changed hands. The earnings for the third week of January show an increase of \$3,169.90.

Detroit Railway closed with 77½ bid, an advance of 1½ points for the week, and 1,772 shares were dealt in. The highest of the week was 78.

Halifax Tram closed with 107 bid, an advance of 1½ points over last week's closing bid, and 125 shares were dealt in. The last sales were made at 107¼.

Toledo Railway closed with 22 bid, which is the same quotation as that prevailing a week ago. The total sales for the week involved 300 shares, the last sales being made at 22½.

Mackay Common closed with 38½ bid, an advance of ¾ of a point over last week, and 250 shares changed hands. The Preferred Stock transactions involved 455 shares, and the quotation shows a fractional gain, the closing bid being 73¼, as compared with 73½ last week.

Ogilvie Preferred sales involved 76 shares, the last transactions being made at 131.

There were no sales in Lake of the Woods Preferred, nor was the stock quoted at the close to-day.

R. & O. closed with 62½ bid, an advance of 1¼ points for the week, on sales of 210 shares.

Montreal Power which is now selling ex-dividend of 1 per cent., payable on 15th inst., closed with 78 X. D. bid, which is equivalent to last week's closing quotation, and 622 shares were traded in during the week.

The transactions in Dominion Iron Common totalled 4,050 shares. The closing bid was 18, a gain of 1 full point over last week's quotation. The Preferred Stock was dealt in to the extent of 390 shares, and closed with 63 bid, as compared with 61½ last week. The total transactions in the Bonds involved \$53,000, the last sales being made at 81½. The closing bid was 81¼, an advance of ¼ of a point for the week.

Nova Scotia Steel Common improved in price, and sold up to 67¼ this week, reacting and closing with 65¼ bid, a gain of 1½ points for the week on sales of 500 shares. In the Preferred Stock 15 shares changed hands, and in the Bonds there was one transaction of \$500.

Dominion Coal Common closed with 64 bid on sales for the week of 505 shares, a net gain of 3¼ points. There was only one transaction in the Preferred Stock, 10 shares changing hands at 115.

| | Per cent. |
|-----------------------------|-----------|
| Call money in Montreal..... | 5 |
| Call money in New York..... | 2 |
| Call money in London..... | 2 |
| Bank of England rate..... | 3 |
| Consols..... | 88½ |
| Demand Sterling..... | 91½ |
| 60 days Sight Sterling..... | 93½ |

Thursday, p.m., February 2, 1905.

The market was quite active, Canadian Pacific and Soo Common being the features. Canadian Pacific opened at 133¼, and advanced to 134¼, and cleared with 134¼ bid, and the last sales were made at 134½. Soo Common opened at 98¼, and advanced to 100¼, closing with 100¼ bid. Twin City opened at 106 and sold down to 105¼, at which price the last sales were made. Toronto Railway sold between 104¼ and 104¾. Montreal Street sold at 212, and Halifax Tram advanced from 108 to 110¼ bid at the close. The last sales were made at 110. Sao Paulo

was firm, between 117 and 117½ and Detroit Railway sold at 77½. Montreal Power was traded in at 78½, Mackay Common between 38½ and 39¼ and the Preferred at 74½. Nova Scotia Steel Common advanced from 66½ at the opening, to 67½. R. & O. was traded in between 63 and 62¼, while Montreal Telegraph changed hands at 161½. A broken lot of Montreal "Switch" Common sold at 70½, and the Preferred Stock was traded in at 101. A broken lot of Laurentide Paper Pre-

ferred, at 102, \$6,000 Winnipeg Bonds at 104½, \$700 Montreal Street Bonds at 104, 25 Iron Common at 18½ and 1 Bank of Commerce, at 160, completed the day's business.

The R. & O. Navigation Company's statement is out, and shows that the Company earned \$94,312 during last year. Out of this a half-yearly dividend was paid in May last, of 3 per cent, which absorbed \$93,960. The surplus brought forward last year was \$133,000 odd, and after writing off the final loss on the S. S. "Canada" and "Carolina" of \$118,000 odd, the surplus brought forward this year is something over \$15,000.

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MONTREAL STOCK EXCHANGE SALES

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1905.

