# The Chronicle

## Banking, Insurance & Finance.

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R. WILSON-SMITH, Proprietor

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SMITING ONESELF ON SMITING oneself on the THE OTHER CHEEK. appeal to the New York Journal of Commerce as a particularly sensible proceeding. And it points out, what is indeed obvious, that United States tariff retaliation against Canada is a policy of just that sort. The Washington rnling of this week increases instead of mitigates the effect of Canadian restrictions upon trade in pulp wood, wood pulp and printing paper, and adds to the cost of them all to United States consumers

Canadian trade within the Empire can scarcely fail to be benefited as a result. It would seem as though Great Britain's chief commercial competitors were steadily strengthening Imperial ties for her throughout the world-Germany by arousing the Empire to common defence, and the United States by diverting overseas Canadian trade that would ordinarily find its way to nearer markets.

So be it. Canada already has to thank her neighbour for teaching her self-reliance. Not the worst friends of the Dominion have been American "statesmen" who, in times past, sought to make her feel economic dependence. Their treatment has had a tonic effect scarcely anticipated. And now it looks as though a cousinly shove in the direction of closer Imperial trade is being given by that same good neighbour. Mayhap old Clio, muse of history and exploits heroic, will some day enroll the names of Payne and Aldrich with those of Chamberlain, Milner et al, as "architects of Empire."

FAILING TO A LLEGATIONS of ineffectiveness SIZE UP THE Dominion's tariff preference to Great Britain. These come largely through failure to size up the situation aright. The decade preceding the coming into effect of Canada's tariff preference in 1897 had been one when imports from the United Kingdom actually decreased by one-third -though those from the United States increased by one-quarter. But between 1898 and the record year ending March 31, 1908, there was an increase of nearly 193 per cent. in imports from Great Britain, as compared with under 168 per cent. increase in purchases from the United States and about 174 per cent in total Canadian buyings from abroad.

Australia's imports from the United Kingdom were 72.26 per cent. of its total imports in 1887. By 1897 the steady decrease in percentages had brought the proportion down to 66.22 per cent., while only 61.06 per cent. of imports in 1907 came from the motherland. Even though tariff preference were merely to check such declines, rather than notably increase colonial imports from the United Kingdom, it would still be achieving a good deal. And it may be expected that Australia's recently instituted tariff -even though its British preference is not very pronounced-will, like Canada's, have considerable ef-TORONTO PUBLIC LIBRARY fect upon trade tendencies.

No great believer in TARIFF PREFERENCE preferential tar-A WORKING COMPROMISE. iffs within the Empire is Professor A. B. Clark, of Edinburgh. In his Winnipeg address before the Economic Section of the British Association this week, the professor gave as his view that the whole policy of preferential duties was economically unsound, and only defensible as a step in the direction of free trade-to which he owns unshaken allegiance.

The overseas dominions will not take it upon themselves to urge upon the motherland any change in her fiscal policy. They recognize that the matter is one where insular considerations must rightly prevail. If, to the United Kingdom itself, it seems that economic weal is best served by one-sided free trade for all time, well and good-the colonies are not likely to urge concessions or beg favours. Nor are those "prophets of woe" clear-sighted, who contend that the strengthening of Imperial bonds cannot continue unless Britain's fiscal policy is completely changed. Recent developing Opprof mutual defence should dispel that foreboding.

Among British colonies and overseas dominions themselves, Professor Clark would apparently give some "faint praise" to preferential tariffs, as "being a step in the direction of free trade." Not all the advocates of tariff preference look upon it as ultimately tending to that end. But both those who do so consider it, and those who do not, are coming to recognize in increasing numbers that it may be a tenable working compromise.

### Inter-Imperial Trade during 1909.

Without assigning any direct causal relation in the matter, it is nevertheless to be noted that Great Britain's trade dur-

ing the first half of 1909 made some of its best comparative showings in dealings with preferencegiving parts of the Empire.

While total imports of the United Kingdom for the first half of 1909 showed a shrinkage of about two millions sterling from the corresponding six months of 1908, there was an advance in imports from the overseas dominions of fully 51/2 millions. This improvement was achieved without any rally in imports from British India, which has scarcely yet recovered from the disastrous drought of two years ago. As the following table from The Standard of Empire shows, the most striking gains have occurred in the case of imports from Australia and New Zealand, which together had an expansion of over 4 millions, while a much better state of affairs in South Africa is shown in an advance of about a million in the value of exports to the home country from the Cape of Good Hope and a moderate increase in the exports from Natal.

Imports of United Kingdom for first half- year.	1907.	1908.	1909.	in o	first half f 1909 as ompared ith 1908.
	£	£	£	_	£
West Africa	1,667,934	1,387,669	1,538,572	+	150,903
South Africa-					,
Cape of Good Hope	3,725,746		3,945,352	+1	.004.185
Natal	719,422	740,869	936,372	+	195,503
East Africa	180, 353	172,076	223,540		51,464
Mauritius & D'p'd'cie.	186,643	192,509	145,440		
Aden & Dependencies	177,094	71,282			20,807
British India	20,281,444	13,478,149	13,088,442		389,707
Straits Settlements	4,690,634	3,690,978	3,803,242		87,736
Ceylon & D'p'ndencies	2,752,305	2,601,814	2,745,036		143,222
Hong Kong	300,264	249,490	233,898		15,592
Australia	20,083,112	16,712,738	18,589,417		
New Zealand	12,859,043	9,837,596	12,155,600		
Canada	8,038,197	8,216,146	8,397.914		181,768
Newfoundland	78,775	56,395	60,680		4,285
British West Indies	1,295,106	1,484,013	1,326,307		157,706
British Guiana	321,985	194,859	370,890		176,037
Falkland Islands	127,037	109,849	132,170		22,321

Of course, increased prices contributed considerably to swell the 1909 figures as shown above, though in practically all instances there were actual increases in quantity.

# Improvement Belated in Case of India.

In passing from its compilation of British imports to its summary of exports, The Standard admits that a first glance at the figures of the export trade of the home

country would seem to detract somewhat from the assertion of an expansion of trade between the various parts of the Empire during the first half of 1909. The total exports for the six months were down 13 millions, and of this total 6 millions was due to smaller exports to the oversea

dominions-a somewhat heavy proportionate shrinkage when it is remembered that the total value of exports to British possessions was only 57 34 millions, as compared with 119 millions to foreign countries. A closer inspection of the figures, however, completely dispels any idea of the half-year's trade depression having been especially marked in the case of British dominions oversea. The whole shrinkage, indeed, is explained by the fact that British India has naturally not yet recovered from the after-effects of the drought, the decline in exports to that quarter alone being 534 millions. If, therefore, this altogether exceptional unfavourable circumstance be eliminated, it is found that, as against a decline of seven millions in exports to foreign countries, there has been practically no setback in trade with Greater Britain.

