The Chronicle Insurance & Minance.

R. WILSON-SMITH

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Old Time Debtor's Prisons. cost a man to be in prison for debt in the good old days: £ s. d.

For 4 surrenders at Judges' Chambers	. 9	11	6	
To the tipstaff, 4 fees	. 2	2	0	
To the warden	. 16	12	0	
The previous fee for turning into the house	. 10	10	0	
For occasional liberty to leave the prison	. 6	6	0	
		-		

Total (\$225) £45 1 6

The debtor was charged for the privilege of entering the jail, charged for being brought before a judge, charged for being allowed a few hours' run outside, and charged for support of the officials! These officials realized large incomes; they made the prisoners provide them with wines and other luxuries on pain of punishment. The prison fees on the debtor leaving, after the creditor was satisfied, were as large that hundreds were kept in jail for years awaiting the time when they could pay these fees! Yet some there are who sigh over the past times as better days than the present.

A proposal is made to organize a scheme Insuring for insuring bank deposits. The scheme Bank is an American one which has been Deposits. suggested by the frequent failures of banks in the United States. Whether the insurance is proposed to be effected by depositors individually, or by each bank, or by a combination of banks is not stated. The insurance of individual deposits could not have any effect upon the general credit of the banks as the extent of such insurance would be unknown. Single banks would find it difficult to secure insurance of their deposits, the risk would be regarded as too uncertain, too obscure to be undertaken without more knowledge than banks would care to impart. Were all the banks comprised within the organization of a State Benkers' Association to join in a scheme for insurance the deposits of each institution in the State, such a scheme might be operated, but it would not be popular with the stronger banks as they would naturally dislike paying premiums towards strengthening the credit of rival banks of whose methods they disapproved, and of whose weakness they were aware. The insurance of bank deposits is best provided for by sagacious and prudent management.

Auditing Insurance Bulletin" has been moved to Company Accounts. great plainness of speech respecting the auditing of the ac-

counts of insurance companies.

"The recent embezzlement bids fair to make the home offices of British fire companies wake up and either force an improvement in the present ineffective methods used in auditing accounts at their American branches or else drop public auditors altogether. The average 'certified public accountant' or 'chartered accountant' may be a very good man to foot up a column of figures, but his fire insurance wisdom is limited to a facial expression of knowledge, which is only skin deep. At present the auditing system costs money and never seems to discover anything. The officers of American companies are inclined to poke fun at auditors; first, because they do not appear to be of any service in either preventing or detecting insurance defalcations and, secondly, because of the important airs they display in paradng around an insurance office. A poor auditor is worse than none, as he engenders an unwarranted feeling of security which prevents the adoption of other safeguards which might really be of some value. The latest incident, coming after so many similar happenings, should bring about a drastic reform in fire insurance auditing methods,"

For all concerned it is desirable to have accounts audited with the utmost completeness and efficiency.

Innocence. Easy Road to

This is the age of "fads," in medicine especially. Between those who refuse to recognize medicaments of any kind, who rely upon the imagi-

nation to cure all manner of diseases, and those who regard natural laws by attacking physical evils with physical weapons there are hundreds of varieties of opinion as to the efficacy of drugs and diet. One of the oddest phases of medical fadism is the declaration by a physician attached to the Education Bureau, Washington, that, to eat meat and potatoes is one effectual way of escaping the danger of becoming a criminal. This is indeed the "primrose path" to innocence. The theory is more pleasant than sound. The vast majority of criminals are "beef and potatoe" eaters, and abstinence from a meat diet is the habit of whole communities of the most innocent people known. Like the familiar hero of one of Moliere's comedies, who was surprised at learning that he spoke in prose, we are astonished at discovering what a virtuous habit we have been cultivating when enjoying a good square meal of beef and potatoes. We propose to pursue and advise all and sundry to pursue this ethical course with zeal, and aid digestion by a hearty laugh at the new fad for treating a butcher's stall as a ·fountain of virtue.

A case of considerable interest to marine A Marine underwriters was decided in the English Case. Court of Appeals, on 4th August last

which is reported in "The Review." The action was brought upon a policy of marine insurance effected with the defendant company, The Reliance Marine, in respect of jute carried from Calcutta to Dundee. The policy contained this clause-"Including all risk of craft on export vessel at port of discharge, and, in the event of the goods being temporarily placed upon the quay, it is agreed to hold the same covered while there and until delivered to the export vessel or at any wharf or warehouse within the limits of the port." The ship arrived at Dundee on April 14, 1899; and, in accordance with the practice of the port, some parcels of the jute were landed and were placed in some "transit sheds" on the quay, in order that they might be sorted and weighed. The consignee had not at that time made up his mind as to the ultimate destination of the jute. He was endeavouring to sell it, but had not yet succeeded in finding a purchaser. According to the by-laws of the port, the jute could not remain in the sheds more than fortyeight hours; but this rule was not strictly enforced, unless there was pressure by reason of the arrival of a number of ships at the same time. On April 17 a fire took place in the transit sheds, and the jute which was there was seriously damaged. The plaintiff company, with whom the consignee had effected an insurance against fire, paid the amount

of the loss. They then took an assignment of the marine policy, and by this action the plaintiffs claimed to recover the amount of the loss from the defendants. The case turned upon the construction of the above quoted clause in the policy. Mr. Justice Kennedy held that the loss was covered by that clause. The defendants appealed and the appeal was dismissed.

INTEREST EARNINGS OF THE LIFE INSURANCE COMPANIES TRANSACTING BUSINESS IN CANADA, 1900-1902.

In our last issue we published a table specially prepared for THE CHRONICLE showing the mean amount of assets held by the life assurance companies operating in Canada for the years 1900, 1901, 1902, with the interest earned thereon and the rate per cent.

The calculations have been made on the same system as was adopted in preparing similar tables in previous years. The amount of the "Mean Assets" was obtained by deducting all outstanding premiums with accrued and overdue interest from the gross assets each year. The accrued and overdue interest for the year under consideration were added to the cash income from interest and rents, the overdue and accrued interest of the preceding year were then deducted, and the remainder is taken to be the interest for the current year earned on the "Mean Assets."

In view of the recent discussion by eminent actuaries at the recent Congress of Actuaries, New York, of the outlook for the rate of interest, it will be found especially interesting and instructive to observe the financial movement of the life companies transacting business in Canada during each of the years, 1882 to 1891, and 1894 to 1902:

	MEAN	ASSETS.	
Year.	Canadian companies	British companies.	American companies.
	8	\$	\$
1902	66,386,980	74,741,094	1,185,750,271
1901	59,619,026	71,958,717	1,079,782,871
1900	53,614,037	69,010,667	984,892,664
1899	48,305,718	66,115,202	902,371,835
1893	43,542,782	63,480,923	828,275,007
1897	38,632,394	60,902.916	760,891,804
1896	34,975,292	58,306,238	698,195,465
1895	31,788,542	53,400,880	650,981,478
1894	28,865,297	52,133,744	598,812,109
1891	20,564,585	48,151,229	467,305,630
1890	18,399,884	46,646,409	426 916,057
1889	15,772,891	44,603,4 0	390,642,574
1888	13,643,784	42,467,000	345,694,681
1887	12,127,378	41,081,390	319,869,221
1886	10,874,424	39,956 956	294,870,691
1885	9,606,245		268,879,994
1884	8,500,972	36,743,103	255,604,706
1883	7,507,884		238,872,362
1882	6,577,878		226,515,787

The following shows the average rate of interest on the "Mean Assets" in each of the years, 1882 to 1902 :---

AVERAGE INTEREST ON MEAN ASSETS.

Year.	Canadian companies.	British companies.	American companies
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
1902	4.75	4.05	4.24
1901	4.66	4.14	4.20
1900	4.56	4.03	4.31
1899	4.52	3,92	4.69
1898	4.65	3.94	4.53
1897	4.77	3 98	4 57
1896	4.76	4.08	4.65
1895	4.68	4.19	4.88
1894	5.24	4.34	4.72
1893	5.35	4.09	4 79
1892	5.37	4.19	4 83
1891	5.54	4.34	4.97
1890	5.50	4.32	5.06
1889	5.74	4.29	5.26
1888	5.83	4.14	5.40
1887	6.57	4.28	5.22
1886	6.29	4.41	5.30
1885	6.22		5.38
1884	6.13	4.41	5.39
1883	6.61		5.45
1882	6.20		5.84

The expansion of the amount of interest earning assets of the Canadian life assurance companies continues to be a marked feature in these returns, it is also a gratifying one inasmuch as it indicates a growing confidence in the stability of Canadian institutions. Within the last seven years, the Canadian companies have enlarged their average "Mean Assets," their interest earning investments, from \$31,788,542 to \$66,386,980, the increase in that period, 1895 to 1902, being equal to over 109 per cent., that is, the mean amount of the assets of the Canadian life companies has more than doubled since 1895. In the same period the increase in the assets of the British companies transacting business in Canada was from \$54,400,880 to \$74,741,004, the enlargement being 37.4 per cent. in the seven years, from 1895 to 1902. The assets of the American companies in this period rose from \$650,981,478 to \$1,185.750,271, the increase being 82.1 per cent. in the 7 years, from 1895 to 1902.

The average interest on the Mean Assets of the life companies does not afford any evidence of there having been a general advance in the rate of interest in recent years, or since 1896, a year which was referred to by one speaker at the Congress of Actuaries as having shown the low water mark of a decline movement. It is somewhat remarkable how closely the average interest on the Mean Assets of the Canadian and the British companies in 1902 approximated to their average in 1896. It is also somewhat surprising that, although there has been quite a general advance in interest rates in recent years, especially so since the outbreak of the war in South Africa, the average interest earned on their average Mean Assets by the American life companies was lower last year than in 1900, 1899, 1898, 1897, or any preceding year. Why the experience of the life companies, as evidenced by their average

interest earnings, has not coincided with the general advance in rates since the South African war, is attributable to their owning so large a body of securities of which the interest is fixed for a term of years. They also own buildings of various kinds which are leased for a term of years, and shares on which the dividend is maintained continuously at the same rate year after year. Under such conditions the variations in the general rate prevailing in the money market during a restricted period is not reflected by the average rate earned by the "Mean Assets" of life assurance companies. In using the interest rate earned by the investments of life companies as an indicator of the tendency of money to become higher or lower priced, it is therefore necessary to take a wide range of years, as only thus can an average be arrived at which indicates what can be regarded as a "tendency" towards an advance or depression in interest rates, just as the geographical features of a continent cannot be judged by the rising and falling of localities in narrow limits.

In considering then the above table of interest earnings we find proofs of the general trend by noting that, while there have been "ups and downs" on a small scale, the rate has dropped from point to point during the last 20 years, the range of which is shown by the following comparisons:

Canadian Co.'s Rate of interest,	British Co.'s Rate of interest.	American Co.'s Rate of interest.
1882 6.20 p.e.	1884 4.41 p. c.	1882 5 84 p. c.
1888 5,83 "	1888 4.14 "	1888 5.40 "
1894 5.24 **	1893 4.09 **	1894 4.72 **
1902 4.75 **	1902 4.05 "	1902 4.24 "

While the record of the last 20 years shows that, there has been a gradual decline in the rate of interest realized by the life companies from the amount of their "Mean Assets," as calculated in the system above detailed, the evidence is not an absolute proof that this decline movement will continue, still it has much force as a factor in the problem as to what are the probabilities for the future.

The right class of investments for life companies is a question of vital importance, to which the mere amount of interest realized is, and by all companies ought to be made subsidiary. The funds held by a life assurance company are really trust funds which cannot be used for speculative purposes without such great imprudence as verges close upon dishonour, and certainty shows a defective sense of the obligations involved by a trust. The most appropriate securities for a life company's investments are, Government and Municipal bonds and debentures, then, the bonds of such railways as have an established record for sagacious management and honourable observance of financial obligations, Mortgages on real estate may be had to yield a higher rate of interest than first-class debentures and bonds, but long experience shows that, mortgages bearing a higher rate of interest than high

class debentures are liable to illustrate the Duke of Wellington's maxim, "High interest means bad security." The shores of the real estate loaning business are strewn with the wrecks of those who have lost the principal by grasping at a high rate of interest. The first, the paramount duty of a life assurance company in regard to investments, is to "make assurance doubly sure" by placing the funds held in trust for its policyholders in such securities as are not merely unquestionably sound when acquired, but, as far as is possible, are free from contingent risks which may involve losses discreditable to the judgment and dangerous to the stability of the investor.

PROBABLE FUTURE COURSE OF THE INTEREST RATE.

VIEWS EXPRESSED AT THE CONGRESS OF ACTUARIES.

Few questions have more importance to insurance companies than the rate of interest on investments. The following is a synopsis of the discussion, as reported in "The Spectator," relating to this question, which took place at the recent Congress of Actuaries.

A paper was presented by Mr. J. Burn, F.I.A., on "the probable future course of the interest rate," in which he said: "The increase in endowment insurance, the issuance of sinking-fund policies and various investment contracts promising a guaranteed accumulation extending over a possibly long period of years all demand that a satisfactory rate of interest be provided and maintained if possible." Mr. Burn considers that experience shows there is a tendency for interest rates to fall continuously, but that the continuity of the fall is disturbed by periods varying considerably in duration, but the general tendency being eventually resumed. He referred to the war in South Africa as one such period of disturbance during which the rate of interest was raised following a period, 1895 and 1896, when rates were abnormally low owing to decline in trade. The normal rate he considers it to be found between the extremes of high and low. Th paper concludes as follows:

"The most probable future course of the rate of interest (providing no exceptional disturbances occur) would therefore seem to be: A fall, small, but rapid, within the next year or two; then a less rapid fall lasting possibly for several years, and gradually settling down to a general tendency to fall at a slower and slower rate."