MORNING BOARD.

| No. of Shares. | Price. | No. of Shares. | Price |
|----------------|--------|-----------------------|-------|
| 300 C.P.R. | 133¾ | 50 Soo Com. | 100½ |
| 300 " | 134 | 125 " | 100¼ |
| 10 " | 134 | 100 " | 100½ |
| 100 " | 134½ | 150 Twin City. | 106 |
| 175 " | 134½ | 5 " | 106 |
| 25 " | 134½ | 25 " | 105¾ |
| 50 " | 134¾ | 25 " | 105¾ |
| 100 " | 134¾ | 25 " | 105¾ |
| 25 " | 134¾ | 50 " | 105¾ |
| 200 " | 134¾ | 25 " | 105¾ |
| 125 " | 134¾ | 50 " | 106 |
| 75 " | 134¾ | 100 Sao Paulo. | 117 |
| 100 " | 134¾ | 50 " | 117½ |
| 50 " | 134¾ | 100 Mont Street. | 212 |
| 100 " | 134¾ | 100 Toronto Ry. | 104½ |
| 100 " | 134¾ | 10 " | 104¾ |
| 100 Soo Com. | 98½ | 21 Halifax Tram. | 108 |
| 50 " | 98½ | 1 " | 108 |
| 50 " | 98¾ | 50 Power X.D. | 78½ |
| 100 " | 100 | 50 Scotia Com. | 66½ |
| 700 " | 100½ | 125 " | 67 |
| 100 " | 100¾ | 25 Mont. Telegraph. | 161½ |
| 700 " | 100¾ | 6 Switch Com. | 70½ |
| 25 " | 100¾ | 4 Laurentide Pap. Pfd | 102 |
| 75 " | 100¾ | 3 Iron Pfd. | 63 |
| 100 " | 100¾ | | |

AFTERNOON BOARD.

| | | | |
|------------------|------|-------------------------|------|
| 50 C.P.R. | 134¾ | 10 Toronto Ry. | 104¾ |
| 125 " | 134½ | 50 " | 104¾ |
| 100 Soo Com. | 100½ | 100 Mackay Com. | 38½ |
| 75 " | 100¾ | 100 " | 39 |
| 50 " | 100¾ | 150 " | 39¼ |
| 25 R. & O. | 63 | 5 " Pfd. | 74 |
| 25 " | 62¾ | 100 " | 74½ |
| 25 " | 63 | 3 Montreal Telegraph | 161 |
| 25 " | 63 | 100 Switch Pfd. | 101 |
| 35 " | 63 | 20 " | 101½ |
| 50 " | 62¾ | 25 Scotia Com. | 67½ |
| 25 " | 62¾ | 25 " | 67½ |
| 50 Twin City. | 105¾ | 25 Iron Com. | 18½ |
| 50 Detroit Ry. | 77½ | 1 Bank of Commerce. | 160 |
| 50 Halifax Tram. | 109 | \$6,000 Winnipeg Bonds. | 104¾ |
| 4 " | 110 | 700 Mont. St. Bonds. | 104 |
| 50 " | 110 | | |

MANITOBA

(FIRE)

ASSURANCE COMPANY

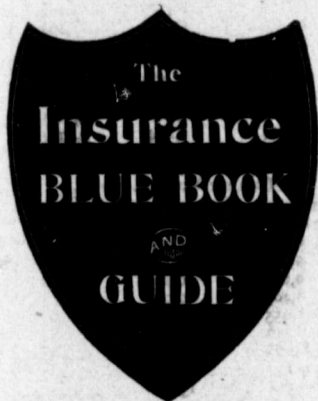
Policies guaranteed by the Liverpool & London & Globe Ins. Co

For Agencies apply to the Head Office: 112 St. James Street, Montreal,
 J. GARDNER THOMPSON . . . Managing Director.
 WM JACKSON Secretary,

MERCANTILE FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

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1904-1905.

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BABCOCK & WILCOX, Limited.

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BOILERS

Are the MOST SUCCESSFUL BOILERS of the present day, because of their
High Economy, Great Durability, Perfect Safety

SEND FOR PARTICULARS AND PRICES.