### Trade within and without the Empire.

British exports to the chief foreign countries in the first half of the last three years have been as follows:—

	-HALF-YEAR	ENDED JUNE 1908.	30TH
Exports to-	£	£	
United States	16,247,578	9,706,752	13,444,050
Germany	18,565,326	16,177,244	14,444,993
France	11,544,630	11,661,472	10,764,235
Belgium	6,340,293	6,011,826	5,431,192
Netherlands	7,080,476	6,532,922	5,652,673
Russia	4,857,797	5,041,500	4,395,349
Italy	7,215,374	8,025,967	6,394,767
Japan	6,116,058	5,754,525	3,952,520
China	6,690,319	5,258,390	4,501,459
Argentine	9,272,541	7,838,635	8,979,457
Brazil	4,503,617	4,267,654	3,719,673

Similar figures for the chief British possessions are given in the following table: -

	Half-ye	ar ended Jun	ne 30th
_	1907.	1908.	1909.
Exports to—	£	£	£
Canada	8,265,165	5,893,174	6,903,536
Australia	11,441,978	11,442,421	11,116,114
New Zealand	3,864,198	4,360,879	3,261,587
South Africa	7,225,748	6,348,720	6,510,481
India	23,723,297	25,809,254	20,031,253

Among the favourable points which The Standard enumerates in the matter of the exports from the home country to other parts of the Empire, it is satisfactory to note that affairs in the Transvaal continue to show indications of reviving prosperity, a substantial increase having taken place in the value of goods sent to that part of the Empire. In the case of Australia, the figures are remarkably stationary, having remained at a little over eleven million's for the past three years. Nor, indeed, is there much greater variance in the matter of British trade with New Zealand. In the case of Canada, however, as with the United States, "there are unmistakable manifestations of a recovery from what cannot, perhaps, so properly be described as depression as a setback from the conditions of extraordinary activity two years ago."

# The Chronicle

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### THE BANK ACT AMENDMENTS OF 1900.

In view of the approaching revision of the Bank Act, it will be of interest to survey certain changes that were made at its last decennial revamping.

Perhaps the most important legislation of 1900, relating to banking, was the formal incorporation of the Canadian Bankers' Association, and the entrusting to it of the appointment of a curator to supervise the affairs of any bank which might suspend payment, until the resumption of its business or the appointment of a liquidator. The association was, by its charter, empowered to pass by-laws, rules and regulations respecting all matters relative to the appointment and removal of a curator and his powers and duties; the supervision of the printing of the notes of the banks, which are intended for circulation, and the delivery thereof to the banks; the inspection of the disposition made by the banks of such notes; the destruction of notes of the banks; and the imposition of penalties for the breach or non-observance of any by-law, rule or regulation made by virtue of the statute

However, all such by-laws, rules and regulations were made subject to the approval of the Treasury Board, which must before signifying its approval submit them to every bank not a member of the association and give it an opportunity of being heard before the Treasury Board with respect thereto. Thus, with due safeguards, were secured the benefits of co-operation and jointresponsibility in many matters-matters as important to the public's interests as to those of the banks. It is noteworthy that in the United States there is now a discernible tendency to some working-arrangement whereby control in certain matters should be exercised by banking associations, instead of being left entirely to government officials. And, indeed, the Comptroller of the Currency at Washington and the state Superintendent of Banking for New York are among the most out-and-out advocates of more definite associa-

activity and responsibility. Themselves aware of the practical limitations and defects of paternalistic control, they are anxious to enlist the assistance of those who must necessarily be most conversant with actual needs and conditions. If any system of external inspection is ever evolved for Canadian banks, it must logically be along lines by which the associated banks would play an important part. Direct government inspection as practised in the United States has not been a shining success, even under non-branch banking conditions. In Canada, where banks have their scores of branches, any such plan seems especially impracticable. And where such inspection would not really protect the shareholders and creditors, it seems better "that they should not be lulled by imaginary safeguards, but be kept alert by the constant exercise of their own judgment." Where due publicity is provided for, and exacted, there is much to be said for a plan whereby, to quote an eminent banking authority, "the public is left to judge of the bank by its chief officers, its record in the past, its entourage."

As remarked in THE CHRONICLE a fortnight since, experience shows that all that is usually necessary for ensuring that the Canadian banks will support home industries is to create by legislation a situation making it safe for the banks to put their funds at the disposal of the home business men. Thus it comes about, that an industry may be helped most through giving the banks and other lenders plenary powers of sale, and so forth, over goods pledged as security for loans. It was with such an end in view, that the Bank Act was revised in 1900 so as to add standing timber and timber licenses to the list of enumerated securities upon which a bank is authorized to lend money.

Provisions relating to bank note circulation were changed somewhat by the 1900 revision. Being virtually "involuntary creditors," note-holders are considered, by bankers and government alike, as entitled to all reasonable safeguards. It was made a penal offence, therefore, for an officer of a suspended bank to issue its circulating notes during the period of suspension.

The rate of interest borne by the notes of a suspended bank was reduced from six to five per cent. per annum. It was also provided that any advances from the Bank Circulation Redemption Fund should bear interest at three per cent. per annum until the government came to be reimbursed out of the assets of the suspended bank.

It was further enacted that when, through the taking-over of the business of another bank, the paid-up capital of a purchasing bank became exceeded by the total of notes in circulation of both banks, the excess notes in such case had to be secured by cash deposited with the government.

The revision made definite provision for the sale by any bank of a whole or part of its assets to another bank. It provided that the agreement of sale must be approved by two-thirds of the shareholders of the selling bank; and also by shareholders of the purchasing bank if the transaction involved any increase in capital stock. In any case the agreement was to be subject to approval by the Governor General in Council on the recommendation of the Treasury Board.

Several other matters were dealt with by the revision of 1900, but the foregoing are the more important. For the most part the changes were made on the recommendation of the banks themselves—Parliament finding, after careful scrutiny of details, that the bankers generally recognized the principle that what was best for the country's business and financial interests was to their advantage also.

#### THE MERRY GAME OF TARIFF REPRISAL.

And the first shot has been fired. A week ago the Treasury Department at Washington sent out letters directing United States customs officials to begin levying upon printing paper imported from the provinces of Ontario and Ouebec, the countervailing rates provided for in the tariff law -the "wherefore" being that these provinces forbid the exportation of pulpwood from Crown Lands for use in the manufacture of wood pulp and print paper. The tariff bill provides in such case for an additional duty of 1-10 of a cent. per pound on print paper valued at 3 cents a pound or less, and a duty of 1-12 of a cent. per pound on mechanically ground pulp which is otherwise duty free. It is estimated at the Treasury that the rates which are now ordered to be assessed upon printing paper would impose upon ordinary news print worth say 21/4c. per lb. a rate of tariff duty equal to about \$5.75 per ton from Ontario and about \$6.10 per ton from Quenec-an extra 35 cents being added in the latter case on account of export duty. These, of course, are the minimum rates under the new tariff and in case the maximum rates should go into operation there would be an addition of 25 per cent. ad valorem to the rates already mentioned which would bring the duty on paper up to \$8.50 a ton or over.

As to the question of applying the maximum rates, that is for the future to determine. But according to a Washington despatch, there is nothing in the law to indicate the possibility of any escape on the part of the United States Government from the position in which it is placed. It will have to impose a maximum tariff on goods coming from the two Canadian provinces, or violate the law. According to the opinion of the

New York Journal of Commerce, the President would not under the terms of the law have to apply the maximum rates to all exports from 'But," it adds, "the Canadian Government can hardly be expected to sit by and see the maximum tariff apply to the provinces in question without taking a hand in the discussion. The effect may easily be to set on foot a serious tariff war between the United States and Canada applying to all commodities and impairing trade to a corresponding extent. We have thus under the law already instituted reprisals against two counties, France and Canada-France dating from the end of October and Canada immediately. France has responded with a list of maximum rates and there is every reason to think that the same plan will be followed in some other quarters, either openly or surreptitiously."