Mr. Gunn thought the fall reached in 1896 was not likely to recur as investors now had more experience.

He pointed out the advisability of the companies investing in long-dated bonds on good properties in order that the highest rate could be earned for many years to come. There were still many op-

portunities for investing funds, and the demand is great enough to prevent the rate from falling. The speaker instanced the effect of the present almost universal good trade conditions, of the development of new nations, such as the Argentine and other South American republics, and also the effects of wars, which are not likely to disappear altogether.

Mr. Van Cise explained that the United States Government bonds earned a low rate because they were not taxable; that the debt was a comparatively small one, and that there was a forced market for them, owing to their use by the national banks as security for the circulation of notes. The large increase in various forms of investment and instalment policies under which life insurance companies became trustees for large numbers of beneficiaries, made the interest question still more important. He believed there would not be the same decline in the future in the interest rate on farm mortgages. The question was world-wide, owing to the facility with which money can now be transferred from one part of the globe to another wherever the demand for it is greatest.

Mr. T. B. Macaulay is reported to have expressed his belief that the recent rise in the rate of interest had reached its zenith, and to have given as reasons therefor the fact that the two recent wars had been concluded, and that, although the industrial affairs were still in a highly prosperous condition, there were indubitable evidences of a slackening off in commercial expansion. The recent troubles in monetary circles were financial, and not industrial, as the manufacturers were able to use all their capital without resorting to Wall street speculation. Capital was still needed in the development of the country, as shown by the large amounts of so-called undigested securities. These securities, he said, were not all bad, for while indigestion may be caused by bad food, it can also come from too much good food with a little bad. He would not attempt to prophesy the future course of the interest rate, but felt certain it would be some years before it again reached the present high point.

Mr. Charlton T. Lewis, of New York, claimed that the fundamental cause of high interest rates was the sanguine expectations of mankind that profit would come from its ventures which was responsible for and controlled a high rate of interest. This, he said, was a supreme fact, and pointed out that when men's hopes were low and the commercial spirit crushed there was no demand for the conversion of moveable capital into fixed capital, and only a low rate could be obtained. History, he said, proves this statement, for in the period from 1815-1845, the rate of interest declined to as low a point as at any time since; from 1845 to 1871 there was a great development commercially and a progressive rate of increase was shown, while from

1872-1896 there was a further depression in the commercial centers all over the world, and the rate again declined, until with the revival of men's hopes in prosperous ventures in 1896, the rate again rose. Another fallacy common to many is that abundant money produces a low rate of interest, but the speaker showed that following the great gold discoveries of 1848-9, which in three years multiplied the world's supply of gold by twelve, the minimum rate of discount of the Bank of England rose from 2 per cent. to 5 per cent., and for forty years did not again reach the lower figure. The accumulation of capital had no tendency to reduce the rate, but so long as the commercial spirit was rife and men felt that they could reap profit from their ventures they would continue to convert moveable capital into fixed capital, and the demand for still more and more capital would have its effect in an increasing interest rate. The commercial spirit was still in full vigour under present conditions with every chance of the rate going higher yet.

Professor Bottini of Milan agreed with Mr. Lewis, adding that the rate follows the law of supply and demand. He thought insurance companies should so invest their funds as to benefit more largely commercial activity. Mr. Carment, of Australia. and Mr. Barrand, of London, also joined in the discussion, the latter advancing the proposition that actuaries should acquire such familiarity with investments as would enable them to procure the highest rate, not confining themselves to securities which would just earn the requisite rate, a task which, he said, any stock broker could perform. Mr. Burn closed the discussion on his paper in a few words of thanks to those who had taken so active a part in it.

We propose to treat the above question in our next issue.

AN ACTUARIAL CURIOSITY.

MORTALITY IN THE 17TH AND 18TH CENTURIES.

One of the most interesting volumes recently published, as it is also one of the most valuable for its historical records, and graphic pictures of life and manners is, "London in the 18th Century," by Sir Walter Besant. Students of English history will not find much in the work with which they are not familiar, but the records known to them are found in a number of works, some of them quite rare, some indeed not found in any but the largest and oldest libraries. Sir Walter Besant having gleaned freely from these sources combined what he had gathered in a literary sheaf of remarkable richness.

We propose to give one chapter which presents an actuarial curiosity, but, incidentally, we may refer to the documentary evidence he publishes in regard to English life in the 18th Century as likely to open the eyes of some who recently have depicted that

period as a time of absolute intellectual and moral darkness. He gives a list of 43 London churches in which early in the 18th Century there was daily prayer, morning and evening, 12 once every day, 14 Wednesdays and Fridays, and 13 on Saturdays. In the year 1738 there were 69 Church of England Chapels where divine service was held, 28 Presbyterian, 26 Independent, 12 Baptist, and 44 other Chapels, making in all 179 Christian churches in regular use in the City of London 165 years ago. and the records show that they were well attended. That there was an appalling amount of private vice, and of revolting barbarism in prisons is well known to readers of Fielding's works, Howard's life and other authorities. But Sir Walter Besant regards some descriptions of the social conditions of the 18th Century as exaggerated, naturally so, as the chroniclers in most favour were satirists writing for effect, not for truth.

The Weekly Bills of Mortality in London began on 21st December, 1592, some of them being still extant. Out of them Maitland estimated the population of London in 1750, as 725,903. He used these documents to dispel certain vulgar errors such as, I. a common belief that there were 2 girls born to I boy; 2. that only I in a 1,000 lived to 70 years of age. He showed that 4 per cent. of the city's population reached 70 years, 2 per cent., 80 years; and I in 200 reached the age of 90. London, therefore, cannot have been as unhealthy, nor the people so generally vicious as in often represented.

The author made enquiry into the average duration of life in London of the 17th and 18th Centuries by taking Parish Registers for 2 or 3 years towards the end of the 17th Century. From the Registers the following table was arrived at, the number of entries taken was 885:

Of dea	ths at	5	years	and und	er	there	were 516.
**		10	44			years	18
**	**	20	**		10		26
"	**	30		"	20	**	66
"	"	40	**		30	**	59
**	**	50	**	"	40	"	42
	**	60	"		50	**	53
**	**	70	**	• •	60		53
**	**	80	"		70		42
**	**	90		"	80		10

Of over 90 there was not one. In other words, out of 1,000 persons born, says Sir Walter,

٩t	age	of 5	there	were	left	417,	at	age	of	50,	178	
	**	10		**		360		"			119	
	**	20		**		329		**		70	59	
	"	30		**		293		"		80	11	
	**	40		**		225				1	991	

Sir Walter puts these tables in another form. "The Hm. Table of the Institute of Actuaries takes 100,000 persons living at the age of 10, and shows how they gradually decrease until all have disappeared. Let us present our figures in the same way.

and	place then	side by side	with this 'l	Table. Thus:"	
		Actuaries'	City Parish Register,	Maitlands' all London	
	Age.	lable.	Register,	Courses 17:28-1737	

Age.	Table.	16s8.	figures, 1728-1737.
10	100,000	100,000	100,000
20	96,223	92,542	92,500
30	89,865	73,714	77,700
40	82,284	56,857	57,900
50	72,726	44,857	40,100
60	58,866	29,714	$25,500 \\ 13,300$
70	38,124	14,571	7,500
80	13,930	12,000 280	1,200
90	1.460	280	1,000

The figures are taken by the author from a Parish Register of 2 or 3 years only, without his venturing to conclude absolutely that they represent the exact average for that time of the mortality spread over the whole City of London. There may have been special reasons for the mortality of children at that time, but, he says, "we may go so far as to expect a reasonable approximation to correctness." Concerning the great mortality of children, 59 per cent. in any Parish Register, 47 per cent. in Maitland's figures, it is probable that bad air, bad drainage, and bad food must account for the loss of so many. Clearly, the weaker were killed off in infancy because we find so few deaths, only about 3 per cent., occurring between the ages 5 and 20- Between 20 and 30 there is a high average, the time which for men is the most active period of life. No doubt many of the deaths among the men were due to accidents or risks of their work. Among the women we may attribute many deaths to child-bearing, which especially belongs to the ages between twenty and thirty.

The accuracy of Sir Walter Besant's extracts of statistical records, we see every reason to regard as reliable; they tally with the information given in other chronicles of the time. As to his conclusions therefrom there may be an opening for criticism. In regard to the mortality of children we have a description in Defoe of youngsters wandering about the streets like stray dogs. In the year 1732 it is on record that, the Mayor instructed the night-watchmen to take all "children found sleeping in bulks and about ash-heaps" to be cared for by the parish authorities. The desertion of infants was carried on systematically. One was left on the doorstep of St. James Palace, and it was cared for by the Queen and named, "Caroline Augusta Matilda," but a public warning was given that this generosity would not be repeated! In 1771 a boy-baby was so left and the King had him named "George" and brought up. It was an awful time for the young of indigent parents. The sacrifice of the young boys, who were used as chimneys-sweeps, was shocking. Readers of Montgomery's poems will recall his pathetic pleas on their behalf, and many living remember seeing boys of tender years moving up and down chimneys which they often literally swept with their bruised bodies. In addition to the conditions named by Sir Walter Besant as accounting for the appalling mortality in the 17th and 18th centuries we may

name epidemics of small-pox, typhus, and other fevers, the abominations of over-crowding, and very crude ideas in regard to medical care. Quack medicines and fake remedies had numerous victims. This generation, however, is not entitled to cast stones at the superstitions current in the 18th or any century; for never before was charlatanry more rampant than it is to-day, when, by the dexterous and brazen-faced use of a few scientific phrases, or phrases having a scientific sound, the grossest frauds are practiced, not in the medical only but in other spheres. Science in its triumphant march is accompanied by a swarm of pretentious camp followers not a few of whom are doing work which brings premature claims upon life assurance companies.

PROGRESS OF CANADA.

In our issue of 18th inst., owing to a very slight omission from a head line a whole series of percentages were made to appear inaccurate. Over the line of percentages on page 1278, the words were, "Per cent. of increase," which should have been "Per cent. of increase to 1903." The words "to 1903" were accidentally omitted, hence the apparent string of errors.

The intention was, first, to show what portion of the amount in 1003 was made up out of the increase over 1871, and next to avoid such large percentages, which are apt to be confusing to the ordinary reader. For example, when such percentages are given as, 1010.0, or 1250.0, few understand that what is meant is that, the increase has amounted to 10, or 12½ times the original amount.

To put the table in more presentable form we republish it with the percentage of each increase given compared with 1871 and the other table, with the words "to 1903" added, will show what proportion the several amounts in 1903 are made up of the increase since 1871.

	1903,	1871.		P. c. of nc. 1903 ver 1871,
Area of Canada, Sq. miles	3,653,946	3,653,946		
Land cultivated, Acres	29,000,000	17,336,288	11,663,712	66.1
Mineral produc- tions	64,970,732	6,043,868	58,926,864	975.0
Letters and papers sent, No	239,971,00	49,364,160	190,606,840	386.0
Vessels through canals, Tonnage	8,572,134	4,658,227	3,913,907	84.0
Freight carried, Tons	7,513,197	3,955,620	3,557,577	89.9
Railways oper- ated, Miles	18,864	2,497	16,367	635,0
Passengers car- ried, No	20,679,974	2,700,000	17 979,974	665.0
Freight carried, Tons	42,376,527	5,576,000	36,800,527	660.0
St ipping Sea-go- ing, Tons	14,731,488	5,116,033	9,615,455	187.8
Shipping, Coast- ing, Tons	40,700,907	14,000,000	26,700,907	185.8
Shipping, Inland waters, Tons .	• 15,293,916	8,009,995	7,283,921	91.0
Total shipping, Tons	70,726,311	27,126,028	43,6 00,283	167.0

Deposits in Banks.\$423,748,777 Discounts and	68,123,931	355,624,846	522.0
Loans by Bks. \$465,658,000	86,121,800	379,546,200	440.0
Public Revenue \$ 62,739,273	19,335,561	44,403,712	229.0
Gross Expenditure\$ 48,679,197	19,293,478	29,385,719	
Public Debt, Net \$271,829,090	77,706,5.8	194,122,571	250.0
Interest on Debt.\$ 10,975,935	5,165,304	5,810,631	112.0
F. Ins. in force. \$1,083,709,935	228,453,784	855,256,151	375.0
Life Ins. in force\$508,794,371	45,825,935	462,968,436	1010.0
R. Estate Loans. \$102,690,033	7,559,723	95,130,310	1250.0
Loan Co.'s Depts.\$ 20,214,080	2,399,136	17,814,944	742.0
Imports\$241,211,770	96,092,971	145,118,799	151.0
Exp rts \$225,849,721	71,724,950	154,124,774	214.0
Total Foreign			
Trade \$457,061,494	167,817,921	299,243 573	179.0
Population \$1,350,000	3,635,024	1,714,976	47.1

AN ENGLISH FINANCIER'S VIEWS OF THE SITUATION IN CANADA.

