

The Chronicle

Insurance & Finance.

R. WILSON-SMITH,
Proprietor.

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Insurance Business In Mexico.

The very large investments of Canadian money in Mexican enterprises give interesting returns respecting insurance business transacted in that country, which are reported in the "Insurance Progress" the companies also operating in Canada, and the money is Mexican silver, which is worth out one half the same denomination of Canadian...

Company.	Premiums in 1903. \$	Company.	Premiums 1903. \$
Life.		Fire.	
Mutual of N. Y.....	15,171,753	Law Union & C.	21,475
Equitable.....	4,500,463	L. & L. & C.	671,390
Confederation.....	25,334	Lancashire	81,435
Sun, Canada.....	3,828	Manchester	913,686
N. Y. Life.....	3,859,726	North British	1,570,264
Fire.		Northern	264,555
Union.....	210,451	Norwich Union	424,123
London & L'shire..	683,400	Phoenix	738,505
Royal.....	707,650	Sun	796,414
Home.....	174,119	Royal Exchange	159,662
	Miscel's.		
Travellers'.....	456,320	Com'l Union	554,941

There are climatic, financial, social, political conditions in Mexico wholly different to any existing in Canada. The bearing of these on insurance needs careful study and long observation to enable such regulations to be adopted as are necessary to render the business profitable and safe.

Another Spanish-American Defaulter.

The bond obligations of Costa Rica are in process of a similar course of treatment as some others of the Spanish-American group.

The idea seems generally to prevail amongst these communities that debts are only to be paid in full when no other course is open, but some way of avoiding that course is desirable.

In 1885 a large section of the 6 and 7 per cent bonds of Costa Rica issued in 1871 and 1872 were

reduced by 50 per cent. and exchanged for new bonds at 5 and 4 per cent. The arrangement was, that in case of default the original terms of the 1871 and 1872 bonds were to be enforced. Up to July, 1894, the lower interest was paid, the old bonds were then returned and default was instantly made. In 1897 another arrangement was made by which the interest on the bonds was reduced from 5 to 3 and 5 to 2½ per cent. In 1901 default again occurred. A new arrangement has been arrived at under which arrears are to be paid in cash and the loan secured by a first charge on the Customs, which, if inadequate, is to be supplemented from the revenue derived from the liquor trade. "It is also provided that the holders of the refunding bonds shall be entitled to apply to the United States for protection against any violation of and for aid in the enforcement of the agreement." But this appeal may be ignored, as it is not backed by any definite promise. Owen Glendower says, "I can call spirits from the vasty deep," to which Hotspur replies, "Why, so can I, or so can any man; but will they come when you do call them?" We share Hotspur's scepticism, as we regard the appeal to the United States as very likely to be as effective as the Welshman's swagger about his power over spirits in the vasty deep.

In the face of such numerous instances of defaulting by Spanish-American authorities, it is really amazing that investors are so reckless as to put their money in securities by those southern communities.

NEEDLESS HASTE.—It is announced that a number of agents of the Equitable Life in the western States have transferred their services to another company. These persons may be credited with knowing their own business better than an outsider, but we may be allowed to doubt their wisdom. The Equitable will come out of the present trouble with its prestige undiminished, as one of the strongest life insurance organizations in the world.

THE EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

PEACE REIGNSONCE MORE; TRUSTEES OF HIGH RANK HOLD MAJORITY OF STOCK IN TRUST, BUT HAVE NO VOTING POWER; POLICY-HOLDERS TO ELECT MAJORITY OF THE DIRECTORS; PLAN OF MUTUALIZATION TO BE CARRIED OUT; MR. PAUL MORTON, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD, ISSUES AN ENCOURAGING CIRCULAR TO THE AGENTS.

A circular has been issued "To the Agency Force of the Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States," signed, "Paul Morton, Chairman of the Board of Directors."

"This circular is an official announcement that an arrangement has been concluded which puts an end to the strife that has been so long maintained respecting the control and the future policy of this great organization.

On the 9th inst., the Board of Directors created the office of Chairman of the Board, which was conferred on Mr. Paul Morton, who accepted it on condition of being given "a free hand as to measures and men." Thereupon, the chief executive officers voluntarily resigned, to take effect, or not, as might appear to be in the best interests of the society and its policy-holders.

The most significant and important change in the situation was caused by Mr. Hyde selling the majority of the capital stock to some prominent policy-holders. In reference to this, Mr. T. F. Ryan announced that he and other policy-holders had made this purchase for the sake of putting an end to the present unfortunate condition of the company's affairs, not only for the interest of the policy-holders, but for the general business interests of the entire community. The purchasers will divest themselves of all voting power and accomplish in substance and effect the plan of mutualization already approved by the Superintendent of Insurance.

Mr. Ryan says:—

"We propose to do this by carrying the stock to a Board of Trustees composed of men of such character as to command universal confidence and having no connection with Wall Street, with power to vote the stock for the election of directors—as to 28 according to the instruction of policy-holders of the society and as to the remaining 24 directors in accordance with the uncontrolled judgment of the trustees.

This will at once accomplish the object of putting the control of the company in the hands of the policy-holders and will eliminate entirely the one man power to which so much objection has been made.

I have already asked ex-President Cleveland, Justice Morgan J. O'Brien, Presiding Justice of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of the State of New York and Mr. George Westing house, of Pittsburg, to act as trustees of this stock. The last two are among the largest policy-holders of the society."

It is highly gratifying to hear that the above

distinguished persons have expressed their willingness to undertake the very grave responsibilities of this trust. By the conveying of the controlling interest in the stock of the Equitable Life to these trustees, to be exercised for the purpose of effecting the plan of mutualization, the policy-holders in future will elect 28 out of the 52 directors, that is, the election of the Directors of the Equitable Life Assurance Society will be entirely in the power of the policy-holders.

Considering the severity of the storm which has raged around this company, the attacks upon its executive officers having come from every side, it is remarkable how steadfastly the policy-holders have resisted the efforts made to "switch" them in other directions. Some few have been moved by their fears to abandon their policies, but the lapses have been very small, and no doubt, in most cases, they will apply for re-instatement now the trouble is over.

It seems to have been generally understood that there was no question at issue relative to, or involving the financial stability of the Society. Unlimited confidence has been displayed in the Equitable possessing assets of sound quality which give it rank as, not merely one of the greatest life insurance offices in the world, but one of the largest financial corporations now in existence.

The wide extent and sacred nature of the interests entrusted to this society, render its affairs a matter of national importance, both to the United States and Canada. The policy-holders have our warm congratulations on this disturbance having subsided and an arrangement effected which has in it the promise of increased strength and popularity to the company and a widening of their privileges by the acquisition of a vote in the election of directors.

The field force of the society, every agent, in the words of Chairman Morton, "is to be congratulated on what is believed to be the complete solution of the difficulties which have temporarily hampered them and arrested their progress in competing for business." In all these felicitations we must heartily join, and express also the eminent satisfaction felt in financial circles over an arrangement that brightens the financial sky.

THE WORLD'S BALANCE OF TRADE.

Last week, the general principles underlying and circumstances controlling the condition known as "The Balance of Trade," were briefly stated. We gave the aggregate imports and exports of Canada from and to the principal countries with which our trade is transacted for the years 1873 to 1904. The most striking features in the table were the several amounts of the excess of British and American imports and of export: brought into and

sent out from Canada. Our exports to Great Britain exceeded imports therefrom by \$611,665,000, whereas our exports to the United States were less than our imports from that country by \$648,210,000. From 6 of the chief countries in Europe, Canada, in those years, 1873 to 1904, imported more by \$204,990,000 than was exported to those countries, and taking the gross amount of our imports as against the gross exports the result of our foreign trade since 1873, judged by the official returns, was to create a balance of trade against Canada of \$217,629,000. This, however, wholly ignores the charges for freight, insurance, and other charges, as well as the under valuations

which are well known to amount to no inconsiderable sum.

It is obvious from the enormous differences between the balances between Canada and Great Britain and Canada and the United States that the settlement of one set of balances must have been in some way effected by the utilization of the other set. In other words, Canada must have paid the balances created by her excess of imports from the States, France, Germany, etc., by the balances created by her excess of exports to Great Britain, and other countries. As between two countries it is not the case that goods bought are paid for by goods sold, the settlements of international trade

THE WORLDS' INTERNATIONAL TRADE.

Table showing the Exports and Imports, as given in latest available returns of Great Britain, Canada, the British Colonies, Countries South America, Asia, Africa, and Europe, with the excess respectively of Exports and Imports of each Country

