The Chronicle

Banking, Insurance and Finance

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MONTREAL, MARCH 31, 1916.

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BANK DEPOSITS AND SAVINGS.

In the February bank statement, the notice deposits of the banks are reported at the new high level of \$728,242,609, a gain of over \$57 millions during the past twelve months. These deposits are frequently called savings deposits, but the term is misleading, since there are included under this heading, funds which cannot by any stretch of the imagination be regarded as "savings" in the ordinary acceptation of that word. Notice deposits include, for instance, funds on deposit for a period pending the completion of business transactions; they certainly include at the present time large amounts of funds which under normal circumstances would be actively employed elsewhere. Many loan and financial corporations for some time past have been carrying exceedingly heavy cash balances, because of the desirability and even necessity that in such unsettled times as these they should be ready for any possible emergency, and should be in a position to meet satisfactorily the new conditions whereby they are not, as heretofore, able to sell freely their debentures in Great Britain, but, on the contrary, have to face the possibility of present debenture holders desiring not to continue their holdings on the maturity of the existing debentures. True, the experience of the established Canadian mor gages in this last respect has thus far been very satisfactory. Debenture holders on the other side of the Atlantic have shown themselves as unwilling to surrender their debentures unless absolutely compelled to do so. But in this connection it has to be remembered that the severest pressure of the war financially has not yet been felt on the other side, and the organisations having maturing obligations need to guide themselves accordingly.

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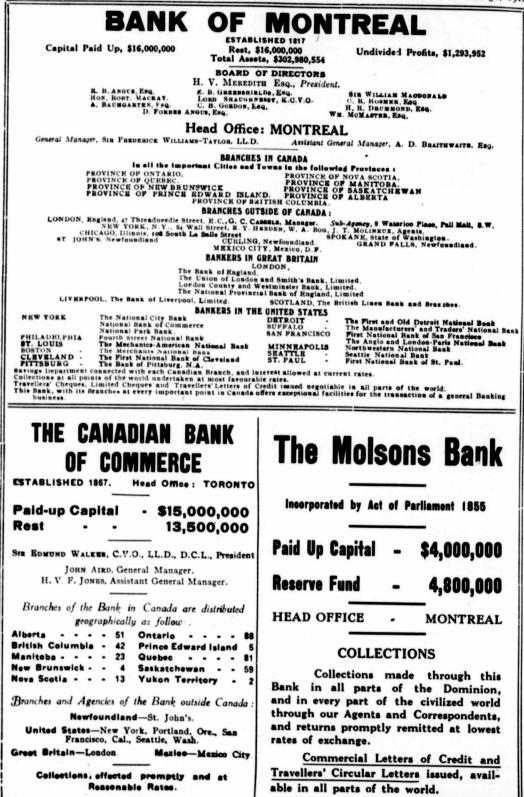
The fact is, then, that the increase of \$57 millions in the notice deposits of the banks during the last twelve months cannot be considered as a measure of the "savings" of the Canadian people at the present time. This fact is a good deal more than a mere statistical point; it is a matter of considerable importance. A wrong idea on this point gives a wrong impression as to the extent to which we in Canada are fulfilling the present-day obligation of thriftiness and capital accumulation. Every day observation suggests that if something is being done

in this direction, we have not yet begun to approach the maximum of effort that is possible without any particular hardship. In numerous useless ways, money is being squandered, and no one class of the community is less guilty than another. It is true that there has been a considerable restriction of expenditures by many people, owing to lessening of incomes, but this sort of thing is thrift by *force majeure*, which is by no means the real thing. With an improvement in financial circumstances, it is fair to think that the former scale of expenditures would in many cases be resumed.

* * *

The main reason for the present condition of affairs-a partial effort towards economy and thrift, but by no means the utmost effort-is to be found in the fact that the realities of the case, the real reasons why for present-day thrift have not yet been brought home to the bulk of Canadians. Our people have not yet been taught to appreciate the connection between the individual's thrift, the Dominion's financial well-being, and the needs of the British Empire and the Allies. It is now reported that the Dominion Government proposes to undertake a publicity campaign in the interests of thrift. We hope that in any work of this kind the point will be clearly made that the financial burdens now being assumed by the Dominion call for the individual's thrift, and that this is as essential as the sending of further overseas contingents, if Canada is to do her full measure of duty with the Allies, while at the same time preserving her fmancial stability. What is wanted is that points of this kind shall be clearly brought out in simple language that he who runs may read. It is essential that the patriotic reason why should be given and that there should be no chance to confound thrift with meanness-as it often is in theory, and, perhaps sometimes, in practice. Says the Round Table apropos of the problem of thrift in Great Britain :--- "We can increase our national income only by greater production; we can reduce our civilian expenditure only by greater saving. If those who can produce do not produce all they can and if those who can save do not save all they can, it is we and not our enemies who will first reach economic exhaustion. In a war of exhaustion, a nation which produces and saves with all its strength will beat a nation which produces and saves with half or three-quarters of its strength." Are we in Canada yet utilising even half our strength in this connection?

MONTREAL, MARCH 31, 1916



The Chronicle

Banking, Insurance and Finance

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MONTREAL, FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 1916.

THE FEBRUARY BANK STATEMENT.

The deposits of the public in the Canadian banks show a satisfactory recovery for the month of February, after their sudden decline in January owing to the payment of subscriptions to the Dominion War Loan. Growth is the more marked in the case of the notice deposits, which record a new high level of \$728,242,609, a gain during February of \$13,978,123. The gain in demand deposits is \$2,822,741 to \$389,825,667. The advance for the month in both classes of deposits is thus nearly \$16 millions, a figure which is the more satisfactory in view of the fact that instalments paid up on the War Loan during February approximated about ten millions. It is to be expected that the substantial gain in deposits recorded last month will be the precursor of further large advances in the totals of the banks' deposits during the current year. The new borrowing in New York, and the marketing of the balance of last year's crops, together with the continued manufacture of munitions should have a notable effect in this connection.

DECLINE IN GOVERNMENT BALANCES.

Apart from this gain in public deposits, the movements indicated by the February statement are not particularly striking. The Dominion Government's balances slid down rather rapidly during the month by about \$17 millions to \$48,451,647 and there was also a falling off in the foreign deposits of nearly \$4 millions to \$116,675,028. Circulation shows an expansion of \$2 1-2 millions to \$113,528,237 and another indication of a pickingup of commercial activity is to be found in a gain of \$2,372,689 in Canadian current loans and discounts. Canadian call loans are down \$635,534 to \$81,949,125. Call loans outside Canada expanded to the high figure of \$139,138,651. There is a decrease of nearly \$6 millions in foreign current loans.

NEW YORK BALANCES AT HIGH LEVEL.

At the end of February, the banks' New York first-class fighting men."

balances stood at the exceptionally high figure of \$70,999,213, or more than double their total a year previously. The effect of the new loan and of the exportation of the balance of last year's crops will be, of course, considerably to increase these balances. But it is thought in some quarters that 'they will soon be heavily drawn upon in connection with the financing by the banks of the Imperial Munitions Board.

The banks' security holdings continue to increase, considerable additions amounting to over \$3 millions, having been made during February to investments in Canadian municipal and foreign public securities.

During last month, the banks' high standard of reserves was fully maintained. Immediately available reserves of specie and Dominion notes, deposits in the Central Gold Reserve and to secure the note issues, net bank balances abroad and foreign call loans, at the end of February were in the proportion of 31.8 per cent. to the note circulation and deposits of all kinds, this being the same proportion as at the end of January.

MR. H. A. RICHARDSON ON WEST INDIES TRADE.

Mr. H. A. Richardson, general manager of the Bank of Nova Scotia, has returned from a tour of inspection of the Bank's branches in the West Indies on which tour he was accompanied by two of the Bank's directors and by Mr. W. P. Hunt, manager at Montreal. Mr. Richardson states that Cuba is at present enjoying great prosperity, having had a trade balance in her favor last year of over \$87 millions while this year it will be over \$100 millions. It is on sugar particularly that the present prosperity of the Island is based.

"Jamaica, in which we as Canadians are naturally more interested, possesses great possibilities, but is handicapped somewhat by lack of capital, says Mr. Richardson. "It would be greatly in the interests of the two countries if we had a trade agent stationed permanently at Kingston, with quarters sufficiently large for a representative exhibit of Canadian goods. When the steamship situation becomes normal it will be necessary also to improve the transportation facilities between Jamaica and the Atlantic ports if we are to reap the advantage of the very considerable trade possibilities which are in sight. In addition to high prices for her other products, Jamaica has profited considerably owing to the falling off in the world's supply of dyes. Logwood, which of late years has been slow of sale at \pounds_2 ros. a ton, is now in active demand at £6 and upwards per ton, and, of course, Jamaica is profiting largely by high prices for sugar and rum.

"They are as keen and active in their desire to aid the mother country in the war as we are," says Mr. Richardson. "They have sent several thousand native troops, and are steadily preparing further drafts of men The negroes are of fine physique, pronounced in their loyalty and make first-class fighting men."