We are favoured by an English financier, who is a member of a prominent firm in London, England, with his views regarding the situation in Canada and the prospects of this country. Our valued correspondent's impressions were, as he writes, "gathered on the spot." Having made a visit to Canada some five years ago he was in a position to estimate and describe the progress made since then.

He considers the time approaching when the surplus wheat of the United States, now available for export to England, will become a decreasing quantity, and Canada will be called upon to enlarge her supply to meet this deficiency. He is of the opinion that, the Grand Trunk Pacific will not be completed for eight years, during this interval settlers will enter the area between it and the Canadian Pacific, which will, where necessary, throw out branches to serve them. Our correspondent says: "It is a moot point whether the Canadian Pacific will not be able to keep the business even after the Grand Trunk Pacific is completed-if it ever is." This is a highly significant remark, coming as it does from so experienced, so shrewd and so disinterested an observer.

He regards Canadian Pacifics "a sound purchase at present prices," and advises investors to follow the lead of insurance companies who buy high class municipal and railway bonds. The situation in the United States is a difficult one, but he reports that the best opinion he could get was that, "the market will probably move within narrow limits all next year, but after the Presidential Election a pronounced upward move may be looked for." Still the labour question is a constant source of anxiety, and "circumstances alter so quickly in the States that factors may arise long before the Election to nullify the soundest views as to the trend of prices." Our correspondent considers that, "The near future can be profitably spent by financiers in re-organizing the concerns which were floated at extreme prices on a basis more in accord with their real merits which the present value more nearly represents." He writes, "high class securities are well worth buying at present prices. They are being quietly

bought by investors and when the public awakens to their value the supply will be so short that the rebound will be faster than the fall."

INSTITUTE OF ACTUARIES' EXAMINATIONS.

The examinations of the Institute of Actuaries will be held in the colonies in April next, from the 15th to 19th. The examinations at Toronto will be under the supervision of Mr. T. Bradshaw, F.I.A., vice-president and actuary of the Imperial Life. This position was held by the late Mr. Mc-Cabe. Mr. Bradshaw's appointment is regarded with much approval in life assurance circles. As interest in actuarial studies and pursuits is increasing it is anticipated there will be a larger number' of candidates for the much prized honours of the institute than ever before.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL FIRE INSURANCE AGENTS.

A Convention of the above association will be held at Hartford, Conn., on 20th, 21st and 22nd inst. The president of the Ætna Insurance Co, will deliver the address of welcome, and the officials of companies having headquarters in Hartford have secured a portion of one day to entertain the agents in the most approved New England manner. The Convention will be held in the Putnam Phalanx Armory. The official headquarters will be at the Allyn House. Delegates, Alternates, members and their friends who intend to be in Hartford during the Convention should promptly advise Mr. E. S. Cowles, chairman of the Hotel Committee, so that their reservations may be booked, and so the various other committees may know how many to plan for. We are advised by practically all of the Passenger Associations that an excursion rate on the round trip Certificate plan has been approved. Details can be secured from the local ticket agents.

From advices received, this year's Convention will be well attended and those in attendance will have something to remember besides the inspiration that comes from breathing the underwriting air of historic old Hartford.

A SOCIETY CONUNDRUM.—Newport, U.S., was recently shocked by an ex-waiter gaining access to the social reunions of its "upper ten." He is represented as good looking, refined in manners, and irreproachable in character, but—he had been a waiter and was recognized borrible dictu—by a lady upon whom he had attended, "tablean"! Now, why this objection to the Newport visitor? Are not all Americans free and equal! is not social equality one of the pillars of the Republic? Are not the social distinctions of the old world an abomination to Americans? We fear there is too much human nature in the people of the States, to give their social and political theories a permanent foothold, or, to allow of their conduct and these theories harmonizing.

AN ALLEGED FORM OF DANGER TO LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANIES

The Insurance Commissioner for State of Massachusetts, Mr. Cutting, in his report just issued, for 1002, wraws attention to and discusses the question of life insurance companies falling under the control of other corporations or syndicates. The possibility of this he regards as arising from the eager quest by promoters for funds to finance all kinds of enterprises, and the determined struggle to grasp every opportunity for speculation. Such conditions would, he thinks, make it no cause for wonder if covetous glances should be turned towards the massive funds of life insurance companies. What would be the result of such control, and whether the funds of such companies are imperilled by these modern methods are serious questions upon which the Commissioner "Mutual companies which may be comments. governed by their policyholders, if they exercise their rights, could not be subjected to alien interests if the insured opposed it." But, we submit that it is practically impossible for the policyholders of a large mutual life company to "exercise their right," for they are too numerous and too scattered to engage in any combined action. On the other hand the control of a stock company is obtainable by purchasing a majority of its capital stock. Mr. Cutting remarks:

"If a king of finance should start out to secure a majority of the stock of such corporations, the chances are that, in some cases, he would be successful. He might be obliged to pay more than the book value of the shares, but perhaps *control* of a company's assets would be well worth twice or thrice or more than such value. On no other theory can the figure offered for life insurance stock in some cases be accounted for, since the offers are not warranted by the surplus nor by the dividends, nor both combined."

The proceeding of such an ambitious financier, or syndicate would be, to secure a controlling interest in assets aggregating, say, \$100,000,000. Having accomplished this by purchasing enough stock, the rights of control so obtained might be transferred to a "trust," association, or trust company. The controlling trust company, or whatever it might be, would become the medium through which the investments of the controlled companies would be made, all sales of their securities would pay tribute to its treasury, all funds awaiting investment would be in its keeping, and the most valuable of their securities might be turned into cash, and then used by the controlling power for such purposes as was seen fit. All these things the Commissioner says, "are conceivable, and their accomplishment would be no greater task than some of the gigantic operations in finance of the last few years."

What such control would mean, would be, that the trust, or syndicate would control changes in by-laws, elect officers, and dictate methods. Should it seem best to the trust or syndicate controlling the stock to wreck one of the companies, Mr. Cutting remarks that:

"No power vested in policyholders, or a minority stockholder could prevent it." Let the confidence of the insured be undermined, and there would be a multitude of withdrawals or lapses, each of which would enrich the trust, as the lapsing members would abandon contingent dividends and values not matured. As a bankrupt life company might become solvent by lapses, so a rich one might become richer and better worth wrecking by a policy of management which would drive away the policyholders."

The Commissioner refers to the history of a life company formerly doing business in Boston, as proof of the feasibility of the above conditions being created, which company was rescued by the Legisature, from the grasp of parties whose operations, in an earlier report of Massachusetts, were denounced as, "if not thievery, very closely allied thereto." Mr. Cutting asks: "Is there really any danger that any trust or syndicate will attempt to so control the stock and assets of life companies, or is this simply the presentation of possibilities? He answers this question by giving an extended and highly interesting statement of what is known as "The Prudential Merger Case." This, very briefly stated, was an arrangement for increasing the capital of the "Fidelity Trust Company for," the acquisition of a controlling interest in the "Prudential Insurance Company, of America." Somewhat contradictory to this, though both statements are in the prospectus of the proposal, it is said, "While by this arrangement the Prudential Company will control the Fidelity Trust Company, the Fidelity will own a majority of the stock of the Prudential." By this remarkable arrangement, the Prudential directors control the Fidelity, and the Fidelity directors control the Prudential! Upon this merging of a life company and a trust company, a vigorous onslaught was made by the insurance department, as contrary to public policy, it would "give a close corporation a chance to manipulate the property of others without the restraint to the managers of the risk of endangering their own." The Court stopped this unique scheme being carried out, but the decision does not appear to prevent the exploitation of several insurance companies by a trust company or syndicate which might be very unfortunate for policyholders.

The question discussed by the Massachusett's Commissioner, is exciting great interest in life insurance circles. There can be no doubt that the danger he points out, will be removed, as the life companies are vitally interested in preventing policyholders losing confidence in the absolute integrity of the management. If the public acquired a conviction that the assets of any life company were being or were liable to be exploited for the aggrandisement of an outside syndicate, or trust, it would have its career rapidly cut short.

FIRE INSURANCE IN CANADA, 1902.

(FROM THE REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF INSURANCE).

Rate of Losses paid, General Expenses and Stockholders' Dividends, per cent. of Premiums received by Canadian Companies doing Fire or Marine Insurance during 1902, also the Rates of the Premiums charged per cent. of Amounts insured, and the Bate of their Assets per cent. of Amounts in force at the end of the Year, and the rate of Total Cash Expenditure per cent. of Total Cash It come.

	Nature of Business	Rate of Losses Paid per cent. of Pre- miums received.	bate of General Ex- penses per cent, of Premiums rec'd.	Rate of Dividend or Bonus to Stock- holders per cent. of Premiums received	kate of Total Cash Expenditure per cent. of Total Cash Income.	Amount of Risks taken during the Year.	Promiums charged thereon.	Rate of Premiums charged per cent of Risks taken.	Net Amount of Insurance in force at Date.	Assets	Rate of Assents per cent of Amount of lusurance in force.
Canadian Companies							\$ cts.			\$ cts.	
Anglo-American British America			32.42	2 62	80.12	24,044,786	334,873 01	$1 \cdot 39$	21,212,918	209,700	4 0.99
Different inneriou	Ocean		35.59	2.84	96.94	262,508,823	2,890,386 17	1.10	202 706 421	1,870,209 2	5 0.92
Canadian Fire					72 22						2 2.64
Equity Fire		43.14	38 50	2.35	82.10		172,295 72				
London Mutual	"	41.06	30.17	None.			544,314 59	1.63	61,987,8.13	t 28,630 1	6 1 01
Mercantile	**						87,103 57	1.36	10,172 565	264,803 (2 2.60
Ottawa Fire											
Quebec Fire	"		$34 \cdot 31$	0.74	79.99	7,520,/15	101,356 10	1 35	10,012,148	211,097 6	2 2.11
Weste: n											
	Ocean	63 67	32.95	3.39	97.61	507,539,028	5,015,677 68	0 99	314,900,003	3,334,637 2	2 1.06
Totals		58.84	33.60	3.16	93.36	891,855,251	9,671,127 98	1.08	668,460,654	7,158,994 8	2 1 07

Rate of Losses paid, and General Expenses in Canada, per cent. of Premiums received by British and American Companies doing Fire or Inland Marine Insurance in Canada during 1902, also the Rates of Premiums charged per cent. of Amounts insured.

Nature of Business	Rate of Losses paid per cent of Premi- ums received	Rate of General Expenses per cent of Premiums received,	Rate of Total Ex- penditure per cent of Premiums received.	Amount of Risks taken during the Year	Premiums charged the re on,	Rate of Premiums charged per cent of Risks taken.
British Companies				*	8	
Alliance Fire	15.20	34.11	49.30	17,483,906	193 159 93	1 10
Atlas "	49.62	26.80	76.42	20,097,712	319,567 14	
Caledo jan "	39.14	27.82	66 . 96	21,693,045	297,003 10	
Commercial Union "	34.78	27.09	61.87	35,690,398	512,509 37	1.44
Guardian	44.53	30.59	75.12	34 599,010	521,294 78	
Imperial	65.20	29.15	94.65	9,777,910	150.522 56	
Law Union and Crown	19.72	34 85	54:57	5,813,774	87,798 42	
Liverpool and London and Giobe	44 96	29.26	74 23	35,017 875	477.058 13	
London and Lancashire Fire	44 28	28.76	73 04	20,737 414	302,986 43	
Lond in Assurance	32 13	30.53	62.66	13 6 1.891	165,598 80	
Manchester	38.20	34 56	72.76	16,702,800	234,130 24	
National, of Ireland	45 03	28.06	73.09	18,804,814	311.497 70	
North British	40.96	25.58	66.54	47,113,455	635,199 01	1 35
North Briden	27.96	26 29	54 26	27,108,205	403,524 92	
Norwich Union Fire	44.36	$\frac{26}{31}$ $\frac{23}{10}$	75.46	28,929,676		
Phenix, of London	34 38	27.00	61.38	51,356,958	455,712 66	1.58
r Beenix, of London	37.21	27 22			873,028 64	
	35.46	$27 \cdot 22$ 27 · 01	64.43	80,131,730	1,123,057 23	
Scottish Union and Haciousticities for the first for the f			62.48	24,414,742	367,536 91	1.21
Sub theurauce office.	38.44	29 61	68.05	18,449,539	281,175 34	
Union Assurance " "	35.66	$30 \cdot 23$	65.89	36,157,971	386,680 56	1.48
Totals	39.22	28 42	67.64	556,692,825	8,102,041 87	1.46
American Companies			ter de sonspecieles		and the second second second second	
Atna Fire Fire and Inland Marine.	36.92	$24 \cdot 46$	61.38	19,570,953	249,707 39	1 28
Connecticut Fire Fire Fire	45.85	23.38	69.23	4,040,103	65,429 91	1.62
Hartford Fire	31.64	25.51	57.17	16,199,431	246,943 54	1.52
Home Fire	2.18	31.30	33.48	6,803,292	103 193 59	
Insurance Co. of North America Fire and Inland Marine.	38.07	31.85	69.92	17,016,052	227,707 29	
Phenix, of Brooklyn Fire	30 72	24.26	54.99	13,016,517	202,057 82	1 55
Phoenix, of Hartford "	33 75	31.01	64.75	9,178,445	166,549 95	1.81
Queen, of America	42.56	27.83	70.39	37,541,803	588,953 64	
Totals	35.65	27.40	63.05	123,366,596	1,850,543 16	1.50

ON THE GROWTH IN CANADA OF LIFE INSURANCE. ASSESSMENT INSURANCE. FRIENDLY SOCIETIES, ACCIDENT INSURANCE, EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY INSURANCE, HEALTH INSURANCE, PURE ENDOW-MENT BUSINESS, ANNUITY BUSINESS, OLD AGE PENSIONS, WORKMEN'S PENSIONS, AND OTHER OPERATIONS REQUIRING ACTUARIAL ADVICE.