Country.	Exports.	Imports.	Excess I of Imports E of Exports	Country.	Exports	Imports	Excess. I of Imports E of Exports
BRITISH EMPIRE.				ASIA & AFRICA			
Malta	\$ 26,747,000	\$ 32,803,900	I 6,055,900	China	\$ 161,500,000	\$ 237,300,000	I 75,800,000
Aden, &c.	18,800,000	21,850,000	I 3,050,000	Japan	145,400,000	150,900,000	I 5,500,000
Bahrein Isles ..	3,682,100	4,440,000	I 757,900	Persia.....	15,060,000	29,857,000	I 14,797,000
Borneo.	5,283,400	3,807,600	I 524,200	Siam.....	22,670,000	19,968,000	E 2,702,000
Ceylon.....	55,950,000	54,734,100	E 1,215,900	Tunis.....	8,000,000	13,000,000	I 5,000,000
Cyprus.....	1,305,400	2,014,800	I 709,400	Egypt.....	100,000,000	85,000,000	I 15,000,000
Hong-Kong.....	3,140,000	16,100,000	I 12,960,000	Cape of Good Hope	87,500,000	171,200,000	I 83,700,000
India.....	543,620,000	363,409,800	E 180,210,200	East Africa.....	5,040,000	5,500,000	I 460,000
Labuan.....	546,500	918,000	I 372,500	Natal.....	36,094,000	66,505,000	I 30,406,000
Straits Settlement..	301,473,800	351,483,500	I 50,009,700	Orange River....	1,425,000	12,300,000	I 10,875,000
Malay States....	71,350,200	45,757,200	E 25,593,000	Transvaal.....	37,150,000	65,300,000	I 28,150,000
Cape of Good Hope	87,280,000	171,102,000	I 83,822,000	West Africa.....	13,150,000	19,900,000	I 6,473,000
Central Africa....	173,800	718,900	I 545,100	Asia & Africa....	633,266,000	876,725,000	I 243,459,000
East Africa.....	825,300	2,215,100	I 1,389,800	Europe			
Uganda.....	203,500	312,685	I 109,185	Austria-Hungary..	400,000,000	370,000,000	E 30,000,000
Zanzibar.....	5,401,000	5,531,200	I 130,200	Belgium.....	765,000,000	876,000,000	E 111,000,000
Mauritius.....	10,600,000	6,828,000	E 3,772,000	Denmark.....	75,000,000	55,000,050	I 20,000,000
Natal.....	36,039,400	66,587,000	I 30,946,600	Greece.....	20,030,050	33,900,000	I 13,870,000
Nigeria.....	6,273,100	6,232,400	E 41,000	Spain.....	107,460,000	115,740,000	E 8,480,000
Orange River....	1,425,000	12,300,000	I 10,875,000	Servia.....	14,400,000	8,950,060	E 5,449,940
St. Helena.....	8,775	528,205	I 519,425	Roumania.....	74,900,000	56,600,000	E 18,300,000
St. Chelies....	365,000	287,000	E 78,000	Portugal.....	29,000,000	56,000,000	I 27,000,000
Transvaal.....	37,158,000	65,338,000	I 28,180,000	Netherlands.....	609,300,000	724,000,000	I 114,700,000
West Africa.....	13,427,600	19,903,600	I 6,476,000	Russia.....	451,000,000	270,000,000	E 181,000,000
Bermuda.....	555,600	2,730,700	I 2,175,100	Sweden.....	107,800,000	136,500,000	I 28,700,000
Falkland Isles..	454,190	319,200	E 134,990	Norway.....	72,500,000	45,000,000	E 27,500,660
Gumma.....	9,148,700	7,220,000	E 1,928,700	Switzerland.....	184,180,000	241,000,000	I 56,820,000
Honduras.....	1,401,400	1,263,000	E 138,000	Turkey.....	70,200,000	110,250,000	I 40,050,000
Newfoundland....	9,783,400	8,051,3000	E 1,732,100	Italy.....	370,000,000	443,900,000	I 73,900,000
West Indies.....	31,842,900	34,774,200	I 2,931,300	France.....	1,120,000,000	1,140,000,000	I 20,000,000
Australasia.....	423,318,600	393,291,900	E 30,026,700	Germany.....	1,257,500,000	1,549,500,000	I 292,000,000
Fiji.....	2,675,000	2,634,200	E 40,800	Europe.....	5,728,270,000	6,272,540,000	I 544,270,000
Great Britain....	1,855,700,000	2,719,500,000	I 863,800,000	South America....	628,156,400	366,556,900	E 261,599,500
Canada.....	213,521,200	259,211,800	I 46,690,600	Asia & Africa....	633,266,000	876,725,000	I 243,459,000
British Empire....	3,577,531,275	4,684,199,285	I 1,07,699,010	Grand Total			
SOUTH AMERICA				SUMMARY			
Argentina.....	179,486,700	103,039,200	E 76,447,500	Europe.....	5,728,270,000	6,272,540,000	I 544,270,000
Brazil.....	80,970,000	51,730,000	E 29,240,000	United States....	1,451,352,000	1,035,707,000	E 415,445,660
Chili.....	37,000,000	26,000,000	E 11,085,000	British Empire....	3,577,531,285	4,684,199,255	I 1,106,668,010
Colombia.....	19,609,000	11,000,000	E 8,000,000	South America....	628,156,400	366,556,900	E 261,599,500
Costa Rica.....	5,659,706	4,413,300	E 1,246,400	Asia & Africa....	633,266,000	876,725,000	I 243,459,000
Cuba.....	64,948,000	62,135,000	E 2,813,000	Grand Total			
Ecuador.....	9,050,100	7,221,000	E 1,828,000	Approximate....	12,018,575,675	13,235,928,185	I 1,217,352,61
Mexico.....	197,728,900	75,901,000	E 121,827,000				
Peru.....	15,000,000	8,600,000	E 6,400,000				
Venezuela.....	19,313,000	16,517,500	E 2,796,000				
South America....	628,156,400	366,556,000	E 261,599,500				

involve myriads of transactions, all of which are made without any regard being shown by individual exporters and importers to the general balance of trade. Merchants learn the conditions of the money market, by the rate of exchange. This information they get day by day and do not have to wait for official returns.

It is remarkable how generally the imports of countries exceed the exports. Statistics relating to foreign trade are made up on such different systems, and, for so many countries, are so long delayed publication, it is impossible to give as complete and as accurate an exhibit of the world's commerce as is desirable. The figures in the table accompanying this article are derived from several sources and may be taken as estimates based on official returns.

Mr. Mulhall considers that 12 per cent. of the original value of merchandise, when shipped, should be added for freight, commissions, etc., in order to arrive at the cost to the importer. This has to be considered, but, as both imports and exports are subject to those changes, the 12 per cent. does not wholly clear away the trade balance.

Another point, amongst others, for which we have not space, is that the shipments of one country to another though, on the surface, these transactions create balances for or against such countries in favour or adverse to such traders, they may really be a form of business which creates no such balances, as the goods may be sent for re-shipment to merchants in some other market who will have to arrange for the settlement of any indebtedness that has arisen.

The imports and exports returns of a country are thus liable to be duplicated. In any case, the re-export trade of goods merely bought for transmission abroad, either in the same condition as they were in when originally shipped, or, after being passed through a manufacturing process, forms a very large element in international trade.

So far as Canada is concerned, it is her interest to import only such goods as are in active demand and proportionate thereto, so as to avoid accumulations of goods unsaleable except at a sacrifice. It is also her Canada's interest to export as much of manufactured products as her industries can turn out which can be sold at a profit. If those two principles are observed she will derive advantages from all her imports as well as exports. Under such conditions there will never arise any unfavourable balance of trade, for, whether imports or exports are in excess, as both yield profits, when trading is wisely conducted, the whole foreign trade will work out to the country's advantage.

VALUE OF SANITATION.—The city of Chicago has had its typhoid fever cases reduced in the last ten years by over 75 per cent., owing to closer attention being given to sanitation.

THE SOVEREIGN BANK.

The third annual meeting of the Sovereign Bank was held at Toronto on 13th inst., when a statement was presented which met with expressions of the highest satisfaction from a large number of shareholders.

The growth of this Bank has been phenomenal. When it is considered that it has only been three years in operation its expansion must be regarded as an extraordinary exhibit of enterprise and energy on the part of the general manager, Mr. D. M. Stewart.

The net profits last year amounted to \$133,975.67, which is 10.30 per cent. on the paid-up capital. To this sum there being added \$6,112.65 brought from last year made a total of \$140,088, which was distributed as follows: 4 quarterly dividends at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum took \$65,000; \$50,000 was added to reserve fund; \$10,000 was written off bank premises; \$5,000 was reserved as rebate on undue bills, and the balance of \$10,088 was carried forward at credit of profit and loss to next year. The reserve fund now stands at \$400,000, which is a good record for 3 years' work. In the past year the "deposits not bearing interest," rose from \$1,079,762 to \$1,588,943, and those bearing interest from \$4,611,691 to \$6,727,261, the increase in total deposits last year having been \$2,624,751, which is an addition of over 46 per cent. The bank has now 26,725 depositors and 6,185 discount accounts all acquired in three years.

The current loans and discounts rose last year from \$4,773,362 to \$6,599,405, or close upon two millions of dollars, which is a gratifying feature in the statement. Other loans were increased to extent of \$326,757.

The assets immediately available amount to \$4,746,398, which equals 70 per cent. of the deposits payable after notice and 57 per cent. of the gross amount of deposits. These liquid assets exceed 40 per cent. of the bank's total liabilities. The surplus over all public liabilities is over \$1,700,000 which is a very favorable feature.

Mr. Stewart paid his staff a handsome compliment by saying it is one of the bank's best assets. Certainly the remarkable success achieved by the Sovereign Bank is evidence of the staff having worked zealously in concert with their indefatigable general manager. The edifice just about completion erected by the bank on St. James St. in this city is a handsome building and will prove a most convenient suite of offices. The staff, we are informed, will assume possession on 1st July next.

The president announced that the dividend would be increased to 6 per cent. It was also stated that applications had been received for more than the total issue of the new stock, which, when issued, would raise the capital to \$1,400,000 and the reserve fund to \$425,000.

LONDON AND LANCASHIRE FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

In this issue we publish the 43rd annual report of the London and Lancashire Fire Insurance Company.

In presenting this report to the shareholders at the annual meeting the chairman said: "I feel sure when you bear in mind the serious fires which confronted us at the beginning of the year, the result which you have before you of our operations in 1904 will be exceedingly gratifying."

This gratification does not arise from the year's results being less adverse than might have been expected from a year of conflagrations, but is justified by these results having been satisfactory in a general sense. The general manager, Mr. Rutter, said, "We have been prosperous, we have been doing so well that I have heard it alleged that it must be one of the easiest things imaginable to conduct an insurance company." But he went on to remark the manager had his anxieties besides those caused by conflagrations.

The net fire premiums in 1904 were \$6,599,340, and net losses \$3,599,045, the loss ratio being 54.5 per cent. The fire premiums in previous year were \$6,193,847, showing the year's increase to have been \$405,493.

THE MERCHANTS, BANK OF CANADA.

Mr. Thomas Fyshe is understood to have severed his connection with the Merchants' Bank of Canada, of which he has for some years been general manager, which is in accordance with the arrangements made that have already been outlined. He will receive his full salary for two and a half years and full retiring pension to which he would have been entitled, had he remained with the Bank of Nova Scotia.

Future arrangements have apparently not been decided upon by the directors, but in the meantime Mr. E. F. Hebden, superintendent of branches, who has been associated with the bank for many years, no doubt will take full charge of its affairs. Mr. Hebden is a most capable, experienced and popular official.

MANITOBA FIRE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

Messrs. Ridout, Szeliski, & Strickland have been appointed special agents of the Manitoba Fire Assurance Company for Toronto. The policies of the Manitoba are guaranteed by the Liverpool & London & Globe Insurance Company which places it practically among those in the front rank of fire companies.

EASTERN TOWNSHIPS BANK.

The following highly satisfactory statement of the Eastern Townships Bank has been issued for the half year ending 15th May last.

The paid-up capital of this bank is \$2,500,000, and reserve fund \$1,500,000. The profits for past half-year were equal to nearly 13 1/2 per cent. on the paid-up capital. The business of the Montreal branch is prospering under Mr. Austen's management.