The Bank of British North America	The Merchants' Ban of Canada Head Office - MONTREAL
Paid-up Capital, \$4,866,666.66	Capital Paid-up \$7,000 Reserve Fund and Undivided Profits - 7,245
Reserve Fund, - 3,017,333.33 <i>Head Office</i> :	BOARD OF DIRECTORS : SIR H. MONTAGU ALLAN, C.V.O., President K. W. BLACKWELL, Vice-President THOS. LONG ANDREW A. ALLAN ALEX. BARNET C. C. BALLANTYNE G. L. CAI
5 GRACECHURCH STREET, LONDON, E.C. J. DODDS, Secretary W. S. GOLDBY, Manager	F. ORR LEWIS F. HOWARD WILSON A. B. EVAN A J. DAWES E. F. HEBDEN, General Manager T. E. MERRETT, Superintendent of Branches and Chief Inspector
COURT OF DIRECTORS	A GENERAL BANKING BUSINESS TRANSAC
F. R. S. Balfour E. Geoffrey Hoare J. H. Brodie Frederic Lubbock J. H. Mayne Campbell C. W., Tomkinson E. A. Hoare G. D. Whatman	Extending from the Atlantic to the Pacific SAVINGS DEPARTMENT AT ALL BRANCI Deposits received and Interest allowed at best current rates
Head Office in Canada : ST. JAMES ST., MONTREAL H. B. MACKENZIE, General Manager	New York Agency: 63 and 65 WALL
J. ANDERSON, Superintendent of Branches. H.A. HARVEY, Superintendent of Eastern Branches, Montreal. J. McEACHERN, Superintendent of Central Branches, Winnipeg. O. R. ROWLEY, Chief Inspector. A. S. HALL, Inspector of Branch Returns. J. H. GILLARD and N. V. R. HUUS, Inspectors, Montreal. This Bank has Branches in all the principal Cities of Canada, including Dawson City (Y.T.), and Agencies at New York and San Francisco in the United States. Agents and Correspondents in every part of the world. Collections Made at Lowest Rates. Drafts, Money Orders, Circular Letters of Credit and Travellers' Cheques issued, Megotiable anywhere.	A state of the same will be payable at the fraction of the same will be payable at the fracting of the same will be payable at the fracting of the same wi
G. B. GERRARD, Manager, MONTREAL BRANCH	Toronto, 22nd March, 1916.

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MONTREAL, MARCH 31, 1916

COMPARATIVE ABSTRACT OF THE BANK STATEMENT, FEBRUARY, 1916.

(Compiled by The Chronicle).

	Feb. 29.	Jan. 31,	Feb. 28,	Month's Movement.	Month's Movement.	Year's
	1916.	1916.	1915.	1916.	1915.	Movement.
Assets.			a	-\$ 2,052,316	+\$ 57,655	+\$ 2.052.316
STRATE		\$ 69,553,888	\$ 66,125,031		+ 442,820	+ 14,703,134
Dominion Notes	153,431,005	151,950,407	138,727,871	1 100 000	- 1.700,000	+ 5,210,000
Deposit in Central Gold Reserve	10,460,000	11,860,000	5,250,000		- 208,863	+ 3,403,957
Notes of other Banks	14,308,723	14, 199, 675	10,904,766		+ 1,272,321	+ 17,924,556
Cheques on other Banks	52,284,451	48,977,334	34,359,895		+ 1,212,021	+ 16,864
Deposit to secure Note issues	6,751,846	6,777,700	6,734,982	25,854		+ 10,001
Deposits with and balances due				402.157	+ 298,151	+ 4,241,344
other Banks in Canada	10,938,462	11,341,619	6,697,118			+ 8,078,896
Due from Banks, etc., in U.K	21.434.365	27,704,937	13,355,469			
Due from Banks, etc., elsewhere	70,999,213	68,883,948	32,729,208			
Dom. and Prov. Securities	29,018,482	30,098,441	11,502,375			
Can. Mun. For. Pub. Securities	44.503.218	41,746,948	25,338,736			
Rlwy. & other Bonds & Stocks	68,663,288	67,695,848	74,158,271	+ 967,440		
Total Securities held	143,184,988	139,541,237	110,999,382			
Call Loans in Canada	81,949,125	82,584,659	67,591,769			
Call Loans outside Canada	139,138,651	134,248,552	89,890,982			+ 49,247,669
Total Call and Short Loans	221.087.776	216,833,211	157,482,751	+ 4,254,565	+ 5,531,219	+ 63,605,025
Current Loans and Discounts						10 700 007
in Canada	760.873,181	758,500,492	771.635,208	+ 2,372,689	+ 1,516,297	- 10,762,027
Current Loans and Discounts		,				
	56.099.719	61,986,845	43,661,379	- 5,887,126		
outside. Total Current Loans & Discounts		820,487,337		-3,514,437		
Total Current Loans & Discounts	12.015.808	11,847,268				
Loans to Dominion Government		3,231,040			+ 24,639	
Loans to Provincial Governments	35,149,915	32,015,371			+ 2,485,098	
Loans to Cities, Towns, etc	48,980,590	48,728,110			+ 392,586	+ 1,627,733
Bank Premises	1,715,324,703	1,710,734,153		+ 4,590,550	- 3,732,917	+190,272,618
TOTAL ASSETS	1,710,024,700	1,710,701,100	1,020,002,000			
Liabilities.				1	5 +\$ 596,693	+\$15,738,845
Notes in Circulation	\$ 113,528,237	\$ 111,029,572				
Due to Dominion Government.	48,451,647	65,436,384				
Due to Provincial Governments.	23,888,363	23,372,710	22,785,399	9 + 515,653	- 11,000	+ 1,102,001
Deposits in Canada, payable					1 1 100 14	+ 58,410,488
on demand	389,825,667	387,002,920	3 331,415,179	9 + 2,822,741	1 + 1,498,449	+ 00,410,400
Deposits in Canada, payable					1 1 100 10	+ 57,153,996
after notice	728,242,609	714,264,480				
Total Deposits of Public in Canada			2 1,002,503,793	2 + 15,800,864	+ 5,626,580	+115,504,404
Deposits elsewhere than in	.,,,					
Canada	116,675,028	120.534.96	6 92,092,034	4 - 3,859,938		
Total deposits, other than Govt			8 1.094,595,82	6 + 12,940,920		
Deposits & Bal.,other Can. Banks				7 + 229,774		
Due to Banks & Correspts. in U.K					3 - 2,004,92	3 - 8,856,621
Due to Banks& Correspts. in U.K.		0,010,000				
Due to Banks and Correspts	17,289,076	15.053.78	4 11.008.51	7 + 2.235,292		0 + 6,280,559
elsewhere	1.473,000,100				7 + 2,586,92	5 + 191,920,655
TOTAL LIABILITIES	1,410,000,100	1,110,101,00	.,			
Capital, etc.			1 k			0 0 000 070
Capital paid up	\$114,216,719	\$113,989,85	4 \$113,976,73		5 + 1,19	
Parama Fund	112,457,333			4		- 770,321
Reserve Fund					0 + 85,38	2 - 5,585
Loans to Directors & their firm	115,301,997					4 + 16,264,269
Greatest Circulation in Month.	110,001,991	1 120,224,80	01 00,001,10			the set of

THE BANKS' MUNITIONS CREDIT.

The \$75,000,000 credit advanced by the banks for the financing of war orders in Canada for the Allies has been finally arranged within the last week and is now ready to be used by the Imperial Munitions Board. Each bank retains as a deposit the amount of the credit advanced, and the fund will be checked out from each bank pro rata to the amount of the contribution to the credit. It is stated that the banks receive 5 per cent. interest and a small commission for the use of their funds.

Mr. Lloyd George, the British Minister of Munitions, recently cabled Sir Robert Borden as follows in regard to this arrangement:—"I desire to convey to you and to Sir Thomas White an expression of sincere thanks and admiration for the magnificent way in which Canada has helped the common cause by coming forward with the fresh offer of a

large credit for the purchase of munitions. I should like to thank the directors and managers of the Canadian banks, through whose patriotism and public spirit the credit was enabled to be arranged."

In acknowledging the receipt of the cable, Sir Robert Borden replied: "I hardly need to assure you that to the utmost extent of our ability the Government and the people of Canada are prepared to co-operate with His Majesty's Government in every effort to meet the emergencies of the existing situation."

An inconclusive and makeshift peace would in our judgment be disastrous—not least to the business communities of the civilized world.—London cable, N. Y. Evening Post.

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THE CHRONICLE



THE NEW LOAN: SIR FREDERICK WILLIAMS-TAYLOR'S VIEWS.

At the close of last week, on the issue of the Dominion Government's new loan in the United States, an important statement regarding it was made by Sir Frederick Williams-Taylor, general manager of the Bank of Montreal. This statement, in addition to showing clearly the factors governing the issue price of the new loan, contains wise advice on the subject of borrowings generally, and it is accordingly here reproduced:—

Without hesitation or reservation I express the opinion that the terms of the Canadian Government loan now before the American public reflect the greatest possible credit upon Canada. It is indeed an achievement to have floated this loan at a price that in view of its magnitude cannot properly be criticized by the most captious. No other foreign country in the world could borrow on such favorable terms in the United States.

"As it is only one man in thousands who follows market conditions, but as every citizen of the Dominion is concerned, it may be of public interest to give my reason for this emphatic statement.