TORONTO OFFICE, 114 KING ST. WEST

The gross traffic earnings of the Grand Trunk, Canadian Pacific, Canadian Northern, Duluth, South Shore & Atlantic railways, and the Montreal, Toronto, Halifax, Twin City and Havana street railways, up to the most recent date obtainable, compared with the corresponding period for 1902 and 1903, were as follows:

| GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY. | | | | |
|----------------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| Year to date | 1902. | 1903. | 1904. | Decrease* |
| Dec. 31..... | \$31,064,79 | \$35,185,897 | \$34,086,354 | \$1,429,543 |
| Week ending. | 1903. | 1904. | 1905. | Increase |
| Jan. 7..... | 574,834 | 506,155 | 535,459 | 46,351 |
| 14..... | 79,001 | 57,267 | 58,210 | 9,943 |
| 21..... | 610,207 | 523,681 | 597,222 | 73541 |

| CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| Year to date. | 1902. | 1903. | 1904. | Increase |
| Dec. 31..... | \$39,844,000 | \$45,807,000 | \$48,155,000 | \$2,311,000 |

| GROSS TRAFFIC EARNINGS | | | | |
|------------------------|-----------|---------|---------|-------------|
| Week ending | 1903. | 1904. | 1905. | Increase |
| Jan. 7..... | \$764,000 | 697,000 | 778,000 | 81,000 |
| 14..... | 743,010 | 772,000 | 747,000 | Dec. 25,000 |
| 21..... | 666,010 | 625,000 | 750,000 | 125,000 |

| NET TRAFFIC EARNINGS. | | | | |
|-----------------------|------------|------------|------------|----------------|
| Month. | 1902. | 1903. | 1904. | Inc. |
| January..... | \$820,461 | \$ 916,771 | \$357,052 | Dec. \$559,119 |
| February..... | 674,361 | 742,741 | 82,541 | " 600,200 |
| March..... | 1,054,915 | 1,258,564 | 850,854 | " 407,710 |
| April..... | 1,291,706 | 1,493,173 | 412,533 | " 80,400 |
| May..... | 1,166,892 | 1,383,357 | 1,391,505 | 8,208 |
| June..... | 846,737 | 1,246,055 | 1,449,911 | 203,850 |
| July..... | 1,175,711 | 1,318,527 | 1,349,652 | 131,125 |
| August..... | 1,302,901 | 1,434,102 | 1,527,930 | 93,827 |
| September..... | 1,410,755 | 1,202,266 | 1,085,808 | 66,542 |
| October..... | 1,616,134 | 1,654,022 | 1,566,114 | Dec. 87,913 |
| November..... | 1,558,240 | 1,777,981 | 1,604,575 | 191,944 |
| December..... | 1,672,442 | 1,581,145 | 1,662,069 | 81,524 |
| Total..... | 14,651,255 | 15,708,769 | 13,689,804 | |

| CANADIAN NORTHERN RAILWAY. | | | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------|--|
| GROSS TRAFFIC EARNINGS. | | | | |
| July 1st, 1902 to | July 1st, 1903 to | July 1st, 1904 to | Increase | |
| June 30, 1903 | June 30, 1904 | June 30, 1905 | \$820,355 | |
| \$2,304,450 | \$3,124,800 | | | |
| Week ending. | 1903. | 1904. | Increase | |
| Jan. 7..... | 49,500 | 60,200 | 10,700 | |
| 14..... | 50,300 | 58,800 | 8,500 | |
| 21..... | 49,900 | 64,300 | 14,400 | |

| DULUTH, SOUTH SHORE & ATLANTIC | | | | |
|--------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|------------|
| Week ending. | 1902. | 1903. | 1904. | Increase |
| Jan. 7..... | 39,187 | 30,145 | | |
| 14..... | 40,647 | 41,569 | 40,672 | Dec. 1,297 |