Balance to profit and loss account, 15th November, 1904.....	30,217 74
Profits for the half year ended 15th May, 1905, after deducting charges of management, and making provision for bad and doubtful debts.....	167,185 33
Premiums received on new stock.....	14,055 00
	<hr/>
	\$211,458 07

91st Dividend, 4 per cent., payable 3rd July, 1905.....	99,986 40
	<hr/>
Balance of profit and loss carried forward..	\$111,471 67

SUMMARIZED GENERAL STATEMENT, 15th MAY, 1905.

Quick Assets.

Gold and silver coin and Dominion Government bills in bank vaults.....	\$939,594 19
Deposit with Dominion Government for security of general bank note-circulation.....	100,000 00
Amount due from other banks in Canada, Great Britain and the United States, including bills and cheques, all payable on demand.....	1,278,702 49
Dominion, Provincial and other marketable bonds, debentures and stocks, held for investment and reserve.....	582,839 62
Call loans, repayable on demand, and specially secured, and specially secured by bonds and stocks.....	301,079 14
	<hr/>

(Quick assets held for immediate demands)	\$3,202,215 44
Loans and discounts.....	12,271,740 66
Overdue loans and debts (loss provided for).....	73,228 94
Bank premises and furniture, reduced from cost to meet present value.....	408,248 90
Other real estate and assets.....	79,331 44
	<hr/>
(Total assets).....	\$16,034,765 22

Liabilities.

To the public.....	\$11,770,692 60
	<hr/>
Balance surplus over liabilities to the public, represented in capital, reserve and unused profit.....	\$4,264,072 58

J. MACINNON,
General Manager.

CHANGES IN THE CONDUCTING OF FIRE INSURANCE.

Fire insurance is being subjected to new conditions by the progress made in providing preventive appliances against fire. A century ago, the commercial use of steam was in its infancy and electricity was only a scientific curiosity. Had one spoken in those days of a 10 or 20 story building it would have excited derisive allusions to the tower of Babel. Were some old underwriters to return to earth, they would be amazed to hear insurance clerks discuss the hazard charge for exposure, for height, defective walls, etc.

Living underwriters, however, should not plume themselves on their wider knowledge, and regard their predecessors as ignorant and overrated men. This generation has learnt much of what is known from earlier ones.

School-boys to-day know things of which Lord Bacon was ignorant, and common stokers could give pointers on steam to Watt or Newcomen. As an old writer says, "Times have changed and we are changed with them." The old underwriters who never saw a gas or electric light, or a twelve story building could not be expected to have any knowledge of these as risks.

Insurance being a progressive business, those who conduct it take into consideration whatever new inventions are introduced which increase or decrease the hazards of fire. There are those who have no practical knowledge of underwriting, who yet affirm that all these altered conditions go to prove how ignorant of their business underwriters in earlier days must have been. Is fire insurance the only business which changes its methods? Every merchant must adapt his methods to existing conditions.

Marine insurance is affected by modern conditions, and in life insurance new plans have been adopted to suit the circumstances of modern life. Residence in the West Indies at one time doubled life premiums, but now as the climate is more familiar and all its effects understood, the premiums for policy-holders in that region have been materially reduced.

A ten story building requires proportionately a greater force of water to reach its roof, than one of 5 stories. A fire-proof building withstands fire better than others; electricity in a building has to be reckoned with. Unless the underwriters set themselves to cope with these and numerous other matters affecting risks, they show themselves unworthy of their position. Their recent schedules show they are alive to the situation and in changing the mode of conducting their business they are simply keeping pace with the times.

EASTERN TOWNSHIPS BANK.

The Montreal branch of the Eastern Townships Bank, under the management of Mr. B. Austin, will shortly be removed to the new Metropolitan building in this city. The offices leased, are on the ground floor, and are at present being fitted up, with every modern convenience, for a large banking office.

The Eastern Townships Bank will probably commence building operations early next year on the site purchased on St. James St. some time ago.

RESIGNATION OF MR. G. P. REID.

The retirement of Mr. George P. Reid from his position as general manager of the Standard Bank has excited much surprise, as there were none of the conditions in existence which ordinarily cause a bank manager to resign.

In their report for year ending 31st May, 1894, the directors "deplore the loss sustained by the demise of Mr. Brodie," and in consequence of that event they withdrew their recommendation to issue \$250,000 of new stock. The statement attached to above report is signed "J. L. Brodie, Managing Director," but the report of the annual meeting, at which it was presented, held 20th June, 1894, is signed, "Geo. P. Reid, Manager."

During his management the Standard Bank has steadily advanced from strength to strength. The net profits for the entire period have been above the average, usually about 15 per cent, on the paid-up capital. The following shows the expansion of its business since Mr. G. P. Reid assumed charge:

	April 30th, 1905.	April 30th, 1894.	Increase, \$
Capital paid-up.....	1,000,000	1,090,909	No change.
Reserve Fund.....	1,000,000	559,000	450,000
Circulation.....	863,256	626,824	236,432
Deposits on demand...	3,169,665	1,583,502	1,586,163
" payable after notice.	9,237,755	3,307,533	5,930,212
Current loans.....	11,267,317	4,463,337	6,803,980
Total assets.....	16,563,921	7,708,915	8,855,006

The reason assigned for Mr. Reid's retirement is that his ideas regarding the general policy of the bank and those of the directors were not in accord. He was not in favour of the capital being increased as has been done by so many banks in recent years, nor was he in favour of a certain class of loans which, though profitable, he considered more suitable to institutions with large capital than to one whose capital was small. These conservative views not being in harmony with those entertained by the Board, Mr. Reid decided to withdraw while his relations with the directors were quite agreeable. It is understood that he will be voted a handsome retiring allowance in recognition of the eminent success and highly profitable results of his ten years' administration.

THE HOME BANK OF CANADA.

The first general meeting of the shareholders of the Home Bank of Canada was held on the 10th inst. in Toronto.

Almost all the subscribed capital was represented either in person or by proxy.

Mr. Eugene O'Keefe, chairman of provisional board of directors, presided, and the general manager, Lieut.-Col. James Mason, acted as secretary.

The chairman stated that over \$500,000 of the capital stock of the bank had been subscribed and

\$250,000 in cash had been paid in to the minister of finance, as required by the Bank Act.

It was announced that the bank would commence business in its new premises 8-10 West King Street in the early part of August when the transfer of the Home Savings and Loan Company would be consummated. The bank will have, on commencing business, about \$3,500,000 of deposits and over 9,000 depositors.

DEPOSITS IN LARGE BANKS OF UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

The following is a list of the banks in the United States and in Canada whose gross deposits exceed \$23,000,000:

City, New York	\$255,468,000
Commerce, New York	202,684,000
First, New York	98,918,000
First, Chicago	92,575,000
Park, New York	83,717,000
Hanover, New York	79,750,000
Chase, New York	62,577,000
Continental, Chicago	52,673,000
Commerce, St. Louis	51,874,000
Shawmut, Boston	48,699,000
Corn Exchange, Chicago	48,169,000
Fourth Street, Philadelphia	43,020,000
First, Boston	40,208,000
Philadelphia, Philadelphia	38,065,000
American Exchange, New York	35,971,000
Commercial, Chicago	34,819,000
Bank of New York, New York	34,219,000
Commerce, Kansas City	32,242,000
Girard, Philadelphia	31,308,000
Mechanics', New York	30,976,000
Fourth, New York	29,950,000
Franklin, Philadelphia	28,400,000
Chemical, New York	28,250,000
Third, St. Louis	27,018,000
Mechanics' American, St. Louis	25,000,000

City. Of the above banks, eleven are located in New York.

The banks in Canada whose deposits exceed above amount are:

Bank of Montreal	\$100,747,000
Canadian Bank of Commerce	69,700,000
Dominion Bank	28,889,000
Merchants' Bank	26,435,000
Royal Bank	23,800,000

WINNIPEG FIRE.

As a result of being struck by lightning, the new warehouse of the Scott Furniture Company, Winnipeg, was destroyed by fire on the 13th instant, entailing a loss of about \$130,000. The building was erected last year at a cost of about \$60,000.

The insurance is stated to be as follows:—
On Building, Norwich Union, \$10,000; North British & Mercantile, \$10,000; Caledonian, \$10,000; Royal, \$5,000; local companies, \$5,000. Total, \$40,000.

On stock, London & Lancashire Fire, \$2,500; Scottish Union, \$2,000; Quebec, \$3,000; Phoenix of London, \$2,000; British America, \$3,000; Canadian Fire, \$4,000; Phoenix of Brooklyn, \$2,000; Commercial Union, \$3,000; Liverpool & London & Globe, \$2,000; Manitoba, \$1,000; Equity, \$2,000; Anglo-American, \$2,500; Western, \$3,000; Hartford, \$1,500; Northern, \$1,000; New York Underwriters, \$1,000; other companies, \$4,000. Total, \$40,000.

LIFE ASSURANCE IN CANADA, 1904.

On another page of this issue, we publish a table showing the total income of, and payments by, the Canadian Life Offices, and the same as regards the Canadian business only of the British and American Companies. This table is published as a matter of general information, not for comparison, inasmuch as while we give the total income and payments to policy-holders of the Canadian Companies, which includes the business transacted outside of the Dominion, the Canadian Branch figures only are given of the British and American Offices. It must also be remembered that the age of the Company, the amount of Assurance in force, and the amount of new business transacted, are all factors which have to be considered in connection with the mortality rates of the Companies.

The following is a summary of the several totals of the Canadian, British and American companies for years 1904 and 1900, which shows that the net premium of the life companies in Canada increased by \$6,855,819, which is about 42 per cent. in the 4 years 1901, 1902, 1903, 1904:

Income.	Year.	Canadian Companies.	British Companies.	American Companies.
		\$	\$	\$
Net premium income	1904..	15,295,341	1,462,133	6,427,403
"	1900..	10,762,561	1,338,119	4,228,378
	Increase	4,532,780	124,014	2,199,025
Consideration for ann'ts	1904	345,323	11,379	109,304
"	1900	237,043	34,236	32,803
Interest and dividends	1904..	3,695,180	1,117,625	1,344,336
"	1900..	2,326,362	972,342	942,59
	Increase	1,368,818	145,283	401,745
Sundries	1904..	373,128	25,672	19,616
"	1900..	194,260	21,314	11,828
Total income	1904..	19,708,973	2,616,810	7,900,661
"	1900..	13,520,227	2,366,013	5,215,601
	Increase	6,188,746	250,797	2,685,060
Payments.				
Death claims	1904..	3,720,457	829,486	2,389,999
"	1900..	2,776,185	659,108	1,689,923
	Increase	944,272	170,378	700,076
Matured endowments	1904..	1,650,922	311,557	842,714
"	1900..	675,142	242,591	737,783
Paid to annuitants	1904..	166,136	16,946	44,616
"	1900..	98,004	14,160	34,110
Paid for surrender values	1904	606,292	97,897	698,873
"	1900	480,097	54,316	269,270
	Increase	126,195	43,581	429,603
Dividends to policy-ers'	1904	510,894	45,083	472,777
"	1900	1,165,715	29,381	306,268
Total paid to policy-ers'	1904	6,054,702	1,300,972	4,448,979
"	1900	5,195,145	999,558	3,037,356
	Increase	859,557	301,414	1,411,623
Net premium income..			
Grand total	1904..	23,184,877
Net premium income.....			
Grand total	1900..	16,329,058
Increase since 1900.....\$ 6,855,819				

PREMIUM INCOME AND PAYMENTS.