"In opening negotiations in New York for a loan of this nature, the Government was obviously faced with two outstanding influences each with a most important bearing not only upon the amount procurable in Wall Street, but upon the price of the loan.

AN ADVERSE FACTOR.

"First, it is regrettably true that the Anglo-French loan has been non-successful in the sense that it has not even yet reached the hands of permanent investors, and has been selling at a serious discount under the issue price. This means that these greatest international creditors and other foreign borrowers seeking loans in the U. S. must of necessity feel the influence of this adverse factor.

"When the terms of the Canada loan were first under discussion, the Anglo-French loan was selling on a 6½ per cent. interest basis yield to the purchaser. Notwithstanding this fact, Sir Thomas White has been able to float that portion of his loan, viz., \$25,000,000 five-year five per cents. corresponding thus closely with the Anglo-French loan—on a 5.10 per cent. basis, or 1.40 per cent. better terms to the borrower than the market price of the Anglo-French loan.

"If the average price of the three loans is taken, it will be found that the interest basis yield to the investor is 5.36 per cent., whereas the Anglo-French loan was issued on a 5.45 per cent. interest basis yield to the investor, or a difference in favor of the Canadian loan of .09 per cent. The underwriting of the Anglo-French loan was open to practically everyone and on the underwriting price, viz., 96, the difference in Canada's bargain would widen to over $\frac{1}{2}$ of 1 per cent.

"Second, in comparing the New York loan with our recent domestic loan, we find that the former, *i.e.*, the New York loan, has been floated, as I say, at an average of 5.36 per cent. interest basis yield to the investor, as compared with 5.48 per cent. interest basis yield to the investor in the case of the domestic loan. In other words, the Dominion of Canada floated in a foreign country in time of war a loan three times as large as the largest loan the Dominion ever attempted in the London market

at .12 per cent. better than our recent \$50,000,000 patriotic loan.

THE TENDER SYSTEM.

"There is another point Canadian provincial and municipal borrowers can note with advantage, and it is this: The lay mind, not unnaturally, asks why the Government does not resort to the tender The answer is, they know better. Exsystem. perience long ago taught important and continuous borrowers throughout the world that there is no form of finance more expensive in the end than loans sold, as it were, by public auction. A striking example, per contra, is that of the Canadian Pacific Railway, whose 4 per cent. perpetual debenture stock has long enjoyed one of the broadest markets on the London Stock Exchange, and at prices to make many European nations envious. This result has been achieved not merely because of the high intrinsic merit of the securities, but because each sale by the company has been effected by negotiation and not by competitive process.

"In other words, it is the best of policies not to drive too hard a bargain—to strike a happy medium between what is termed a right price and an attractive price. This clearly is what the Dominion Government have aimed at in this instance, as in previous instances in London, and the result of the public issue will doubtless prove that Sir Thomas White's judgment has been good.

"This loan will in the natural order of things contribute towards correcting New York exchange, which has been adverse to Canada for many months."

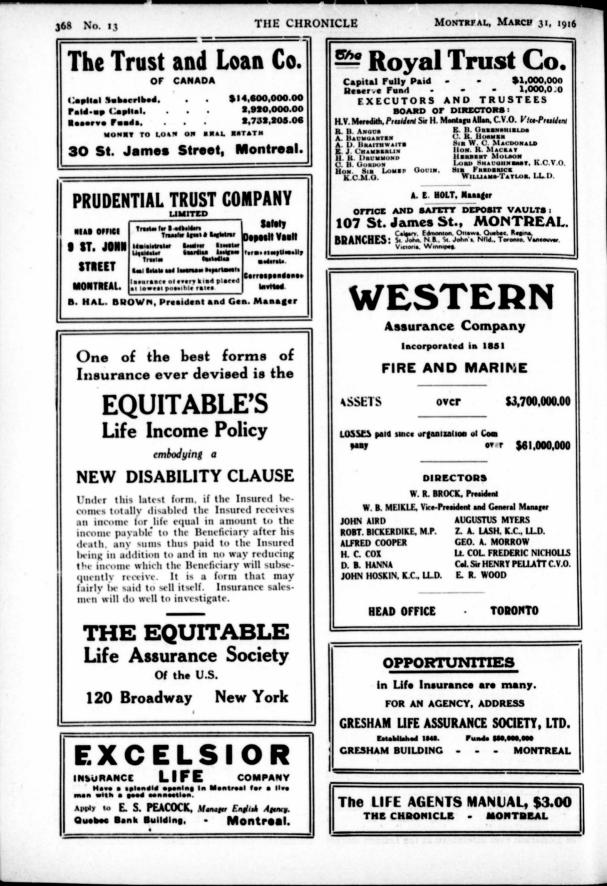


Dividend at the rate of THIRTEEN per cent. per annum upon the Capital Stock of this Bank has this day been declared for the quarter ending 29th April, 1916, and that the same will be payable at the Head Office in this City, and at its branches on and after Monday, the 1st day of May, 1916, to Shareholders of record of 21st April, 1916.

By Order of the Board,

GEO. P. SCHOLFIELD, General Manager.

Toronto, March 28th, 1916.



FIRE PREMIUMS AND TAXATION IN MONTREAL, 1915.

THE CHRONICLE publishes this week on page 371 its annual statement showing (1) the amount of fire insurance premiums upon risks in the city received by the fire companies doing business in Montreal in 1915, and (2) the details of the taxation levied upon the fire companies by the City. The total premiums received last year by the fire companies in Montreal were \$2,881,955, compared with \$3,101,784 in 1914, \$2,934,551 in 1913 and \$2,645,-684 in 1912. That this sharp decrease of about \$220,000 should be recorded last year in Montreal premiums is scarcely surprising in view of the depressed conditions of general business throughout practically the whole year-the light stocks of merchandise, due to disinclination or inability to obtain or carry larger in view of the uncertain outlook, the dislocation in manufacture, and for some time at least, the poor retail trade. Furthermore, building in 1915 was extremely restricted. As regards munition plants, which within the last few months have helped to offset the fall in premium income from commercial risks, it must be borne in mind that many of the plants in the Montreal neighbourhood which are busy in this direction, are not within the limits of the City and accordingly are not included in the present tables.

BASIS OF THE TAXATION.

The basis of the tax upon premiums (fixed by the Legislature in 1911) is a one per cent. straight tax upon the premiums with a minimum tax of \$200. As will be in recollection, an attempt was made by the City at the recent session of the Que. bec Legislature to double up the tax on premiums to two per cent., but happily the good sense of the Legislative Council prevented this new and gross imposition upon the fire companies. The existing taxation is entirely indefensible on any ground of equity. The companies get nothing in return for it. The only excuse for the tax is that it is easily collectable. What constantly makes the situation in regard to this tax the more galling is that the nondescript array of unlicensed insurance organisations which ridiculous legislation permits to maintain unfair competition with the licensed companies, come boldly into the City, get business here and are not asked for a cent in the shape of taxation. Including the tax towards the upkeep of the Fire Commissioner's office, the City's special taxation upon the fire companies amounted last year to \$38,068 compared with \$39,465 in 1914.

Seven companies did a business in Montreal last year involving premiums of \$100,000 and upwards, compared with eight in the previous year. They were in the order given:—Royal, Guardian, North British, Phoenix of London, Liverpool & London & Globe, Mount Royal and Commercial Union.

CANADIAN FIRE RECORD

Specially compiled by The Chronicle.

FIRE AT TORONTO.

A fire occurred on the 27th instant on the premises of Brown & Staunton, stationers, 77 Bay Street, Toronto. The other occupant of the building was L. J. Babayan, dealer in oriental rugs, on which the insurance is stated to be as follows:—

North Brit. & Mer.\$17,500	Law Union & Rock.\$10,000
Continental 5,000	Phœnix of London. 10,000
Union of Paris 5,000	\$37,500

Loss about 50 p.c.

				E	BO	W	N AND	STAUNTON						
Atlas.							\$2.500	Irish	&				801	ns .\$5,000
Royal.	٠		٠		٠	٠	4,000		•	•	•	•	•	
Employ	e	s.,	٠	•	•	•	4,000							\$15,500

Loss, total.

VANCOUVER, B.C.—Two hay sheds on Main Street occupied by Rupert, Ross, Rushford Hay and Grain Company and owned by R. V. Palmer, destroyed with 2,800 bales of hay and 5 carloads of straw, March 17. Loss \$10,000 partly insured. Premises of Vancouver Creamery and John Kents. adjoining also destroyed with wagon and buggiey Building not insured.

KINGSTON, ONT.—By the fire which occurred on the 25th instant in the Hotel Frontenac, Kingston, Ont., the following companies are interested:— Northern, \$5,000; Norwich Union, \$5,000; North America, \$2,500; Economical, \$2,500. Total, \$15,-000. Loss about 50 per cent.

LONDON, ONT.—Halfway Garage owned by Springsteen & Company, destroyed, March 26, with apartments occupied by Dr. Higley, G. W. Muckle and G. Evans. Three automobiles also destroyed. Loss to garage \$16,000. Insurance on building \$6,000.

