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Banking, Insurance and Finance

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MONTREAL, MARCH 30, 1917.

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THE WAR LOAN'S SUCCESS.

The gratifying fact about the success of the third Canadian war loan is the progressive character of that success. The subscriptions to the third loan have largely exceeded in amount the subscriptions to the second loan, as the latter in turn surpassed the subscriptions to the first loan. In November, 1915, the Minister of Finance asked for \$50,000,000 and was offered \$102,000,000; in September, 1916, he asked for \$100,000,000 and was offered \$206,000,000; in March, 1917, he asked for \$150,000,000 and, while the exact details are not yet available, the Minister appears to have been offered fully \$250,000,000. Canada's willingness and ability to make her dollars fight have expanded largely as the war has gone on. Developments in this connection have been possibly the most astonishing landmarks in the wonderful record of Canada's participation in the great war. The successful flotation of these successive loans marks a development which, under other circumstances, would not perhaps have come about for half a century. The effect of the present success in relation to the problems which lie before the Dominion cannot but be very marked. There will be a confidence resulting from the consciousness of financial strength and of financial achievement, which otherwise would be lacking. The immediate effects of these loans are of prime importance. By their means, Canada, in supplying her own needs, has been able to render very potent aid in the financing of the Allies' cause. But their later results also should not be overlooked. Sir Thomas White has pointed out that the present success will materially enhance our financial prestige and strengthen our credit in foreign money markets. As a means of education in investment, these loans have contributed notable service. After the war, thanks to the admirable service performed by the bond houses and the educational campaign undertaken by the newspapers, there will be thousands who will have the investment habit, which otherwise would probably not have developed. It would not be therefore surprising if, when the war is over, there is available for direct application in the financing of our own developments, proportionately consider-ably larger funds than in the years preceding the

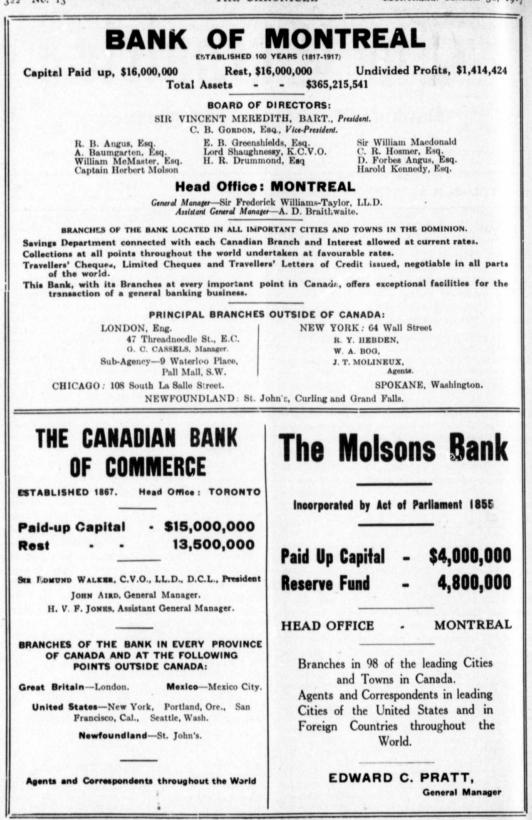
war. Meantime, we may be certain that if the Minister finds a further long-term issue necessary, he will again be offered much more than he needs.

That the banks have again been relieved of their underwriting is particularly gratifying, in view of the duplication of credit and its resultant evils involved in the banks' subscriptions, and the desirability of the banks' continuing to maintain as liquid a position as possible. The fact that the loan has been taken up without the employment of bank credit, except by way of loans to individuals or corporations who were subscribers to the issue, is an evidence that our war financing is being conducted on sound lines. The new loan will result, not in the duplication of credit, but merely in credit changing hands. The banks will now be free for the next few months to devote their entire attention to the financing of the country's commerce and the affording of such further help in the financing of munitions' credits as is within their means. It is generally understood that the banks have agreed to repeat last year's financial aid to the British Government by loaning a further \$100,000,000 to the Imperial Munitions Board during 1917. It should not be overlooked also that the banks may at any time be asked to undertake further novel duties in connection with financial and commercial developments arising from the war. The great extension of the ship-building industry which it seems likely will be undertaken in the Dominion, will probably call for support from the banks, while existing high prices result in considerably more funds than formerly being required to move a given amount of grain, and in similar operations.

There is an impression in some quarters that while American subscriptions to the recent issue were substantial, investors south of the line have not invested so freely as might have been anticipated in view of the fact that principal and interest were payable in New York. The idea is that they held back in order to be prepared to subscribe heavily to war issues of their own Government. However that may be, it is very possible that a considerable amount of the bonds will gravitate over the border after allotment to Canadian hands. 322 No. 13

THE CHRONICLE

MONTREAL. MARCH 30, 1917



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Editor.

ARTHUR H. ROWLAND,

ESTABLISHED 1881.

F. WILSON-SMITH, Proprietor.

Office:

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MONTREAL, FRIDAY, MARCH 30, 1917

DEBT AND TAXATION.

Now that the third War Loan has been successfully got out of the way and an additional \$7,500,000 a year in interest has to be found by the Dominion, the Minister of Finance will doubtless be turning his attention to the new Budget. The revenue results of the financial year which closes to-morrow will probably be satisfactory enough, so far as they go. Apparently, the Dominion will be able to meet out of its rev nue for the year, not only ordinary expenditure .d the largely increased interest payments on the National Debt, but also capital expenditures on various public works, and then have a good slice left over, about \$50,000,000 or \$60,000,000, to meet war expenditures, which are running now about \$20,000,000 monthly. Thus, apparently, we shall have paid in the financial year now concluding about 20 to 25 per cent. of our war expenditure out of revenue, about the same proportion as in Great Britain, where the percentage of war expenditure raised by taxation is calculated as 23 per cent. As a matter of fact, the percentage of actual expenditure paid out of our taxation is somewhat less than appears, owing to the arrangement by which the British Government supplies the Canadian army in Europe with various necessities. The bill for these, which was estimated a short time ago as then being \$50,000,000, is to be settled after the war.

We hope that the Minister will not be enticed by expanding revenue and the great success of his war loans into taking a less stern view than formerly of the matter of taxation. Particularly in the case of a new country like Canada, there is excellent reason why posterity should pay a substantial proportion of the financial obligations incurred in maintaining that liberty and freedom of which posterity will have the full benefit. But theory of this kind must give way to the practical considerations that taxation will come much harder upon the country as a whole during the period of reconstruc-tion than now, when the Dominion is at the flood tide of war-time prosperity, and further that increased taxation is the most efficient method of enforcing the economy which is still so far from being generally practised. Moreover, since the last Budget, the permanent debt of the Dominion has been increased substantially, and it is sound doctrine that increased taxation goes hand in hand with increased public borrowings. While equality of sacrifice under present circumstances is impossible,

we hope the Minister will make an attempt to impose necessary new burdens on those best able to bear them. It would not be unreasonable to increase substantially taxation upon those who have made large profits as a consequence of the war.