Table giving the table cash income and total payments to policy-holders of Canadian Life Companies, and Cash Income in Canada only, and payments to Canadian policy-holders by British & American Life Companies for the year 1904, compiled from the Abstract Statement of the Superintendent of Insurance, Ottawa.

Companies.	Cash Income, 1904.				Payments to Policy-Holders in 1904.					
	Net Premium Income.	Consideration for Annuities	Interest & dividends on Stocks &c	Total Income.	Death Claims.	Matured Endowments	Paid to Annuity-ants.	Paid for surrendered Policies.	Dividends to Policy-Holders.	Total paid Policy-Holders.
CANADIAN Co's.										
Canada	\$ 3,011,182	\$ 31,995	\$ 1,159,191	\$ 4,293,689	\$ 1,331,777	\$ 248,457	\$ 23,597	\$ 76,500	\$ 68,218	\$ 1,748,551
Confederation	1,228,586	33,759	397,509	1,702,099	360,190	237,233	19,208	49,169	65,590	731,391
Continental	125,891	1,740	12,401	141,693	12,000	none	none	664	none	12,664
Crown	104,565	none	2,727	119,369	8,000	none	none	263	none	8,263
Dominion	165,005	300	41,458	206,763	22,665	3,070	518	6,961	1,321	34,537
Excelsior	216,885	none	35,041	264,321	35,640	1,000	300	10,290	417	47,647
Federal	530,523	1,000	84,120	617,853	137,715	3,000	3,200	23,902	31,086	198,911
Great West	654,837	8,110	133,262	769,209	98,073	7,230	5,111	9,107	4,528	124,051
Home	129,438	none	22,211	153,076	26,091	none	none	19,049	none	45,141
Imperial	591,151	6,267	99,466	708,975	58,227	7,500	7,732	9,262	1,107	83,229
London	355,597	none	74,228	429,826	80,646	7,552	none	5,182	6,074	99,456
Manufacturers	1,421,347	none	237,738	1,659,107	216,420	38,763	1,932	54,289	28,285	339,691
Mutual of Canada	1,368,695	4,669	350,158	1,723,308	220,304	160,053	8,679	52,394	83,183	524,615
National	151,579	none	10,041	162,120	23,714	none	none	3,255	none	26,970
North American	1,236,710	539	258,928	1,504,063	253,460	100,825	10,586	94,422	103,842	561,136
Northern	130,468	none	21,460	151,929	12,379	none	56	4,909	none	17,345
Royal Victoria	132,773	none	14,243	147,016	34,611	none	4,854	3,138	none	42,604
Sovereign	61,149	none	5,817	108,453	6,980	none	none	none	none	6,980
A. O. Foresters	19,847	none	2,858	22,706	8,255	none	none	377	none	8,632
Sun Life of Canada	3,533,846	256,943	729,267	4,561,798	755,187	236,236	80,357	185,005	117,238	1,374,025
Union	123,265	none	3,047	242,139	18,116	none	none	138	none	18,255
Total	15,295,341	345,323	3,695,180	19,708,973	3,720,457	1,050,922	166,136	606,292	510,894	6,054,702
BRITISH Co's.										
Com'l Union	20,065	none	40,715	60,781	42,087	none	none	none	275	42,363
Edinburgh	2,219	none	1,089	3,308	20,156	none	none	800	none	20,956
Life Assoc' of Scotland	24,833	none	7,116	31,950	37,686	3,796	none	11,528	none	53,010
L & L & Globe	5,081	none	5,081	16,140	none	none	885	none	155	17,181
London & Lancashire	333,572	none	132,598	469,940	137,874	53,242	none	10,621	7,903	208,742
London Assurance	690	none	none	690	7,822	none	none	none	none	7,822
North British	17,488	none	none	17,488	32,296	1,441	623	2,074	467	36,904
Norwich Union	3,057	none	343	3,400	8,831	2,000	54	370	none	11,256
Pelican & B. Empire	219,023	7,000	93,830	325,477	104,607	72,047	5,415	14,572	610	197,263
Royal	35,560	none	7,209	42,770	75,253	none	572	2,698	none	78,523
Scottish Amicable	3,648	none	612	4,261	18,234	none	none	none	none	18,234
" Provident	1,053	none	80,576	81,630	6,895	none	none	none	none	6,895
Standard	783,356	4,379	720,107	1,514,623	304,986	179,431	9,380	54,854	35,669	584,322
Star	15,481	none	33,424	56,005	16,604	498	14	377	none	17,494
Total	1,462,133	11,379	1,117,625	2,616,810	829,486	311,557	16,946	97,897	45,083	1,300,972
AMERICAN Co's										
Ohio	642,243	none	189,176	835,608	292,403	301,107	none	7,326	66,229	667,066
Connecticut Mutual	22,892	none	4,750	27,642	75,560	7,428	none	none	7,611	88,599
Equitable	791,190	96,451	313,016	1,200,657	371,463	140,096	7,965	182,317	161,426	863,269
Germania	6,502	none	7,130	13,633	4,785	35,313	none	6,608	38	46,746
Metropolitan	1,218,670	2,446	83,200	1,308,473	229,947	6,994	472	13,011	11,787	262,214
Mutual Life of N. Y.	1,159,732	none	273,244	1,433,477	395,726	157,582	20,911	167,995	48,994	791,211
Mutua. Reserve	255,371	none	13,218	268,589	189,346	none	none	18,496	2,583	210,425
National, U. S.	582	none	none	582	15,618	none	none	none	none	15,618
New York	1,563,464	10,253	305,114	1,888,045	499,608	117,704	13,017	260,850	153,298	1,044,479
North Western	5,679	none	none	5,679	9,721	211	none	483	2,096	12,412
Phoenix Mutual	13,949	none	5,307	19,257	23,896	3,904	none	1,498	2,376	31,674
Provident Savings	125,691	none	12,411	138,101	51,000	1,043	none	6,225	2,104	60,373
State	56,184	none	none	56,184	none	none	none	none	32	56,184
Travellers	284,673	none	91,069	376,783	129,008	31,470	2,219	7,933	none	170,631
Union Mutual	220,897	none	35,886	257,821	73,915	32,672	none	16,495	9,077	132,160
United States	59,656	154	10,311	70,122	30,000	7,187	29	9,630	5,118	51,965
Total	6,427,403	109,304	1,344,336	7,900,66	2,389,999	842,714	44,616	698,873	472,774	4,448,979

PROMINENT TOPICS.

PEACE CONFERENCE.—President Roosevelt has achieved a diplomatic triumph of the highest importance by inducing Russia and Japan to make arrangements for a Conference to discuss terms of peace. Where this meeting will be held is not yet known, nor is it known who will be the plenipotentiaries of each power. The probability is, that the Conference will be held at the Hague, which is already associated with a peace movement initiated years ago by the present Czar.

In his letter to the rulers of Russia and of Japan, President Roosevelt made a new departure in several respects. Communications between the authorities of one country and another are accustomed to be carried on through the medium of their respective ambassadors or other representatives. Such communications are kept most secret, they are expressed in the terms customary in the diplomatic service, which are proverbially lacking in frankness. The art of verbal "hedging" is a necessary accomplishment for a diplomatist.

* * * *

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S HISTORIC LETTER to the Czar and Mikado was written in the style of business, he went at once direct to the point, he stated the object of his appeal in words of gravity and clearness. The extreme desirability of putting an end to so terrible a slaughter of human life was forcibly urged and presented as his excuse for interfering between the powers at war. He made no offer to act as intermediary, but, in most felicitous, because most frank and straightforward language, he suggested that each power appoint plenipotentiaries to confer together directly, without the presence of any representative of a third power, so that their deliberations respecting the terms of peace, so universally desired by all the other nations, could be carried on uninfluenced by any outside power.

This appeal, so dignified, so transparently clear, so unselfish, so direct, and we may say, so business like, was promptly responded to. The Conference, as suggested, will take place and the whole civilized world is hopefully anticipating that the result will be a proclamation of peace between Russia and Japan.

* * * *

DANGER OF DELAY.—That "delays are dangerous" is notorious, the danger is most serious of delay in bringing the two powers together to settle terms of peace. Both armies are reported to be ready for a decisive battle. The Japs are said to be enveloping their foes, and just now it will be for both armies extremely depressing to have their enthusiasm dissipated by standing at ease waiting for the results of the Conference. Awful as the results would be, in some respects a decisive engagement would end

the war more satisfactorily than a conference, that is, if the Russian army were defeated. If it were victorious the war would probably be prolonged. The battle of Trafalgar, though, as a naval fight decisive, was followed by ten years of war on land, so the destruction of the Russian fleet is not necessarily an assurance of Russia's desire for peace. The present suspense, we trust, will be soon over and both combatants set free to pursue a career of political and commercial prosperity.

* * * *

A WARNING UNHEEDED.—Well for Russia would it have been, had the warning and advice of Prince Meshtstersky, uttered a year ago, been heeded. He said, "Russia has work enough to do at home without squandering her money in jadding after a will o' the wisp in the far East in pursuance of schemes that way make ruin."

* * * *

A GLASGOW EXPERT ON MUNICIPAL STREET RAILWAYS.—The Mayor of Chicago invited Mr. Dalrymple, one of the managers of the city of Glasgow's street railway, which is a municipal enterprise, to visit Chicago to give his advice as to the system being adopted there. He has been, has investigated the local conditions, and has gone away with the conviction that there are circumstances existing in Chicago which, in his judgment, would prevent a municipal street railway being a success, or, indeed, any municipal enterprise.