It is noteworthy that there are no "squeals" from the Canadian press—though they come in plenty from over the line. Those interested recognize that the United States need the products of Canadian forests—cannot do without them, certainly, so long as "Sunday editions" call for their miles of print paper. Such being the case, the brunt of the tax must fall upon the United States. Any disturbing effect upon Canadian business interests promises to be slight in extent and purely temporary at most.

#### AN EDUCATIVE FORCE.

There is no emphasizer like coincidence. On the day on which THE CHRONICLE received a special announcement from President G. H. Allen, regarding the coming session of the Insurance Institute of Montreal, there came also to hand the inaugural addresses of President R. H. Mitchell, of the Insurance Institute of South Africa. According to "Insurance" (which is a new and attractive exchange from Cape Town) the South Africa Institute has not always met with the success that its five stated objects deserve: (1) Friendly intercourse amongst members; (2) Reading and discussion of papers on insurance; (3) Watching legislation affecting insurance in South Africa; (4) Formation of an insurance library; and (5) Offering prizes for essays.

Good work, however, had been done and, as the new president remarked, "they must keep pegging away." Judging from the straight talk given by Mr. Mitchell, the coming session is likely to see a reversal of the decline in membership that has unfortunately characterized the past few years. "Such decline," said the president" is greatly to be deplored, as it shows that there are many young men. engaged in the insurance business in Cape Town who apparently have not thought it worth

their while to spend twenty-four hours of their spare time in a year to attend the Institute's meetings and learn something of the business by which they hope to earn their living."

These young men might think they were badly treated if they did not get an increase in salary every year, or when they saw a clerk, whom they considered their junior, promoted over their heads. The explanation would usually be found simple enough—the clerk who had succeeded in getting promoted had shown his ability when he got the opportunity, and no doubt had prepared himself by taking the trouble to study some of the intricacies of his business even after office hours; whereas the other young man had probably kept his eyes on the clock, heaved a deep sigh when 5 o'clock struck, and walked into the street with an air of having done more work than his office had seen fit to remunerate.

# LEGAL ASPECTS OF THE CO-INSURANCE CLAUSE.

Mention was made last week of a New York court decision to the effect that by attaching a co-insurance clause to a fire policy, a company assumes that other insurance may be required and thus gives consent for such concurrent insurance.

In this connection it was pointed out that in Canada, the companies generally have considered that every policy with an 80 per cent clause contains in effect a consent to other insurance without notice. But, to obviate misunderstanding, there has been a growing tendency of late to include a definite permissive clause to the effect that, "Further concurrent insurance is permitted without notice until required."

Regarding the wording of this clause a correspondent suggests certain changes in the course of the communication appearing hereunder.

Montreal, 31st August, 1909.

Editor, THE CHRONICIE,

Montreal, Que.

I have read the article "Co-Insurance Clause in Canadian-Issued Fire Policies" in yours of 27th inst., with interest. It has, as you state, been the general practice in Canada to give permission for other concurrent insurance notwithstanding the fact that a policy is subject to co-insurance.

This seems on the face of it unnecessary since the clause states that the assured agrees to maintain insurance concurrent in form to the extent of at least the percentage called for by the particular co-insurance clause inserted in the policy and that it is upon that understanding that the reduced rate of premium is fixed. However, it has been the custom to grant permission for extra insurance as a precautionary measure and apparently—from your article—we have not been in error.

I take some objection, however, to the definite permissive clause—"Further concurrent insurance is permitted without notice until required."

To my mind this phrase implies that the company taking any subsequent insurance grants permission for any further insurance which may be in existence upon the property insured. This certainly is not what is intended when inserting the "Further concurrent insurance permitted without notice until required" clause.

I am under the impression that a clause something like the following would be better—"Permission granted for existing insurance and to increase or decrease the insurance without notice until required."

The above should remove the objectionable features in the "Further concurrent insurance per-"mitted without notice until required" clause and would also cover the variation in the statutory conditions which some companies insert on their policies, -"It is a condition of this policy, in consideration of which the rate of premium is fixed, "that the assured shall maintain proportionately "to value as large an insurance during the cur-"rency of this policy as existed when application "was made, that is to say, if the proportion of "insurance to value is decreased by the dropping "of other insurances which were in force at the 'time this contract was entered into then this "policy shall be absolutely void unless the written "consent of the Manager has been given to such "discontinuance of other insurance or insurances."

Yours truly, "Special Agent."

In an added paragraph this correspondent remarks that, whether this variation would hold in court remains to be seen, but the company might plead that by reducing the insurance the proportion of loss to the remaining companies was increased and that this constituted a change material to the risk.

### A DECADE OF BANKING LEGISLATION.

Various Amendments that have been made to the Canadian Bank Act since its Regular Decennial Revision in 1900.

In considering possible changes that may be made in the Bank Act during its approaching decennial revision, interest naturally attaches to amendments that have been made since the general revision of 1900. A most satisfactory summary of these is that given by Mr. A. St. L. Trigge, in a supplement to the new edition of A History of Banking in Canada, first published some ten years ago by President B. E. Walker, C.V.O., LL.D., of the Canadian Bank of Commerce. A much wider circle of readers than the banking fraternity is indebted to the author and his collaborator for this revised edition of an authoritative and useful monograph. Mr. Trigge's summary of amending legislation is given herewith.

#### Bank Act Amendments of 1904.

By reason of the further extension of branches of Canadian banks to other British colonies in which the dollar was the unit of currency, provision was made by Chap. 3 of the Statutes of this year for note issues in pounds sterling or in the dollars in commercial use in such colonies, and the Governor in Council was authorized to fix the rate in Canadian currency at which such notes should be calculated in determining the amount of the bank's circulation. The denominations of such notes were limited to one pound sterling and any multiples of that sum, or five dollars and any multiples of that sum. Chap. 14 of the Statutes of 1800 was repealed.

### Limit to Number of Directors Abolished in 1905.

The limit of ten placed by the Act of 1890 upon the number of directors which might be elected by any bank was abolished by Chap. 4 of the Statutes of this year, and the election of an honorary president permitted.

### Consolidation of Act and Amendments in 1906.

In this year took place the regular revision and consolidation of the Canadian statutes. The Bank Act and its various amending Acts were consolidated as Chap. 29 of the Revised Statutes of Canada, 1906. The arrangement of the Act was altered in many places and the sections renumbered, making it a difficult matter for the lay reader to find the sections referred to in the body of this work. For the convenience of any such, a table of the numerical sections of the old Act is given on page 119 of the History of Banking in Canada, with the numbers of the corresponding sections in the present Act.

### Provision made in 1908 for Extra Note Circulation.

In July a short amending Act (Chap. 7, Statutes of 1908) was passed authorizing any bank during the usual season of moving the crops, that is to say, from 1st October to 31st January in the following year, to issue circulating notes in excess of its paid-up capital to the extent of 15 per cent. of its combined unimpaired paid-up capital, and rest or reserve fund as shown by the statutory monthly return made to the Government for the previous month. Such notes are to bear interest at whatever rate, not exceeding five per cent. per annum, is fixed for the purpose by the Governor in Council. This interest must be paid to the Government as part of the general revenues of Canada. A return showing the amount of the excess notes in circulation must be sent in monthly to the Minister of Finance. Penalties are provided for neglect or delay in sending in this return, and special provision is made for the case of the Bank of British North America, which does not share to the full extent in the privilege of note circulation granted to the other Canadian banks.