MONTREAL, QUE.—Home of M. Therrien, 909 Desjardins Street badly damaged and home of Chas. Cantois, lower flat, damaged by smoke and water. Loss \$1,000. Origin, defective electric wiring.

Home of J. R. Marshall at 2236 Hutchison Street and H. Southgate, at 2238, badly damaged, March 22. Origin unknown.

House at 524 St. Catherine Street West damaged to extent of \$900, March 25. Origin, smouldering cigarette.

Store of R. Saad at 2882 St. Hubert Street considerably damaged, March 26. Loss, \$3,000 covered by insurance.

LEAMINGTON, ONT.—Livery barn of Mr. Heatherington in village of Wheatley, completely destroyed with part of contents, March 22. Loss about \$3,500 with \$1,500 insurance.

WINNIPEG, MAN.—G.T.P. freight sheds on York Avenue damaged to extent of \$2,000, March 23. Origin, spontaneous combustion in unclaimed baggage room.

PARRY SOUND, ONT.—No. 1 shrapnel house of Canadian Explosives at Nobel destroyed March 27. Fire originated from electric motor.

27. Fire originated from core Pleasant street rent-HALIFAX, N.S.—Building on Pleasant street rented by A. Dombalagian as a boarding house, destroyed, March 26. Six foreigners killed.

AYLMER, ONT.—Elgin Club damaged to extent of \$1,000, March 24, and offices and plant of the "Tribune" suffered \$2,000 damage.



FIRE PREMIUMS AND TAXATION IN MONTREAL, 1915.

Company.	Premiums, 1914.	Premiums, 1915.	1% Tax.	Fire Com. 2-3 of Expenses.	Total.
			\$ 200.00	\$ 10.83	\$ 210.83
adia	\$ 6,229.39	\$ 5,571.81 50,220.99	502.20	97.58	599.78 760.82
adia	66,544.18	63,704,35	637.04	123.78	723.62
liance	65,379.48	60,589.04	605.89	 117.73 	273.74
liance	60,484.14 23,167.00	22,920.00	229.20	44.54	218.05
tlas ritish America	11.770.38	9,289.94	200.00	18.05 21.23	221.23
ritish America. ritish Colonial. ritish Dominions General	30,554.62	10,926.05	200.00	78.26	481.00
ritish Dominions General	51,019.02	40,274.36	402.74	195.26	1,200.16
ritish Dominions General	115 087.12	100,490.46	1,004.90 200.00	15.91	215.91
ommercial Union	11,627.01	8,187.61	372.80	72.44	445.24
ommercial Union onnecticut ontinental mployers' Liability. quitable Fire & Marine	43,009.21	37,280.56	480.32	93.33	573.65
ontinental	42,056.22	48,032.62	200.00	29.70	229.70 295.90
mployers' Liability	3,421.16	15,284.30 24,776.83	247.76	48.14	221.89
quitable Fire & Marine	27,206.59	11.263.86	200.00	21.89	217.67
idelity-Phenix	12,967.84	9.090.00	200.00	17.67	268.94
	15,610.55	22.518.42	225.18	43.76	642.85
	21,559.51 57,702.48	53,826.17	538.26	$104.59 \\ 16.86$	216.86
	21.082.61	8,673.55	200.00	60.75	373.39
	19,178.48	31,264.01	312.64	351.27	2,159.04
lens Falls. lobe & Rutgers	191,440.16	· 180,777.98	1,807.77	76.74	471.67
	45,340.00	39,493.00	394.93	74.47	457.69
uardian Iartfo r d	37.885.51	38,322.32	383.22 200.00	4.23	204.23
		2,176.55	200.00	30.31	230.31
lome. Iudson Bay mperial Underwriters	18,026.03	15,599.64	351.12	68.23	419.35
aw Union & Rock	51,944.66	35,112.99	1.395.20	271.10	1,666.30
aw Union & Rock iverpool & London & Globe	163,313.99	139,520.99 16,966.30	200.00	32.97	232.97 991.21
	17,658.70	82,994.00	829.94	161.27	991.21 386.56
ondon & Lancashire	91,216.00	32,366.88	323.66	62.90	220.10
ondon & Lancashire. ondon Assurance. Xational of Hartford Vational Union of Pittsburgh.	32,508.33	10.346.33	200.00	20.10	232.47
ondon Assurance of Hartford		16,707.02	200.00	32.47	363.75
ational Union of Pittsburgh	18,451.66	30,457.18	304.57	59.18	237.45
National Union of Fittsburght	33,962.51 20,311.40	19,274.31	200.00	37.45	919.42
		76,983.31	769.83	149.59 322.90	1,984.71
		166,181.66	1,661.81	166.37	1,022.56
North British & Mercantile	98,239.74	85,619.78	856.19	14.15	214.15
		7,282.61	200.00	96.31	591.96
Northern North-West	52,861.81	49,565.96	495.65 200.00	7.35	207.35
North-West Norwich Union Nova Scotia Underwriters		3,783.91	200.00	.92	200.92
		474.89	200.00	7.28	207.28
		3,746.67	200.00	11.65	211.65
		5,996.65 18,073.46	200.00	35.12	235.12
		15,389.21	200.00	29.91	229.91
		154.003.17	1,540.03	299.25	1,839.28 214.64
		7,533.17	200.00	14.64	265.62
		22.240.63	222.40	43.22	212.42
		6,385.00	200.00	12.42	882.87
		73,923.39	739.23	$143.64 \\ 435.62$	2,677.51
		224,189.12	2,241.89	435.62	692.0
		57,945.18	579.45	21.53	221.53
		11,081.26	200.00 579.44	112.60	692.0
St. Paul Fire & Marine	50,911.72	57,944.71	275.49	53.53	329.0
Royal Exchange St. Paul Fire & Marine Scottish Union & National	33,068.63	27,549.26	324.30	63.01	387.3
		32,430.05	459.37	89.27	548.6
Springheid Fire & Marine Sun Union of London		45,937.95 32,219.95	322.19	62.60	
		6,496.78	200.00	12.63	
		91,568.13	915.68	177.92	1,093.6
		40.817.68	408.17	79.31	
Western. Yorkshire Anglo-American.	39,539.37		200.00	13.06	1 000 0
Anglo-American	5,555.73	111 000 00	1,113.66	216.40	000 4
		10 000 00	200.00		000 0
		13.701.40	200.00		000 0
		19,559.00	200.00		0000
		16.617.53	200.00	0.00	0000
		4.779.21	200.00		
	5 604 23	5,968.89	200.0	00.01	000 0
		19,736.75	200.0	10.01	213.5
Strathcona	7,769.98	0,818.24			8 201.
		807.73			6 256.
		21,443.16	000 0	0 11.6	2 211.0
Missisquoi & Rouvine National of Paris National-Ben Franklin	2,583.2	5,982.97	000 0		
National-Ben Franklin North Western National	2,583.2	15,186.11	200.0	5 \$5,600.0	

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THE CHRONICLE

MONTREAL, MARCH 31, 1916



THE EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY ASSURANCE CORPORATION, LIMITED.

The Employers' Liability Assurance Corporation, Limited, has long occupied a notable position among the younger British insurance institutions. Throughout its career, the Corporation has been managed not only with energy but also with discretion. The results of that policy are seen in a world-wide business, a very fine financial position and an excellent reputation among all classes of policyholders. Within recent years, the business of the Corporation has expanded enormously, in response to the largely increased demand in many countries for employers' liability and workmen's compensation insurance, and the rise into prominence of other forms of casualty underwriting, which, comparatively a few years ago were of little importance. While the effects of the worldwide upheaval in business cannot be escaped, those intimately associated with the Corporation are thoroughly confident of its future, thanks to its great prestige, adequate organisation and financial strength.

THE RECORD OF 1914.

There was a falling-off in premium income last year from the high record reached in 1914. The decline is, however, by no means a serious one, 1915's premium income being reported as \$9,070,571 against \$9,403,262 in 1914. The whole of the fall-ing-off is in fact accounted for by the enforced cessation of business in Belgium and by the coming into force of the Ontario Government's monopolistic compensation scheme. As recently as 1909, it is interesting to note, the Corporation's income was only just over \$5,000,000. Claims totalled \$5,046,-040, some \$70,000 only more than in 1914, and practically the same figures as those recorded for 1913. This constitutes an excellent testimonial to the generally good quality of the Corporation's worldwide business. Commission, expenses of management, etc., were kept within reasonable limits, but taxes naturally show a large increase and are equal to 4.3 per cent. of premiums. As a result of the year's operations the insurance fund was increased from \$6,109,918 at which figure it stood on January 1st, 1915, to \$6,675,748. Of this fund \$3,628,231 is reserve for unexpired risks, and \$3,047,517 is for total estimated liability in respect of outstanding losses.

The Corporation's position is further strengthened by additional reserves, there being a general reserve of \$4,505,121 and an investment reserve of \$579,344. The details of the balance sheet show that the Corporation's cash position is a particularly strong one, while the investments, which are in the highest grades of securities now total practically \$11,500,000. Total reserves, exclusive of investment reserve, are \$11,180,869, a proportion of 123 per cent. to last year's premium income. Total assets are \$14,185,362, an increase of over \$1,200,000 during last year. Obviously, the financial position maintained is a very fine one, and calculated both to inspire and retain confidence on the part of policyholders.