Those circumstances arise from the American custom of dominating all public matters and projects and works with political influences. Instead of the street railway being run, as in Glasgow, strictly on business lines by a Council of first class citizens, in Chicago it would be run by a very inferior class of officials in the interest of the dominant political party. Such being the case, Mr. Dalrymple hesitates to recommend Chicago, as a city, working its own railway system.

He gave details as to the Glasgow plan which would not be popular in Montreal. The fares are not uniform for the whole distance covered by one trip, considering too the length of the trips which may be taken in this city, and other places in Canada, for one fare the Glasgow charge is no lower than here.

* * * *

A DEFAULTING AMERICAN BANKER'S SENTENCE.—F. G. Bigelow, who robbed the First National Bank of Milwaukee, of which he was president, was tried last week and sentenced to 10 years hard labor in the penitentiary. Another 10 year sentence was recorded against him to run concurrently with the other. Whether and when the punishment will be enforced is another matter, as there may be appeals from one Court to another that will practically annul the sentence.

It would be quite impossible for the president of any bank in Canada to commit such a crime as has

landed a dozen American bank presidents in jail in spite of there being State inspection of banks in that country.

* * * *

THE INDEMNITY TO BE PAID JAPAN.—A Russian statistician is reported to have represented Russia as too poor a country to be able to pay an indemnity to Japan. This is a very ancient plea. If Russia is as poor as is represented she deserves all the more severe punishment for entering upon a war of aggression that was certain to involve enormous expenditures. The possibility of having to pay both his own and defendant's law costs should be considered by a man before going to law. Russia has lost her suit against Japan and she will have to pay the costs incurred on both sides. For the moment this obligation may be embarrassing, but Japan will give time to her debtor and spread instalments of the indemnity over a moderate period. At the Conference between the respective plenipotentiaries of the combatants the Russian will not plead poverty, for the Japanese would treat that with disdain.

* * * *

OFFICE HOURS.—A topic constantly commented upon is the growing habit of keeping irregular office hours, more especially in regard to the late hour of attendance in the morning. It was remarked by a shrewd observer: "Show me an official who cannot get to business early in the morning and I will show you a man who will never be successful."

The habit of delaying attendance at the office in a morning dissipates the best time of the day. It causes others who are more punctual to waste time, thereby provoking no little irritation. When the time a person arrives at his office in a morning is uncertain, those who have business to transact with him are liable to be kept waiting in suspense and a whole day's arrangements may be thrown out of gear by one man's lack of punctuality. The whole business system of a city is like a machine which is dependent for its effective working upon regular hours of business being universally observed. The late comer to his office disturbs the smooth, the effective working of the business system, he causes a waste of energy, just as a wheel out of gear wastes motive power.

A man starts with a heavy handicap for the day's race who arrives at his office one, two or more hours after the customary time. To all whom this cap will fit, who have acquired the habit of being late in entering their offices, we would say,

"Oh! reform it altogether!"

* * * *

INSURANCE ACT.—The Hon. Mr. McMullen has given notice of the introduction of a Bill to amend the Insurance Act. The object of the honorable

investment of funds by the directors of life insurance companies, which, as they represent the savings of the people, demand the utmost care.

* * * *

THE INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY DEFICIT seems to have assumed very large proportions. The honorable, the Minister of Railways explained to the House the financial position of the road, and pointed out that the year's deficit would be about \$2,000,000. This is not very encouraging for government and municipal ownership faddists.

* * * *

FLETCHER'S FIELD, OR THE PEOPLE'S PLAYGROUND.—Claimants are coming forward, making claims against the ownership of certain portions of Fletcher's Field. The total claims are said to amount to about \$500,000. It is scarcely conceivable that the City should have held property during all these years to which it had no valid title.

PERSONALS.

MR. MC. N. SHAW, manager of the Imperial Life for Province of Quebec, has recently appointed ten district agents. We understand that the Montreal branch was at the head of the list for volume of new business during the month of May out of a total of thirty branches of the Imperial Life.

MR. A. R. HOWELL, superintendent of the Life Department, Royal Insurance Company, was visiting some of the agencies in Province of Quebec this week. The Life policies of the Royal are very attractive, and can be commended to prospective insurers.

MR. CHARLES H. NEELY, manager for Canada of the Ocean Accident and Guarantee Corporation, is at present in Toronto, where the business of the Ocean is large and increasing.

Notes and Items.

AT HOME AND ABROAD.

MONTREAL CLEARING HOUSE.—Total for week ending June 15, 1905—Clearings, \$26,173,962; corresponding week 1904, \$20,780,941; 1903, \$31,321,506.

OTTAWA CLEARING HOUSE.—Total for week ending June 1905—Clearings \$3,578,815; corresponding week last year \$2,296,749.

THE NIAGARA AND WELLAND POWER Co. has an engineering staff of ten men surveying between Galt and London for a line to transmit power from Niagara Falls.

KING EDWARD IN DANGER.—On 7th inst., the automobile of the King took fire in London. His Majesty alighted and returned to Buckingham Palace on another motor car.

CHEAP GAS—LARGE CONSUMPTION.—At Johnstone, Scotland, gas was reduced last year from 2s 8d to 2s 5d per 1,000 feet, and the consumption increased by 5,000,000 feet, about 8 per cent.

THE BATTLE-SHIP AFRICA recently launched at Chatham Dockyard was equipped with 18 Babcock & Wilcox boilers fitted in 3 boiler rooms. The engines are of 18,000 h.p.

A CONVENTION OF FIRE ENGINEERS will be held at Duluth August 16, when subjects of special interest to fire brigades will be discussed, one being, "Suggestions regarding conflagrations, their cause and best plan for their prevention" which ought to elicit some valuable ideas.

ST. LOUIS CITY is stated to have had an average fire loss ratio of 64.63 per cent yearly for 14 years, and a tax ratio 5.70 per cent., which, with 35 per cent. expense ratio raises the average outgo of the fire companies in that city to 105.33 per cent. for each year since 1891. Last year there was an improvement.

THE BRITISH AMERICA AND WESTERN ASSURANCE have withdrawn from South Dakota on account of the standard policy created under the valued policy law, says Rough Notes.

DECISION RELAPSED FRATERNAL POLICY.—The Missouri Supreme Court has decided, says "The United States Review," that fraternal and assessment life insurance companies have no right to revoke policies upon which three or more annual payments have been made. In the case decided, a policy had been taken out in May, 1896, but after three payments were made, the premium due in June, 1899 was not met and the assured died in January, 1900. The lower court held that there was a net value to the policy sufficient to carry it beyond the date of death and rendered judgment in favor of the beneficiary, which has now been upheld.

IN THE APPEALED CASE OF THE NORTH BRITISH AND MERCANTILE against the Union Stockyards Company the Supreme Court of Kentucky holds that though the risk was increased after the issuing of the policy, by the storing of rags without the consent of the insurer, yet if the extra hazardous condition was removed before there was a fire, then the condition remained precisely as when the contract was made, and while the liability of the insurer was suspended during the time of the existence of the condition, if the fire had then occurred the insurer would not have been liable. But if before loss, and during the time covered by the policy, the original condition was restored, the liability of the insured was restored also, and it was thereafter liable for the loss.—"The Weekly Underwriter."

HOSE AND HYDRANTS.—Mr. J. T. Fanning of Minneapolis in an address to the Special Agents' Association of the Northwest, at Spokane, recently, said: "Very few of the city departments have yet learned that hydrants are cheaper than hose; that is, if the hydrants are placed far apart, farther than you suggest in your book, then, whenever there is a fire, longer lengths of hose must be used. Hose is expensive. They are not longlived, and renewing hose is quite expensive. If a hydrant of proper design and proper construction is well established, it is good for 15 to 20 years.

"The repair expense to hydrants is nominal, while to hose it is large. Furthermore, if the hydrants are a long distance apart, the longer length of hose causes a friction in the water running through it, which very materially reduces the effectiveness of the engine or of the natural pressure."

NEW BRUNSWICK FIRES.—One of the oldest houses in St. John N.B., was gutted by fire recently. It was insured in the Queen for \$1,000. It was built in 1840 in the

days when the building of wooden vessels were a flourishing industry at St. John. On the 6th inst., a fire broke out at Buctouche, N.B., which destroyed 7 buildings.

HARD ON THE COMPANY.—A case of considerable interest to accident insurance companies and insured was decided recently in a Pennsylvania court when a jury returned a verdict for the administrator of an estate in a suit against the Maryland Casualty Company of Baltimore. It appears that on January 16, 1901, James Gillespie of Wilkes-Barre took out a policy for \$3,000, making a deposit of \$5 on the transaction. On the same day he fell down a flight of stairs, sustaining injuries from which he died in five days. The company refused to pay the \$3,000, claiming the contract between the company and the insured had not been consummated as the policy had not been delivered. The plaintiff claimed that the company agreed to pay the full amount in case the insured should meet with an accidental death within ten days. The verdict included interest so that the company has to pay \$3,750.—"Elizabeth (N. J.) Journal."

Correspondence.

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

LONDON LETTER.

London, England, June 1, 1905.

FINANCE.

The death of Baron Alphonse de Rothschild brings to an end one of the most interesting and successful business careers in the world of European finances. The founder of the Rothschilds established five branches of his family; three of these survive in London, Vienna and Paris. The latter branch which was under the personal control of the late Baron Alphonse, had of late years practically given up ordinary banking, and Bourse business and confined itself to big international operations.

Baron Alphonse succeeded his father, James, in 1869, and his first big operation was raising, in conjunction with the other French banks, the enormous war indemnity which France paid Germany, a sum, with current interest, amounting to \$1,086,000,000. The money was raised in two 5 per cent. loans in 1871, and 1872 the first at 82 1-2 and 84 1-2. These loans have of course since been converted into 3 per cent. rentes.

Although Baron Alphonse's connection with French state finance, was less definite afterwards he always remained an adviser on financial questions to the cabinet of the third republic. He was of great assistance in the Bontoux smash of 1882, and the late copper ruin which nearly overwhelmed the Comptoir d'Escompte. In the Baring crisis in London in 1890 he negotiated a temporary advance of \$15,000,000 from the Banque de France.

Canadian investments of all kinds are again in favour here, after the recent general slump. Canadian Pacifics, Trunks, Hudson's Bay are all advancing, and the smaller companies are doing well. To take an example, there is the Trust and Loan Co. of Canada. Since 1852 this company has paid an average dividend of 7.2 per cent. per annum. As the company has to lend its money outright for periods of five years, it cannot take advantage of the money market in the way that people can who make short loans, but its development is bound up with that of Canada, and is thus very sure.