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THE NEWLY ORGANIZED fire chiefs association of Ontario will hold a meeting in Toronto during exhibition week, and every chief in the province will be asked to attend.

### Our London Letter.

#### WATCHING GYRATIONS IN AMERICANS.

New York's London Borrowings —Dearth of Foreign Government Issues—Canadian Competition in British Steel Rail Market—Insurance Topics—Special Correspondence of THE CHRONICLE for Week ending August 21st.

London is still looking on at the gyrations in Americans-and doing little else. In mid-week the chief topic of conversation was Mr. Harriman's health; to-day the Stock Exchange is closed and its members scattered to the four winds. Business is suspended in this fashion to allow the House waiters to take their annual beanfeast (at the expense of the Stock Exchange committee) up the river. The waiters, it should, perhaps, be explained are the House attendants, being called waiters because they do everything but wait. They are a flourishing body with larger banking accounts than a good many brokers and since their outing always means a holiday, uncommonly popular with the younger members of the House at this time of the year. Time was, and that not many years ago, when an obliging committee used to find it necessary to close the House for "structural alterations"-every other Saturday or so during the summer; but, somehow or other, structural alterations are now accomplished at other

Discount rates show no appreciable alteration, but there is something of a change in tone, and the market appears disposed to pay attention to various signs of higher rates for money in the autumn. There are suggestions of a possible drain of gold to New York later on, should the metal be required on your side of the Atlantic, as American houses have lately been borrowing in London on the security of short dated railway notes. Three months' bank paper, however, finds plenty of takers at 1½ per cent. and, with money quite abundant, a rise in the bank rate appears to be still a long way ahead.

### A Famine in Foreign Stocks.

London would welcome - with open arms just now any new foreign government issues giving reasonable security and a yield of from 41/2 to 5 per cent. It seems almost unbelievable, but it is a fact that there is such a famine in bonds of this description that in several issues of the kind -for instance, Argentine Fives, Chinese Gold Loans, and one or two Japanese bonds-jobbers are unable to make prices. The reason is simple; recent low monetary rates have stimulated investment buying; and stock has been taken off the market, locked away, and will probably not change hands again till either death or financial strain makes a sale inevitable. It is, of course, only foreign bonds giving a substantial yield which are in such scant supply; in other investment markets, British Government stocks and home railways, for example, there is plenty of stock about but no buyers. The average British investor in these days wants his 41/2 or 5 per cent. and, like the baby in the soap advertisement, he isn't satisfied till he gets it.

Before long, no doubt, we shall have some new creations to satisfy this demand, but, for the moment, at all events, there is very little in sight. Our share of 11/2 millions in China's new railway loan and the new Cuban loan will not go very far; and beyond these at present we know of no definite fixtures though several are reported to be in course of arrangement. London has lately lost to Paris loans from as diverse quarters as Denmark and Uruguay, while the meddling of Wall Street and Washington in the affairs of Honduras and Costa Rica is not liked-in any case such sinners as these two republics hardly count in any survey of coming foreign loans. The most important operation of the kind now under discussion is one by Germany, who, we hear, is thinking of floating a 1414 million loan, just to make up Budget deficits. But this again will hardly provide any securities for London. The idea of Germany borrowing from us would be Gilbertianand after all the mud-slinging there has been lately too!

### Rail Manufacturers' Plight.

The Dominion Iron & Steel Company is making the members of the International Steel Rail Syndicate feel rather sorry for themselves, and those in the inner circle of the trade would not be surprised to see the pool dissolving into thin air at an early date. Until lately this syndicate was a fair success, but the advent of the Dominion Company and also of a Russian concern in the export trade has upset all calculations. Moreover, these resolute competitors have refused to be brought into the fold. The fact that the Dominion Company has lately been sending rails to England and that the Russian concern has cooly annexed a 36,000 ton order from South Africa have now brought matters to a head; and, as has been said, it would not be surprising were the ring to be dissolved.

### A Silly Season Registration.

With Parliament still wrangling about the Budget, the silly season is falling rather flat this year. But someone has just registered at Somerset House the Canadian Merchants and General Trust. It has the modest capital of £100 in £1 shares, but the director's qualification is £250. As there must be at least two directors and their qualification would be five times the amount of the company's capital, the problem is how they could act. Common sense suggests that the registration has been made to secure the title, but, ignoring this obvious explanation, there are fine possibilities about the company as a breakfast table problem.

#### Some Insurance Topics.

That fine old mutual office, the Norwich Union Life, is absorbing the Victoria Mutual Assurance Society, dating from 1860 and having a membership of about 3,600, and funds of over £160,000. The latter office was distinguished, above its fellows, by the way, by the fact that it gave special terms to journalists, though whether privileges in this direction were widely taken advantage of does not appear.

We hear from Jamaica that a serious situation

has arisen owing to the gradual withdrawal of the British fire offices from that not very remunerative field. American companies do not appear to be favoured by Jamaican business men, except those, curiously enough, which refuse to enter the field. The local co-operative society is overwhelmed with business and cannot carry all the insurance offered.

A new idea introduced by one of the younger life and endowment companies is to make policies transferable, subject to medical examination and any needful difference of age. That is to say, a man of the same age as the original policyholder can buy the policy and take it up at the same premium on passing a medical examination while if he is older or younger he will have to pay the premium which he would have had to pay had he entered on the same day as his prodecessor.

Although two dozen or so companies connected with aviation in one form or another have within the last eighteen months been registered at Somerset House the risks incident to the new mode of travel appear, up to the present, not to have been covered by any British insurance company. Even Lloyd's have declined offers against the loss or damage to the structures of aeroplanes or monoplanes on the ground of their being too risky. In good time, doubtless, insurance offices will lay themselves out to meet the requirements of developments in this direction, but at present the thing is too much in the embryo stage.

METRO.

London, 21st August, 1909.

### From Western Fields.

WHEAT ESTIMATED AT 115,000,000 BUSHELS.

Banking and Milling Reports Agree as to This—A Grain Clearing-House—British Association Discusses Western Problems—American Editors Inspect G.T.P.—Activity of Great Northern in Western Canada.

The Manitoba Grain Growers' Association is not apt to over-estimate wheat yields. It has too keen an interest in prices to do that. It predicts a 35,000,000 bushel output for Manitoba, and 107,000,000 for all three prairie provinces. In view of this estimate, it is not unlikely that a 115,000,000 bushel figure (upon which the Bank of Commerce and the Ogilvie Milling Company practically agree) is not wide of the mark. In those cases where threshing has already taken place, results are stated to be well up to estimated yields per acre. The Ogilvie Company has made the following statement as to quality of grain sampled. "We find as a result of the tests made in our laboratory and baking department of over one hundred samples of new crop wheat that the quality is the best we have had in many years, both as respects strength and colour, and it is just such crops as the present that have made Canada famous the world over in the past for the quality of her hard Fyfe wheat.'

The great feature of this year's situation is that there has been no damage by frosts and the farmers expect to get their cutting all done before the first frost comes.