THE CORPORATION IN CANADA.

In the Canadian field, The Employers' Liability Corporation is well known and a large business is transacted in personal accident, health, liability and fidelity guarantee insurance. In recent years also, the Corporation has transacted fire business in Canada, with Head Office at Montreal under the management of Mr. John Jenkins. The organization of this department is now well established. In 1915 the fire premium income amounted to \$360,467, an increase of about \$30,000 on 1914, with a loss ratio of about 46 per cent. as against 57 per cent. in 1914. With the exception of the Liability department, the business of the Corporation in Canada shows a general increase last year. The premiums received in 1915 for Liability amounted to \$531,342 as against \$795,463, a decrease of \$264,121. The total premiums for all departments amount to \$1,097,000 as against \$1,314,000 in 1914. The Corporation has \$1,342,000, practically all invested in Canadian securities, on deposit with the Dominion Government. A new department is now being opened for Automobile fire floaters covering against fire, theft, transportation, in addition to liability, collision and property damage insurance which the Corporation have been operating for many years past. Mr. C. W. I. Woodland, of Toronto, is general manager of the Corporation for Canada and Newfoundland.

STANDARD RELIANCE MORTGAGE CORPORATION.

The annual statement of the Standard Reliance Mortgage Corporation shows satisfactory progress during 1915 in spite of the difficulties which mortgage organisations had to encounter last year. The profits of the year, after deduction of management expenses are reported as \$382,753, a gain of nearly \$47,000 upon the total of \$335,032 reported for 1914. Interest on debentures, deposits, etc., absorbed \$155,140, dividends, \$179,224, while \$40,000 was transferred to reserve fund, making this fund \$615,000, and leaving the increased balance forward of \$13,726.

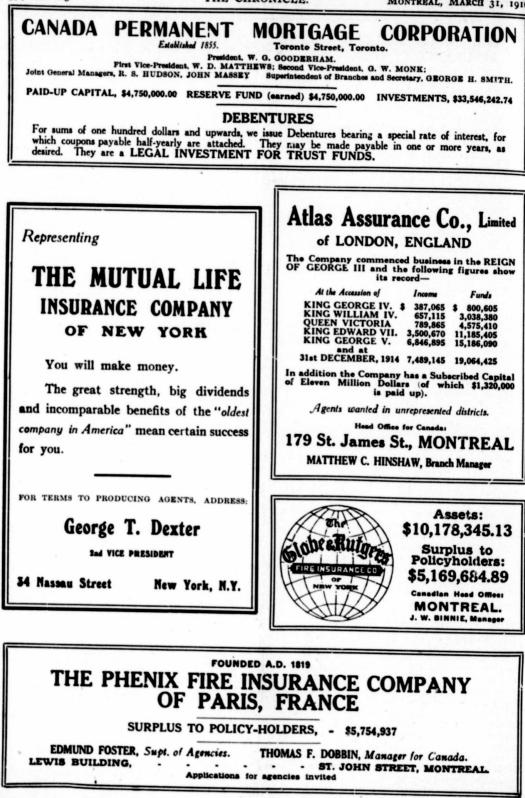
Total assets of the Company, at December 31, 1915, were \$6,732,582, a gain of practically \$300,000 over the total of \$6,444,642 reported at the close of 1914. Mortgage loans (including accrued interest) amount to \$5,501,663, an advance during the year of some \$150,000. Holdings of stocks, bonds and debentures are \$477,117; holdings of municipal bonds, \$35,625; office premises (head office and branches), \$297,162; other real estate, \$195,477. Cash on hand and in banks reaches the substantial sum of \$138,403, a gain of over \$24,000 compared with 1915. The principal liabilities to the public are debentures (with accrued interest), \$2,718,825 and deposits (with accrued interest), \$605,699. Both these items show substantial gains in comparison with last year, the issue of debentures having risen by practically \$170,000, while deposits are up over \$80,000. These facts speak well for the popularity of the Company among the investing public. Paid-up capital now totals \$2,568,867 and there is in addition to the reserve fund of \$615,000, a contingent fund of \$75,000.

The Standard Reliance has the advantage of an influential directorate and of a strong executive including Messrs. W. S. Dinnick (vice-president), and H. Waddington (managing director).

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THE CHRONICLE.

MONTREAL, MARCH 31, 1916



MONTREAL, MARCH 31, 1916

THE CHRONICLE

The Employers' Liability Assurance **Corporation Limited**

LONDON, England

EXTRACTS FROM THE DIRECTORS' REPORT

The Directors submit to the Shareholders their Thirty-fifth Annual Report, together with the Audited Accounts to 31st December, 1915.

The premiums for the year are \$9,070,571, against \$9,403.262 for the year 1914. The Directors have already paid an interim dividend of \$1.22 per Share, and now recommend a further dividend of \$2.67 per Share (free of Income Tax), making together a dividend of \$3.89 per Share for the year. This will absorb \$389,333.

REVENUE ACCOUNT, 1st January, 1915 to 31st December, 1915 DECEMBER 31ST. JANUARY 1ST. **Payments under Policies** AMOUNT OF INSURANCE FUND AT THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR:-Reserve for Unexpired including Medical and Legal Expenses in connection therewith\$5,046,040.50 Risks . \$3,761,305.53 Total Estimated Liability in respect of Outstand-Commission Expenses of Management. ... 2,010,622.55 741,178.34 ing Losses 2,348,612.21 Contributions to Fire Bri-\$6,109,917.74 4,577.77 gades Bad Debts DECEMBER 31ST. 8,543.00 - \$7,810,962.16 AMOUNT OF INSURANCE FUND AT THE Transfer Fees..... 177.63 9,089,182.67 .\$3,628,231.40 Risks . Risks..... Total Estimated Liability in respect of Outstanding Losses..... 3,047,516.65 6,675,748.05 Balance transferred to Profit and Loss 712.390.20 Account \$15,199,100.41 \$15,199,100.41 **BALANCE SHEET**, 31st December, 1915 CR. DR. LIABILITIES ASSETS 1

SHAREHOLDERS' CAPITAL— 100,000 Shares, \$48.67 each, \$4,866,666.67. To Capital—100,000 Shares, \$9.73 paid\$ 973,333.33 "Amounts due to other Companies and Agente \$281,706.59 "Unclaimed Dividends 1,460.73 Outstanding Commission 407,485.18 "Outstanding Expenses 159,496.84 Loss Deposit Accounts 1,229.97 "Loan Account	By INVESTMENTS— British Government Securities
\$14,185,362.43	\$14,185,362.43

HERBERT C. COX,

President and General Manager

CANADA LIFE FACTS

CANADA LIFE agents wrote \$1,000,000 MORE BUSINESS in Canada in 1915 than in the previous year.

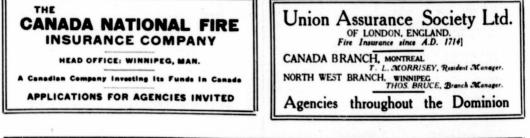
The CANADA LIFE PAID POLICYHOLDERS in 1915 \$7,822,201, this being over \$3,000,000 in excess of the similar payments of any previous year, and Policyholders' dividends being the chief item.

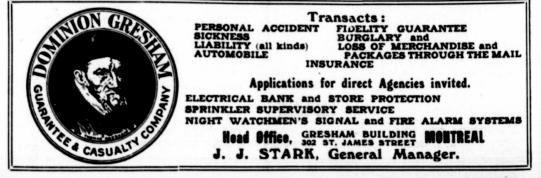
The CANADA LIFE INCOME in 1915, **\$9,333,632.19**, was the greatest in the Company's history.

The SURPLUS earned was \$1,480,866.

The CASH DIVIDENDS paid policyholders in 1915 were over \$2,800,000

The LONDON MUTUAL FIRE The Imperial Guarantee Established 1859 INSURANCE COMPANY AND ACCIDENT INSURANCE CO., OF CANADA \$784.426.31 Assets Head Office : 46 King Street W., Surplus to TORONTO, Ont. Policy-A Strong Canadian Company. 404.046.07 holders ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE Losses Paid 8.000.000.00 **GUARANTEE BONDS** -over PLATE GLASS AND AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE E. WILLANS. PROVINCE OF QUEBEC BRANCH FRANK W. COX, W. J. CLEARY, Provincial Manager. General Manager. Secretary MONTREAL 17 ST. JOHN STREET. - -





MONTREAL, MARCH 31, 1916

THE MONEY VALUE OF HUMAN BEINGS.

Professor Irving Fisher, Professor of Political Economy at Yale University, has calculated the "economic values" of human beings, their "net worth" as prospective bread winners, at different ages. Beginning with a baby—valued at \$90 by Professor Fisher—the net worth of a person reaches its highest point at age 30 when it is $\$_{4,100}$. After 30 the decline is steady, and, unfortunately, rapid. The net worth of a person 80 years old is $\$_{700}$ which, we take it, is the average total earnings of octogenarians during the life periods left to them after the four score point has been attained. The professor's estimates and comments on human values, from the beginning to the end of life, are given below:

What a baby is worth to its mother because of mother love could never be calculated; but its value, or rather the value of the average baby as a prospective bread winner can be and has been calculated many times.