INSURANCE.

With the utter destruction of the Russian fleet the war risk markers here suddenly dwindle away. For some weeks past, warned by experience, heavy extra premiums had been insisted upon when insurance was desired against capture or violence by the Russians. Ships and cargoes on the line of route to China and Japan ranged from 3 to 5 per cent. according to flag and date of dispatch. The heavy premiums of the last few weeks will help the underwriters to get back some of their very heavy losses on the entire war risk trading.

Insurance has reached such a solid and substantial position in this connection, so far as the older companies are concerned, that the criticism now being levelled against one of them are worth momentary record. Complaints are rife in a good many quarters about the character of the credit of the accounts. It transpires that the auditors are employees of the Peninsular and Oriental and the Royal Mail steamship companies. It is the only insurance company which does not employ professional accountants and auditors. A proposal that a chartered accountant should be appointed, was voted down at the last meeting.

The Bankruptcy Court is at present the scene of various hearings in connection with the extinct Nelson Pension Tea scheme. During the examination of Rasmus Jensen, he has detailed the various lottery schemes he devised to promote his tea selling until he hit upon the "pension to widows" plan. He started in business in 1893, and 1901 sold out to the public company for \$250,000 in cash, and 50,000 shares. Later he sold most of his shares with the exception of 15,000 which were deposited as security for a loan of \$40,000.

John Morris Catton has also been examined. He came in as practically the purchaser of the business from Jensen, and he obtained most of the money from Mr. Emerson Brambridge, M.P., who lent \$150,000 at 5 per cent. on conditions.

STOCK EXCHANGE NOTES.

Wednesday, p. m. June 14th, 1905.

C.P.R. and Detroit Railway were prominent features this week, the latter having scored a new high level for the year. Dominion Iron securities developed strength today. Although trading was not active, a fair business was transacted, with a tendency towards a broader market. The past few months' trading has shown that there is practically no stock for liquidation at anything around present prices. Business almost ceases under any decline, while active trading is seen on all strong days.

The advance in Detroit is based on the general expectation that the dividend will be placed upon a 5 per cent. basis. The next will be payable on July 1st. Confirmation of the expected increase in the dividend comes from well informed circles, and the Company's earnings appear to warrant this advance. Strength in Dominion Iron securities was increased by the announcement of an order received from the Grand Trunk Pacific for 15,000 tons of 90 lb. rails for railway construction, this being considered to indicate that a large volume of business is likely to be obtained from that source. The Ogilvie Milling Company has called a meeting of shareholders for the 22nd inst., to consider, and if deemed advisable

to authorize, the issue of the \$400,000 of Preferred stock now held in the Company's treasury. The issue will no doubt be made, and shareholders will probably obtain one share in four at par. Should the issue be made on these lines, the Rights, at the present selling price of 137, should be worth about 7 points. The Havana Electric Railway Company securities were listed this week and called for the first time to-day. Sales of the Common were made at 15 and of the Preferred at 55½. Montreal Power continues steady around 89, but recently has not shown much disposition to move. There are some technical causes for this outside of general market conditions, but there is every reason to believe that the stock will have a good advance within the next few months, and at its present price ought to be a conservative purchase.

Money conditions remain unchanged, the bank rate in Montreal for call loans still continuing at 4½ per cent. In New York to-day money was easy at 2½ per cent., while in London ample supplies are offering at 1½ per cent.

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

	Market.	Bank.
Paris.....	1½	3
Berlin.....	2½	3
Amsterdam.....	2½	2½
Vienna.....	2½	3½
Brussels.....	2½	3

C. P. R. advanced to 151½ this week, but reacted to 149½, recovering again to 151½ at the close to-day, a net gain of 4¼ points for the week on sales of 1,732 shares. In the New Stock 100 shares were traded in, the stock changing hands at 149¼. The earnings for the last ten days of May show an increase of \$102,000, and for the first week of June a decrease of \$46,000.

The Grand Trunk Railway Company's earnings for the first week of June show an increase of \$26,999. The stock quotations as compared with a week ago as follows:—

	A week ago.	To-day.
First Preference.....	109	108½
Second Preference.....	98½	98½
Third Preference.....	49½	49½

Montreal Street Railway closed with 218 bid, an advance on quotation of 3 full points for the week. The trading was limited, however, and only 150 shares came out. The earnings for the week ending 10th inst., show an increase of \$3,548.00 as follows:—

		Increase.
Sunday.....	\$5,859.64	\$ 930.75
Monday.....	8,177.64	1,221.43
Tuesday.....	7,573.38	141.56
Wednesday.....	7,392.18	191.83
Thursday.....	7,698.32	425.41
Friday.....	7,542.57	366.34
Saturday.....	8,792.96	270.68

Toronto Railway has strengthened and sold up to 106½, closing with 106¼ bid, a net gain of 1¼ points for the week, and 550 shares figured in the week's business. The earnings for the week ending 10th inst., show an increase of \$1,346.63 as follows:

		Increase.
Sunday.....	\$4,300.96	\$ *892.78
Monday.....	7,423.88	*708.31
Tuesday.....	7,307.09	348.09
Wednesday.....	7,344.31	1,044.87
Thursday.....	7,368.47	1,113.21
Friday.....	7,493.91	858.84
Saturday.....	8,755.84	*417.29

*Decrease.

Twin City closed with 110½ bid, a gain on quotation of 1¼ points for the week. This quotation is Ex-Rights and the Rights are selling at ¾, and a fairly active business has been done in them around this figure. The trading in the stock was extremely limited, only 55 shares in all being dealt in.

* * * *

Detroit Railway advanced to 92¼ and closed with 92 bid, a net gain of 2 full points for the week. The stock was the most active in this week's market and 5,539 shares changed hands. The earnings for the first week of June show an increase of \$10,487.

* * * *

There were no transactions in Halifax Tram this week, and the closing quotation was unchanged from a week ago with 103 bid. The stock will sell X. D. of 1¼ per cent on the 21st inst.

* * * *

Toledo Railway closed with 34 bid, as compared with 33 a week ago, and the total transactions brought out 410 shares.

* * * *

Havana Electric closed offered at 15½ with no bid, and the last sales were made at 15. The Preferred stock closed offered at 60 with no bid, the last transactions being at 55¼.

* * * *

R. & O. sold down to 70 and closed with 70 bid, a loss of 1 full point from last week's closing transaction, and the total transactions for the week involved 260 shares.

* * * *

Mackay Common shows an advancing tendency and closed with 40½ bid, an advance of 1½ points for this week on sales of 100 shares. The Preferred stock closed with 72¾ bid, as compared with 72¼ bid, a week ago, and 280 shares were dealt in.

* * * *

The last transactions in Montreal Power were made at 89½, and the closing bid was 89½ an advance of ¼ point from last week's closing quotation. A moderate business was done in the stock and 1,285 shares changed hands.

* * * *

The last sales of Montreal Cotton were made at 114 as compared with 112 last week. The stock sold down to 106 recently so that this is a recovery of 8 full points from the lowest and of 2 points from the closing last week. The amount of stock coming out was limited, the total sales amounting to 461 shares.

* * * *

Dominion Iron Common closed with 21¼ bid, an advance of 1 5/8 points for the week and 2,597 shares figured in the trading. The Preferred stock was quite inactive, only 121 shares being dealt in, but the closing quotation is at an advance of 2½ points with 67½ bid. The Bonds have advanced and sold up to 86¼, closing with 85¾ bid, a gain of 1½ points for the week on transactions of \$79,000.

* * * *

Dominion Coal Common has made a good recovery from its recent break to 70, and closed with 76¼ bid, a gain for the week of 6¼ points on sales of 650 shares. The Preferred stock was traded in to the extent of 60 shares, the closing bid being 115, while \$3,000 of the Bonds changed hands during the week, the last sales being made at 99¼.

Nova Scotia Steel Common has made a further recovery and sold up to 58½, reacting to 57¾ at the close, a net gain of 3½ points from last week's closing quotation. A fair business was done in the stock and 1,190 shares were traded in during the week. In the Preferred stock 25 shares changed hands at 114, while \$3,000 of the Bonds were sold at 110¼.

* * * *

	Per cent.
Call money in Montreal.....	4½
Call money in New York.....	2½
Call money in London.....	1½
Bank of England rate.....	2½
Consols.....	90½
Demand Sterling.....	9½
60 days' Sight Sterling.....	9½

* * * *

Thursday, p.m., June 15, 1905.

Dominion Iron Common was a decided feature of today's market, and sold up to 22½, reacting to 22 in the afternoon, and closing with 21¼ bid. The knowledge that the question of the Detroit Railway dividend would not be taken up until 21st inst., reached the market this morning, and after opening at 92, the stock reacted to 91½, recovering to 92½ in the afternoon, and the last sales in New York to-day were at 93½, a full point over the last sales in this market. The trading was very dull throughout the day, and the moderate volume of business throughout the rest of the list was not of any particular interest. A list of the day's sales in detail will be found below.

* * * *

MONTREAL STOCK EXCHANGE SALES

THURSDAY, JUNE 15, 1905.

MORNING BOARD.

No. of Shares.	Price	No. of Shares.	Price
50 C.P.R.....	151	125 Iron Com	22¼
100 "	151 ½	25 "	22 ½
50 "	151	100 "	22 ½
50 Power	89 ¾	75 "	22 ½
5 "	89 ¾	25 "	22 ½
625 Detroit Ry.....	92	50 "	22 ½
25 "	91 ½	75 "	22 ½
100 "	91 ¾	175 "	22 ½
100 Havana	15	205 "	22
15 R. & O.....	70 ¾	\$27 Textile Pfd	85
50 Toledo	34 ¾	¾ "	85
1 Bell Telephone ...	153	65 "	85
25 Mackay Com	40 ¾	91.67 "	85
11 Hochelaga Bank... 135	73.33	"	85
5 Bank of Commerce.. 165	85	65 "	85
25 Scotia Com	57 ¾	86.67 "	85
20 Bank of Montreal 251	90	"	85
13 Royal Bank.....	212	63.33 "	85
150 Iron Pfd.....	68	60 "	85
238 Twin City Rights.. ¾		\$13 000 Iron Bonds.....	86 ¾
176 Telephone Rights... 3 ¾		\$4 000 Coal Bonds.....	99
20 Iron Com.....	22 ½		

AFTERNOON BOARD.