Shortage of harvest help is now the one worry of the West—and it is no slight one in more out-of-the-way sections. It is a recurrent problem that must be squarely faced if the full prosperity of the West is to be assured. Its solution must be along lines of agricultural development that will make it possible to profitably employ all-the-year-round labour. This is one among many reasons why increased attention should be given to mixed farming throughout the West.

### A Clearing-House for Grain.

There has now been formed, with head offices at Winnipeg, the Lake Shippers' Clearance Association. The association will have large premises in Fort William and in addition to the grain clearing-house, the association will act as agent for grain shippers and exporters, and as a marine agency for all vessel owners trading into Fort William and Port Arthur. The officers of the new association are: - John Fleming, president; Capel Tilt, vice-president; A. C. Ruttan, secretary; A. K. Godfrey, treasurer, and H. N. Baird, director, thus furnishing a committee of five for the transaction of business. The primary object of the association is to do away with vessels having to go to a large number of elevators in order to complete their cargo. For the present it will only be used for the clearing of documents in connection with the higher grades of grain.

### British Scientists' Interest in the West.

That the members of the British Association for the Promotion of Science found much to interest them in the West itself, was made evident by the attention given to Western topics during their Winnipeg sessions. For instance, two important resolutions passed by the Zoological Section recommended government action in matters that may vitally affect the West. One of these recommended to the governments of the West that immediate steps be taken for the extermination of the rats from the South. The resolution was moved by Prof. Shipley, president of the department, who stated that if rats were allowed to spread through the West they would, he estimated, damage 25 per cent. of the yield annually.

The second resolution was one urging the federal authorities to appoint a commission to investigate the question of preventing the disappearance of the salmon in British Columbia. It was felt by the members that if immediate steps are not taken the fish might ere many years become extinct.

Discussions on wheat were recurrent features of the association's sessions. A paper was given by G. Harcourt, deputy minister of agriculture of Alberta, which dealt with the development of the grain industry in Western Canada and its future possibilities. Of the country which is known, he placed the area capable of producing grain at 220,000,000 acres. The total area in crop last year was 11,257,870 acres, producing a total crop of 240,000,000 bushels. The unoccupied land in future will produce at least five billion bushels. This was not the end. There was a great northern country, the Mackenzie basin, which was capable

of producing grain. To all of this must be added the result of what science and experiment will bring in the way of earlier and more suitable varieties of grain.

The Dominion Government was urged by Mr. R. J. Campbell, head of the forestry department, to take more interest in the question of the preservation of the timber resources of the Dominion. The fire patrol should be strengthened and made as effective as possible. An exploration of the public lands should be made in advance of settlement, and lands not fitted for agricultural purposes should be segregated and administered for forestry purposes. A larger staff was necessary for administrative purposes, while a more vigorous educational propaganda was necessary.

Some Economic Aspects of the Western Cattle Trade was the important topic dealt with by Dr. J. G. Rutherford, Dominion Veterinary-General and Live Stock Commissioner. He pointed out that the methods of cattle production in the Canadian west were rapidly undergoing a change, due to the inrush of settlement and the consequent cultivation of lands hitherto devoted to ranching. The history of Canadian ranges from 1879 to the present day showed the rapid development of the cattle industry, the various difficulties and drawbacks experienced, the deterioration in the class of cattle, the introduction of eastern stockers, and latterly of Mexican cattle, and the endeavour of the Federal Government to improve the standard of production by encouraging sales of pure-bred bulls. The conditions of Canadian cattle steamers were capable of being greatly improved. The business, although badly conducted, is profitable to the dealers, commissionmen and railway and steamship companies, but unprofitable to the producer and the country. Dr. Rutherford stated that it was advisable to finish western cattle on grain and hay.

### Financial Development of Saskatchewan.

According to the report of the Provincial Secretary of Saskatchewan, four million, six hundred and eighteen thousand, eight hundred dollars represents the aggregate capital stock of one hundred and eight companies incorporated in the province of Saskatchewan from March 1st, 1908, to February 28th, 1909. The average capital is small, being less than \$45,000. Only a score of companies are capitalized at \$100,000 or more, while none exceeds half a million dollars.

Ten trust companies are now doing business in the province, their aggregate investments in Saskatchewan being well on to \$4,000,000. About a dozen private banks are established in the province in addition to the branches of nearly a score of the chartered banks.

Thirty-six loan and investment companies transact business in the province, their Saskatchewan investments in 1907 totalling well on to \$8,000,000.

Of interest to purchasers of bonds will be the going into effect, at the close of the year, of the Saskatchewan Rural Municipality Act. This measure, passed this year by the legislature of the province, creates rural municipalities throughout the older-settled parts of Saskatchewan, which will in many ways resemble the counties of Ontario and Quebec. They will on the average in-

clude about ten townships, giving an area of 360 square miles.

### A Novel Advertising Plan.

Mr. H. R. Charlton, the general advertising agent of the Grand Trunk and Grand Trunk Pacific, has hit upon the ingenious plan of a cinematograph educational campaign which should do much to make the East better acquainted with the West. On his present tour over the G.T.P. territory he is accompanied by Mr. F. E. Butcher, an expert of a big English moving-picture concern, who is taking a series of films of various harvesting and other scenes for future use in moving-picture shows.

During August a party of editors representing some of the most important agricultural papers in the United States have been touring Western Canada. On reaching Winnipeg on their return trip from Edmonton over the line of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway, they wired Mr. Charles M. Hays, president of the Grand Trunk Pacific, at Vancouver, to the following effect:

"We believe that every foot of the land traversed by the road is eminently adapted to grain growing, mixed farming or the keeping of live stock, and that it must soon develop into a region of prosperous homes. We also unite in expressing our admiration of the high character and the completeness in construction of the road and road-bed which must soon give the road high rank among Transcontinental Railway systems."

#### Hill Interests in the Canadian West.

During the fiscal year 1907-8, the Great Northern Railway advanced \$8,108,884 for construction work in Canada, largely through subsidiary companies; and during 1908-9 Canadian territory has continued to be steadily developed by Hill interests. Indeed, six months ago, it was stated that \$2,000,000 had been expended for right of way and terminal property in Winnipeg—since which further large amounts have been forthcoming. Apart from the Winnipeg extension, Hill activities include a road north from the Great Northern line in Montana into Saskatchewan, only recently projected, and the completion of the Vancouver, Victoria and Eastern, of which altogether about 100 miles remained to be built last year.

THE NORTH EMPIRE Fire Insurance Company, now licensed by the Insurance Department, Ottawa, announces its attention to do business in

all the western provinces and also Ontario. The president of the company is Mr. D. H. Macdonald and Messrs. A. J. Adamson and M. Long are respectively first and second vice-presidents. The authorized capital of the company is \$1,000,000, and of this \$500,000 has been subscribed and \$250,000 paid up.

THE NORRIS GRAIN and Elevator Company has been incorporated under the Companies Act with a capital of \$150,000, and headquarters in Winninipeg. The incorporators are: James S. Norris, grain merchant, Montreal; Hugh N. Baird, Geo. Lanton and R. D. Stratton, of Winnipeg, and Fred. Heap, of Selkirk. In addition to doing an elevator business the company has the right to do coal mining and to develop electric power.

### General Financial Situation.

### EUROPEAN MONEY MARKETS STILL PLACID.

New York's Rates Change but Slowly—Stocks now Quiet—Industry and Trade Improve—Accumulation of Capital—Funds Plentiful for Canadian Crop-Moving.