Taking any 100,000 babies born to-day, we know approximately from statistics what it will cost to bring them up, allowing for the fact that certain numbers will die at different ages. We know also how much those who survive to be bread-winners will earn. On the average the earnings overbalance the cost of maintenance, in present worth," by at least \$9,000,000, or an average for the 100,000 babies of \$90 apiece. This is simply an average. Some of the 100,000 will be worth more and some less. Nor does the reckoning take account of any other value than earning power. One baby may prove to be a Beethoven and another an Isaac Newton, and be worth far more to society than its capitalized capacity to earn money. But we are calculating only the money-making capacity. This would be more than \$90 if so many lives were not lost before becoming productive.

In the same way the average person living at 20 or 30 years of age has a present worth as a breadwinner of about \$4,000. This is, as before, the net present worth of his future productive power over and above the cost of his future maintenance. In old age the average net worth becomes a minus quantity, for the aged do not generally earn enough for their own support.

FIGURES FOR DIFFERENT AGES.

The figures for different ages are given in the following table, based on calculations of Dr. William Farr, formerly Registrar of Vital Statistics of Great Britain:

	Net Average Worth of a	Net Average Worth of a
Age.	Person. \$ 90	Age. Person. 30\$4,100
	950	50
10	2,000	80

In short, a human life has, in addition to its higher valuations, a money valuation simply as a moneymaking machine. This is really the basis of ordinary life insurance. In general every human life with earning power ought to be insured against loss of that earning power in the interest of those dependent on that earning power; and, in general, insurance companies object to "over-insurance" beyond the money value of a life, just as they object to over-insurance of a factory or of a ship.

There are many powerful arguments in favor of the general health insurance of working men and women. But the argument which I think will prove most effective, although really the least important, is the argument that it is sound business economy. It is sound economy not only because it will better distribute the burden of illness, but also because it will greatly reduce the burden of illness.

We have all seen how the workmen's compensation acts have stimulated the "safety first" movement, and so greatly reduced the injuries and deaths from accidents. Health insurance will act precisely in the same way, but on a much larger scale. Those of us who have become in the least acquainted with the enormous room for improvement in matters of health have no doubts that health insurance, when generally introduced, will be the most effective means of reducing the death rate that has ever been applied. Just as certain safety devices, which a few years ago were only known to a few experts, were introduced on a wide scale under the stimulus of workmen's compensation, and many other safety devices were soon invented under the same stimulus, so when it becomes a financial object to save human life methods of life-saving will be applied on a wide scale, which at present are only known to a few experts, and many new methods will be discovered .----Insurance Press.

PERSONALS.

Mr. W. K. George has been elected second vicepresident of the North American Life Assurance Company, in succession to the late Mr. James Kerr Osborne.

Mr. A. M. Boucher, who for some time has been inspector for Eastern Ontario and Quebec for the Northern Assurance Company of London, England, has been transferred to Toronto, from which point he will act as inspector for the Company for Westernuand Northern Ontario. Mr. Boucher is a popular official of the Northern, and his many friends in Montreal will wish him success in his new sphere.

Mr. Alex. Lawson, principal officer of the Gresham Life Assurance Society, was the recipient on the 2nd instant of a presentation from the Board of Directors to mark his completion of 25 years of service as an officer of the Society. The presentation was made by Mr. Alderman Chas. A. Hanson, Chairman of the Society, and took the form of a handsome silver goblet bearing a suitable inscription. The officers and staff of the Society had previously expressed their regard and esteem for Mr. Lawson by presenting him with a beautiful silver rose bowl suitably inscribed.—*Post Magazine*.

"BLUE GOOSE" QUEBEC POND.

The members of the Local Pond of the "Blue Goose" are keenly interested in the meeting which takes place in the "Ritz Carlton" on Saturday, April 1st, at 6.30 p.m. Most Loyal Gander Jas. D. Cherry promises to equal if not surpass the successes of the past winter season. The Executive Committee under Supervisor W. R. McLaren, has been engaged in getting together a programme which will be in keeping with "Blue Goose" style, and a large turnout of members is expected.



BRITISH FIRE COMPANIES IN THE UNITED STATES.

A new record was made by the United States branches of the British insurance companies, last year, fresh high-water marks having been established in fire premium receipts, in aggregate assets held for the protection and benefit of American policyholders, and in net surplus, the item showing the smallest increase being the losses incurred. It was a comparatively prosperous year, therefore, for the English companies which will not fail to be appreciated by the home offices, more especially at the present time owing to the disturbed conditions of business of all kinds abroad and necessarily including fire insurance.

The premium receipts of the twenty-one British companies transacting business here throughout the past year amounted to \$57,537,946, as shown by the statements filed with the New York Insurance Department by the managers of the United States branches. This was a gain of over four million dollars (\$4,051,613), as compared with the previous year, while the increase in losses was only a trifle over one million dollars (\$1,057,549). In other words, the increase in premiums was equal to 11.31 per cent., while the ratio of losses to premiums, last year, was 53.33 per cent., against 55.40 per cent. in 1914—a decrease of over 2 per cent. The aggregate assets of the twenty-one com-

panies at the close of last year was very close to a hundred million dollars (\$99,362,031), a gain for the twelve months of \$6,667,559, with an increase in net surplus of \$4,653,498.

PERSISTENT WATCHFUL EFFORTS.

These are important results, gained without any flourish of trumpets by the United States managers, but by persistent, watchful efforts devoted to every branch of the business. Of course, a few of the leading companies transacted the bulk of last year's business, but it is interesting to note that the ratio of losses to premiums of the United States branches transacting a more limited business show only small increases over their more stalwart competitors. Ten companies received 80.64 per cent. of the total premiums, and their ratio of losses to premiums was 53.12 per cent., while the premiums of the remaining eleven companies amounted to only \$11,142,961 with losses of 54.18 per cent. of premiums.

With a hundred million assets securely invested and held here for the protection of American policyholders; with over thirty-seven millions surplus in excess of all liabilities, and with an annual premium income approaching sixty millions, the United States branches of the British companies and their multitude of policyholders in this country are to be heartily congratulated.—Insurance Index.

STANDARD RELIANCE MO TORONT ANNUAL ST BALANCE SHEET AS O	O, ONT.
ASSETS. Mortgage Loans with Accrued	LIABILITIES. To the Public— Deposits with Accrued Inter-
Interest	terest
LOSS AND G	Met Earnings after deducting an expense of
Interest on Debentures, Deposits, etc	management and making provision for all





BUSINESS TRANSACTED

PERSONAL ACCIDENT HEALTH Employers' Liability Public Liability Teams Liability ELEVATOR LIABILITY AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY PLATE GLASS GUARANTEE BONDS FIRE INSURANCE

Canadian Head Office - TORONTO

CHARLES H. NEELY, General Manager.

WHY NOT HAVE THE BEST? The Globe Indemnity Company of Canada Head Office, MONTREAL Iormerly--The Canadian Railway Accident Insurance Company. DIRECTORS :--J. Gardner Thompson, President. Lewis Laing, Vice-President. A. G. Dens, W. Molson MacPheresa, T. J. Drummond, Str Alexandre Lacoste, Martial Chevalier, Str Prederick Williams Taylor. JOHN EMO, General Manager & Secretary. Transects ACCIDENT INSURANCE, SICKNESS INSURANCE. LIABILITY INSURANCE IN ALL ITS BRANCHES, AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE, SICKNESS INSURANCE. LIABILITY INSURANCE IN ALL ITS BRANCHES. AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE, SICKNESS INSURANCE. LIABILITY INSURANCE, GUARANTEE INSURANCE. Polleies issued by this Company are the most liberal and up-to-date issued in Canada, free from unnecessary restrictions and conditions. All policies guaranteed by the Liverpool & London & Globe Insurance Co., Ltd.,; assets over Sixty-Five Million Doll -m (965,000,000.00.)

BY-PRODUCTS OF LIFE INSURANCE.

Life insurance has many by-products. The service rendered by the investment departments of the companies is one of them. Amounts collected in premiums are not sufficient to mature policies, but premiums collected plus interest earnings are sufficient. The investment of these accumulated payments of insurance is necessary, and the interest earnings are essential in the maturing of insurance plans. The insurance companies, therefore, become an important source of money supply and serve those in need of more capital—the man who desires to develop or enlarge his farm, or the man who plans a business block or a home, as well as the men who build railroads or plan and carry out other large undertakings. An examination of the list of bonds, mortgages and other securities held by insurance reveals a service in money supply far greater than is generally supposed. It is probable that many of the large systems of business, so useful in country-wide development, could not have been financed at all except for life insurance service.

IMPORTANT SERVICE.