100 Street	218	3 Coal Pfd	115 ½
250 Iron Com.....	22	4 Bank of Toronto....	230 ¼
25 Detroit	92	15 Twin City Rights...	¾
50 "	92 ¾	42 Telephone Rts.....	¾
50 "	92	\$11.67 Textile Pfd	85 ¾
150 Scotia	56 ¾	70 "	85
2 R. & O.....	70	33.34 "	85
50 Power	89 ¾	7 "	85
15 Havana.....	15	\$500 Coal Bds.	99
11 West India	55	8,000 Iron Bonds.....	86 ¾
2 New C.P.R.....	150 P.S.		

The gross traffic earnings of the Grand Trunk Canadian Pacific, Canadian Northern, Duluth South Shore & Atlantic railways, and the Montreal, Toronto, Halifax, Twin City, Detroit United and Havana street railways, up to the most recent date obtainable, compared with the corresponding period for 1903 and 1904, were as follows:

GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY.				
Year to date.	1903.	1904.	1905.	Increase
April 30	\$10,821,323	\$9,391,628	\$10,481,415	\$1,089,787
Week ending.				
May 7.....	\$673,720	\$647,978	\$611,411	Dec. 28,677
14.....	619,570	656,660	651,842	1,173
21.....	647,923	695,828	648,170	" 47,658
31.....	972,340	976,080		

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY.				
Year to date.	1903.	1904.	1905.	Increase
April 30.....	\$13,278,000	\$12,920,000	\$14,550,000	\$1,637,000
GROSS TRAFFIC EARNINGS				
Week ending.				
May 7.....	\$890,000	\$925,000	\$908,000	Dec. 17,000
14.....	904,000	877,000	921,000	44,000
21.....	867,000	951,000	937,000	" 14,000
31.....	1,218,000	1,335,000	1,437,000	102,000
June 7.....	926,000	1,018,000	972,000	46,000

NET TRAFFIC EARNINGS.				
Month.	1903.	1904.	1905.	Inc.
January.....	\$916,771	\$357,652	\$422,668	\$65,010
February.....	742,741	82,541	302,171	219,606
March.....	1,258,564	850,854	1,182,827	331,973
April.....	1,493,173	412,533	531,806	119,273
May.....	1,383,357	1,391,565		
June.....	1,246,055	1,449,911		
July.....	1,318,527	1,449,652		
August.....	1,434,102	1,527,930		
September.....	1,202,266	1,268,808		
October.....	1,654,027	1,566,114		
November.....	1,477,981	1,669,575		
December.....	1,581,145	1,662,669		
Total.....	15,708,709	13,689,804		

CANADIAN NORTHERN RAILWAY.				
GROSS TRAFFIC EARNINGS.				
July 1st, 1903 to	July 1st, 1903 to	July 1st, 1903 to	July 1st, 1903 to	Increase
June 30, 1903	June 30, 1904	June 30, 1905	June 30, 1906	\$820,350
\$2,304,450	\$3,124,800			
Week ending.				
May 7.....	\$60,300	\$72,200	\$11,900	\$ 11,900
14.....	57,300	80,400	23,100	23,100
21.....	63,700	76,300	12,600	12,600
31.....	84,800	120,500	25,700	25,700
June 7.....	64,100	82,400	18,300	18,300

DULUTH, SOUTH SHORE & ATLANTIC.				
Week ending.	1903.	1904.	1905.	Increase
May 7.....	51,445	42,696	54,969	12,273
14.....	53,387	41,549	57,796	16,247
21.....	56,853	44,060	59,657	15,597

MONTREAL STREET RAILWAY.				
Month.	1903.	1904.	1905.	Increase
January... \$	168,883	\$ 182,386	\$ 201,096	18,710
February..	139,065	167,023	184,132	17,109
March...	168,987	183,689	206,725	23,036
April....	170,050	184,905	200,910	16,005
May.....	170,773*	217,341	232,999	15,658
June.....	205,454	229,595		
July.....	212,337	223,137		
August...	208,586	226,764		
September.	212,156	216,295		
October...	204,452	219,633		
November.	187,930	201,147		
December.	187,780	208,428		
Week ending.				
May 7	\$41,043	\$46,769	\$49,026	\$2,257
14.....	45,515	49,199	54,044	4,845
21.....	48,823	47,022	52,413	5,391
31.....	35,392	74,351	77,516	3,165
June 7....	48,766	48,134	53,274	5,121

TORONTO STREET RAILWAY.				
Month.	1903.	1904.	1905.	Increase
January.. \$	161,938	\$ 179,360	\$ 196,970	\$ 17,610
February..	146,539	168,904	185,377	16,473
March...	159,913	183,643	207,014	23,371

*Strike. † Spanish Street.

TORONTO STREET RAILWAY.				
Month	1903.	1904.	1905.	Increase
April.....	162,276	183,763	\$201,317	\$17,554
May.....	174,519	198,337	225,768	27,431
June... ..	177,593	207,482		
July.	192,629	211,356		
August... .	185,822	217,887		
September.	237,010	246,862		
October...	183,810	202,344		
November.	174,039	198,150		
December.	199,115	213,662		

TWIN CITY RAPID TRANSIT COMPANY.				
Month.	1903.	1904.	1905.	Inc.
January ..	\$310,084	\$329,354	\$349,469	20,114
February ..	280,947	310,180	319,811	9,631
March.....	317,839	338,580	359,884	21,304
April.....	315,465	332,615	352,729	20,114
May.....	337,999	358,344	387,645	29,301
June.....	346,018	365,897		
July.....	362,702	383,224		
August... .	363,579	386,629		
September.	370,349	371,476		
October...	346,673	365,932		
November.	333,424	352,433		
December.	357,452	374,738		
Week ending.				
May 7.....	\$71,485	\$77,399	\$82,868	\$5,469
14.....	71,606	78,702	84,687	5,985
21.....	77,472	78,714	87,765	9,051
31.....	117,136	123,528	132,325	8,796

HALIFAX ELECTRIC TRAMWAY CO., LTD.				
Railway Receipts.				
Month.	1903.	1904.	1905.	Inc.
January...	\$10,867	10,677	\$10,256	Dec. 421
February.	9,322	9,894	7,186	" 2,705
March...	10,195	11,152	9,322	" 1,830
April....	10,533	11,145	10,516	" 629
May.....	10,768	12,074		
June.....	11,844	14,051		
July.....	15,942	17,528		
August... .	16,786	17,402		
September.	18,494	17,862		
October...	12,055	12,434		
November.	11,220	11,085		
December.	12,160	12,163		
Week ending.				
May 7.....	\$2,240	\$2,595	\$2,372	Dec. 223
14.....	2,362	2,640	2,368	" 272
21.....	2,464	2,651	2,366	" 285
31.....	3,702	4,188	3,604	" 584
June 7.....	2,566	2,910	2,720	" 190

Lighting Receipts.				
Month.	1903.	1904.	1905.	Inc.
January.. \$	13,863	\$ 16,317	\$ 15,667	Dec. 650
February..	11,924	14,227	14,180	" 47
March....	10,523	12,718	12,719	" 1
April....	10,156	12,116	11,964	" 152
May.....	9,020	9,756		
June....	8,368	8,998		
July....	8,351	8,952		
August... .	8,826	9,596		
September.	10,781	11,720		
October..	13,186	14,209		
November.	14,200	16,273		
December.	16,611	17,684		
Week ending.				
May 7.....	\$82,448	\$89,654	\$ 7,206	\$ 7,206
14.....	77,891	91,134	13,243	13,243
21.....	82,330	92,788	10,458	10,458
31.....	138,570	127,720	10,790	10,790
June 7.....	87,045	87,532	10,487	10,487

DETROIT UNITED RAILWAY.				
Week ending.	1904.	1905.	Increase	
May 7.....	\$82,448	\$89,654	\$ 7,206	
14.....	77,891	91,134	13,243	
21.....	82,330	92,788	10,458	
31.....	138,570	127,720	10,790	
June 7.....	87,045	87,532	10,487	

HAVANA ELECTRIC RAILWAY CO.				
Week ending.	1904.	1905.	Increase	
May 8.....	\$32,314	\$38,780	\$6,466	\$6,466
15.....	31,466	38,554	7,088	7,088
22.....	29,758	42,500	12,742	12,742
29.....	31,759	37,345	5,586	5,586
June 5.....	32,740	39,215	6,475	6,475
12.....	32,479	39,979	7,500	7,500

STOCK LIST

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

Corrected to June, 14th., 1905, P.M.

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

Quarterly. †Bonus of per cent. †Price per Share ‡ Annual. § These figures are corrected from last Govt. Bank Statement APRIL 29th., 1905.

STOCK LIST—Continued.