THE FEBRUARY BANK STATEMENT.

The February statement of the chartered banks indicates a further heavy increase in notice deposits. These are reported as totalling at the end of the month \$880,456,637, compared with \$864,163,344 at the close of January, and \$728,242,609 at the end of February, 1916. Their gain during the month is thus over \$16,000,000 and for the twelve months over \$152,000,000. Demand deposits are \$430,-331,801, a growth of three millions for the month. Deposits abroad are down by about the same amount to \$156,498,668. On the other side of the accounts, Canadian current loans are up by nearly accounts, millions during the month to \$\$13,302,717, at which figure they are \$52,429,536 higher than at the close of February, 1916. Current loans abroad are \$86,944,450, a growth of nearly a mil-lion during the month. Canadian call loans were reduced during February by \$950,529 to \$78,786,535. Call loans abroad are up \$4,577,080 to \$162,344,556. Circulation at the end of February was \$138,257,295, an expansion of \$4,899,108 compared with the end of January and of \$24,729,058 in comparison with February, 1916. Total assets of the banks are reported at the new high level of \$1,986,497,317.

CANADIAN TRADE RETURNS.

The Canadian trade returns for February are less satisfactory than those of recent months, the balance of exports over imports being negligible. How far this is due to shipping conditions and how far to a growth in imports is not clear. While import-ations, which come mainly from the United States, have been handicapped by bad weather and railway congestion, they could not be so seriously affected by these drawbacks as are exports, which go mainly to Europe, by shipping conditions. Total exports in February were \$68,224,383 against \$99,106,000 in January and \$57,931,168 in February, 1916. The daily average of exports during February thus fell away considerably in comparison with the pre-ceding month. Imports during February were ceding month. \$68, 30,000 against \$72,323,000, a higher daily average than in January. The balance of exports over imports in February was thus only \$194,000 against \$26,783,000 in January and \$6,277,000 in February, 1916.

Of the total exports in February of \$68,224,383, manufactures represented \$39,504,694, and agricultural products, \$11,449,080.

The following have joined the board of directors of the Guardian Assurance Company, Ltd.:--Mr. Gilbert Wheaton Fox (Edward Grey & Son, Liverpool & London), Mr. R. W. Sharples (Czarnikow, Ltd., Liverpool & London), and Mr. A. H. Brodrick.

In a recent address, Mr. W. N. Bament, general adjuster of the Home Insurance Company, mentioned that in the last 30 years, nearly 500 regular fire insurance companies in the United States have departed this life, to say nothing of co-operative concerns and mutuals which have found a resting place in the insurance cemetery.



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THE CHRONICLE

FIRE LOSSES AND THE HIGH COST OF LIVING.

In the early part of this month, a fire in a Winnipeg elevator destroyed grain of an insured value of \$100,000. A fortnight ago, a warehouse fire in Montreal caused a loss, largely to produce, of \$75,000. In the last three months there have been at least four large warehouse fires in Canada, the loss in one instance running to \$400,000. In December, the immense milling plant at Peterborough of the Quaker Oats Company was destroyed. Store fires have been frequent through the winter. Ail last fall, there was an epidemic of barn fires in Ontario, resulting in a destruction of harvested crops, that in the aggregate must have reached very considerable proportions.

While the particularly high cost of living at the present time may be mainly due to definitely ascertainable causes arising from the war, it is obvious that one effect of the large fire losses in Canada, of which some samples are given above, is to raise the cost of living higher than otherwise it need be. The destruction by fire of food stuffs as of the plants employed in their manufacture is absolute; there is no compensating advantage. Merely the supply of food or other necessities is lessened by so much. In the aggregate the yearly destruction of common staples by fire is enormous. How much of Canada's forest wealth has been destroyed through fires, due to carelessness, and the inadequate arrangements for fighting them? Grain elevators, flour, cereal, grist and feed mills present well-known elements of fire hazard from the highly explosive dust that results from handling or milling grain. A short time ago the United States Department of Agriculture made a study of the frequent explosions in grain separators in one district and found that in the height of the season these reached from six to ten a day, the flame from such explosions in a large number of cases spreading into the surrounding grain with destructive results.

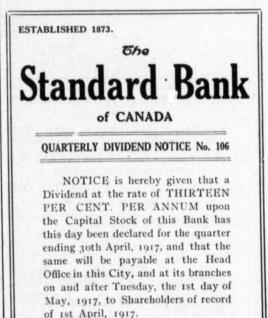
Individual barn fires add enormously to the total of staple food-stuffs destroyed by fire. Hundreds of barns, stored with potential food, go up in flames each year because of lightning. These fires must be classed as largely preventable, since statistics compiled by the Actuarial Bureau of the National Board of Fire Underwriters show that of the total fire loss from lightning, more than 92 per cent. is found where lightning rods are not used. Spontaneous combustion of hay and grain in poorly ventilated barns has been found another important factor in Ontario barn fires and an investigation is now being undertaken with a view to the reduction of losses from th' source. When to such items are added the fires in grain fields from locomotive sparks, and from the matches of careless smokers, it may be realized that a vast amount of foodstuff is turned into clouds of smoke, instead of human bone and muscle. Inevitably, this has its effect upon the price of the remainder.

A \$500,000 bond guaranteeing the Dominion Government completion of the Toronto harbour dredging contract by the Canadian Stewart Company, has been issued by the National. Surety Company, through its Toronto agents, Messrs. Reed, Shaw & McNaught.

UNDER-INSURANCE OF RELIGIOUS PROPERTY.

The recent loss of a seminary at Bathurst, N.B., brings to light an interesting instance of the underinsurance which is still too common in Canada in the case of property controlled by religious bodies or devoted to religious purposes. The reverend fathers who conducted the Bathurst institution were formerly located at Caraquet, N.B. They were burned out there on December 31st, 1915, their building, which had cost \$250,000, being insured only for \$66,800. The Bathurst building was then being completed by the same Order for the purposes of a theological college, and the students from Caraquet were moved into it until other arrangements could be made. On March 6th the Bathurst building, which had cost \$150,000, was destroyed, the insurance being only \$55,000.

Thus, within fifteen months, two fires have destroyed property to the value of \$400,000, on which there was only \$120,000 insurance. This heavy direct loss must be a serious matter for the Order, and we imagine the circumstances will have a prejudicial effect upon the results of any fresh The facts show strongly the appeal for funds. necessity imposed upon those in responsible charge of religious and philanthropic institutions of making arrangements by which the financial loss arising from fire can be adequately met in a business-like manner through insurance. With the present numerous and urgent demands upon the generosity of the well-disposed, appeals arising from a distinctly avoidable misfortune are likely perhaps to meet with a chilly reception.