Life insurance, with its brother organizationsliability, casualty and fire insurance organizations -is rendering tremendously important service in many directions. The companies insuring honesty in official positions and among employees protect organizations and employers, and furnish a strong incentive toward effective and honest service, helping in a large way to make business dependable and to inculcate rules of honesty in all business transactions. The casualty companies with their campaign of safety first teach people to live carefully and to avoid accidents. It is to their advantage to reduce the number of the halt, the maimed, and the blind to the largest extent. They want every man to be in the possession of his senses and to have two feet and two hands and to be efficient. The fire companies are teaching the proper construction and care of buildings and the prevention of waste. They want structures to be constructed and to stand for permanent use. Piles of ashes do not appeal to them. Life insurance, through the various medical departments and otherwise, teach healthful living and conduct extensive campaigns for the elimination of preventable diseases and for the maintenance of health. The span of human life is being lengthened, and the conditions under which we live are being steadily improved. These by-products of insurance, in the aggregate, render such tremendous human service that the most liberal estimate will be no more than a weak approximation.-E. W. Randall.

GASOLINE RUNS WILD.

Gasoline again demonstrated its destructive powers in wrecking two miles of Detroit's sewer system, and causing untold damage to other property, when 9,000 gallons of the fluid escaped from a tank car and found its way into the sewer.

This should be a forceful warning to anyone who has to handle gasoline or benzine in any form. It is more dangerous than gunpowder or dynamite, for the reason that it is not necessary to throw a match into it to get results. It is said that the fumes from one pint of gasoline will charge 200 cubic feet of air and make it highly explosive, and the least spark is all that is necessary to cause the explosion.

ACTUARIAL BASIS FOR FRATERNAL SOCIETIES.

The Ontario Legislature has decided to appoint a select committee to consider an amendment to the Ontario insurance act to put fraternal insurance societies on an actuarial basis. The matter was introduced by Mr. W. D. McPherson, member for West Toronto, who explained that he had been requested by some twenty Canadian fraternal so-cieties to sponsor a bill. The twenty societies in question were licensed under the Insurance Department of Ontario. They had a total membership of 375,000 and carried insurance amounting to \$385,000,000. Their total income during 1914 was seven and a half millions and their assets at the end of that year were something like \$60,000,-000. The change proposed, he explained, was one looking to a tightening up in the interests of the public of the business methods of the societies. The amendments he proposed was intended to protect 1,750,000 people by putting the funds of the societies on an actuarial basis. It had been charged that some of the societies were not solvent, and that unless the rates were changed they would meet disaster. The bill provided for an estimate every three years of the assets and liabilities of the societies, the object being to properly regulate the financial position of the societies.

A TEST OF SANITY.

Second Vice-President Wilson, of the Equitable Life Assurance Society, was foreman of a jury not long ago, in a case where it was contended that the defendant was insane and incompetent to manage his own affairs. Just before the examination closed the foreman of the jury questioned the man: Mr. Wilson: 'Is your life insured?" The Man: "Yes, sir.'

Mr. Wilson: "What kind of a policy have you?" The Man: "A Twenty-Year Endowment Pol-

icy." Mr. Wilson: "What company are you insured in?"

The Man: The Equitable Life."

Mr. Wilson: "Why did you insure in the Equitable?"

The Man: "Because it is the best company in the world.

Whereupon Mr. Wilson arose with dignity and solemnity, and addressing the court, said, "Your Honor and Gentlemen of the Jury, this man is not insane." (Great applause). When the uproar was stilled by order of the court, the Judge and the other members of the jury, without leaving their seats, spontaneously and unanimously agreed with Mr. Wilson, and the man was declared safe and sane.-Insurance Press.

A STORY WITH A MORAL.

Once there was an Insurance Clerk who wished he was President.

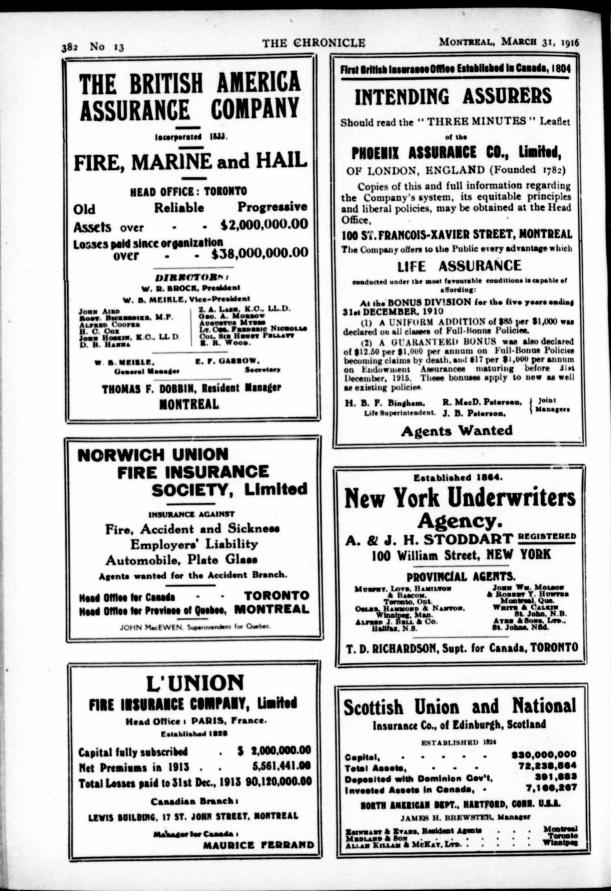
So a Fairy appeared with a bundle of Insurance Papers.

Read them Papers, said the Fairy, and load your Intellect, and then you can get anything you want. The Insurance Clerk delivered himself of a plain

human snort. You're a Subscription Agent, he said to the

Fairy, and your Scheme is to get me to read Insurance Papers. I never read Insurance Papers.

And so he remained an Insurance Clerk .- Insurance Critic.



COMMERCIAL UNION'S NEW DEAL.

It is announced that the Commercial Union Assurance Company has made an offer for the stock of the American Central Insurance Company of St. Louis, Missouri. The offer is conditional upon at least the majority of the stock being turned over, and the offer will cover the balance of the stock within a fixed time.

The Commercial Union has for some time past been re-insuring one-half the business of the American Central, which has a paid-up capital of two million dollars. It is stated that the present transaction will not affect the independent operation on the same lines as heretofore of the American Central.

It is interesting to note that the Commercial Union, which is the largest general insurance company in the world, has invested in underwriting in the United States for its direct account and through underwriting companies which it owns over \$20,000,000, which is in the hands of United States trustees and the Insurance Department of the State of New York, all of its interests being regularly admitted for the transaction of United States business.

THE MUTUAL LIFE OF NEW YORK.

In the seventy-third annual report of the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York, a copy of which is just to hand, occasion is taken as usual to give short, simple and lucid explanations to policyholders in regard to points of their Company's business and of the business generally of life insurance. "Dividends," policy loans, and the relations of the agent to the policyholders are among the subjects this year touched upon. This method appears to us a valuable means of educating the policyholder to take an intelligent interest in his insurance.

SUCCESS OF THE DOMINION'S NEW LOAN.

The Dominion Government's new loan of \$75 millions, issued in New York at the close of last week by Messrs. J. P. Morgan & Co. and others, as managers of a syndicate of underwriters, was very quickly subscribed, the lists being closed last Saturday afternoon, whereas it was originally fixed that they should be kept open until Monday morning.

The new loan is in three maturities, one-third maturing in five years (on April 1, 1921); the second \$25,000,000, maturing in ten years (on April 1, 1926), and the third \$25,000,000, becoming due in fifteen years (on April 1, 1931). The five-year bonds were issued at 99.56 and interest, yielding about 5.10 per cent.; the 10-year bonds at 97.13 and interest, yielding about 5 3-8 per cent.; the 15-year bonds at 94.94 and interest, yielding about 5 I-2 per cent.

The prospectus stated assurances have been given no further loan will be issued in the United States by the Canadian Government during the current calendar year.

The Montreal office and agency staff of the Imperial Life Insurance Company were entertained at an informal dinner on Wednesday evening by their manager, Mr. E. J. L'Esperance. After dinner a pleasant evening was spent at cards.

FIRE POLICIES TOO EASY TO GET.

"Was it covered by insurance?" is generally one of the first questions asked after a fire occurs. If not, then the next remark is, "It's too bad." In most cases, though, the risk was insured all right, because all the insured had to do was to call up a local agent, and tell him what he wanted and the policy came through the mail a day or two later.

The local agent was so busy trying to beat some other agent to a certain piece of business that he didn't have time to make a personal inspection of the property to ascertain its value or discover the physical defect that caused the fire

Insurance is secured this way every day. The practice is all wrong. No piece of property should be insured until it has been inspected by the agent insuring it. If the inspection reveals dangerous conditions, the same should be called to the attention of the owner, and not until the defects are corrected should a dollar's worth of insurance be written on the property.

If every agent would do this, and stick by it, the annual fire waste would be greatly reduced. For the careless property owner would in this way be forced into carefulness, and besides there would be little chance to over-insure.

Sir Thomas White introduced on Wednesday his bill to levy taxes on business profits, which embodies the provisions of the taxation resolutions adopted in committee a week ago.

Montreal Tramways Company SUBURBAN TIME TABLE, 1915-1916

Lachine :

From Post Office -From Post Office -10 min. service 4 p.m. to 7.10 p.m. 20 8.00 4 p.m. 20 7.10 p.m.to 12.00 mid.