BY

A. K. BLACKADAR,

Actuary. Canadian Insurance Department.

PART IV.

TABLE IX.

Accident insurance in Canada.

Year.	New	and renewed.	In force at end of year.
1892		\$ 59,086,779	\$ 51,386,752
1893		61,123,499	51,210,334
1894		58,047,696	49,369,519
1895		66,631,381	64,350,131
1896		81,024,188	72,772,955
1897		91,003,712	81,868,409
1898		106,617,360	95,679,833
1899		109,746,785	97,061,360
1900		112,391,077	102,340,333
1901		121,727,447	111,881,818
1902		190 947 900	121,685,231

Legislation in relation to employers' liability and workmen's compensation for injuries is undertaken by the various provinces. Acts are in force in Ontario, British Columbia, Manitoba, and Nova Scotia based for the most part upon the English Act.

(9) OLD AGE PENSIONS, ETC.

The granting of old age pensions or workmen's has not as yet been under the consideration of the Dominion or of any of the provincial governments.

Pension schemes have recently been adopted by several railway companies, banks, and other industrial and monetary institutions, but the movement is still in its infancy in Canada.

PROMINENT TOPICS.

A very prominent topic in THE CHRONICLE offices is the removal now in progress of the enormous mass of books, newspaper plant, desks, book cases, furniture and the indescrible, but very tangible evidences of the accumulation of office records which goes on year after year, the extent of which is never realized until all have to be removed to another building. The offices of THE CHRONICLE after this date will be in the magnificent structure recently erected by the Guardian Assurance Company, St. James St., in this city. Our local and visiting friends from other places will ever find a welcome in our new quarters where our fyles and extensive, in some features our unique library, will be at their service.

. . . .

The disturbance at Sault Ste. Marie incited by the closing down of the works seems to have been less serious than represented by some sensational reports. The offices of the company were injured by windows being smashed and some furniture damaged, the extent of which will probably not

exceed a few hundred dollars. The workshops, factories and mills containing machinery representing a cost of millions of dollars have not been damaged. Nothing short of madness of an acute type would cause workmen to destroy the means by which they, or their comrades earn their bread.

* * * *

For a large body of men to be suddenly thrown out of work without their due wages being paid was enough to exasperate them. Prompt measures ought to have been taken to pay their wages and explain the situation to the workpeople. The calling out of the militia from Toronto was prudent and justifiable, but the necessity for this appeal to the military for protection to the Soo works ought to have been avoided, as it has not only created bad feeling amongst the workmen, but given to outsiders a view prejudicial to the Dominion.

* * * *

The legal struggle over the works of the Consolidated Lake Superior Co. was inaugurated by a motion made on behalf of the Central Trust Co., and Speyer & Co., to compel the officials of the company to give up possession of the property. The case is to be argued to-morrow, Saturday, meanwhile it is reported that, the wages of the men are to be advanced, on behalf of the Government we presume, by the Canadian Bank of Commerce, the Imperial Bank and the Traders' Bank. This step would not be taken as an act of voluntary philanthropy; it has been taken it was doubtless in accordance with a business proposition from some quarter. It is also stated that half the Speyer loan to the Soo concern has been underwritten by several Philadelphia banks. The air is so thick with rumours as to suggest there being a lively imagination at work.

A statement of the condition of the National Banks in the United States on September 9 last, compared with June 9, 1903, and September 15, 1902, shows the totals of resources and liabilities at those dates to have been remarkably alike as is seen by the following comparisons:

	Sept. 9, 1903.	June 9, 1903.	Sept. 15, 1902.
	\$	\$	8
Resources and lia-			
bilities	6,310,429,966	6,286,935,106	6,113,928,912
Loans	3,481,446,772	3,415,045,751	3,280,127,480
Deposits0	3,156,333,499	3,200,993,509	3,209,273,890

The House of Commons has passed the Grand Trunk Pacific Bill after one of the most prolonged and able debates ever heard at Ottawa. The Bill stands as it did when introduced two months ago, with trifling alterations. The measure has brought into use the almost obsolete plan of public petitions, which have been rained upon the House of Commons as protests against the Grand Trunk Pacific measure in numbers, we believe, without precedent in Canada. The right of petition is a sacred one which has fallen into disuse owing to its having been abused. But it is well for Parliament to pay due respect to such manifestations of public sentiment. The Bill will now be passed upon by the Senate which body will probably amend it in some minor respects.

* * * *

The proposed adoption of a site at Point St. Charles, for a contagious diseases Hospital has called out a strong protest from local residents. One objection raised, that the ground is chronically damp and liable to be flooded, is certainly a serious one, and if the site is persisted in the most effective plans should be adopted, as devised and advised by the best experts, ought to be adopted to remove any insanitary conditions found to exist in the site and adjacent grounds.

* * * *

The burning of the Hanlan Hotel, on the Island, Toronto, shortly after a fire in an adjacent building, calls attention to the wholly inadequate fire protection on that island where a large number of wooden cottages might be swept away rapidly. The Island residents, lessees of the city, should insist upon better protection being provided against this eminent danger.

* * * *

Every lover of the highest class of music in Canada owes a debt of gratitude to His Majesty King Edward VII, for graciously consenting to the visit of the Coldstream Guards Band to this country. The very sight of the well-known uniform has given a thrill of patriotic pleasure to many thousands at Toronto, Guelph, Ottawa and this city. On the day they played at the Toronto Exhibition there were 90,000 visitors present, the larger portion of whom gave the Band such a reception as is without precedent. The men were raised shoulderhigh and carried in triumph-a rare experience for British guardsmen to be made prisoners! Here they had a splendid welcome, they were received on landing by Major Maude, on behalf of the Governor-General and the military bands played the visitors to their hotel. At the concerts here the enthusiasm was startling in its spontaneity and most impressive by its dynamic force. Five thousand auditors rose as one man to give them welcome. This enormous mass of people sang, "Rule Britannia," "The Maple Leaf For Ever," and the National Anthem with overwhelming effect in concert with the band. When the Conductor, Mr. Rogan, faced the vast audience and guided its choral outbursts there was a scene presented the like of which was never before witnessed. It will be described to the King, who will doubtless feel intensely gratified at so magnificent a display of loyalty.

The performances of the Band have been a revelation, even to some musicians. That such glorious composition's as Wagner's Overture to Tannhauser have features as varied as a drama, as full of colour as a great painting, can only be shown by such performers as the Coldstream Guards Band when under the sway of a Conductor as gifted as Mr. Rogan. To hear the highest class of musical compositions so rendered as to display their dramatic meaning and musical beauties was a revelation to all who had not heard them played by an orchestra of the highest and rarest rank. Such an experience ought, and we believe will tend to raise the standard of music in Canada, for which the country will have to thank the King.

Rotes and Items.

At Home and Abroad.

caused by eating meats that have been frozen or placed in cold storage.

THE NEW YORK LIFE has arranged to give 350 of its agents in the western States an extensive lake tour.

THE UNION BANK is reported to be negotiating for premises at Fort William, to use as a branch office.

THE TOWN OF LETHBRIDGE, Alberta, has let a contract for the construction of a waterworks' system.

THE IMPERIAL BANK is about opening a branch at Trout Lake, B.C.

OTTAWA CLEARING HOUSE.—Total for week ending Sept. 24, 1903:—Clearings, \$1,841,384; corresponding week last year \$1,680,223.

THE BANK OF OTTAWA has opened a branch at Buckingham, Quebec. Mr. J. K. LOUGH, of Ottawa, has been placed in charge for the present. Mr. C. E. Hall, of Ottawa, will be the accountant.

THE OVERHEAD WIRE HAZARD is rousing the fire companles in New York and other cities, into protests and declarations that this extra hazard will be taken into account in fixing rates.

SHELVING AND COUNTERS IN STORES have, by a recent decision, been declared not to be "permanent fixtures," in the sense intended, when such fixtures are stated to be covered by a fire policy.

THE NATIONAL CONVENTION OF LOCAL Fire Insurance Agents will be held at Hartford, on Oct. 20, 21, 22, when 300 delegates are expected to be present. The president of the Ætna will deliver the address of welcome.

THE TRAVELLERS will hold an Agents' Convention at Hartford, commencing on 6th inst. Valuable awards will be given and prizes for successful work. On the 7th, a banquetwill be held, to be attended by the had office staff and visiting delegates. COLLEGE INSURANCE COURSE.—Yale College has established a course of instruction in insurance. The topics to be treated are: History of Life Insurance; Theory of Life Insurance and Annuities; Method of Calculating Rates; Statistics and Risks; Forms of Contracts; Industrial, Fraternal and Assessment Insurance; Office and Agency Organization; Economis Relations to the Family and the State; History and Theory, including Discuss of Nature of Fire Insurance Contracts; General Definitions; Relation of Fire Insurance Business to Commerce and Trade; Crganizations and Methods.

Under the head of Fire Insurance Engineering the following subjects will be treated: Rates and Hazards; Losses and Adjustments; Investments and Interest; Marine Insurance; Steam Boiler Insurance; Employers' Liability Insurance; Accident Insurance; The Law of Insurance

The lecturers will be John M. Helcombe, vice-president Phoenix Mutual Life. John B. Lunger, vice-president Travelers; R. M. Bissell, vice-president Hartford Fire; John K. Gore, actuary Prudential; J. M. Allen, president Hartford Steam Boller; S. C. Dunham, president Travelers; A. A. Raven, president Atlantic Mutual; C. E. Gross, hrm of Gross, Hyde & Shipman; John A. McCall, president New York Life; J. W. Alexander, president Equitable; John F. Dryden, president Prudential.

Correspondence.

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

NEW YORK STOCK LETTER.

New York, September 30, 1903.

"The thing that hath been it is that which shall be; and that which is done is that which shall be done; and there is no new thing under the Sun."

People talk about the new order of things , but a glance at history shows that, after all, present events are but a repetition of those that have gone before. The craze which existed at and subsequent to the incorporation and floatation of the United States Steel Corporation, which was on February 25, 1901, finds a precedent in the conditions which existed at and subsequent to January 22, 1720, the time of the incorporation of the South Sea Company, commonly known as the South Sea Bubble. Here we find that in April of 1720, \$5,000,000 of stock was offered at 300 and \$10,000,000 was sold at that price. In July a quarterly dividend of 10 per cent, was paid, and in the same month \$5,000,000 more of stock was offered and \$7,500,000 was sold in three hours at \$400; from this the price rose till in August it reached \$1,000, but in December it had fallen to 135, when the Bank of England refusing further assistance the whole thing collapsed. During this period we are told that all sorts of schemes were incorporated: for perpetual motion; to improve the breed of horse, and one individual got up a company with a capital of \$5,000 .-000, the object of which was to be announced after the subscriptions had been made, and succeeded in taking in some \$10,000, with which he promptly decampted.

We have reverted to these events to show that the craze for speculation and the forming of huge corporations is not a new idea; people of that time never heard of "undigested securities." but they had them all the same, and as in those days matters worked themselves out, so they

may be expected to do now. It took England twenty years to recover from the effects of this craze, and the most important question of the present moment with us is how long it will take this country to recover from the craze through which it has passed. It is true that the recuperative powers of this country are marvellous, and that the intrinsic merit of a large part of corporate floatations during the past two years is great, but, when one sits down to calmly consider the figures the ordinary mind fails to comprehend them, because of their enormity. It is stated that one man and his firm have been connected with various concerns, the total capitalization of which is \$4,737,280,527; to what extent this amount would be increased by including all other recent capitalizations, it is difficult to say the point at issue is how long it will take for the country to digest the securities which have been made. Considering these facts, the spasms through which the market has passed are not surprising, on the contrary the surprise is that the effects have not been worse than are apparent, but is it over? is a question which time alone can tell.

Liquidation during the week has been urgent and persistent, but it must be admitted that the greatest pressure appeared to be from Philadelphia, Pittsburg, Cleveland, and in a somewhat lesser degree from Chicago. At times the flood was irresistible and prices fairly melted away.

The market on Saturday closed in a cloud of gloom, and Monday's opening was looked forward to with apprehension, but soon after the opening it became clear that the liquidation, for the time being at least, had been completed, and sentiment forthwith executed one of its not usual feats, and from a condition of gloom and depression changed to one of hope and a suspicion of buoyancy.

During the week the lowest prices which have been seen in the steel securities were made. The Common sold at 14% and the Preferred at 59%, while the Sinking Fund Bonds sold at 67%. That the iron market is in an unsatisfactory condition is not to be wondered at, when the labour troubles in almost all branches of manufacture and building during the past year are taken into consideration. In fact, the great wonder is that the conditions of that market are not worse than they now are. Not a few well posted men in the business believe that a slight restriction of product will keep supplies at about the limit of consumption. The settlement of the building trade strikes would undoubtedly start that line of trade into activity and make sharp demands upon manufacturers of structural iron.