| MONTREAL STREET RAILWAY. | | | | |
|--------------------------|------------|------------|------------|----------|
| Month. | 1902. | 1903. | 1904. | Increase |
| January... | \$ 153,274 | \$ 168,883 | \$ 182,386 | \$13,503 |
| February... | 132,159 | 139,065 | 167,023 | 27,958 |
| March.... | 154,885 | 168,987 | 183,689 | 14,702 |
| April.... | 152,525 | 170,050 | 184,905 | 14,855 |
| May.... | 173,902 | 170,773* | 217,341 | 46,568 |
| June.... | 182,875 | 205,454 | 229,505 | 24,111 |
| July.... | 194,194 | 212,337 | 223,137 | 10,800 |
| August... | 195,610 | 208,586 | 226,764 | 18,178 |
| September. | 189,150 | 212,156 | 216,795 | 4,139 |
| October... | 179,433 | 204,452 | 219,633 | 15,181 |
| November. | 170,834 | 187,930 | 201,147 | 13,217 |
| December. | 173,042 | 187,780 | 208,428 | 20,648 |
| Week ending. | 1903. | 1904. | Increase | |
| Jan. 7..... | 40,982 | 42,234 | 45,948 | 3,714 |
| 14..... | 36,221 | 40,955 | 44,685 | 3,130 |
| 21..... | 36,401 | 41,747 | 46,383 | 4,636 |

| TORONTO STREET RAILWAY. | | | | |
|-------------------------|------------|------------|------------|----------|
| Month. | 1902. | 1903. | 1904. | Increase |
| January.. | \$ 137,135 | \$ 161,938 | \$ 179,360 | \$17,422 |
| February.. | 128,233 | 146,539 | 168,904 | 22,365 |
| March.... | 141,681 | 159,943 | 183,643 | 23,700 |

* Strike. † Spanish Silver.

| TORONTO STREET RAILWAY. | | | | |
|-------------------------|---------|---------|----------|----------|
| Month | 1902. | 1903. | 1904 | Increase |
| April..... | 134,947 | 162,276 | 184,763 | 21,487 |
| May..... | 145,105 | 174,519 | 198,317 | 23,818 |
| June.... | 132,266 | 177,593 | 207,482 | 29,889 |
| July.... | 162,072 | 192,629 | 211,326 | 18,727 |
| August... | 165,105 | 185,822 | 217,887 | 32,065 |
| September. | 195,689 | 237,010 | 246,862 | 9,852 |
| October... | 155,150 | 183,810 | 202,344 | 18,534 |
| November. | 151,033 | 174,039 | 198,150 | 24,117 |
| December. | 169,620 | 199,115 | 213,662 | 14,547 |
| Week ending. | 1903. | 1904. | Increase | |
| Jan. 7..... | 36,554 | 40,775 | 44,120 | 3,345 |
| 14..... | 35,113 | 41,843 | 45,275 | 3,432 |
| 21..... | 36,114 | 43,319 | 45,580 | 2,261 |

| TWIN CITY RAPID TRANSIT COMPANY. | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------|
| Month. | 1902. | 1903. | 1904. | Inc. |
| January.. | \$270,485 | \$310,084 | \$329,352 | 19,27 |
| February.. | 243,150 | 284,947 | 310,180 | 29,230 |
| March..... | 277,575 | 317,839 | 338,580 | 20,743 |
| April..... | 261,456 | 315,465 | 332,615 | 17,153 |
| May..... | 295,153 | 337,699 | 358,344 | 20,641 |
| June..... | 308,131 | 346,018 | 365,897 | 19,870 |
| July..... | 335,715 | 362,702 | 381,224 | 20,525 |
| August... | 321,842 | 363,579 | 386,629 | 23,059 |
| September. | 337,965 | 370,349 | 371,476 | 1,122 |
| October... | 302,634 | 346,673 | 365,938 | 19,260 |
| November. | 307,756 | 333,424 | 352,433 | 19,07 |
| December. | 329,686 | 357,452 | 374,138 | 17,285 |
| Week ending. | 1903. | 1904. | Increase | |
| Jan. 7..... | 70,707 | 74,837 | 81,454 | 6,647. |
| 14..... | 68,522 | 74,322 | 78,778 | 4,456 |
| 21..... | 69,305 | 74,476 | 77,046 | 3,170 |