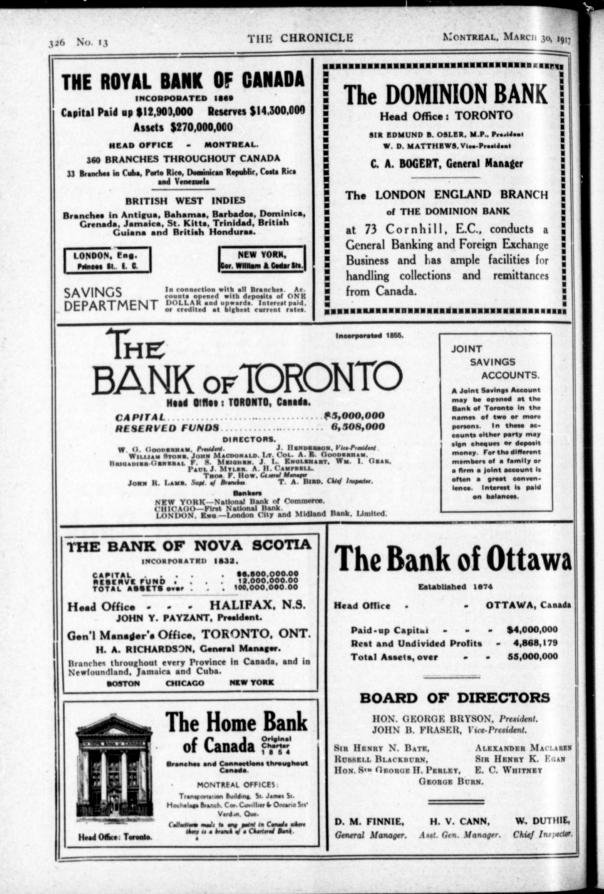


By Order of the Board,

J. S. LOUDON,

Assistant General Manager.

Toronto, March 22nd, 1917.



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WESTERN ASSURANCE COMPANY.

For the second year in succession, the old-established Western Assurance Company, of Toronto, publishes a brilliantly satisfactory financial statement. In 1916, as in 1915, the Western enjoyed an experience, both in its fire and marine branches, which can only be considered highly favorable. The feature of last year's operations is the increase in the profit yielded by the fire department; the not unsatisfactory result of 1915 being improved upon by about 75 per cent. in 1916. There was again an immense increase in the volume of marine business transacted, and while profits do not show a proportionate gain, they yet achieve a very handsome total. As a result of these satisfactory transactions in both departments, the total credit on the year's operations is the largest in the Company's history, and the Western's resources are again most substantially increased-results upon which all concerned can be heartily congratulated. They are the more notable through having been obtained at a time when, in the words of the President, "nearly all of our brightest young men of military age have left to serve their King and country," the Western being handicapped in this connection to a much greater extent than any purely Canadian insurance company, through the importance of its London office and the extent of its British and other European connections.

AN IMPROVED FIRE EXPERIENCE.

Net premiums in the fire department last year at \$2,338,452 show an expansion of \$275,000 over those of the previous year. This growth is due, it is explained in the annual report, to the taking-over during the year, of the business of three small Canadian fire companies, which business is running off satisfactorily. Net losses for the year are \$1,242,530. While actually \$70,000 larger than in 1915, the increased premium income results in a lower loss ratio than in the preceding year, the 1916 figure of 53.1 per cent., a quite satisfactory ratio, comparing with 56.7 per cent. in 1915. After payment of expenses and taxes, the latter, of course, further increased through the imposition of special war taxes, there remains a balance of \$148,546 to be carried to profit and loss account from this department, compared with \$85,366 in 1915. It is noted that the business outside of North America was again more profitable than that written on this continent-a fact not surprising to those who have any acquaintance with fire insurance conditions in Europe.

FURTHER INCREASE IN MARINE BUSINESS.

Following a rise of some \$740,000 in 1915, marine premiums increased during 1916 a further \$786,000 to \$2,583,725. More business was in fact offered the Company than could be handled, owing to the urgeht demand in connection with war risks and the rise in values of tonnage. After payment of losses of \$1,824,220 and expenses, this department yielded a profit for the year of \$305,922, an increase of practically \$25,000 upon the 1915 figures.

Total profits for the year amount to \$573,411, which, as aiready noted, is the largest amount shown by the Company in any one year, and corapares with \$462,222 in 1915. From this, the following amounts have been written off:—\$2,208 for bad debts and writing down insurance maps; \$13,209 for depreciation in securities and \$30,000 added to

the special reserve (making it \$50,000) to cover income taxes and to meet doubtful defts arising as a result of the war. Assets, which have been written down to market value as at December 31st last, amount to \$5,056,593, an increase of over \$600,000 upon 1915. Unearned premium liability on the Canadian Government standard is \$2,011,086, the surplus to policyholders being \$1,920,877, a growth for the year of \$100,000.

The rapid progress made by the Western during these last two years must be particularly gratifying to Mr. W. B. Meikle, the vice-president and general manager, to whose business statesmanship the fact that the Western has been able to take successful advantage of enlarged opportunities is due. The results of the regime of conservatism and economy enforced by Mr. Meikle are being realised, and while naturally progress cannot continue indefinitely at the present rate-the marine business will doubtless show a decline in volume at the conclusion of the war -- there is every indication that the Western will continue going steadily forward. Whatever the ups and downs of its business, the Western has always steadily maintained as its primary duty the prompt and fair settlement of policyholders' claims. That since its establishment the Company has paid over \$66,000,000 in claims is some indication of its faithfulness in the pursuit of this duty.

C.F.U.A. PROCEEDINGS WANTED.