This week again the European money centres underwent nothing that could be described as in the smallest degree exciting. Rates of discount have hardly varied from the level that prevailed last week and the week before. The Continent again secured the bulk of Monday's gold arrivals in London—some \$5,000,000—evidently because the Bank of England did not feel called upon to bid vigorously for the metal. The official rate of discount remains at 2½ per cent. Call money in the London market is ½ to ¾; short bills, 1¾8; and three months' bills, 1¾2.

Official rates of the French and German central banks were maintained, the former at 3, the latter at 3½ per cent. Open market rate in Paris in 1¼, in Berlin 23%.

Though New York is each week edging deeper into the crop-moving season, the rise in money rates there is proceeding but slowly. No doubt the heavy liquidation in Wall Street securities, which was very much in evidence for two whole weeks, has operated materially to keep interest rates down. Call loans are again quoted at 2¼ to 2½; 60 day money at 2¾ to 3; 90 days 3¼ to 3½; and six months, 4 per cent.

According to the Saturday statement the loans of the clearing house banks increased \$1,600,000, while their cash fell \$1,800,000. Their surplus reserve fell \$1,608,750, and stands at \$17,032,775. As the trust company loans also went up \$7,480,-000, the presumption is that a considerable volume of loans were shifted during the week from Europe to America, and also probably that large sales of stocks by European holders had to be financed by the banks in New York city.

After two weeks of fuss New York stock markets have become somewhat stagnant. The first spasms of fear regarding Mr. Harriman's health having subsided, there was considerable price-recovery at the beginning of the week. London markets are quiet with a drooping tending in Americans.

### Industry and Trade Steadily Improved.

Meanwhile the general state of industry and trade throughout the whole of North America continues to improve. Railroad earnings are increasing steadily, and thus the line of values is creeping up. In view of the fact that money market conditions are easy in every great centre, there are many who still hold that security prices will tend upwards again after the market settles firmly on its feet—providing that the improvement in the industrial world continues past the point already discounted by the market.

Some thoughtful critics on both sides of the ocean have expressed the opinion that there cannot have been any very great accumulation of real savings in the short time that has elapsed since the panic. They take the ground that most of the ease which characterizes the money markets

has been brought about through the release of capital, by industrial and mercantile concerns during the depression. And they say it is the idleness of this capital which has had most to do in making money plentiful. If, after so short an interval as two years, the great industries of the country begin actively to take back from the central cities the capital they relinquished, it will be only a short while before the wheels will again be forced to slow down because of a scarcity of money.

#### The Availability of Surplus Capital.

It is just possible, however, that real savings have accumulated during the two years at a pace faster than these critics believe. At any rate it is likely that the going of capital into industrial employment will proceed at a faster pace in America than in Europe. And, even if American industries (using the word American in its broader sense) do quickly absorb the spare cash of the central cities on this side the Atlantic, they will be able to draw, to a considerable extent, upon the capital of Europe for a while at least. In other words it is altogether likely that Europe will take a fair share of the good bonds and other securities which the best class of railways and industrial concerns in North America issue during the next year or two. It is not at all to be expected that the plethora of cash in London, Paris and Berlin, will disappear all at once.

### Money Situation in Canada Changes but Little.

The money situation in Canada has not undergone any important change during the week. Call loans in Montreal and Toronto are still 4 to 4½ per cent, and, though they may possibly move up ½ a point or so when the banks feel the full force of the Western harvest, there is no strong likelihood of any sharp or important change of front on the part of the banks.

At Winnipeg this week Sir Edward Clouston assured the Westerners that plenty of money would be forthcoming for the crop moving and for financing the requirements of the business men. He also said that as the banking reserves were strong, credits would probably be supplied at a low rate of interest. Estimates of the wheat crop continue to vary, but it is pretty generally understood that the yield will exceed 110,000,000 bushels at any rate. The crop has been safely brought to maturity and much of it is cut and stacked. But it is complained that there is a serious shortage of help for the harvesting. Particularly in Manitoba is it feared that if several thousand additional men from the East are not quickly secured a part of the grain will be lost

In an indirect way the strike of the U. M. W. A. men against the Dominion Coal Company seems to have operated to delay the payment of the back dividends on Dominion Steel preferred. The strike has delayed the settlement between the Coal Company and the Steel Company and as that settlement was to provide the wherewithal for the deferred dividends the payment of the latter is in consequence put off.

MONTREAL POST OFFICE REVENUE for August totalled \$73,470 as against \$69,150 a year ago

### From Across the Line.

#### NEW YORK INSURANCE LETTER.

Life Companies' Health Campaigns may Find Unexpected Obstacles—State Fire Rating—Personal Items of Interest—Special Correspondence of THE CHRONICLE.

Interested attention has been attracted by the refusal of Superintendent Hotchkiss, of the Insurance Department of this State, to allow the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company to erect out of its funds a sanitarium for the treatment of tuberculosis. It is well known that the Metropolitan Life has taken up the question of sociological conditions very earnestly, and has put several eminent scientists at work upon the various problems connected therewith. After due deliberation it decides that it could not only reduce its own mortality rate, but also do much good to the general public by the erection of an institution for the special treatment of this disease, to which is due a very large percentage of the losses which it incurs. Superintendent Hotchkiss now decides that the company has no legal right to use its funds for this purpose. The law states that a company may erect buildings or purchase real estate for use "in its business" either for immediate needs or those which are likely to arise in the near future. The Superintendent construes the law in such a way that such a use of the company's

funds would be prohibited under its provisions. The Provident Savings Life, which has recently returned to solvency and is entering a number of states for new business, is also entering upon a health campaign, and proposes to make a systematic inspection of its policyholders with a view to improving their condition in case disease is found. The plan has not yet been put into operation, but it has been tentatively put forward by President Rittenhouse, and the experiment will be watched with a good deal of curiosity.

### Fire Rating in Kansas.

It is a far cry from New York to Kansas, and yet the great insurance companies having their homes or headquarters in New York are much interested in the Kansas situation. It is well known that according to the law passed not long ago the power of rate-making has been placed in the hands of the superintendent of insurance. Superintendent Barnes has now ordered a flat reduction all over the State of Kansas of 12 per cent, with some slight exceptions, and the companies are much inclined to object to this reduction and to make some concerted action to oppose it. It has all along been the opinion of your correspondent that such laws would result in a great reduction of rates, and this is the first manifestation. It may not be an unmixed evil, for if rates are reduced to a point where companies can show no profit, the unwise legislation will be repealed all the sooner.

#### Miscellaneous Notes.

During the last month or two there has been the usual exodus of managers and officials to Europe, some of whom have already returned, while others are still abroad. We note the following:

President Amonson, of the Peoples' National Fire, of Philadelphia, has recently arrived in this port.

Manager Wray, of the Commercial Union, and President Henry Evans, of the Continental Insurance Company, have also arrived from abroad.

Among those recently sailing are Vice-President Bissell, of the Hartford Fire; President John R. Bland, of the U. S. Fidelity & Guaranty Company; W. B. Meikle, general manager of the Western and the British America; Ex-President F. C. Moore, of the Continental Fire; and Hon. Darwin P. Kingsley, president of the New York Life, who will spend most of his time recreating in Scotland.