| HALIFAX ELECTRIC TRAMWAY CO., LTD. | | | | |
|------------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Railway Receipts. | | | | |
| Month. | 1902. | 1903 | 1904. | Inc |
| January.. | \$10,764 | \$10,867 | 10,677 | Dec. 150 |
| February. | 8,498 | 9,322 | 9,894 | 572 |
| March... | 9,761 | 10,195 | 11,152 | 957 |
| April..... | 10,026 | 10,533 | 11,145 | 616 |
| May..... | 11,126 | 10,768 | 12,074 | 1,307 |
| June..... | 11,528 | 11,844 | 14,051 | 2,266 |
| July..... | 14,835 | 15,942 | 17,528 | 1,586 |
| August... | 17,177 | 16,786 | 17,402 | 612 |
| September. | 17,494 | 18,494 | 17,862 | Dec. 632 |
| October... | 11,382 | 12,055 | 12,434 | 637 |
| November | 9,946 | 11,220 | 11,085 | Dec. 135 |
| December. | 11,207 | 12,160 | 12,163 | 3 |
| Week ending. | 1903. | 1904. | Increase | |
| Jan. 7..... | 2,509 | 2,120 | 2,165 | 45 |
| 14..... | 2,344 | 2,454 | 2,516 | 62 |
| 21..... | 2,459 | 2,519 | 2,416 | Dec. 103 |

| Lighting Receipts. | | | | |
|--------------------|----------|----------|--------|-------|
| Month. | 1902. | 1903 | 1904. | Inc. |
| January.. | \$12,969 | \$13,863 | 16,317 | 2,454 |
| February. | 9,529 | 11,924 | 14,227 | 2,303 |
| March.... | 9,207 | 10,523 | 12,718 | 2,195 |
| April.... | 9,066 | 10,156 | 12,116 | 1,960 |
| May.... | 8,403 | 9,020 | 9,756 | 736 |
| June.... | 7,055 | 8,368 | 8,998 | 630 |
| July.... | 7,336 | 8,351 | 8,952 | 601 |
| August... | 8,028 | 8,826 | 9,596 | 770 |
| September. | 9,139 | 10,781 | 11,720 | 939 |
| October.. | 11,528 | 13,186 | 14,209 | 1,023 |
| November. | 12,838 | 14,200 | 16,273 | 2,073 |
| December. | 15,816 | 16,611 | 17,684 | 1,073 |

| HAVANA ELECTRIC RAILWAY CO. | | | | |
|-----------------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Month. | 1902. | 1903. | 1904. | Increase. |
| Jan..... | \$87,597 | \$102,000 | \$130,709 | \$48,709 |
| Feb..... | 87,014 | 104,647 | 130,579 | 25,932 |
| March.... | 101,951 | 120,389 | 144,921 | 24,532 |
| April..... | 98,435 | 119,974 | 139,505 | 19,531 |
| May..... | 120,712 | 130,925 | 140,256 | 9,331 |
| June..... | 91,223 | 120,818 | 137,273 | 16,455 |
| July..... | 104,565 | 127,271 | 145,623 | 18,352 |
| Aug..... | 109,092 | 133,885 | 152,135 | 18,250 |
| Sept..... | 105,959 | 128,323 | 143,123 | 15,300 |
| Oct..... | 106,139 | 125,031 | 145,781 | 20,750 |
| Nov..... | 104,349 | 122,415 | 141,540 | 19,125 |
| Dec..... | 104,791 | 127,644 | 150,468 | 21,624 |
| Week ending | 1904 | 1905 | Increase | |
| Jan. 3..... | 27,820 | 34,246 | 6,426 | |
| 10..... | 20,184 | 27,75 | 3,491 | |
| 17..... | 20,824 | 28,544 | 3,720 | |
| 24..... | 25,547 | 32,558 | 7,011 | |

Second Annual Statement

Sovereign Life Assurance Company

ADDISON H. HOOVER, President and Managing Director

182 Bay St., Toronto Ont.

Dec. 31st 1904

ASSETS

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Municipal Debentures and Bonds. (Par value of above \$217,324.26) | \$214,122 47 |
| Cash on hand and in Banks | 2,555 96 |
| Interest accrued | 2,069 18 |
| Due from Policy-holders | 12,488 77 |
| Deferred Premiums | 3,931 55 |
| Office Furniture and Fixtures | 2,050 95 |
| Agent's Ledger Balances (secured) | 8,087 59 |
| Other Assets | 343 75 |
| | \$245,650 22 |