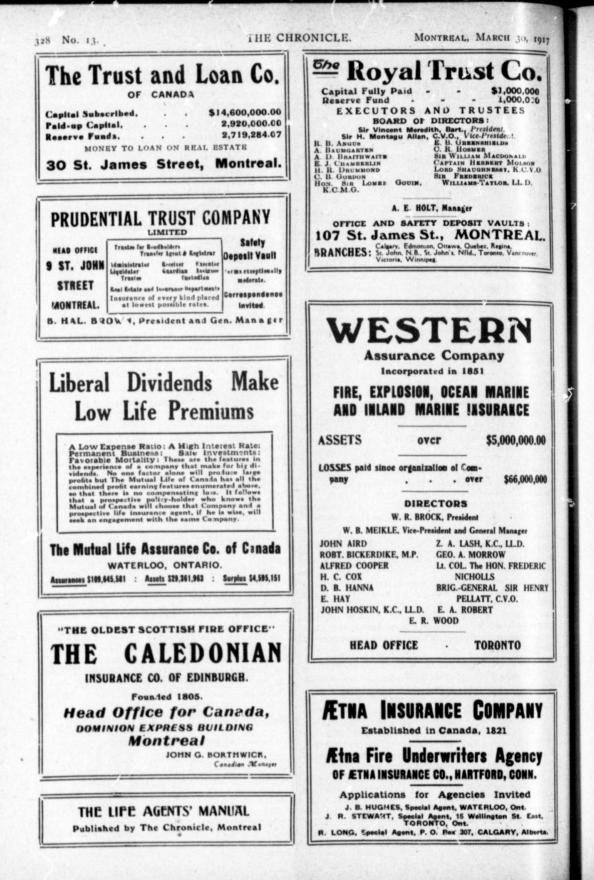
Mr. D. H. Handy, librarian, The Insurance Library Association, 141 Milk Street, Boston, Mass., writes to THE CHRONICLE as follows:— "The Insurance Library Association of Boston is desirous of getting for its shelves a complete file of all proceedings of the Canadian Fire Underwriters' Association, prior to No. 30. After correspondence with members of the Association in Canada, and with the Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Canadian Fire Underwriters' Association we have learned that copies of these proceedings filed with the executive officers prior to say five years have been destroyed. Our principal chance of getting them would seem to be through members of the Canadian Fire Underwriters' Association who have preserved their individual copies and would be willing to contribute or sell them to this Library."

If any C. F. U. A. members can do anything in this matter, will they communicate with Mr. Handy? The Insurance Library Association is not a profit making association, its whole efforts being devoted to the collection and preserving of fire insurance literature and its sole object in asking for these proceedings is that it may have on its shelves as a part of its collection of fire insurance literature the records of this influential body of Canadian fire underwriters.

THE MONARCH LIFE.

The Monarch Life of Winnipeg has appointed Mr. W. M. Moore as City Manager at Toronto, with headquarters at 408 Royal Bank Building.

When the soldiers come home, and the orders for munitions stop, what then? Frankly, I do not know, nor do I believe there are any who do.—Sir Edmund Walker.



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LEGISLATION AND MORTGAGE INVESTMENTS.

The address recently made by Mr. E. M. Saunders, treasurer of the Canada Life Assurance Company at a meeting of the Insurance Institute of Toronto, brings together the scattered facts regarding the foolish legistion prejudicially affecting lenders of capital which has marked the war period, particularly in the western provinces. The Dominion Government, as is well known, through its seed grain legislation, did its share in damaging the interests of invested capital and Mr. Saunders mentioned that as a result of this legislation, a number of mortgagees have been caused losses, through lands coming back on their hands. From the sale of these lands, it will not be possible to realize enough to take care both of the mortgagee's claims and of the government liens. Of the various acts passed in the western provinces, designed to relieve the mortgagor at the expense of the mortgagee, perhaps the most extraordinary is the Alberta Volunteer & Reservists' Act. This is not designed to protect the bona fide soldier who enlists for active service from his creditors, but to protect members of the local militia from their creditors. As a result, many borrowers have told loaning corporations that if action were commenced to collect arrears, they would immediately enlist in the local militia. Many in fact have done so and received the protection of the courts. It is not surprising that many loaning corporations have refused to lend further in Alberta until this legislation, which merely puts a premium on roguery, is repealed. Mr. Saunders believes that this western legislation as a whole has merely served to postpone the evil day. These laws were passed especially to protect those who had accumulated heavy liabilities in connection with real estate speculation, and the ultimate effect, in Mr. Saunders' opinion, is that in many cases, the borrowers will lose everything. Mr. Saunders also had some sensible things to say in regard to the Government rural credits schemes in the West. He pointed out that the corporations now engaged in the loaning of money to farmers on mortgage have offered no opposition to the new legislation but ask only that the provincial governments charge up to their rural credit departments all expenses in connection with their operation, and that the loaning companies be granted any special concessions made to the government associations.

UNION FIRE OF PARIS.

Mr. Maurice Ferrand, Canadian manager of the Union of Paris, who was called up by the French War Office authorities some time ago, is now in New York, attached to the French Government's purchasing department there. It is interesting to note that over 200 of the Head Office staff of this Company have been called to arms, and of these 22 have been killed, 49 wounded and four are missing. Twenty have been mentioned in dispatches, three have received the military medal for bravery and another the Cross of the Legion of Honour.

The Montreal staff of the Union of Paris joined with the other insurance offices in contributing to the "day's pay" scheme for the support of the Canadian Patriotic Fund and Red Cross, the amount of their contribution being \$63.

The Molsons Bank have recently opened new branches at Lachute, Que., and Brucefield, Ont.

CANADA NATIONAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

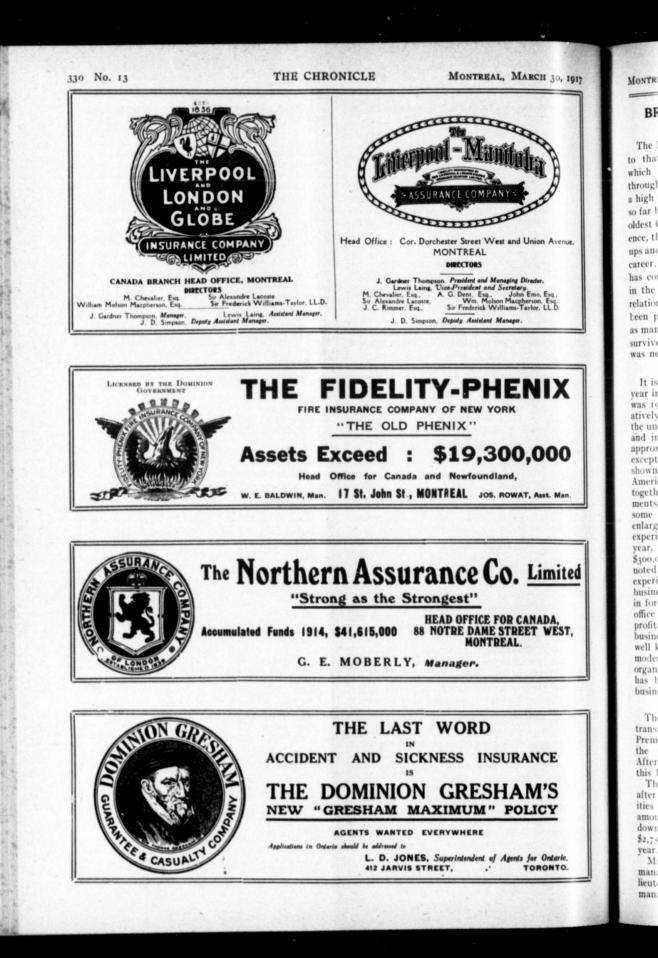
The 1916 statement of this young Winnipeg company, which was started in 1911, indicates that satisfactory security is afforded to its policyholders. In common with the companies generally writing fire and hail business, the Canada National last year experienced a somewhat less favorable underwriting period than in 1915. Net premiums at \$175,136 show a decline of \$20,000 in comparison with the preceding year-a development that is scarcely surprising in the case of a company having its leading connections in the Western provinces. Net losses were about \$24,000 larger at \$117,571. The Company invests the larger part of its funds in mortgages of comparatively small amounts, in view both of the high interest rate procurable and the fact the mortgages carry with them considerable insurance business, and in consequence has a large total expense ratio. However, the total expenses, divided as follows:-loan and investment department, \$44,584, and fire department, \$55,136, are \$19,000 lower than in the preceding year-a move in the right directionand the considerable amount spent in the loan and investment department finds its justification in the income of \$144,183 from investments. The under-writing department's expenses were reduced to 32.80 per cent. against 41.24 per cent. in 1915.