Two cases of appendicitis have recently occurred among prominent insurance men of this city. Elijah R. Kennedy, of the well-known firm of Weed & Kennedy, was recently operated upon for the disease, and it is expected that he will soon recover. E. R. Perkins,, second vice-president of the New York Life, has also recently undergone an operation for the same disease, and is well on the road to recovery.

Nearly all the leading life insurance companies show a gain in new business for the first eight months of this year. According to present appearances the New York Life will be obliged to curb its agents in order to keep within the legal bounds of one hundred and fifty million dollars.

The Detroit Conference of industrial accident underwriters, in which a number of casualty companies of this city and Philadelphia are interested, will be held in Niagara Falls beginning with the 15th inst.

QUERIST.

New York, Sept. 1st, 1909.

# MULTIPLICITY OF UNITED STATES LIFE COMPANIES.

### Some two Hundred Companies will be Engaged in Business by the End of 1909.

An epidemic of life company promoting seems to have been one of the incidental results of the New York's investigation and "reform" legislation. The cry for "local control of local funds" was made the keynote of the movement in various states and the result has been a mixture of underwriting and stock-jobbing that has called for the frank disapproval of more than one insurance department. Certainly it would seem that with 188 native life companies (an increase of about 95 in four and one half years) the United States had enough and to spare. But the prospects are that 1909 will go far ahead of any preceding yearas about 20 new companies have already been licensed, and a round dozen more are almost ready to begin.

The Compendium of Official Life Insurance Reports published by The Spectator Company analyzes and summarizes the reports of the 171 companies which transacted business during 1908.

It shows that assets totalled over \$3,400,000,000 at the year-end, policy reserves being over \$2,825,-000,000, with dividends apportioned and set aside, of nearly \$250,000,000.

A summary of the 171 companies' accounts follows: Aggregate of the Financial Standing and Business for 1908 of the Ordinary and Industrial Life Insurance Companies of the United States.

COMPANIES OF THE	UNITED STATES	•
	Ordinary Companies.	Industrial Companies.
Number of companies Capital Stock	\$ 23,560,562	14 \$4,954,070
New premiums	51,646,192 345,706,440 3,766,784	20,770,340 123,859,859 108,795
Total premium income Dividends interest, etca Received for rents All other receipts	401,119,416 120,992,290 8,312,359 8,386,455	17,612,486 2,343,908
Total int. and other income.	137,691,104	20,380,635
Total income	538,810,520	165,119,629
Paid for death losses Paid for matured endowments Annuities paid Paid for surrendered, lapsed and purchased policies Dividends to policyholders	125,056,519 34,070,186 6,862,226 69,008,800 47,215,855	787,189 379,562 5,463,205
Total paym'ts. to policyh'ldrs. Dividends to stockholders Commissions, salaries and travel-		53,564,339
ing expenses of agents Medical fees, salaries and other charges of employees	44,425,369 14,408,822	,,
All other expensesa	25,118,983	7,401,258 8,807,148
Total expenses of management	85,304,343	46,593,278
Total expenditures Excess of income over expend- itures	367,517,929 171,292,591	100,157,617 64,962,012
Assets.  Real estate owned	128,046,475 841,755,401 1,236,728,164 133,794,545 20,993,902 411,318,484 54,581,745 36,901,766 35,863,718	38,828,094 145,497,739 216,099,408 13,274,866 9,624,398 22,940,825 17,905,849 10,503,346 5,635,365
Total admitted assets Items not admitted	2,899,984,200 20,858,815	480,309,890 3,402,259
LIABILITIES.  Reserve Losses and claims not paid Claims resisted Dividends unpaid, apportioned and set aside All other liabilities	2,425,267,640 13,600,648 1,770,248 226,427,088 40,008,223	403,389,451 1,298,051 150,882 20,211,681 5,786,933
Total liabilities Surplus to policyholders (in- cluding capital)	2,707,073,847 192,910,353	430,836,998
Policy Account.  New business written   Policies and paid for   Amount Whole life policies in force   Endowment policies in force   All other policies in force   a	800,684 1,468,934,726 7,800,443,208 2,903,108,161 1,146,481,212	
Total insurance in { Policies force { Amount Total assets (including non-admit-	6,164,730 11,850,032,581	19,687,67 <b>5</b> 2,668,919,696
ted items)	2,920,843,015 213,769,168	483,712,149 52,875,151
. Where the various items of a few		

a Where the various items of a few companies' statements have not been classified, the total amounts have been included in these aggregates.

# STATE INSURANCE OFFICIALS MEET. Fortieth Annual National Convention of Insurance Commissioners.

The National Convention of Insurance Commissioners, held at Colorado Springs last week, was presided over by Hon. Benjamin F. Crouse, Insurance Commissioner of Maryland. Insurance officials from thirty-five states responded to the roll call, showing the very general tendency there is towards greater co-operation and more thorough consultation in matters of common interest. There may always be somewhat chaotic insurance conditions throughout the United States, while there is state instead of federal supervision,—but something may certainly be done to improve matters by earnest joint deliberations among the various state officials.

President Crouse in his address to the convention had a good word for the insurance press generally,

regarding which he said:

'One of the strongest and most powerful influences for a better state of affairs is the insurance press, which has continued year after year to discuss with rare intelligence matters which have been of greatest interest and have not hesitated to criticize when it was just and proper to do so, but at the same time have not withheld, from those who deserved it, their full measure of praise. It has shed so much light on subjects and topics which a few years ago were considered too abstruse and difficult for the ordinary mind to comprehend or understand, that the average citizen has now learned to know much of the business and about what he wants in his insurance policy, whether it is to cover life, fire or casualty, and has made his wishes known with such force that the companies in their desire to gratify and meet these demands are now offering contracts which are very liberal in their provisions and in some respects much more liberal than they should be."

### Taxation of Insurance Companies

At the commissioners' preceding annual convention at Detroit, a very exhaustive and strong report was filed by the special committee that had taxation in charge, and its recommendations received the almost unanimous vote of those present. President Crouse stated that the commissioners should not fail to reemphasize the main features of that report and thus demonstrate that they propose to stand firmly in favour of a reduction of what they believe to be excessive taxation on those who by their industry, thrift and frugality are creating a fund for old age or in event of death to provide for those whose support is gone. The insurance business should undoubtedly bear its fair and proper share of governmental expenses, but should not be burdened with heavy and excessive taxes simply because it can be done by hiding and covering them up in the premiums paid by policyholders or by reducing dividends which otherwise would be largely increased. If the people who do the voting are clearly convinced that those who pay insurance premiums are paying excessive taxation on their savings some relief will undoubtedly come.

THE TRADERS BANK of Canada have opened a new branch at Forget, Sask., with Mr. E. W. Bradish as manager.

### A BURGLARY INSURANCE QUESTION.

## Insurance Against Felonious Abstraction from a Building does not Cover all Loss by Theft.

Burglary insurance is, comparatively speaking, a new branch of underwriting. Naturally, therefore, the public is sometimes not so well informed as it might be regarding its bounds and its limitations. As an instance the following case may be cited.

A certain burglary insurance policy contained this provision: "For direct loss by burglary, theft or larceny of any of the property described in the schedule hereinafter given and stated to be insured hereunder, occasioned by its felonious abstraction from the interior of the house, building, flat, apartment or rooms actually occupied by

the assured," etc.