The Consolidated Lake Superior matter continues to show evidences of the under-currents which exist in it. The management is strenuously fighting the foreclosure proceedings and have succeeded in having the sale of the advertised properties adjourned for one week. Present appearances are that the fight is likely to be a bitter one, but until more is known as to who is behind the various parties, no proper judgment can be made of the matter.

One of the open questions which must not be overlooked, is that with the October Term of the Supreme Court. a decision in the Northern Securities case is most likely to be handed down. What it will be, of course, no one as yet can tell, but should it be adverse to the Company the effect upon the market in its present nervous condition would undoubtedly be serious, while on the other hand should it be favourable, it would probably start an upward movement of some consequence.

Reports of earnings from railroads continue to show very handsome returns, not only for the gross but for the net as well, and official statements as to prospective business are certainly very encouraging; so far money on call continues easy, and whatever disturbance occurs in this market this season cannot now be of very long duration, although the Cotton Bills on account of the high price of the staple are not as yet coming forward as rapidly as had been hoped for.

The market opened fairly well, but as the day progressed prices began slipping away, so that at the close a large part of the improvement of yesterday had been lost, and it closes very heavy.

T. C. DELAVAN. 20 Broad Street, New York City.

NEW YORK INSURANCE LETTER.

New York, Sept. 30, 1903.

The interesting topic of conversation among the fire insurance men just now is the shortage recently discovered in the accounts of Cashier Scott, of the London Assurance Corporation in the United States Branch, in this city. It appears that the peculation had been going on for some time, but, owing to the skillful manner in which it had been concealed, the auditor had not been able to discover it. The shortage will probably reach \$20,000 or more, which will, of course, in no way affect the solidity of this great corporation. Nor can any blame attach to the management, as the books were examined at intervals by expert accountants, who, as has been said, failed to find anything wrong. Scott has a wife and two small children, and it is not as yet fully known to what purposes he applied the misappropriated funds. His method seems to have been the one common among defaulting bank accountants, that is, crediting to one party amounts received from another.

The Annual Convention of the Insurance Commissioners of the various States occurs in Baltimore this week, having begun yesterday, the 29th inst. One of the important things to come before the Convention will be a bill for the uniform regulation of the fraternal organizations. It is to be hoped that the bill will be sufficiently severe and drastic to make as safe and secure as possible the socalled insurance which is being written upon this plan. There are a few fraternals which appear to have been able to pay their obligations fully and with reasonable promptness, but there are a large number of others which should be subject to a decidedly stricter supervision. The commissioners have not been noted for accomplishing any results of great importance at their meetings, except' such as would embarrass and annoy the regular insurance companies. It is to be hoped that this meeting will do a good public service by the recommendation of an adequate uniform law to govern the operations of the fraternal associations.

Another convention of importance which is to occur in Hartford on October 30, is the meeting of the National Association of Local Fire Insurance Agents, at which an unusually large attendance is expected. We name this event among local matters, because it is the great fire insurance companies located or represented in New York that are chiefly interested in the doings of the Association. There has been a disposition among certain agents which might result in disastrous antagonism between the companies and the field men, if it is not checked by wise and prompt action. It is now thought that good counsels will prevail and that nothing precipitate or radical will be processed, or at least acted upon during the coming meeting.

It is noted that the fire companies of America, that is to say, of this city and vicinity, have been slow to spread out and begin operations in the new provincial possessions of the United States. A number have entered the Hawaiian Islands, but only one or two have as yet journeyed so far as the Philippines and very few have begun business in our new West Indian acquisition, Porto Rico. The American companies have never been so venturesome as their prototypes in England and Germany, and while their conservatism may tend to safety there is question whether good profit might not be found in some of these growing fields. Perhaps they might take a lesson from the great life insurance companies which have materially added to their business by invading nearly every civilized country of the globe.

Those agents and brokers in this city who have made a specialty of writing whiskey lines, are considerably disgruntled over the action of the Union in radically reducing the rates on these lines. It was agreed that this was a just thing to do on account of the favourable experience upon this class of risks but a lower rate will, of course, proportionately reduce the commissions to brokers and agents, and some of them will find their income from this source materially curtailed. However, such changes and reforms must be expected from time to time, as the work of equalization in rates goes on throughout the country.

QUERIST.

LONDON LETTER,

London, 16th Sept., 1903.

FINANCE.

Dear money at home and adverse political conditions in the near East still dominate the stock market, and prices the generality of cases retrogress. Consols for cash have reached a selling price of 89, a figure which would have been called impossible a few years ago. It is below the price touched during the Franco-Prussian war, when conditions were very much worse than now. The steady decline from 114 in later unities has been stopped temporarily at times, but ever and anon it has resumed its progress. It did seem that nothing below 90 would be registered, for time and time again when that quotation was neared, there was recovery. The rise in the Bank of England's minimum rate of discount from 3 to 4 per cent, to which I have referred before, was the last stroke.

Consols and other high class securities, with the rest of the marketed stocks and shares to a lesser and rather more indirect degree, always respond to the changes in the monetary position. Before the rise in the Bank rate, funds or floating credits were superabundant, in excessive supply, in fact, on the London market. Call loans over the right were frequently arranged as low as one per cent. Even then the bankers and bull brokers were left with money for which there was no immediate use. Consequently, Egypt, Argentica, Germany and Russia, and other places to which we were temporarily in debt for trade balances, etc., had no temptation to leave their funds here, and shipments of gold began, which seriously threatened the Bank of England reserve.

Protective measures were therefore instituted. The the night were frequently arranged as low as one per ct. should that be necessary to keep gold here and the directors of the august institution in Threadneedle street set to work to reduce open market balances by borrowing largely. Hence the growing stringency, and, coming on the top of declining stock markets, hence consols below 90 and everything off. Even Home Ralls with all the improvement in working and equipment which are the result of the sensational awakening, of a couple of years, when profit started drying up and dividends began to

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vanish into thin air, owing to a too conservative adherence to obsolete methods, are also down, an incipient recovery thus being cut off.

That misfortunes never come singly is a truism, and as an additional illustration take the failure of the British hop harvest together with the shortage in the world's supplies. These things coming upon a dull and depressed market in industrial shares have acted in a particularly serious way on brewery shares. The leading description has fallen away steadily during the last week. This is the more surprising because brewery shares in the United Kingdom are looked upon as a very stable and unchangeable investment, despite the too-pressing-to-be-pleasant attentions of the Legislature from time to time.

INSUBANCE.

The extent to which the insurance invasion of the United Kingdom is proceeding is well shown by a review of the colonial companies now doing more or less business here. The Canada Life is established in King William street, with A. W. Cheyne as manager for Great Britain and Ireland. Its reception has been very good on this side. The Sun Life of Canada has been doing considerable business for many years now in Queen Victoria street.

A few doors from the Canada Life is situated the British head office of the Citizens' Life of Australia. The Mutual Life of Australia is situated under the shadow of the Bank of England and has been authorized under the Life Assurance Companies' Act, to carry on life and annuity business in every form in Great Britain and Ireland.

In the particularly insurance thoroughfare of Cornhill we get the National Mutual Life of Australasia. It has appointed a special Board of Directors for the United Kingdom.

From South Africa comes the Southern Life of Cape Town and Johannesburg. Its entry here is only a sort of first step, but denotes enterprise. Sellar Bros., of Basinghall street, look after its interests. In the same way the Standard Fire and Marine of New Zealand has got its foot in at St. Michael's Alley, Cornhill, and the United and Sydney, at St. Michael's House, Cornhill. The New Zealand Insurance does a little marine underwriting in Cornhill, as also does the South British of New Zealand at Jerusalemj Chambers, Cornhill. Cherg by owl with the Standard of New Zealand in St. Michael's Alley is the small London branch of the Colonial Mutual Fire of Melbourne. Further down Cornhill at Abchurch Lane, the Bombay Fire and Marine does a little business.

But principal of all the Colonial fire and marine offices here is the Western, of Toronto, whose manager here Mr. W. B. Meikle, has done excellent service in the way of making the office known and respected. In historic 'Change Alley, another turning out of Cornhill, the British office is a familiar sight. The prompt and liberal settlement of claims in London has proved the way to SUCCESS.

---STOCK EXCHANGE NOTES.

Wednesday, p.m., Sept. 30, 1903.

Liquidation to a considerable extent was forced this week by the decline in prices, and a more active market and a larger volume of business was the result. The effect in stock prices has been to establish a decidedly lower level. In a number of cases prices touched the lowest

of the year. A gradual melting away of values was seen and continued until yesterday morning, but during the course of yesterday's trading a change in the sentiment was visible, and prices recovered decidedly. This recovery was mainly attributable to the change in the New York market which rallied. The highest prices of the recovery have not been maintained, however, and a reaction took place to-day, more particularly this afternoon. C.P.R., Twin City, Dominion Coal Common and Dominion Steel Common were the most active stocks in this week's market, and a fair business was done in Montreal Power and Detroit Railway. Twin City at one time was the weakest stock on the list, which fact was somewhat hard to explain in view of its apparent intrinsic value, and the steadily maintained increases in earnings made by the road from week to week without interruption. It is difficult to say whether the check in the decline which has taken place will be permanent. The probabilities are, however, that prices have reached a level that will, in the case of stocks of the standard companies, discount any possible eventualities. Good dividend paying stocks are now selling at most attractive levels, and no doubt, sooner or later these low prices will bring in buying that will improve the market. There has been no reason to change the oft expressed opinion as to the underlying prosperity of the country at large. Disturbances in business in some lines have, of course, occurred, largely attributable in most cases to the unsettled feeling prevailing in labour circles. There have also been unfortunate outcomes in many of the larger companies floated during the "boom period" in the stock market, and the reflex effect of over-capitalization in many of these companies is now being felt.

In our local market Dominion Coal Common has attracted a good deal of attention this week, especially in view of the fact that the usual dividend payment would have taken place on the 1st of October. No action has been taken by the Directors of the Company in connection with this matter as yet, however, and there is, of course, no accurate or official information as to what rate of dividend will in future be paid. It is conceded on all sides that a reduction will be made. The only question now to be decided is whether future payments will be made at the rate of 5 or 6 per cent. per annum. It is said that a large financial interest close to the Company is in favour of the rate being put on a 5 per cent. basis. Nova Scotia Steel Common sold ex-dividend of 3 per cent. today, and this dividend will be paid on 15th of Oct. next. C. P. R., Detroit Railway, Toronto Railway, Commercial Cable and Halifax Tram dividends are all due and payable to-morrow.

The money situation locally remains unchanged, rates for call money ruling at 51/2 per cent. In New York the rate for call money to-day was 2% per cent., and the quotation from London was 31/2 to 4 per cent.

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

· · ·	Market.	Bank.
Paris	23	3
Berlin		4
Amsterdam		34
Vienna		31
Brussels		4

C. P. R. sold down to 118 this week and then recovered to 120%, reacting again and closing with 119 bid, a net loss for the week of 2% points. A fair business was done and 4,351 shares changed hands. The earnings for the third week of September show an increase of \$66,000.

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. The Grand Trunk Railway Company's earnings for the third week of September show an increase of \$63.257,

1355

The stock quotations as compared with a week ago, are as follows:-

	A week ago.	To-day.
First Preference	113	111
Second Preference	101	991
Third Preference	507	471

Montreal Street sold at 230 this morning and closed with 230 bid, a loss of 6 points for the week on transactions involving 578 shares in all. The earnings for the week ending 26th inst. show an increase of \$5,673.06, as follows:—

		Increase.
Sunday	\$7,300.56	\$ 474.37
Monday	7,466.65	1,125 98
Tuesday	6,999 49	1,028,78
Wednesday	6,896.26	789.26
Thursday	6,445.72	476.01
Friday	6,371.39	604.53
Saturday	7,973.81	1,170.13

*

Toronto Railway has also experienced a sharp decline in price and closed with $93\frac{3}{4}$ bid, the last sales being made at 94, and the transactions for the week amounted to 407 shares. The earnings for the week ending 26th inst. show an increase of \$5,844.79, as follows:—

		Increase.
Sunday	\$4,071.25	\$ 483,97
Monday	6,555.31	1,308,43
Tuesday	5,939.16	649.42
Wednesday	6,010.11	938.31
Thursday	5,764.07	553.79
Friday	5,987.18	764.27
Saturday	7,927.26	1,146.60

* * *

Twin City was the most active stock in this week's market, and rather heavy liquidation took place in the stock. The price declined to 84%, but a recovery was made from this price to 86%. This price was not held, however, and the closing bid was 85%, a net loss of 5 full points for the week. The earnings for the third week of September show an increase of \$13,634.

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Detroit Railway was in fair demand and 1.070 shares were traded in. The closing bid was 63_{34} , a loss of $1\frac{1}{4}$ points for the week.

. . .

Toledo Railway closed with $19\frac{1}{4}$ bid, a loss of $\frac{3}{4}$ of a point on quotation for the week. The last sales were made at $19\frac{1}{2}$, and 760 shares changed hands during the week.

. . .

R. & O. was a weak spot and sold down to 72 during the decline, but recovered again to 74, and again reacted, closing with 71 bid, a net loss of 6 points for the week. The total sales for the week involved 956 shares.