The paid-up capital of the Company was further increased by some \$150,000 during 1916, and at the close of the year stood at \$1,708,161, giving with the net surplus of assets over all liabilities of \$267,995, a surplus to policyholders of \$1,976,156. The assets, which now amount to \$2,290,075, include mortgage loans of \$1,444,364, stocks and debentures (at cost) \$433,413, and cash in banks and on hand, \$126,114.

PUBLICITY OF LIFE COMPANIES' ASSETS.

In the course of a reference to the assets of the British life companies, the London Economist advocates that in Great Britain, the life companies should be required, as in Canada and the United States, to make a detailed annual return of the securities held. At present, complains the Economist, about a dozen items of information are given in the returns to the British Board of Trade as compared with many hundreds of items on this side of the Atlantic. From the latter returns, an adequate opinion can be formed about the nature of the assets, upon which the whole position of a life company and its future prospects fundamentally depend. From the British returns, no such opinion can be formed, and the companies which set out in detail at least their Stock Exchange securities in their annual statements are liable to meet with unfair criticism by the agents of other companies, which maintain secrecy with regard to the securities in which the funds of the policyholders are invested.

The death took place recently at Detroit of Mr. J. A. Bucknell, formerly supervisor for the Canada Life of the State of Michigan and for 37 years with that Company, from whose service he retired a short time ago. Mr. Bucknell was formerly well-known in Montreal, where he acted as the Canada Life's manager for some years and had filled several important field positions for the Company in the United States.



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BRITISH AMERICA ASSURANCE COMPANY.

The British America Assurance Company belongs to that select group of Canadian organisations which while their names are household words throughout the Dominion, at the same time enjoy a high prestige outside its boundaries. Established so far back as 1833 and therefore taking rank as the oldest Canadian insurance organisation now in existence, the British America has had its full share of the ups and downs incident to a fire insurance company's career. But ever since its establishment, the Company has consistently maintained a high standard, both in the practical conduct of its business and in its relations with policyholders. Its reliability has been put to the severest possible tests, such tests as many other companies, less sturdy, have failed to survive, and its hold upon the public confidence was never greater than at the present time.

THE EXPERIENCE OF 1915.

It is perhaps unfortunate that the most profitable year in the whole history of the British America, as was 1915, should have been followed by a comparatively lean year. The fact, however, testifies to the uncertain character of the fire insurance business and indicates the impossibility of arriving at any approximately accurate conclusions regarding it except by taking into consideration the results shown over a long period of years. In the British America's accounts, fire and hail business are linked together. The net premiums in these two departments totalled, for 1916, \$2,074,293, an increase of some \$86,000 upon 1915. With this moderate enlargement in premium income, there was a loss experience less favorable than in the previous year, losses absorbing \$1,353,551, an increase of \$300,000 upon the experience of 1915. It is noted in the report that the most unfavorable fire experience was in the United States, Canadian business having given fair results and the operations in foreign countries, conducted both from the head office and the London office, again been very profitable. The Company's losses in the hail business in the North-West, where the season, as is well known, was the worst on record, are stated as moderate in comparison with the losses of other organisations. As a result of this experience, there has been a substantial increase in rates for hail business.

MARINE BUSINESS.

The Company's recently revived marine branch transacted a largely increased business during 1916. Premiums totalled \$431,719 against \$211,704 in the preceding year, losses absorbing \$319,521. After payment of expenses, there was a profit on this business for the year of \$43,000.

The credit balance on the year's operations, after allowing for increase in market value of securities and debiting \$1,969 for accounts written off, amounts to \$18,582. Assets, which are written down to market value at December last, total \$2,752,846, an increase of about \$225,000 upon last year

Mr. W. B. Meikle is vice-president and general manager of the British America and he has able lieutenants in Messrs. John Sime, assistant general manager, and E. F. Garrow, secretary.

CANADIAN FIRE RECORD

Specially compiled by The Chronicle.

FIRE AT MONTREAL.

A fire occurred on the 25th instant on the premises occupied by the J. R. Walker Company, 11 Murray Street, corner of Wellington Street, Montreal. The building was owned by the Colborne Realties, Limited, and was originally erected for the old Union Cold Storage Company. Insurance on building as subjoined. There was no insurance on stock which was valued at about \$2,000.

Specific :- Emp. Liability, \$1,000; German American, \$1,500; Scottish Union & National, \$1,500; Continental \$500; Fidelity Phenix, \$500; Fidelity Underwriters, \$500; Mount Royal, \$1,000; Union, \$2,500; Imperial Underwriters, \$1,000; Liverpool & London & Globe, \$2,500; N. Y. Underwriters, \$3,-500; total, \$16,000.

Schedule:-London & Lancashire, \$2,500; Guardian, \$2,500; Norwich Union, \$2,000; Stuyvesant, \$2,400; Globe & Rutgers, \$1,000; Northern, \$2,000; British America, \$2,000; total, \$14,400. Loss total.

FIRE AT MOYLE, B.C.

Following is the insurance involved in the fire which damaged the concentrating plant at St. Eugene Mine on February 27:-Scottish Union, \$5,931; Royal, \$2,636; Norwich Union, \$3,954; Quebec, \$3,295; British Crown, \$5,931; Alliance of Philadelphia, \$4,613; Commercial Union, \$23,724; Phoenix of London, \$15,816; total, \$65,900.

MONTREAL -Apartment of C. Sisenwein, 190 Bishop Street, damaged, and apartments below of S. P. Myers and S. Simon water damaged, March Loss \$3,000. 25.

Plant of Northern Electric Company damaged, March 24. Origin, spontaneous combustion among oily pegs.