Contingent Assets

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Due from Shareholders on account Capital Stock | 67,801 98 |
| Due from Shareholders on account Stock Premiums | 5,200 00 |
| Total Assets | \$318,652 20 |

LIABILITIES

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Net re-insurance reserve (Company's Standard British offices Om. 3 per cent. Tables) | \$77,326 00 |
| (Being \$1,929.00 greater than Government Standard Institute Actuaries Hm. 3 1-2 per cent. Tables) | |
| Surplus on Policy-holders' account | 241,326 20 |
| Total Liabilities | \$318,652 20 |

Capital Stock paid up and in process of collection, \$231,410.00

INCOME

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| Net Premiums | \$61,819 54 |
| Interest | 5,582 17 |
| Capital Stock | 82,269 76 |
| Premiums on Capital Stock | 41,486 46 |
| | \$191,157 93 |

EXPENDITURE

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Paid to Policy-holders | \$ 6,980 19 |
| Head Office Expenses, Salaries, Commissions to Agents, Taxes, License Fees, Etc. | 41,446 24 |
| Organization Expenses | 13,191 49 |
| Balance Income over Expenditure | 120,540 01 |
| | \$191,157 93 |

Results of the Year

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------|
| | Per cent. | | Per cent. |
| Increase in Total Premium Income | 123.21 | Increase in Policy Reserve | 145.31 |
| " " Assets | 135.52 | " " Paid for Insurance in force | 73.96 |

Debentures and Bonds Owned by the Company

| | |
|--|--|
| City of Brantford earning 4 per cent. \$ 5,000 00 City of Calgary " 4 " 10,000 00 City of Clatham " 4½ " 10,495 35 City of Guelph " 4½ " 5,063 04 City of Hamilton " 4 " 7,300 00 City of Hull " 4½ " 10,000 00 City of Moncton " 4 " 10,000 00 City of Stratford " 4 " 10,000 00 City of St. Catharines " 4 " 24,000 00 City of Toronto " 4 " 10,000 00 | City of Vancouver earning 4 per cent. \$10,000 00 City of Winnipeg " 4½ " 10,000 00 City of Windsor " 4½ " 11,435 08 Town of Dunnville " 4½ " 10,141 65 Town of Fort William " 4½ " 15,000 00 Town of Lethbridge " 5 " 10,000 00 Town of Fort Arthur " 5 " 10,000 40 Town of Petrolia " 3½ " 28,000 00 Town of Rat Portage " 4½ " 10,889 13 Total \$217,324 26 |
|--|--|

Auditors' Report

We have examined the above statement of Assets and Liabilities and of the Income and Disbursements with the Books and Vouchers of the Sovereign Life Assurance Company, and certify same to be correct. We have also examined and counted the Bonds and Debentures of the Company and the evidences of the Dominion Government Deposit and the Cash and Bank balances, and find the same correct and in accordance with the above statement. A continuous audit has been maintained during the year, and we certify that the Books and Accounts of the Company are well and truly kept.

Toronto, Ont.
Jan. 31st 1905.

(Signed) **J. P. LANGLEY,**
GEO. EDW. BDA, | Auditors.

Security to Policy-Holders

| | |
|---|-----------------------|
| Amount set apart for re-insurance Reserve | \$77,326 00 |
| Sur. l's Assets over Liabilities | 241,326 20 |
| Uncalled Capital stock | 693,790 00 |
| Total security to Policy-Holders. | \$1,012,442 20 |

STOCK LIST

Reported for THE CHRONICLE by R. Wilson-Smith & Co., 160 St. James Street, Montreal.

Corrected to February 1st, 1905, P.M.

Table with columns: BANKS., Capital subscribed, Capital paid up, Reserve Fund, Per centage of Ret. to paid up Capital, value of one share, Market value of one share, Dividend for last half year, Revenue per cent. on investment at present prices, Closing price per cent on par, When Dividend payable. Rows include various banks like British North America, Canadian Bank of Commerce, and miscellaneous stocks like Bell Telephone, Canadian Pacific, etc.