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The closing bid for Montreal Power to-day was 74, a loss of 2 points on quotation for the week. This stock has held fairly firm throughout the recent weakness and decline. The volume of transactions were fairly large and 1.391 shares were traded in during the week. Dominion Steel Common sales totalled 2,480 shares, and the closing bid was $9\frac{3}{4}$, a decline of $3\frac{3}{5}$ points from last week's closing figures. The Preferred Stock was also decidedly lower, and the last sales were made at 30. The stock sold as low as 27 during the week and the transactions for the week amounted to 90 shares. The sales in the bonds amounted to \$23,000, and the last transactions took place at 62. There was no quotation for them at the close to-day.

. . .

Nova Scotia Steel Common is now selling ex-dividend of 3 per cent., and closed with 72% bid, a loss of 13% points for the week. The total transactions amounted to 765 shares.

* *

Dominion Coal Common opened at 74 this week, but declined to $69\frac{1}{2}$ and closed with $69\frac{1}{4}$ bid, a net loss for the week of $4\frac{1}{4}$ points on sales of 2,920 shares. In the Preferred Stock 6 shares changed hands, the last sale being made at 109 $\frac{3}{4}$.

	Per cent.
Call money in Montreal,	51
Call money in New York	23
Call money in London	31 to 4
Bank of England rate	4
Consols	88.3
Demand Sterling	915
60 days' Sight Sterling	876

* * * .

Thursday, p.m., October 1, 1903.

To-day's market was not active but prices improved somewhat, and a better tone was evident at the close. C. P. R. opened at 119 and sold up to 120¼, and the last sale was made at 120¼. Twin City opened at 85 and sold up to 86¼, and 86¼ was bid at the close. Toronto Street changed hands between 93½ and 94¼, and Montreal Power sold up to 75, and 75 was bid at the close. Only one sale of Dominion Coal Common was made to-day, 25 shares changing hands at 70, and 70 was bid at the close. Nova Scotia Steel Common sold down to 71 X.D., and recovered at 73 X.D., the closing bid being 73 X.D. Detroit Railway sold at 63¼ this morning and was bid 63¼ at the close. There was no particular interest in the trading, but a slight improvement in sentiment was evident.

MONTREAL STOCK EXCHANGE SALES

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1903.

MORNING BOARD.

No. of Share		Frice	No. of Shares	Price.
175	C.P.R		10 Montreal Power	74
125		120	25 Dom. Coal Com,	74 ¥
50	"	119%	30 N. S. Steel	72
50	Rich. & Ontario	72	5 "	71
25		72 14	3 Dom. Coal Pref 7¢ Detroit Ry	
550	Twin City	85	2 Bank of Montreal	210 1
75	Toronto St. Ry	86 93 1/2	2 Quebec Bank	250%
	AI	TERNO	IN BOARD.	
100	C.P.R	119%	32 Merchants Bank	
50	"	120	25 Toronto Street	\$4
100	"	120%	50 "	
50	"	120 1/8 86 1/4	4 Bank of Montreal	250%

INSURANCE AND FINANCE CHRONICLE.

The gross traffic earnings of the Grand Trunk Canadian Pacific, Duluth, South Shore & Atlantic railways, and the Montreal, Toronto, Halifax, Twin City, Winnipeg and Havana street railways, up to the most recent date obtainable, compared with the corresponding period for 1901 and 1902, were as follows:

ollows :				
	GRAND TR	UNK RAILWA	Υ.	
Vear to date.	1901	1902.	1903.	Increase
ug. 31 \$	18,687,088	\$19,659,360 \$	23,146,621 \$	3.487,261
Week ending.	1901.	1902.	1903.	Increase
ept. 7	637,593	64-,590	787,031	1 39 441
14	591,° 53 (04,280	663,852	762,984	99,132
21	(04,280	672,473	735,730	63,257
		PACIFIC RAIL	WAY	
		1902.	1903.	Increas
Year to date.	1901.	\$24,051,000		
ng. 31				,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,
	GROSS TR	AFFIC EARNIN		1
Week ending	1901.	1902.	1903.	Increase
ept. 7	713,000	801,000	895,000	94,000 59,000
14	748,000	8 10,000 822,000	888,000	66,000
21	762,000	322,000		
	NET TRA	FFIC EARNIN	GS.	
	1901.	1902.	1903.	Inc.
Month.	\$ 648,196	\$820,461	\$ 916,771	\$96,310
ebruary	620,680	674,361	742,741	68,380
arch	948,335 1,180,808	1,054,915	1,258,564	203,649
pril	1,180,808	1,291,705	1,493,173	201,467 216,465
ay	1,010,284	1,166,892 846,737	1,383,357	399,318
ine	1,121,432	1,175,711	1, 318, 527	142,816
ugust	1,305,632	1,362,901		
eptember	1,352,732	1,410,755		
ctober	1,467,039	1,616,134		
ovember	1,440,878	1,558,240		
ecember	1,568,691	1,672,442		
Total	13,760,574	14,651,255		
DUL		SHORE &	ATLANTIC.	Income
Week ending.	1901.	1902.	1903.	Increase
ept. 7	55,325	52,612	56, 562	3,950
14	53,460	56,626	54,712	Dec. 1,914
		Conser Date	WAY	
		STREET RAIL		Increas
Month.	1901.	\$32,000	1903. \$44,515	\$12,45
anuary	\$26,333	27,315	*4412.2	
ebruary	24,779 21,422	27,484		
arch	19,641	26,711		
day	20,992	27,738		
une	23,917	28,630		
uly		41,:02 31,832		
ugust		32,077		
September		33.024		
November	31,512	40,138		
December		45,931		
		Careta D.		
		STREET RAI		Incres .
Month.	1901.	1932.	\$ 168,882	\$15,508
	142,886	\$ 153,374	139,065	6,906
ebruary	126,999	1 32,1 59	168,987	14,093
April	144,121	152,525	170,050	17,525
May	160,612	173,902		Dec. 3,124
[une	180,370	182,875	205.454	22,579
Juiy	177,583	194,194	212,337 208,586	18,143
August	179,586	195,610	100,300	1.,970
September.	182,584	179.433		
October November.	153,568	170,834		
Dece aber.	156,711	173.012		
				Increase
	. 1001	1002	1903.	Ancrea
Week endin			1903.	fincres 6,804
Week endin		48 44.166	1903. 51,470 50,808 49,780	6,804 7,178 3,784

		TO STREET			1
Month-	1901.	1902.		003	Increase \$24,'01 -
anuary	\$ 121,657	\$ 137,13		6, 539	18,306
february	109,512	141,6		9.913	18 262
pril	123,006	132,0		2,276	29,329
fay	127,961	145.1	95 17	4,519	29,324
une	138,154	132,2	66 1	7.593	45.727
uly	149,631	162,0	72 10	2,629	37.517
ugust	153.481	165,1		85,822	20,657
eptember.	160,432	195,6			
october	152,514	155,1			
ovember.	130,616	151.0			
December.	145,398	169,6			1
Week end				003.	Increase
sept. 7	55,85			68,599 71,698	17,471
21		26.		43,581	6,714
	TWIN CITY				Inc
Month		1901.	1002.	\$310,0%4	Inc. \$ 39, 599
			\$270,485 243,150	280,047	37,797
	••••		277.575	317,839	40,264
			261,456	315,165	51,009
April		230,454 249,863	295,153	337,699	42.156
			308,131	346,018	37,887
			335,715	362,702	26,987
			321,842	363,379	41,737
			337.965	3-31313	
			302,634		
			307,756		
			329,686		
	ending.	1901.	1902.	1903.	Inc
		101,834	112,669	116,404	3,735
Sept. 7		66,416	60,101	76,300	7,199
		\$8,945	66,838	80,412	13,634
		2	6 6 6	1.00	
	HALIFAX EI			., LID.	
Mont		Railway Rea	lgo2	1903	. Inc
			\$10,764	\$10,86	
			8,498		
			9,761		
			10,026	10.51	\$ 507
			11,126	10,768	8 Dec. 358
			11,528		4 316
			11,528	15,94	2 1,107
August		. 16,330	17.177	16,78	6 Dec. 391
September		16,547	17,494		
October		. 12,581	11,382		
		. 9.675	9.947		
			11,207		
Week	nding.	1901.	1902		
		. 3,179	4,914		
21			and the second sec	4,82	5 Dec. 419
		Lighting Re 1901	Ig02	1003	+n s
January		\$10,716	12,969	\$13,683	\$ 714
February		9,418	9,529	11,924	2, 95
March		8,392	9,207	10,523	1,316
A maril		8,092	9,066	10,156	
May		7.392	8,403	9,020	61
June		6, 593	7,055	8,368	1,31,
July		6,738	7.336	8.351	1,019
August		7.774	8,028	8,826	79
September		8,960	9,139		
October		11,689	11,528		
November .		12,870	12,838		
December				-	
		A ELECTRIC			Increas
Jan		902. 597	1903		14,40
5 · · ·	87.	,014	104,647		17.63
March			1 20, 389		18,43
April		435	119,974		21,53
May			130,925		10,21
June		223	122,125		30.90
July		,500	127,918	3	23,44
		,092	136,570		27,47
Aug					
Aug		1902.	1903		
Aug Week en	ding 1	1902.	31,48	0	6,73
Aug Week en Sept. 6	ding 24			8	6,73 5, 0 6,10

STOCK LIST

Reported for THE CHRONICLE by R. Wilson-Smith, Meldrum & Co., 151 St. James Street, Wontreal. Corrected to September 30th, 1903, P. M.

BANKS.	Capital subscribed	Capital paid up.	Reserve Fund.	Per centage of Rest to paid up Capital.p	Par value of one share.	Market value of one share.	Dividend for last half year.	Revenue per cent. on investment at present prices.	Clos pric (per c on pa	ent	When Dividend payable.
							Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Asked.	Bid.	
British North America Canadian Bank of Commerce Dominion Eastern Townshipe Eachange Bank of Yarmouth	4,366,666 8,700,000 2,996,450 2,000,000 280,000	4,866,666 8,700,000 2,989,38,2 2,000,000 266,896	1,898,000 3,000,000 2,989,382 1,200,000 50,000	36,50 31,25 100.00 60.00 18.74	243 50 50 50 70		3 21 31 31 31				April Oot. June Dee Fe MayAug Nor January July February Aug
Hamilton Hochelaga Imperial La Banque Nationale	2,000,000 2,000,000	2,000,000 1,200,000 2,986,166 1,500,000	1,700,000 1,050,000 2 630,000 400,000	85.00 52.50 85.00 26.06	100 100 100 30		5 5 3				June Dec June Dec June Dec May Nov
Merchants Bank of P. K.I Merchants Bank of Canada Metropolitan Bank Molsons Montreal	300,013 6,000,000 1,00,000	300,013 6,000,000 1,000,000 2,500,000 13,379,240	205,000 2,9.00,000 1,000,100 2,250,000	58.33 45.00 100.00 86.00	82.44 100 100 50	153 00 98 00	4 3) 4)	4 57 4 59	153 196		January July June Dec April Oct
Monfrea New Brotia Ontario Ottawa People's Bank of Halifax.	500,000 2,000,000 1,500,000	500,000 9,000,000 1,500,000 2,329,040 700,000	9,000,000 750,000 3,000,000 500,000 2.161,138 300,000	70,00 150.00 150.00 33.33 93.25 42.85	200 100 100 100 100 20		6 41 3 41 3				June Dec January Jul February Aug June Dec June Dec
People's Bank of N. B Provincial Bank of Canada Quebee Royal Sovareign Bank	180,000 871,662 2,500,000	180,000 819,273 2,500,000 2,741,017 1,299,276	165,000 800,000 2 869 500 324 807	91.66 32.00 100.00 25.02	150 100 100 100	121 00	4 14 3 4 14	4 95	121	119	March Sept January July June Dec February Aug Feb. MayAug. Not
Standard St. Stephens . St. Hyacinthe St. Johns	1,000,000 200,000 504,600 500,200 2,500,000	1,000,000 200,000 329,465 265,057 2,500,000	850,000 45,000 75,000 10,000 2,600,000	85.00 22,50 22,90 3,80 104,00	50 100 100 100 100	230 00	5 24 3 5 & 11	4 78	230	220	April Oct April Oct February Aug June Dee
Traders	1,500.000 1,205,900 2,448 5 00 500,000 300,000	1,500,000 1,205,900 2,407,220 434,889 300,000	350,000 825,000 712,290 150,000 50,000	25,92 68,41 29,00 36,85 16,66	100 50 100 100 75	142 00	3	4 22	142	134	June Dec Feb. Aug February Aug June Dec Feb. Aug
MISCELLANEOUS STOCKS. Rell Telephone	6,000,000 2,700,000 1,475,000 85,500,000 15,000,00 12,500,000	5,395 37 / 2,700,000 1,475,000 85,500,000 13,333,300 12,500,000	953,361 265,000 3,947,232		100 100 100 100 100	119 75 64 50	2* 1* 5 3 1}* & 1†	5 01 6 20	119] 611	i19 631	Jan. Apl. Jul. Oct Jan. Apl. Jul. Oct January July April Oct Jan. Apl. July Oct Mh. June Spt. De
Dominion Coal Preferred do Common pominion Cotton Mills pom, Iron & Steel Com do Pfd	3,000,000 15,000,006 3,033,600 20,000,000	3,000,000 15,000,000 3,038,60 20,000,000 5,000,000	592,844		100 100 100 100 100	109 00 69 87 10 50	4 2	7 33 11 42	69 (10 j	109	Jan. Jui Jan. Apl. Jul. Oet Mar. Jun. Sep. Dec April Octobe
Duluth S. S. & Atlantic do Pfd Halifax Tramway CoX.D Hamilton Electric St. Com do Pfd	12,000,000 10,000,000 1 500,000 1,500,000 2,250,000	$\begin{array}{c} 12,000,000\\ 10,000,000\\ 1,350,000\\ 1,500,000\\ 2,250,000\end{array}$	107,178	8.00	100 100 100 100 100	95 00	14• 24	5 26	95	85	Jan.Apl.July Oc January Jul
ntercolonial Coal Co do Preferred laurentide Pulp Marconi Wireless Telegraph Co Worthnane Gotton Co	500,000 250,000 1,600,000 5,000,000	500,000 219,700 1,600,000 1,500,000 750,000		12.06	100 100 100 5 100 100						Jan, March Jul; Feb. Aug
Montreal Cotton Co Montreal Light, Ht, & Pwr. Co Montreal Street Rallway Montreal Telegraph X. D. National Salt Com do Pfd	2,500,000 17,000,000 6,000,000 2,000,000 7,000,000 5,000,000	2,000,000	798, 92		100 100 50 40 100	120 00 74 50 117 50	12	7 50 5 38 4 25	120 74 j 235	110 74 230	Mar, Jun Sep. De Feb. MayAug. No Feb. MayAug. No Jan Apl. Jul. Oct June Decembe
North-West Land, Com do Pref N. Scotia Steel & Coal Co, Cm do Ifd Oglivie Flour Mills Co Ifd do Pfd	3,090,000	1,467,681 5,642,925 3,090.000 1.130.000 1,250,000			25 50 100 100 100	73 00	32.	8 21 	73		Jan.Apl.July Oc April Octobe
Richelieu & Ont. Nav. Co St John Street Railway Torento street Railway Torento street Railway Twn City Rapid Transit Co do Preferred Window Hotel Window Hotel	15.010.000	5,000,000 5,000,000 5,000,000 15,010,000 3,000,000 600,000	39,642 1,086,287 2,163,50	7.98	100 100 100 100 100 100 100	73 00 120 00 19 37 94 00 85 75 250 00	3 3 1 1 1 8	8 21 5 00 6 31 5 83 2 00	73 120 194 94 85] 250	71	May Nov. Mar.Jun.Sep De