FONTHILL, ONT .- A. McGlashan's residence destroyed with contents. Loss \$6,000 with \$2,800 insurance Origin, gas explosion.

BELLEVILLE, ONT.-Plant of Pearce Company, Ltd., at Marmora Village, destroyed, March 22. Loss \$25,000; no insurance.

TORONTO .- Bingham's, Ltd., palm garden and tea rooms damaged. Loss \$15,000 covered by insurance.

SASKATOON, SASK .-- C. Dahl's farmhouse, northeast of Wainwright, destroyed, March 17. Two lives lost.

TILSONBURG, ONT. - Mero's meat market on Main Street, damaged. Origin, overheated wood stove.

TABER, ALTA.-Farmhouse of F. Duser, five

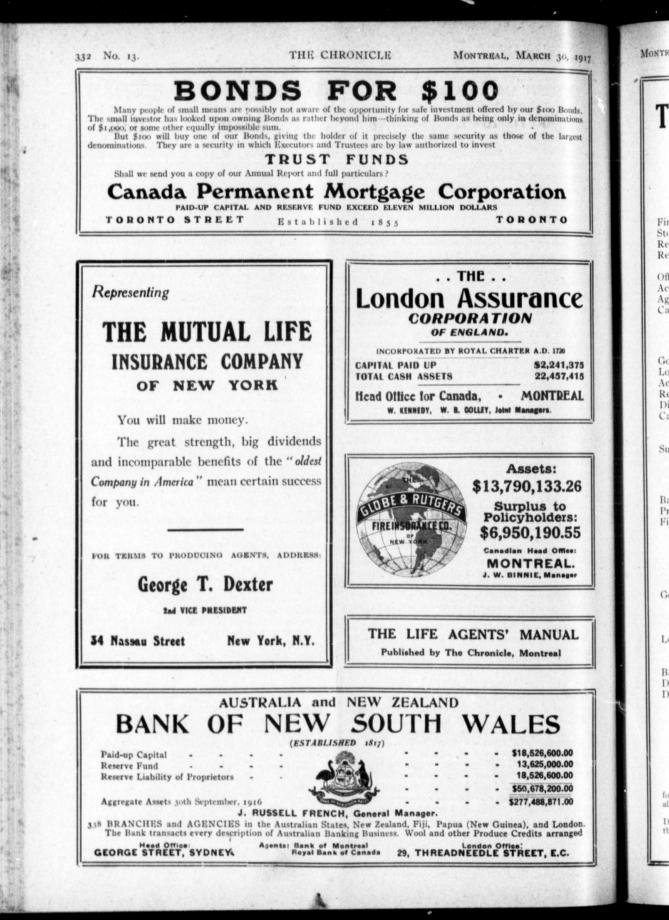
miles south destroyed. Five lives lost. LISTOWEL, ONT.-J. C. Hay's brick residence destroyed. Origin, thawing out pipes.

THOROLD, ONT .- C. R. Smith's drug store damaged. Origin, electric wiring.

STOUFFVILLE, ONT .- Public school gutted, March

20. Loss \$15,000; insurance, \$8,000. Sr. JOHN, N.B.—Theatre Royal, movie house, damaged.

The charge of arson was quite decidedly proved and the prisoner's counsel in commencing his plea asked the court to give him all the time needed for such an important defense. "Certainly," said the judge, "for the longer you talk the longer your client will be kept out of prison."-Glens Falls Now and Then.



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THE CHRONICLE.

No. '13. 333

The Canada National Fire Insurance Company -HEAD OFFICE, WINNIPEG, MAN. Financial Statement, 31st December, 1916 ASSETS. First Mortgage Loans on Real Estate and Accrued Interest. \$1,444,364.17 Stocks and Debentures (at Cost) and Accrued Interest. 433,412.52 Real Estate—Head Office Property\$163,526.80Real Estate—Other than Head Office Property58,574.46 222,101.26 Office Furniture and Fixtures, Maps and Plans, less Depreciation 20,113.85 12,868.63 31,100.27 126,113.97 \$2,290,074.67 LIABILITIES. 13,300.00 Losses Unpaid (in course of Adjustment)..... 3,235.26 Accounts Payable. Reinsurance Premiums (held as Reserve on Deposit)... Dividend for Year ended 31st December, 1916 59,880.21 99,235.90 Capital Stock Subscribed-\$2,050,400.00. 1,976,156.08 \$2,290,074.67 **REVENUE.** \$405,780.00 Balance brought forward from 1915..... 144,183.06 175,136.54 \$725.099.60 EXPENDITURE. General Expenses, Salaries, Commissions, etc.-Loan and Investment Department \$44,584.40 \$ 99.719.98 Losses and Loss Adjustment Expenses \$193,926.36 117,571.07 75.20 Bad Debts written off. 2,234.87 Depreciation written off Furniture and Maps..... 99,235.90 406,262.58 Balance \$725,099.60 AUDITORS' REPORT We beg to report that we have audited the Books and Accounts of The Canada National Fire Insurance Company for the year ending 30th December, 1916, and have found them properly stated and sufficiently vouched, and we have also verified the Morenee end the Country of the State o also verified the Mortgages and other Securities. In our opinion the above Balance Sheet presents a correct view of the state of the Company's affairs as at 30th December, 1916, according to the best of our information and the explanations given us, and as shown by the books of the Company (Signed) D. A. PENDER, COOPER, SLASOR & CO., C.A. Winnipeg, 16th February, 1917.



A re Fisher, ance, r sustain ance in loss ra premit \$1,872

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THE CHRONICLE

HAIL INSURANCE RESULTS.

A recently-published report by Mr. Arthur E. Fisher, the Saskatchewan superintendent of insurance, makes clear the serious character of the losses sustained by the companies transacting hail insurance in the West last year. In Saskatchewan the loss ratio to premiums approximates 132 per cent., premiums of \$1,417,853 comparing with losses of \$1,872,409. The details are given as follows:—

1,0/-,-0.9.	0	
	Gross	Gross
	Premiums	Losses
st. Paul Fire & Marine	\$ 54,802.10	\$ 86,251.54
Middle West.	39,662.35	49,690.94
Excess	102,437.75	130,739.14
Acadia	31.860.86	66.593.02
Canada Indemnity	82,582.10	124,728,45
Canada Hail	72,542.95	95,127.67
Canada National	95,685,18	193,055.43
Canada National	20,909.56	29.243.26
Rochester Underwriters	48,176.13	64.539.13
British America	3,150.96	3.887.50
Winnipeg Underwriters	9.657.87	11.686.87
Nova Scotia Underwriters	102.646.13	176,608.61
Home	70,898.97	83,934.80
Canada Security	193.517.89	213.330.37
British Crown		17.391.56
Canada Weather	21,420.63	
American Central	18,155.41	49,823.07
Connecticut	13,553.45	24,312.05
Hartford	96,360.96	112,592.95
New York Underwriters	26,192.80	30,023.13
Great North	60;474.21	56,780.99
North Western National	111,751.48	114,692.84
Dominion Fire	37,282.47	26,439.05
Glens Falls	80,987.46	76,827.06
Westchester	23,143.54	34,209.32
	CONTRACTOR AND	and the second s

\$1,417,853.21 \$1,872,408.75

In immediately-preceding years, results were as follows:—1915, premiums, \$1,363,002, losses paid, \$438,620; 1914, premiums, \$747,839, losses paid, \$173,443; 1913, premiums, \$783,194, losses paid, \$485,306.