Quarterly. *Bonus if per cent Monthly. †Prices per Share \$1000. ‡These figures are corrected from last Govt. Bank Statement DEC. 31st., 1904



TWENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL STATEMENT
OF THE
North American Life
Assurance Company

Home Office : 112-118 King Street West, Toronto

For the Year Ended 31st December, 1904

Dec. 31, 1903. To net Ledger Assets.....\$5,376,210 75

RECEIPTS

Dec. 31, 1904. To Cash on Premiums.....\$1,237,250 16
To Cash on Investments, etc..... 269,779 64
1,507,029 80

\$6,883,240 55

DISBURSEMENTS

Dec. 31, 1904 By Payment for Death Claims, Profits, etc..... \$561,136 57
By all other Payments..... 376,741 36
937,877 93

\$5,945,362 62

ASSETS

Dec. 31, 1904. By Mortgages, etc..... \$989,847 47
" Stocks, Bonds and Debentures (market value \$3,539,104 30)... 3,460,096 75
" Real Estate, including Company's buildings (appraised value \$256,850)..... 186,603 95
" Loans on policies, etc..... 432,420 93
" Loans on Bonds and Stocks (nearly all on call)..... 771,604 71
" Cash in Banks and on hand..... 104,788 81
\$5,945,362 62
" Premiums outstanding, etc. (less cost of collection)..... 244,075 91
" Interest and Rents due and accrued..... 41,561 53

\$6,231,000 06

LIABILITIES

Dec. 31, 1904. To Guarantee Fund.....\$ 60,000 00
" Assurance and Annuity Reserve Fund..... 5,587,346 59
" Death Losses awaiting proofs, Contingent Expenses 82,390 00
\$5,729,736 59

Net Surplus..... \$501,263 47

Audited and found correct.

JOHN N. LAKE, Auditor. WM. T. STANDEN, Consulting Actuary.

New insurance issued during 1904..... \$6,530,825 00

Being the best year in the history of the Company.

Insurance in force at end of 1904 (net)..... 35,416,380 00

No monthly or Provident Policies were issued—this branch having been discontinued.

PRESIDENT

JOHN L. BLAIKIE.

VICE-PRESIDENTS

JAMES THORBURN, M.D., Medical Director. HON. SIR W. R. MEREDITH, LL.D.

DIRECTORS

HON. SENATOR GOWAN, K.C., LL.D., C.M.G. E. GURNEY, Esq.
L. W. SMITH, Esq., K.C., D.C.L. LT.-COL. D. McCRAE, Guelph.

J. K. OSBORNE, Esq.

MANAGING DIRECTOR

L. GOLDMAN, A.I.A., F.C.A.

SECRETARY

W. B. TAYLOR, B.A., LL.B.

SUPT. OF AGENCIES

T. G. McCONKEY.

G. HERBERT SIMPSON, Manager,
Royal Insurance Building,
Montreal.

The Report containing the proceedings of the Annual Meeting, held on January 26th last, showing marked proofs of the continued progress and solid position of the Company, will be sent to policy-holders. Pamphlets explanatory of the attractive investment plans of the Company, and a copy of the Annual Report, showing its unexcelled financial position, will be furnished on application to the Head Office or any of the Company's agencies.

STOCK LIST - Continued.