BONDS.	Rate of Interest per annum	Amount outstanding.	When Interest due	Where Interest payable.	Date of Redemption.	Latest quotations.	REMARKS.
Commercial Cable Coupon	4		1 Jan. 1 Apl.	{ New York or London.....	1 Jan., 1907.	96	
Registered	4	\$18,000,000	1 July 1 Oct.			96	
Can. Colored Cotton Co.	6	2,000,000	2 Apl. 2 Oct.	Bank of Montreal, Montreal.....	2 Apl., 1902.	98	
Canada Paper Co	5	200,000	1 May 1 Nov.	Merchants Bank of Can., Montreal	1 May, 1917.	98	
Bell Telephone Co	5	2,000,000	1 Apl. 1 Oct.	Bank of Montreal, Montreal.....	1 Apl., 1925.		
Dominion Coal Co.	5	2,435,000	1 Feb. 1 Sep.	Bank of Montreal, Montreal.....	1 Feb., 1915.		Redeemable at 110
Dominion Cotton Co.	4 1/2	\$ 868,300	1 Jan 1 July				Redeemable at 110
Dominion Textile Co. Series A		758,900				87	
do do B	6	1,164,000				87	do 105 after 5 yrs
do do C	6	1,030,000				88	Redeemable at 105
do do D	6	450,000				93	Redeemable at 105
Dominion Iron & Steel Co.	5	\$ 7,876,000	1 Jan. 1 July	Bank of Montreal, Montreal.....	1 July, 1929.	85 1/2	Redeemable at 110 & accrued interest
Halifax Tramway Co.	5	\$ 600,000	1 Jan. 1 July	Bk. of N. Scotia, Hal. or Montreal	1 Jan., 1916.		Redeemable at 100
Intercolonial Coal Co	5	344,000	1 Apl. 1 Oct.		1 Apl., 1918.	106 1/2	
Laurieride Pulp	6	1,112,000				100	
Montmerency Cotton	5	1,000,000					
Montreal Gas Co.	4	880,074	1 Jan. 1 July	Company's Office, Montreal.....	1 July, 1921.		
Montreal Light, Heat and Power	4 1/2	7,500,000	1 Jan. 1 July	Bank of Montreal, Montreal.....	1 July, 1932.	102 1/2	Redeemable at 100
Montreal Street Ry. Co	5	292,000	1 Feb. 1 Sep.	{ Bank of Montreal, London, Eng.	1 Feb., 1908.		after Jan. 1st, 1911
do do	4 1/2	681,323	1 May 1 Nov.	" " Montreal.....	1 Aug., 1922.		
Nova Scotia Steel & Coal Co.	6	2,500,000	1 Jan. 1 July	Union Bank, Halifax, or Bank of Nova Scotia, Mon'tl or T'r'to	1 July, 1931.	107	
Ogilvie Flour Mill Co.	6	1,000,000	1 June 1 Dec.	Bank of Montreal, Montreal.....	1 June, 1902.	116	Redeemable at 110
Riehellen & Ont. Nav. Co.	5	471,580	1 Feb. 1 Sep.	Montreal and London.....	1 Feb., 1915.	103	after June 1st
Royal Electric Co.	4 1/2	\$ 120,900	1 Apl. 1 Oct.	Bk. of Montreal, Mon'tl or London	Oct., 1914.		Redeemable at 110
St. John Railway	5	\$ 675,000	1 May 1 Nov.	Bank of Montreal, St. John, N.B.	1 May, 1925.		5 p.c. redeemable
Toronto Railway	4 1/2	600,000	1 Jan. 1 July	Bank of Montreal, Montreal.....	1 July, 1914.		yearly after 1910
do do	4 1/2	2,500,063	28 Feb. 31 Aug.	Bank of Scotland, London.....	31 Aug., 1921.	103	
Windsor Hotel	4 1/2	340,000	1 Jan. 1 July	Windsor Hotel, Montreal.....	2 July, 1912.		
Winnipeg Elec. Street Railway	5	3,000,000	1 Jan. 1 July	Bank of Montreal, Montreal.....	1 Jan., 1927.	104 1/2	
Toledo Ry. & Light Co.	5	700,000	1 Jan. 1 July		1 July, 1912.		
do do	5	5,185,000	1 Jan. 1 July		1 July, 1909.		
do do	5	4,000,000	1 Jan. 1 July		1 July, 1909.		

[FIRE]
German American
 Insurance Company
 New York

CAPITAL
\$1,500,000
 NET SURPLUS
5,841,907
 ASSETS
12,980,705

AGENCIES THROUGHOUT CANADA.

The Sovereign Bank of Canada.

The third annual meeting of shareholders of the Sovereign Bank of Canada was held at the Head Office, Toronto, 13th Inst., and was largely attended.

Amongst those present were: Randolph Macdonald, A. A. Allan, D. M. Stewart, Hon. D. McMillan, Arch. Campbell, M.P.; John Pugsley, A. E. Dymont, M.P.; S. F. McKinnon, H. H. Beck, Jas. W. Pyke, Frank Turner, E. B. Strathy, John B. Kay, Andrew Smith, Hon. Jas. Youag, J. F. Junkin, Alex. Graham, W. Graham Browne, L. P. Snyder, and others.

The following reports were presented:—

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT.

To the Public:	LIABILITIES.	
	30th April, 1904.	29th April, 1905.
Notes of the Bank in circulation	\$1,091,865 00	\$1,198,190 00
Deposits not bearing interest..	\$1,079,762 10	\$1,588,943 42
Deposits bearing interest..	4,611,691, 23	6,727,261 41
Balances due to Banks in Great Britain..	\$5,691,453 33	\$8,316,204 83
	148,393 11	428,884 93
	\$6,931,711 44	\$9,943,279 76
To Shareholders:		
Capital Stock paid up	\$1,300,000 00	\$1,300,000 00
Reserve Fund..	350,000 00	400,000 00
Dividend No. 4, payable 16th May, 1904	16,250 00	16,250 00
Dividend No. 8, payable 15th May 1905..		16,250 00
Former Dividends unclaimed		287 50
Balance of Profits carried forward	6,112 65	10,088 32
	\$1,672,362 65	\$1,726,625 82
	\$8,604,074 09	\$11,669,905 58
	ASSETS.	
Gold and Silver Coin	\$151,237 43	\$153,847 88
Notes of the Dominion Government	535,430 50	746,685 00
Cash deposited with the Dominion Government for Security of note circulation..	\$686,667 93	900,532 88
	37,749 18	56,868 40
Notes of and Cheques on other Banks (Clearing House Exchange)	276,894 65	437,199 79
Balances due by other Banks in Canada	48,348 70	58,741 91
Due by other Banks in Foreign Countries..	108,170 02	173,207 99
Railway, Municipal and other Bonds..	664,458 48	832,931 00
Call and other Demand Loans secured by Bonds, Stocks, Grain, etc.	1,960,159 76	2,286,916,53
	\$3,782,448 72	\$4,746,398 80
Current Loans and Bills Discounted	\$4,773,362 98	\$6,649,405 17
Less rebate of Discount	20,000 00	25,000 00
	\$4,753,362 98	\$6,624,405 17
Past Due Bills (good, no loss to provide for)..	7,249 60	8,260 13
Bank Premises, Safes, Office Furniture, etc..	53,713 00	285,447 61
Other Assets..	7,299 79	5,393 87
	\$8,604,074 09	\$11,669,905 58

D. M. STEWART,
2nd Vice-President and General Manager.

Montreal, 29th April, 1905.

DIRECTORS' REPORT.

The Directors beg to present to the Shareholders the Third Annual Report, showing the result of the business of the Bank for the year ended 29th April, 1905:

Balance at credit of Profit and Loss Account on 30th April, 1904..	\$6,112 65
Net Profits for the year ended 29th April, 1905, after deducting charges of management, Provincial Government and Municipal Taxes, all advertising expenses, and accrued interest on deposits, and after making full provision for all bad and doubtful debts	133,975 67

This has been appropriated as follows:—

Quarterly dividends at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum:—	\$140,088 32
No. 5, paid 15th August, 1904	\$16,250 00
No. 6, paid 15th November, 1904	16,250 00
No. 7, paid 15th February, 1905	16,250 00
No. 8, paid 15th May, 1905..	16,250 00
	\$65,000 00
Transferred to Reserve Fund	50,000 00
Written off Bank Premises	10,000 00
Reserved for rebate of discount on Bills not yet due	5,000 00
	\$130,000 00
Balance carried forward	\$10,088 32

RESERVE FUND.

Balance at credit of Account, 30th April, 1904	\$350,000 00
Transferred from Profit & Loss Account..	50,000 00
Total, 29th April, 1905	\$400,000 00

The usual vote of thanks to the Directors and staff was made and referred to in eulogistic terms by the Shareholders. The following directors were elected:—

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| RANDOLPH MACDONALD, | D. M. STEWART, |
| HON. D. McMILLAN, | JOHN PUGSLEY, |
| A. A. ALLAN, | HON. PETER McFARREN, |
| ARCH. CAMPBELL, M.P., | W. K. McNAUGHT. |

At a subsequent meeting of the Board, Mr. Randolph Macdonald was elected President; Mr. A. A. Allan, First Vice-President and Mr. D. M. Stewart, Second Vice-President and General Manager.

LONDON AND LANCASHIRE FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY

On the 10th May, 1905, the London and Lancashire Fire Insurance Company held its Forty-third annual meeting in Liverpool, England.

The statement and balance sheet presented showed the business condition at the close of 1904 to have been as follows:—

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The Net Premiums, after deducting reinsurances effected with other Companies in reduction of this Company's liabilities, amounted to.....	\$6,599,340
The Net Losses incurred, including full estimates for all outstanding, amounted to.....	\$3,599,045

ACCIDENT DEPARTMENT.

The Net Premiums after deducting reinsurances effected with other companies and bonuses payable to policy-holders in the Personal Accident section, amounted to.....	478,315
The Net Losses incurred, including full estimates for all claims outstanding, amounted to.....	168,350

SURPLUS.

The Surplus on the working of the two Departments, after providing for all Expenses, Taxes, and charges of every kind, amounted to.....	\$881,500
Interest on Investments has yielded the sum of.....	275,345
The total <i>Credit Balance</i> , therefore, on the entire operations of the Company for the year is.....	1,156,845
To this amount there is to be added, from the previous year's account, firstly, the sum of \$450,000 which was especially set aside to provide for the Company's loss by the conflagration at Baltimore, and secondly, the sum of \$2,306,220 being the balance of \$2,440,725 brought forward from 1903, less the Interim Dividend of \$111,440 paid in November last and \$23,060 , being the total to be now dealt with of.....	\$3,913,065

Results of Business for year ending 31st December, 1904

Fire.	Fire.
To Premiums, less Reinsurance \$6,599,340	By Losses paid and outstanding, less Reinsurance \$3,599,045
Accident.	Commissions paid and incurred 1,027,425
To Premiums, less Reinsurance, and Bonuses to Policy-Holders 478,315	Management and general expenses 1,094,815
To Interest on Investments 275,345	Income Taxes and Colonial State Taxes.. 144,065
	Accident.
	By losses paid and outstanding, less Reinsurance 168,350
	Commissions paid and incurred 67,175
	Management and general expenses.. . . . 95,099
	By Balance carried to General Fund.. . . . 1,156,855
\$7,353,000	\$7,353,000

ASSETS.

Buildings unencumbered and part ownership in salvage premises.....	\$1,161,450
Stocks, Bonds Mortgages and Debentures.....	8,291,390
Cash with bankers.....	1,365,115
Bills Receivable, Agents' Balances, Outstanding Accounts and Sundry Debtors.....	1,405,440
In the above figures £1 sterling is taken as equivalent to \$5.00.	\$12,223,395

N.B.—The above is an Abstract from Statement of Results of 1904 business. This Statement emphasizes the desirability of property owners patronizing a reliable Company with a well-spread business; as a matter of fact, the Canadian business for the year in common with that of other Companies showed a heavy deficit.

Head Office: LIVERPOOL

F. W. P. RUTTER, General Manager,

CANADIAN BRANCH:

8 Richmond St, TORONTO

ALFRED WRIGHT, Branch Manager

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC:

1741 Notre Dame St., MONTREAL

T. F. DOBBIN, Resident Secretary