· Quarterly.

† Bonus of 1 per cent. ; Monthly. ? Price per Share. § Annual.

BONDS	Rate of Interest per annum	Amount outstanding.	When Interest due	Where Interest payable.	Date of Redemption.	Latest quota- tions.	REMARAS.
Commercial Cable Coupon	:	\$18,000,000	1 Jan. 1 Apl. 1 July 1 Oct.	New York or London	1 Jan., 2397.	96 96	0.0
Can. Colored Cotton Co	5	2,000,000 200,000		Bank of Montreal, Mnotreal Merchants Bank of Can., Montreal	2 Apl., 1902. 1 May, 1917	100	
Sell Telephone Co Cominion Coal Co Cominion Cotton Co		1,200.000 2,704,500 & 308,200	1 Meb. 1 Sep.	Bank of Montreal, Montreal Bank of Montreal, Montreal	1 Apl., 1925. 1 Mch., 1913 1 Jan., 1916		Redeemable at 110 Redeemable at 110
Dominion Iron & Steel Co	5	\$ 8,000,000	1 Jan. 1 July	Bank of Montreal, Montreal	1 July, 1929	62	Redeemable at 11
falifar Tramway Co Intercolonial Coal Co Aurentide Pulp Montmorency C tton Montmorency C tton	5 5 5 4	\$ 600,000 344,000 1,200,000 1,000,000 880,074	1 Apl. 1 Oct.	Bk, of N. Scotia, Hal. or Montreal Company's Office, Montreal	1 Apl., 1918	106} 100	Redeemable at 10
Montreal Street Ry. Co		292,000 681,333 1,500,000	1 Meh. 1 Sep. 1 Feb. 1 Aug. 1 May 1 Nov.	" " Montreat, London, Eng.	1 Meh., 1908 1 Aug., 1922. 1 May, 1922.	105;	
Nova Scotia Steel & Coal Co	6	2,500,000	1 Jan, 1 July	Union Bank, Halifax, or Bank of Nova Scotia, Mo't'l or T'r'nto	1 July, 1931.	119	1.00
gilvie Flour Mills Co	6	1,000,000	1 June 1 Dec	Bank of Montreal, Montreal	1 June, 1932.	115	Redeemable at 11 after June 1912
tichellen & Ont. Nav. Co. Koyal Electric Co St. John Kallway Coronto Kallway	44 5 44	471,580 £ 130,900 \$ 675,900 6 0,000 2,509,953	1 Apl. 1 Oct.		1 Meh., 1915 Oct., 1914 . 1 May, 1925. 1 July, 1914 . 31 Aug., 1921	103	Redeemable at lin Redeemable at lin 5 p.c. redeemable yearly after int
Windsor H stel Winnipeg Elec Street Railway Foledo Ry. & Light Co	41 5 5 5 5	340,000 1,000,000 700,000 5,185,000 4,000,000	1 Jan. 1 July 1 Jan. 1 July I Jan. 1 July	W ndsor Hotel, Montreal	2 July, 1912 1 Jan., 1927 1 July, 1912 1 July, 1909 1 July, 1909 1 July, 1909		

STOCK LIST-Continued.

RATIO, ra 'shi ough, n. [Contraction of "rate I owe." S. T.] 1. A mathematical relationship existing between two numbers-the factor which, multiplied by the one, will produce the other. Thus the "expense ratio" which a company's business may reveal is that figure which, if premiums are multiplied thereby, will produce the amount of expense. In like manner, the loss ratio is that figure which, upon similar treatment as to the premium income, will produce the loss payments. If these two operations have not more than put a finish to the premium, the complementary factor of the remaining fragment is commonly referred to as the ratio of profit. This, however, is not the true, genuine, accept-no-other-without-this-signature underwriting profit, as may be learned to the inquirer's edification by reference to U. P. aforesaid, and hereinafter alphabetically arranged. 2. The man who discovered and made first use of the mathematical ratio might well be classed among public benefactors. Without a knowledge of this readily applicable test of relationship, the hopeless complexity of underwriting would make that profession

very unpopular, to say the least. That the discoverer of ratios should have given the fruit of his mind to the world without demanding a royalty for its use seems strange. If, even now, he will present himself, with duly authentic proof of his claims, the insurance companies will gladly show a very substantial appreciation of his valuable service. [This offer is made only after a careful examination of the vital statistics of Alexandria on the Nile reveals that the interested party went out of the mathematical business considerably B. C.]

"Absolutely the most astounding, amazing and dumbfounding aggregation of wonder-provoking ratios ever congregated under one canvas"—From bill board of the P. B. A. Circus (3 rings, 2 rings, 1 ring, ringless).

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"You didn't insult him, did you?" asked his wife. "Insult him? No! I gave him my application for a policy, blame him?"--"Chicago Tribune."

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New York Stock Exchange Quotations Revised every Wednesday, by CUMMINGS & Co., 20 Broad Street, New York City.

	Capital	Last Dividend	Date	Range Highest	for 1902 Lowest	Range Highest	for 1903	CLO Wednesday Bid	SING , Sept. 16 Asked
Amal. Copper Co. American Uar & Foundry Co. American Car & Foundry Co., Frof'd American Somelting & Refining Co., American Smelting & Refining Co., Prof'd	25,000,000	p.e.	Aug. 31, '03 Aug. 1, '03 Aug. 1, '03 July 7, '03	37 93 36 49	53 284 854 26 384 90	754 414 92 304 52 984	37 24 78 16 41 88	38 5 24 75 15 40 86	394 245 754 16 404 864
American Sugar Refining Atchison, Topeka & Santa Pe. Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe, Prefd. Baitimore & Ohio. Baitimore & Ohio, Prefd.	36,968,000 102,000,000 114,199,500 47,874,000 59,227,000	21	Apr. 2, '03 June 1, '03 Aug. 2, '03 Sept. 2, '03 Sept. 2, '03	135 96 106 118 99	113) 74) 95) 95) 92)	132 89 101 103 96	109 54 87 1 85	109) 61 87) 72) 85)	1094 615 874 73 88
Br oklyn Rapid Transit Co Canada Southern Central of New Jerzey. Canadian Pacific	38,770,000 15,000,000 27,260,800 65,000,000 60,533,400	i 2 2	ug. 2, '03 Aug. 1, '03 Apr. 1, '03 Nov. 26, '02	724 97 198 145 57	64} 80 163 112j 43	70 78 188 137 54	31) 50 152 118 28	31 597 152 1193 285	31 59 160 119 28
hicago & Alton Chicago & Eastern Ill. Dicago & Gareat Western Dicago & Great Western Chicago & Milwaukee & St. Paul	19,542,800 6,197,800 6,830,700 21,315,500 55,821,800	3 13 33	July 1, '02 April 1, '03 April 23, '03	45 220 151 35 198	30 134 137 221 160	37 214 136 28] 183]	20 ĝ 194 110 13 133	204 110 144 137	20] 130 147 137
Chicago, St. Paul, Minn. & Omaha Chicago & Northwestern. Chicago Term. Trans. Chicago Term. Trans., Prof'd.	21,403,300 39,116,300 13,000,000 17,000,000	3 34	Feb. 19, '03 July 1, '08	1708 271 248 44	140 204 15 30	162 223 19 344	114) 154 8 21	115 156 9 16	124 1565 94 18
leveland, Cincinnati, Chicago & St. Louis leveland, Lorain & Wheeling, Prefd jolorado Fuel and Iron jolorado Southern commercial Cable	28,000,000 5,000,000 23,000,000 30,995,000 13,333,300	2 13 23	Sept. 1, '03 Apr. 15, '02 July 1, '03	108) 96 110) 35) 180	93 90 733 14 152	97 118 814 31 175	67) 65 41 11 140	68 75 40 12 140	70 85 43 12] 166
do. Profd belaware & Hudson Canal belaware & Garado Canal benver & Rio Grande R. R. Co.	7,000,000 6,000,000 35,000,000 26,200,000 38,000,000	11	Sept. 15, '03 July 20, '03	25 48 184 297 51	13 29 153 231 36	19‡ 38‡ 182 272 41}	9½ 18 150 225 20	91 161 160 225 201	10 17 1504 230 204
enver & Eio Grande, Pref'd uluth, S. S. & Atlantic rle, First Prefd. rie, Second Pref'd	44,345,800 12,000,000 112,280,700 42,860,100 16,000,000	24 1}	July 15, '03 Aug. 31, '03	96] 24 44 75 63	88 10 32 62 44	89 19 42 73 57	72 6 22 64 44	68) 74 254 64 44)	684 253 644 45
linois Central. wa Central. Com do Prof'd. ake Erie & Western	10,421,600 79,200,000 8,522,900 5,673,100 11,840,000	1	July 18, '03 Sept. 1, '03	106 173 51 90 71	66 137 37 65 49	105 148 45 75 51	66 126 16 39 25	66 1273 18 33 25	69 1281 19 35 30
ong Island ouisville & Nashville Ianhattan Ry Ieropolitan Street Ry. Jexican Central	12,000,000 55,000,000 48,000,000 52,000,000 47,953,100	2 1 1 1	Mar. 2, '96 Aug. 10,03 July 1,03 July 15, '03	91/ 159 150 174 31	73 102 128 135 21	81) 128) 154 141 27)	55 96 128 101 101	55 96j 128j 101j 105	60 97 128 101 101 101
linn, & St. Louis	6,000,000 14,000,000 55,280,300 13,000,000	24	July 15, '03	115 81 35 69	105 36 4 24 51	109 78 29 63	45 47 181 121	45 50 171 34)	50 51 18 34
issonri Pacifie atlonal R. R. of Mexico ew York Central. ew York, Chicago, Sf. Louis, Com do. do. Ist. Pref'd do. do, 2nd. Pref'd	76,049,100 33,350,000 15+,000,000 14,000,000 5,-00,000 11,000,000	24 1} 5 3	July 20, '03 July 15, '0 3 Mar. 1, '03 Mar 2, '03	125 20 168 57 124 100	96] 12 147 40 119 80	1152 244 154 442 120 865	86 17 114 20 105 70	87 114 20 100 52	871 1141 219 110 54
iew York, Ontario and Western Sorfolk and Western forfolk & Western Profd. ennsylvania K. R. selife Mail	58,113,900 66,000,000 23,000,000 202,178,450 20,000,000	1 2 3 1	June 19, '03 Aug. 21, '03 May 29, '03 Dec. 1, '99	38 80] 98 170 49]	281 55 90 147 341	35 764 924 157 403	19) 569 861 116 17	204 569 861 1164 175	201 576 881 117 18
eading. First Pref'd. Awding. Second Pr≎f'd oek island. utland. Pref'd . Lawrence & Adirondack.	69,900,000 28,000,000 42,000,000 68,728,600 4,239,100 1,300,000	2	Sept.10, '03 Jan. 15, '03 Mar. 1, '02	784 902 807 509 1254 141	52 79 60 33 68 30	68 88 78 53 72	42 74 69 20	444 74 614 23	45 75 63 23
Louis & San Fran. Louis & San Fran, 2nd Pref'd. Louis & South western, Com do. Pref'd. uthern Pacific	27,307,800 14,277,000 16,500,000 20,000,000 197,382,100	r	Mar. 2, '03 Sept. 2, '03	854 80 80 81	533 691 221 551 58	89 77 28 64 6*	50 44 12 32 39	50 44 13 30 104	45 13) 31 40)
utiers R. R. mas Pacific Nedo, st. Louis & Western do. Pref'd win City Rapid Transit	119,900,000 38,760,000 9,995,000 10,000,000 15,010,000	ij	Aug. 15, '03	41 52 31 48 128	18 23 10 28 65	374 43 31 47 125	17 21 16j 25 85j	18) 222 144 25 85	18] 23] 17 276 86]
alon Pacific, bion Pacific, Pr.st uited Stats teel, nited Steel, Pref'd	104,042,400 99,514,700 550,000,000 550,000,000 28,000,000		Oct. 1, '03 Oct. 1, '03 June 30, '02 Aug. 15, '03	113 941 461 971 58	76 81 24 69	1084 95 394 894 324	68 85 15 68 17	69 834 154 604 175	694 864 16 604
Ya ash Pro'd Fetera g & Lake Erie, Com do Ist, Pro'd Vieconein Contral do Prof'd	24,000,000 97,370,000 20,000,000 4,986,900 16,168,800 11,267,200	=	July 15, '02	54 97 29 66 29 54	51 14 14	521 93 271 61 284 544	30 801 14 41 16 35	29) 80) 14) 41 16) 35	18 29 j 81 15 45 16 90

f Extra dividend |per con

. Endividend.

z Rights.