In Alberta, as already reported, the year, while not quite so bad as in Saskatchewan, was also a distinctly unprofitable one. The hail experience of the stock companies is reported by the provincial insurance department as follows:—

insurance deparement us ron	01101	The second se
	Premiums	Losses
Acadia	\$622,622.00	8
British Crown	145,000.00	145,200.00
British America	48,876.00	41,760.00
Canada Hail	41,913.00	29,483.00
Canada Security	267,000.00	200,000,00
Canada Weather	34,502.00	31,000.00
Connecticut	29,384.00	7.000.00
Excess	46.321.00	37,671.00
Great North	61.534.00	34.096.00
Home	163,906.00	140,100.00
Nova Scotia Underwriters	57,178.00	49,048.00
St. Paul Mutual	105,800.00	92.292.00
United Assurance	53,500.00	36,250.00
Westchester	75,000.00	69,000.00
Winnipeg Underwriters	27,230.00	15,588.00
Winnipeg Underwriters	35,387.00	31,249.00
Rochester Underwriters		
Hartford Fire	27,351.00	31,121.00
Dominion Fire	2,516.00	1,527.00
North Western National	57.536.50	51,900.37

\$1,280,556.50 \$1,044,285.37

Reports to the New York Insurance Department show that companies transacting hail business in the United States received net premiums in 1916 of \$o.799,649 and incurred net losses of \$9,528,110, a proportion of 97.2 per cent. So that the business was evidently no more profitable in the United States last year than in Canada.

Hon. Senator Gordon, of North Bay, Ont., has been elected a director of the Excelsior Life.

INSURANCE SUBSCRIPTIONS TO CANADIAN WAR LOAN.

Below is an enlarged and corrected list of subscriptions by insurance companies to the third Canadian War Loan so far as reported. In some cases the figure given includes an anount of the first Loan or of 5 per cent. 3-year Dominion debenture stock, converted. But conversions were not numerous, and the contributions of the insurance companies scheduled herewith mostly represent entirely new money. The total of subscriptions represented in the subjoined list is \$29,290,000.

LIFE COMPANIES' SUBSCRIPTIONS.

	00 000
British Columbia	20,000
Canada Life	4,000,000
Capital	50,000
Confederation	2,000,000
Continental	200,000
Crown	100,000
Dominion	200,000
Excelsior	300,000
Gresham Life	20,000
Great-West.	1,500,000
Imporial	1,500,000
Imperial London & Lancashire Life	300,000
London Life	500,000
Manufacturers	1,000,000
Monarch	100,000
Mutual of Canada	2,500,000
	150,000
National.	1,000,000
New York Life	1,000,000
North American	200,000
Northern Life	150,000
Phœnix of London	500,000
Prudential	500,000
Royal.	15,000
Saskatchewan	50,000
Sauvegarde	
Sovereign	60,000
Sun Life	10,000,000
Travelers of Hartford	500,000
Travellers of Canada	25,000
Union Mutual of Portland	100,000
Western Life	20,000
OTHER COMPANIES' SUBSCRIPTIONS.	
OTHER COMPANIES SUBSCRIPTIONS.	
Canada National	\$ 55,000
Economical	50,000
General Fire	10,000
Glens Falls.	25,000
Globe & Rutgers	100,000
Gore Mutual	30,000
Guarantee Co. of North America.	50,000
Law Union & Rock	50,000
North American Accident.	50,000
North British & Mercantile	25,000
Perth Mutual	10,000
	20,000
Royal Exchange. Scott & Walmsley's Companies	
	50,000
Waterloo Mutual Fire	50,000
Yorkshire	00,000

Mr. Robert Hampson, of the well-known Montreal insurance firm of Robert Hampson & Son, Ltd., subscribed \$100,000, and Messrs. Lukis, Stewart & Co., of Montreal, \$30,000.

WANTED.

Experienced and energetic INSPECTOR wanted by strong British casualty company. Knowledge of both languages desirable. Apply by letter, giving full particulars of qualifications.

> ALPHA, ~ c/o The Chronicle, MONTREAL



IMFORTANT DECISION ARISING FROM "EM-PRESS OF IRELAND" DISASTER.

Mr. Justice Maclennan, sitting in the Admiralty Court at Montreal, has given an important decision to insurance companies arising out of the sinking of the S.S. "Empress of Ireland" after collision with the S.S. "Storstad." Claims made as a result of this collision for loss of life amount to \$3,069,483; the claims for loss of property amount to several millions more. The English maritime law gives preference to payment of claims for loss of life. It was proposed by Admiralty Court efficials to distribute the amount available, \$175,000 from the sale of the "Storstad," pro rata in favor of the life claims, when the Canadian Pacific Railway Company and eleven insurance companies appealed to Justice Maclennan and asked to have the Mr distribution made on the basis of a pro rata division to all claimants, in accordance with the Canada Shipping Act under which no preference or priority is given for loss of life.

Mr. Justice Maclennan, however, decided that the Canada Shipping Act could not apply owing to the "Empress" having been sunk outside the 3-mile limit. "I am of opinion," says the Judge, "that the law which governs this matter is the Maritime Law of England and the Merchant Shipping Act of 1894; that claims arising from loss of life are absolutely privileged upon the fund in court; that the deputy-registrar, in distributing the funds pro rata among the claimants for loss of life after providing for costs incurred by the different parties, acted upon proper principles; and that the motions on behalf of the plaintiff and the other claimants for loss of property asking that the deputy-registrar's report should be varied and their claims collocated pro rata with all other claims should be dismissed."

TRAFFIC RETURNS.