| BONDS. | Rate of Interest per annum | Amount outstanding | When Interest due | Where Interest payable. | Date of Redemption. | Lat-st quotations. | REMARKS. |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|--|---------------------|--------------------|--|
| Commercial Cable Coupon..... | 4 | \$18,000,000 | { 1 Jan. 1 Apl. | { New York or London..... | { 1 Jan., 1927. | 96 | |
| " " Registered..... | 4 | | { 1 July 1 Oct. |  |  |  |  |  |  | 96 |
| Can. Colored Cotton Co..... | 6 | 2,000,000 | 2 Apl. 2 Oct. | Bank of Montreal, Montreal..... | 2 Apl., 1902.. | 98 | |
| Canada Paper Co..... | 5 | 200,000 | 1 May 1 Nov. | Merchants Bank of Can., Montreal | 1 May, 1917.. | | |
| Bell Telephone Co..... | 5 | 2,000,000 | 1 Apl. 1 Oct. | Bank of Montreal, Montreal..... | 1 Apl., 1925.. | | |
| Dominion Coal Co..... | 6 | 2,433,000 | 1 Meh. 1 Sep. | Bank of Montreal, Montreal..... | 1 Meh., 1915.. | 106½ | Redeemable at 110 |
| Dominion Cotton Co..... | 4½ | \$ 308,200 | 1 Jan 1 July | | 1 Jan., 1916.. | | Redeemable at 110 |
| Dominion Iron & Steel Co..... | 5 | \$ 7,876,000 | 1 Jan. 1 July | Bank of Montreal, Montreal..... | 1 July, 1925.. | 81½ | Redeemable at 110 & accrued interest Redeemable at 108 |
| Halifax Tramway Co..... | 5 | \$ 600,000 | 1 Jan. 1 July | Bk. of N. Scotia., Hal. or Montreal | 1 Jan., 1916.. | | |
| Intercolonial Coal Co..... | 5 | 344,000 | 1 Apl. 1 Oct. | | 1 Apl., 1918.. | 106½ | |
| Laurentide Pulp..... | 6 | 1,115,000 | | | | 107 | |
| Montourenoy Cotton..... | 5 | 1,000,000 | | | | | |
| Montreal Gas Co..... | 4 | 380,075 | 1 Jan. 1 July | Commerce's Bank, Montreal..... | 1 July, 1921.. | | |
| Montreal Light, Heat and Power | 4½ | 7,500,000 | 1 Jan. 1 July | Bank of Montreal, Montreal..... | 1 July, 1925.. | 100½ | Redeemable at 108 after Jan. 1st, 1912 |
| Montreal Street Ry. Co..... | 5 | 202,000 | 1 Meh. 1 Sep. | | 1 Oct., 1908.. | | |
| " " "..... | 4½ | 681,333 | 1 Feb. 1 Aug. | Bank of Montreal, London, Eng. | 1 Aug., 1922.. | | |
| " " "..... | 4½ | 1,500,000 | 1 May 1 Nov. | " " Montreal..... | 1 May, 1922.. | 103 | |
| Nova Scotia Steel & Coal Co..... | 6 | 2,500,000 | 1 Jan. 1 July | Union Bank, Halifax, or Bank of Nova Scotia, Mont'l or Tr'n'to | 1 July, 1931.. | 107 | |
| Ogilvie Flour Mill Co..... | 6 | 1,000,000 | 1 June 1 Dec | Bank of Montreal, Montreal..... | 1 June, 1932.. | 114 | Redeemable at 112 after June 1st, 1912 |
| Richellen & Ont. Nav. Co..... | 5 | 471,580 | 1 Meh. 1 Sep. | Montreal and London..... | 1 Meh., 1915.. | 103 | Redeemable at 11½ |
| Royal Electric Co..... | 4½ | \$ 130,900 | 1 Apl. 1 Oct. | Bk. of Montreal, Mont'l or London | Oct., 1914.. | | Redeemable at 112 |
| St. John Railway..... | 5 | \$ 675,000 | 1 May 1 Nov. | Bank of Montreal, St. John, N.B. | 1 May, 1925.. | | 5 p.c. redeemable yearly after 1912 |
| Toronto Railway..... | 4½ | 2,509,958 | 1 Jan. 1 July 28 Feb. 31 Aug. | Bank of Scotland, London..... | 1 July, 1914.. | | |
| " " "..... | 4½ | | | | 31 Aug., 1921.. | 103 | |
| Windsor Hotel..... | 4½ | 340,000 | 1 Jan. 1 July | Windsor Hotel, Montreal..... | 2 July, 1912.. | | |
| Windsor Elec Street Railway..... | 5 | 3,000,000 | 1 Jan. 1 July | Bank of Montreal, Montreal..... | 1 Jan., 1927.. | 104½ | |
| Toledo Ry. & Light Co..... | 5 | 700,000 | 1 Jan. 1 July | | 1 July, 1912.. | | |
| " " "..... | 5 | 5,185,000 | 1 Jan. 1 July | | 1 July, 1921.. | | |
| " " "..... | 5 | 4,000,000 | 1 Jan. 1 July | | 1 July, 1909.. | | |

[FIRE]
German American
 Insurance Company
 New York

CAPITAL PAID IN FULL
\$1,500,000
 NET SURPLUS
5,633,249
 CASH ASSETS
12,074,306

AGENCIES THROUGHOUT CANADA.