THE INSURANCE COMMISSIONER of the United States will hold their annual convention this month, when they will consider what is the proper reserve for liability insurance and under what regulations should the fraternais be placed.

AN. AUSTRALIAN CORRESPONDENT of "The Monetary Times," says that Queensland recently offered a 31/2 per cent. loan for 96 in the London market, but could only dispose of a third of the amount. They have been building unprofitable State-owned railways, engaging in foolish unremunerative public works, flirting with what is thought to be socialism, but really pandering to the lazy and inefficient, and the punishment has arrived by the refutal of Englishmen to advance any more money for the experiments. "Australia," he says, "has a great future before it, but this future can only be unlocked by common sense, hard work, and frugality, three principles not over popular just now." The lesson can be studied with advantage by Canadians.

The Sovereign Bank of Canada. TORONTO HEAD OFFICE,

GENERAL MANAGER'S OFFICE. MONTREAL

\$2.000,000 00 Capital Authorized Capital Paid Up Reserve Fund

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D. M. STEWART, General Manager.

NATIONAL TRUST CO., LIMITED.

Reserve \$300,000 Cai Ital Faid Up \$1,000,000 ACTS AS

Executor, Administrator and Trustee, Liquidator and Assignce for the benefit of creditors, Trustee for bond issues of Corporations and Company

Receives funds in Trust, allowing 4 per cent, per annum, payable hal yearly, upon amounts of \$550,00 and upwares lodged with the Company from one to five years.

Members of the Legal and National professions bringing any business to Company are always retained in the professional care thereof. this C

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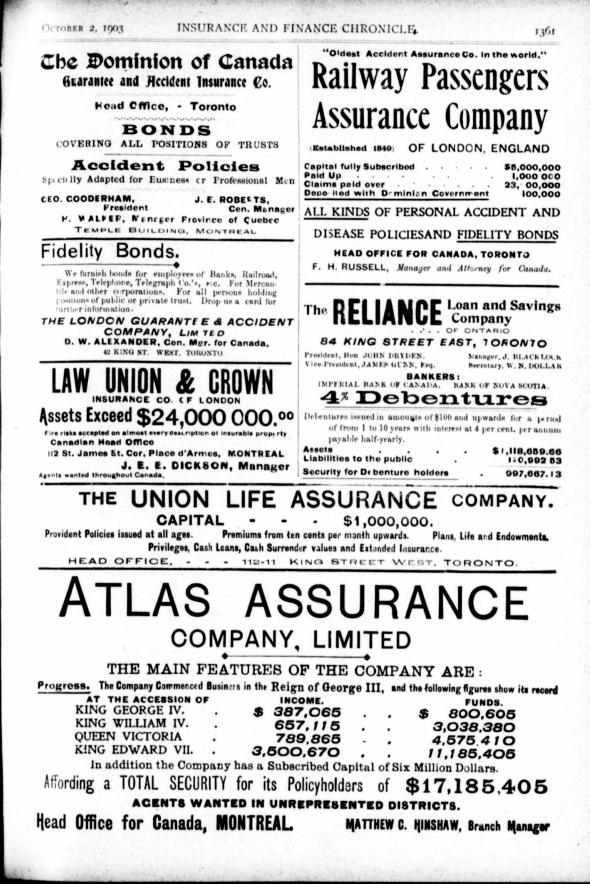


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> HAMILTON ; 43 King Street W. W. T. MILLEN, District Manager



INSURANCE AND FINANCE CHRONICLE.

OCTOBER 2, 1903



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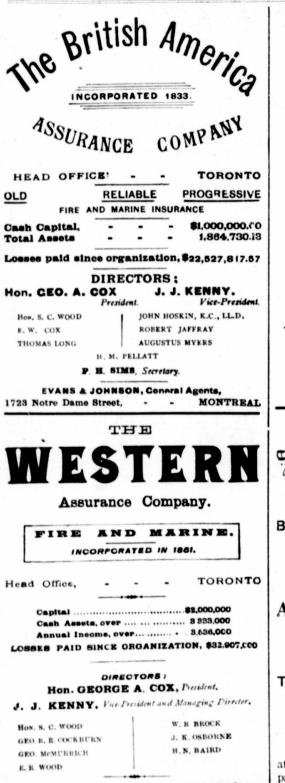






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Beg to announce the Immediate issue of an entire new accident policy

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OCTOBER 2, 1903

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OUEEN INSURANCE CO.

ABSOLUTE SECURITY

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WM. MACKAY, Asst. Manager

J. H. LABELLE 2nd Asst. Manager

NOEL H. TORROP, Superintendent Life Department

THE FEDERAL LIFE

Assurance Company

Hamilton, Canada. Head Office.

\$2,512,387.81 Capital and Assets 1.037,647.33 Surplus to Policyholders 201,411.68 Paid Policyholders in 1902 MOST DESIRABLE POLICY CONTRACTS.

DAVID DEXTER.

J. K. MCCUTCHEON,

President and Managing Director.

Supt. of Agencies

Provincial Manager. H. RUSSEL POPHAM,

->>>ESTABLISHED 1825.

Standard Life Assurance Company

OF EDINBURGH, SCOTLAND.

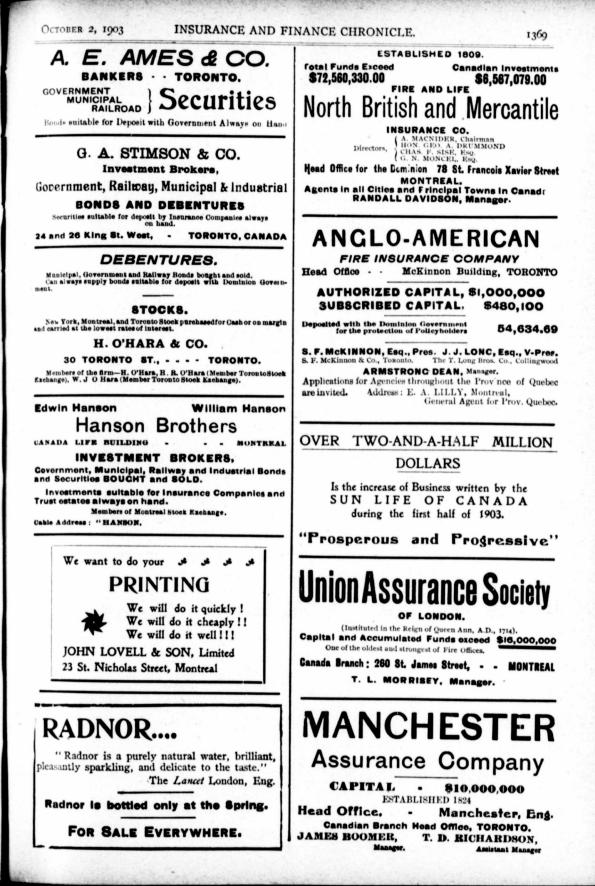
HEAD OFFICE FOR CANADA : MONTREAL.

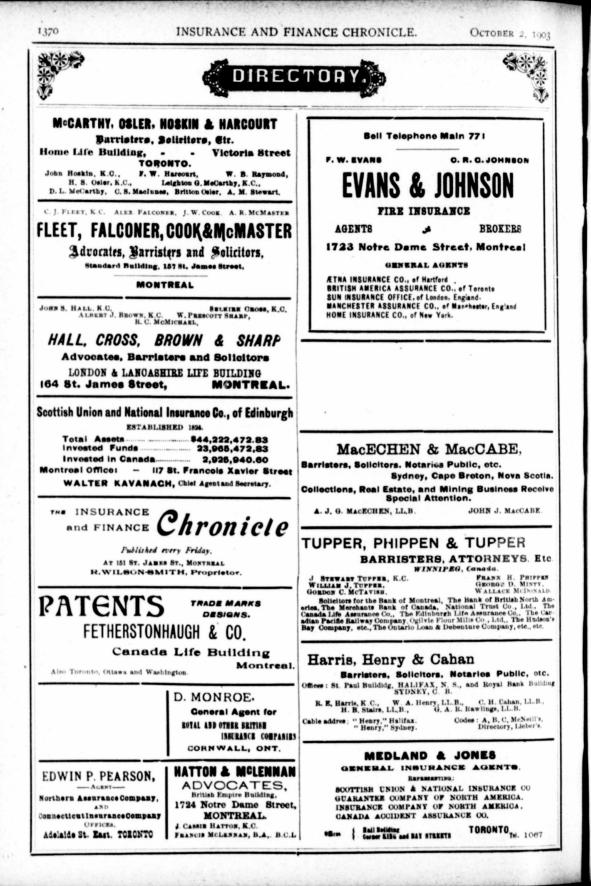
INVESTED FUNDS,		\$51,764 ,362
INVESTMENTS UNDER	CANADIAN BRANCH,	15,500,000
DEPOSITED WITH CA	NADIAN GOVERNMENT, over	5,910,446

Assurances effected on first class lives Without Medical Examination"

Apply for full particulars,

G. H. ALLEN, General Inspector. Maritine Provinces, Halifax, NS. D M. McGOUN. Manager for Canada







OCTOBER 2, 1903

\$8,700.000 3,000,000

B. E. WALKER, General Manager

16 Exchange Place

Nanaimo

Nelson New Westminster

OF COMMERCE

The Halifax Banking Co.

HEAD OFFICE : TORONTO

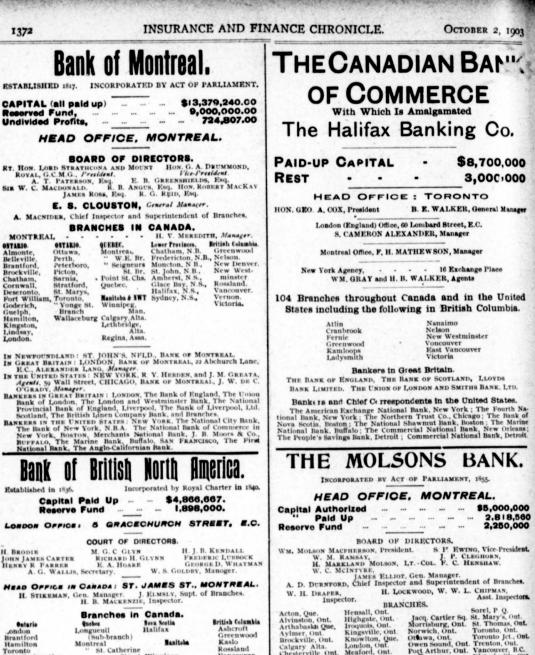
London (England) Office, 60 Lombard Street, E.C.

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and J. M. GREATA, REAL, J. W. DE C. ngland, The Uniou iank, The National of Liverpool, Ltd. anches. Vational City Bank, k of Commerce in . B. Moors & Co., NCISCO, The First	THE BANK OF ENGLAND, THE BANK OF SCOTLAND, LLOYDS BANK J. MITED. THE UNION OF LONDON AND SMITHS BANK, LTD. Bank: Is and Chief C: rrespondents in the United States. The American Exchange National Bank, New York ; The Fourth Na- tional Bank, New York ; The Northern Trust Co., Chicago ; The Bank of Nova Scotia, Boston ; The National Shawmut Bank, Moston ; The Marine National Bank, Juffalo ; The Commercial National Bank, New Orleans; The People's Savings Bank, Detroit ; Commercial National Bank, Detroit.
IMELICA. ral Charter in 1840. 6,667. 8,000.	THE MOLSONS BANK. INCORPORATED BY ACT OF PARLIAMENT, 1855. HEAD OFFICE, MONTREAL. Capital Authorized 55,000,000 Paid Up 2,818,560

New York Agency,

Atlin Cranbrook

" Paid			- 2,818,560
Reserve Fund			2,250,000
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