	CANADIA	N PACIFIC	RAILWAY.	
Year to date	1915	1916	1917	Increase
Feb. 28, \$12,	411,000 \$	\$16,926,000	\$18,773,000	\$1,847,000
Week ending	1915	1916	1917	Increase
14, 1	,667,000 ,731,000 ,738,000	2,198,000 2,258,000 2,281,000	2,442,000 2,670,000 2,648,000	$244,000 \\ 412,000 \\ 367,000$
	GRANI	TRUNK R	AILWAY.	
Year to date	1915	1916	1917	Increase
Feb. 28, \$6,	735,849	\$8,290,131	\$8,530,394	\$240,263
Week ending	1915	1916	1917	Increase
14,	852,1 5 1 857,147 857,937	992,026 957,542 967,233	1,063,190 1,068,837 1,054,639	$71,164 \\111,295 \\87,406$
	CANADIAN	NORTHER	N RAILWAY	
Year to date	1915	1916	1917	Increase
Feb. 28, \$3,	041,600	\$4,176,000	\$5,191,200	1,015,200
Week ending	1915	1916	1917	Increase
	428,700 411,100 421,700	$540,200 \\ 538,000 \\ 549,000$	$\begin{array}{c} 669,100\\ 738,200\\ 719,100 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r}128,900\\200,200\\170,100\end{array}$
Ty	VIN CITY	RAPID TRAN	NSIT COMPAN	¥.
Year to date	1915	1916	1917	Increase

1,622,374

1916

191,126

1,705,321

1917

201,244

Feb. 28, 1,470,971

Week ending 1915

\$172,693

Mar. 7,

USE AND OCCUPANCY TROUBLES.

It is reported that use and occupancy lines in the States are being gone over very carefully, in view of recent heavy losses and a growing realisation of the risks involved in guaranteeing war time profits under what is practically a valued policy. The usual form provides for a fixed loss per diem, to te multiplied by the number of days the plant is out of operation. In a recent case, the assured made claim for three days' loss for each twentyfour hours, on the ground that at the time of the fire their plant was running on three shifts of eight hours each, and that the Union rules fixed eight hours as a day's work! The largest loss ever paid under the use and occupancy form now arises out of a settlement with the Saxon Motor Car Company of Detroit-43 1-3 per cent. of \$1,000,000.

THE BRITISH DOMINIONS YEAR BOOK.

The second issue of the British Dominions Year Book, the remarkably encyclopedic reference book issued by the Eritish Dominions and General Insurance Company, is fully up to the high level of its predecessor and is probably quite the most notable regular publishing effort ever made by any insurance company. Many subjects of pressing and topical importance are discussed by authorities, the list of contributors being headed by the late Lord Cromer, and there is a full supply of current reference information and statistics. The fact that the Year Book must have been got out under very great difficulties adds to the credit due to the British Dominions for its enterprise in this connection.

Montreal Tramways Company SUBURBAN TIME TABLE, 1916-1917

Lachine : From Post Office-

10

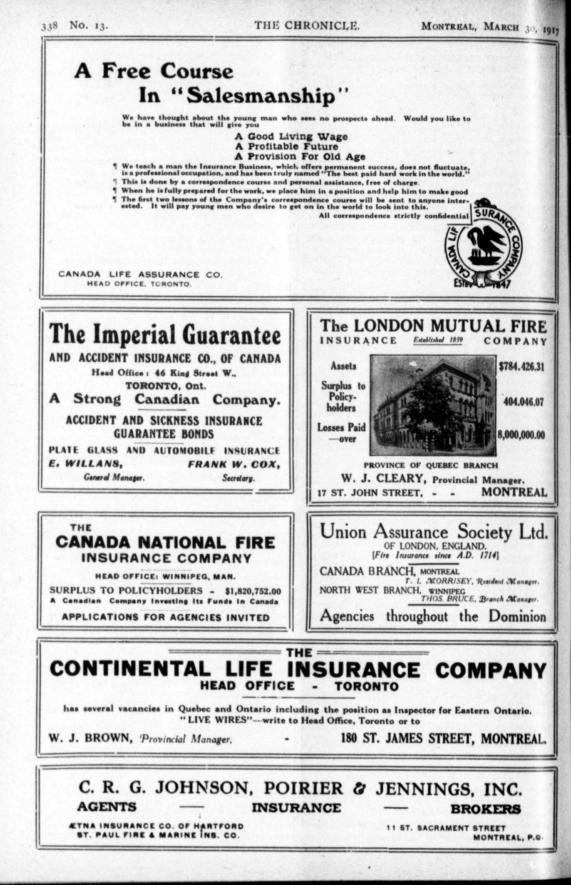
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Increase

10,118

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	Fr	om L	achine							
20 r 10 20	nin.			m. to	9.00 '	· 21	0		lce 4 p.m.to 8.00 p.m. 8.00 p.m.to 12.10 a.m ast car at 12.50 a.m.	
Sa									le Paul:	
	Fr	om S	t. Deni	s to	St. Vin	cent	t de	Paul-		
15 20 15 20	min.s	ervice 	5.15 a 8.00 4.00 7.00	.m.to	8.00 a. 4.00 p. 7.00 p. 8.00 p.	m. 3 m. C m. C m. C	0 m lar lar	in. serv to Hend to St. V	ice 8.00 p.m. to 11.30 p.n derson only 12.00 mid. 7incent at 12.40 a.m.	•
	Fr	om S	L. Vinc	ent d	le Paul	to S	t. I	enis-		
15 20 15 20		sor vie 	8.30 4.30	p.m.	4.30	p.m	C	12.00 i ar from 12.20 i	Henderson to St. Deni a.m. St. Vincent to St. Deni	8
Ca	rtie	ervil	leı				-			
	Fre	om S	owdor	Jui	nction-	20 n 40	nin.	service	5.20 a.m. to 8.40 p.m. 8.40 p.m. to 12.00 mld	
	Fre	om Ca	rtiervi	lle-		20 40			5.40 a.m. to 9.00 p.m 9.00 p.m. to 12.20 a.m	1.
M	oun	tain	:			-				
	FI	rom P	ark A	n. set	vice fr	Mout om f	nt 1	a.m. to	ve 12.20 a.m.	
	FI	rom V	letoria 20 ml	A Ve	vice fro	m 5	.50	a.m. to	12.30 a.m.	
	F	rom V	tetoris	Ave	nue to	Sno	wde	n	30 p.m.	
B	out Fe	T mon	Ile: asalle min. s	and	Notre e from	Dan 5.00	a.n	i. to 12	.00 midnight.	
T	etra	ultv	ille :							
15 30	miles	nonnio	a 5 00 1	. m. t	Notre o 9.00 a to 3.30p	.m.1	15 n	nin, ser	vice 3.30 p.m. to 7.00 p.m. vice 7.00 p.m. to 12 mid.	

Pointe aux Trembles via Notr - Dame : From Notre Dame and 1st Ave. Malsonneuve. 15 mls service from 5.15 a.m. to 8.55 p.m. 20 " " 5.50 p.m to 12.30 a.m. Extra last car for Bivd. Berard at 1.30 a.m.



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