20 min. service 5.30 a.m. to 5.50 a.m. 10 min. service 4 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. 20 20 8.00 p.m. to 12.10 a.m. 20 9.00 4 p.m. Extra last car aj 12.50 a.m. From Lachine-

Sault aux Recollet and St. Vincent de Paul:

From St. Denis to St. Vincent— 15 min.service 5.15 a m.to 8.00 a.m. [30 min. service 8.00 p.m.to 12.00 p.m. 20 " " 8.00 " 4.00 p.m. Car to Henderson only 12.00 mid. 15 " 4.00 " 7.00 p.m. Car to St. Vincent 12.40 a.m. 20 " " 7.00 " 8.00 p.m.] From St. Denis to St. Vincentcont to St. Dents-

	FT	om st.	vincent .	. 0 00	-	20 min. service 8.30 p.m. to
15	min.	sorvice	5.45 a.m	. to 8.30	a.m.	130 min. service 8.30 p.m. to 11.30 p.m.
			8.30 '	4.30	p.m.	Car from Henderson to St. Denis
			4.30 p.m	. 7.30	p.m	12.20 a.m. Vincent to St. Denis
20			7.30 "	8.30	p.m	12.20 a.m. Car from St. Vincent to St. Denis 1.10 a.m.
		wille				

From Snowdon's Junction	-20 40	min.	**	840 p.m.	to 12.00 mid.
	20			5.40 a.m.	to 9.00 p.m.
From Cartierville-	40		**	9.00 p.m.	to 12 30 a.m.

Mountain :

From Park Averue and Mount Royal-20 min. service from 5.40 a.m. to 12.20 a.m. From Victoria Avenue-20 min. service from 5.50 a.m. to 12.30 a.m.

From Victoria Avenue to Snowdon.-10 minutes service 5.50 a.m. to 8.30 p.m.

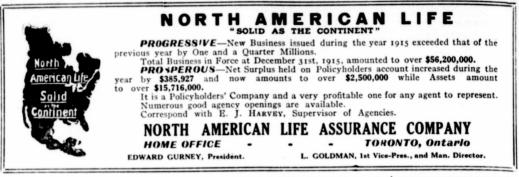
Bout de l'Ile:

60 min. service from 5.00 a.m. to 12.00 midnight

Tetraultville from Lasalle and Notre Dame: 15 min. service 5.00 a.m. to 9.00 a.m. |15 min. service 3.30 p.m to 7.00 p.m. 30 min. service 9.00 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. |30 min. service 7.00 p.m. to 12 p.m.

Pointe aux Trembles via Notre Dame :

From Notre Dame and 1st Ave. Maisonneuve. 15 min service from 5.15 a.m. to 7.30 p.m. 20 7.30 p.m. to 12.30 a.m.



IMPREGNABLE

Assets of the Sun Life of Canada have nearly **doubled** in the past five years, have more than **trebled** in the past nine years, and have more than **quadrupled** in the past eleven years.

During 1915 they increased 16% to \$74,326,423—easily the largest amount held by any Canadian Life Company.

Sun Life of Canada polices are safe and profitable policies to buy.

SUN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY OF CANADA HEAD OFFICE - MONTREAL

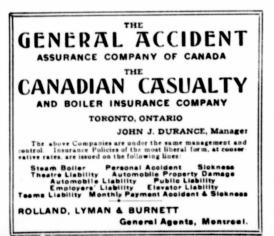


ASSETS EXCEED \$21,000,000

DIRECTORS FOR CANADA: A. J. Dawes, Esq. H. B. Mackenzie, Esq. E. F. Hreiden, Esq. E. C. Pharr, Esq. Manager for Canada: ALEX. BISSETT

BRANCHES THROUGHOUT THE DOMINION HEAD OFFICE FOR CANADA: LONDON AND LANCASHIRE LIFE BUILDING,

164 ST. JAMES STREET, MONTREAL, P.Q.



The Manufacturers Life A Splendid Canadian Old Line Life Insurance Company

Good for Agents. Attractive for Policyholders.

Assets, \$20,744.678.34 Insurance in Force, \$83,746,172.00

Head Office: TORONTO - - - CANADA

METROPOLITAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW YORK

Insurance in force in Canada Dec. 31, 1915 \$169,464,449 (Ordinary, \$79,615,676 ; Industrial, \$89,848,773)

Paid policyholders in Canada during 1915 . . \$2,074,692

Over 860,000 Metropolitan policies held by Canadians. This company has over 1060 employees in Canada.

For the exclusive protection of its Canadian policyholders, it has on deposit with the Dominion Government and Canadian Trustees, in registered Canadian Bonds and Mortgages, over \$21,000,000.

In 1915 the Company increased its holdings in Canadian securities by over \$6,800,000.

Home Office 1 Madison Ave., New York City

AN IMPORTANT TAX DECISION.

A taxation decision of considerable moment to the American life companies has been given by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, holding that the taxation of premium abatements (dividends) by life insurance companies is not legal. The Penn Mutual Life Insurance Company made four settlements with the accounting officers of Pennsylvania paying a tax of 8 mills on "gross premiums." The company appealed from each of the settlements. Under the court decisions the company will recover the sums paid in taxes on the amount of the premium abatements or dividends.

This case is important in establishing a precedent and will affect taxes imposed on other life insurance companies and paid by them.

Another suit somewhat similar to the Penn Mutual's, instituted by the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, is still pending in the Pennsylvania courts.

A Few 1915 Mutualities

FIRST. An increased interest rate earned on invested assets.
 SECOND. A decreased ratio of tota expenses to total income.
 THIRD. A remarkable reduction in the number of laysed policies.
 FOURTH. A notable net increase in business which is now over \$100,000,000.

FIFTH. Astonishing surplus earnings amounting in all to \$1,158,210.20.

SIXTH. All round progress and prosperity in spite of war conditions.

SEVENTH. Secure a participating Mutual policy and share in our wonderful surplus earnings.

The Mutual Life Assurance Co.

WATERLOO - - - ONTARIO

E. ROBERTS, Manager,

Traffic	Ret	turns.
---------	-----	--------

	CANADIA	N PACIFIC	RAILWAY.	
	1914	1915	1916	Increase
Year to date	084.000	12,411,000	\$16,926,000 \$	4,515,000
Feb. 29. \$15,		1915	1916	Increase
Week ending	1914	1,667,000	2,198,000	531,000
	1,902,000 2,168,000	1,731,000	2.258,000	527,000
	2,105,000 2,132,000	1,738,000	2,281,000	543,000
. 21				
	GRAN	1915	1916	Increase
Year to date	1914		\$8,290,131	\$1,554,282
	7,310,949	\$0,735,845	1916	Increase
Week ending	1914	1915	992.026	139.875
Mch. 7	900,706	852,151	957,542	100.395
·· 14	1,016,088	857,147	967,233	109,296
. 21	1,044,181	857,937	001,200	
	CANADIA	NORTHER	N RAILWAY.	
		1915	1916	Increase
Year to date		\$3,041,600	\$4,176,000	\$1,134,400
Feb. 29 \$	2,030,200	1915	1916	Increase
Week endin	g 1914	357,100	100 100	72,300
Feb. 7	303,100	380,500		72,600
14	312,700	418.200		140,800
21	336,600	446,400	0.15 500	201,300
29	272,200	428,700		111,500
Meh. 7.	319,400	411,100		126,900
" 14	$330,500 \\ 331,000$	421,700		127,300
	331,000	421,700		
1	WIN CITY	RAPID TRA	NSIT COMPANY	Increase
Year to dat	e 1914	1915	1916	\$151,404
Feb. 29 \$	1,419,307	\$1,470,971	\$1,622,375	Increase
Week endin		1915	1916	\$18,433
Meh. 7.	\$168,788	\$172,693	\$191,126	13,267
" 14	167,464	176,017	189,284	14,242
" 21	170,282	177,000	191,242	14,242
I	DULUTH S	UPERIOR TR	ACTION CO.	
	1914	1915	1916	Increase
Meh. 7	\$23,507	\$22,156	\$22,556	\$3,400
Men. 7	23,884	22,097	25,469	3,372
" 21.	24,893	22,718	25,869	3,151
21	,000			

CANADIAN BANK CLEARINGS.

	Week ending	Week ending	Week ending	Week ending
	Mar. 30, 1916	Mar. 23, 1916	Apr. 1 1915	Apr. 2, 1914
Montreal Toronto Winnipeg Ottawa	\$55,474,197 37,162,573 23,776,743 3,656,674	\$66,156,951 43,127,227 28,848,306 3,692,200		\$46.855.715 39,600,334 3,907,894

THE DOMINION OF CANADA GUARANTEE & ACCIDENT INS. CO.

The OLDEST and STRONGEST CANADIAN CASUALTY COMPANY ACCIDENT SIC BURGLARY GUARANTEE BONDS

TRANSACTS :

SICKNESS PLATE GLASS AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE

FIRE INSURANCE

FIRE INSCREED

C. A. WITHERS, General Manager, TORONTO ARY VANCOUVER

BANK OF OTTAWA BUILDING, MONTREAL Branches: WINNIPEG CALGARY

CONTINENTAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

Protect your wife and family by a monthly income policy in THE CONTINENTAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY. An absolutely sure investment.

W. J. BROWN, Provincial Manager,

180 ST. JAMES STREET, MONTREAL.

386 No. 12.

THE CHRONICLE