While the policy was in force certain clothing, covered by the policy, was hung in the back yard of the assured to be aired, the rear fence being adjacent to an alley. This was in the day-time and was done in the way customary in the neighborhood where the insurance was effected. The clothes were hung within 30 or 40 feet of the rear of the residence referred to in the policy. While hanging on the line, they were stolen. The company disclaimed liability because the clothes were not in the interior of the house at the time of the The owner and assured insisted that an occasional, temporary airing of clothing in a back yard under the circumstances mentioned and according to the custom of the neighborhood must have been contemplated by both parties when the policy was written and that the policy covered the clothing while being aired in that way.

This irate policyholder wrote the insurance editor of the New York Journal of Commerce, who gave as his expert opinion that the clothing was not lost by "abstraction from the interior of the house," and that the company was not liable. The point is well made that while an insurance policy is to be construed with great strictness against the company and in favour of the policyholder, the policy is not to be made to mean that which it clearly does not say. A common form of burglary insurance is that issued as a protection against "felonious abstraction of money by burglars from a safe." It may be in contemplation of both parties in such a case that the insured will wish to take his money out of the safe sometimes. He may do so if he will, but while the money is outside the safe it is clearly not protected under this policy, and the courts so hold. In conclusion the Journal points out that policies are very commonly drawn to cover goods while in a certain building, or on a certain floor, or in a certain room, and such policies do not cover the goods while they are in any other place.

It is Rumoured that it is the intention of the Cunard Steamship Company to place the steamers Etruria and Umbria on the Montreal route. When the company brought out its recent new boats it offered the Etruria and Umbria for sale, but failed to secure a good offer. Possibly it is now thought that the ships could earn good money in the St. Lawrence trade.

### Prominent Topics.

St. Lawrence Route.

The members of the British Association found much to interest them in the paper on Canada's

waterway grain route, read at Win-nipeg, by Major G. W. Stephens, president of the Montreal Harbour Commission. He showed that our route is not only more direct than that upon which the United States is expending \$110,000,000, but that it already has a through depth of 14 feet, while the Erie route when improved will have only a 12-foot minimum. Major Stephens, as always, made out a good case for the further improving of terminal facilities at Montreal. He pointed out that the developments under way here will cost only four-and-a-half millions, while the same results cannot be secured in New York Harbour for less than twenty-nine millions.

Not by our own West alone is the St. Lawrence route being more and more utilized. It will be remembered that last year New York interests complained bitterly at grain from the Western States being diverted from New York to Montreal, as an outlet. And this year the grumbling is renewed. A prominent New York journal said the

other day:

"The loss of the grain trade from this port has "been severely felt along the river front, where at "least fifteen big grain elevators are declared to

"be standing idle.

Even though ocean rates from Montreal to Great Britain may be higher than from New York, the saving in rate from upper lake points to this port more than offsets the difference.

Napoleon spoke contemptuously of Switzerland. the English people as "a nation of shop-keepers" and the English people sensibly pocketed the insult as a compliment. There are shop-keepers and shop-keepers; according to Professor Wasserfallen, of Neuchatel, the Swiss are a nation of hotel-keepers. They have \$160,000,000 invested in the business, which brings \$40,000,000 a year into the country. Nature, like life, is full of compensations. Switzerland is a country about as devoid of "natural resources" as any country on earth. It could not excel in agriculture, mining, fishing, or manufacturing. All the natural conditions are against success in any of these industries. Its one natural resource is in its everlasting hills, which make it the congenial home of a brave and free people and the natural holiday resort of all the Occidental nations. The Swiss have done well to capitalize the beauty of their country. May their dividends never grow less.

The speech of Lord Charles Lord Charles Beresford. Beresford in opening the Toronto Exhibition will

have an inspiring effect throughout Canada. In connection with the subject of Imperial defence he puts the whole case in a nut-shell when he says:

"If the result of the London conference produces an imperial organization for war in which the whole Empire takes part, it should preserve our supremacy intact. The latent resources of the Empire have not been called upon as yet to join

in an organization which, to be effective, must be based on board, national, and Imperial lines, totally devoid of personal, party, or selfish mo-tives—an Imperial defence founded on the principle of five nations, one Union Jack, one navy, one army, one throne.

The official statement of the Quebec Finances. receipts and expenditures of the Province of Quebec for

the year ending June 30, 1909, has been issued. The total receipts and expenditures were as follows:

		T	

	Trecent to
\$6,082,187 2,074 1,000	Revenue from general sources
\$6,085,261 90,979	Trust funds and deposits
\$6,176,240 2,394,000 288,500	Dominion of Canada: Grant under Act 47 Vic., cap. 8. Special deposit, part of price of sale of Q. M. O. & O. Railway.
\$5,952,795	Total receipts  EXPENDITURES.  General Expenditures  Trust funds and deposits
\$6,007,702 10,750	Railway subsidies and Q. M. O. & O. Railway construction
\$6,018,452 2,682,500	Redemption of public debt: Loan of 1878
\$8,700,952	Total expenditure

### OUTSTANDING DEBT, JUNE 30TH.

The bonded debt was reduced during the year by \$2,682,500, by means of money received on account of the sale of the Quebec, Montreal and Ottawa Railway.

Loan, 1st July, 1880	\$ 1,338,820 1,712,580 780,500 3,182,800 2,530,666 5,332,976 292,000 1,360,000
Loan, 1st April, 1897 Loan, 1st April, 1897	9,236,062 \$25,766,404
Sinking Fund invested	

Net funded debt (including increase of capital by	*************
conversion)	\$24,696,216
I EMPORARI DEFOSITS.	

214,450 38,583 277,000 Security and trust deposits..... 530,093

Total debt obligations..... \$ 25,226,309

According to the circular Insurance Institute issued this week by President G. H. Allen, of the Insurance of Montreal. Institute of Montreal, the

session of 1909-10 should prove one of special in-

terest and value to all members.

Each meeting will take the form of a smoker, or a luncheon similar to the regular luncheon so successfully organized by the Canadian Club, of Montreal. An attractive syllabus will shortly be

ready for distribution among the members. Well known speakers will address the meetings. The Hon. J. J. Barry, of Detroit, Insurance Commissioner for the State of Michigan, has already expressed his willingness to appear before the Institute at an early date. Mr. Barry, with his experience extending over a long period of time, can be counted upon to give an address worthy of attention. Mr. Charles Warren Pickell, of Detroit, manager for Michigan of the Massa-chusetts Mutual Life Insurance Co., has also expressed his intention of being present at one of the meetings. His name will recall to the members of the Institute who are also members of the Life Underwriters' Association, his "encored" address at Toronto last year entitled "The Magic Key."

It is the intention of the Executive Committee to arrange for the attendance of all well wishers of insurance in its various branches without the necessity of the payment of a party fee. In other words the meetings will be free and a cordial invitation is extended to all interested in insurance. Certainly this good cause merits hearty support. Friendly rivalry with the Toronto Institute should

prove an incentive to new successes.

### Some Rights.

Sir Melbourne Tait has refused Farmers Still Have to grant Mr. Lichtenhein a mandamus against the corporation of

Pointe Claire to compel it to keep its road running along the Lake Shore in good enough condition for his automobile. The judgment was based upon technical grounds, but His Lordship discussing the merits of the case expressed the opinion that the Pointe Claire roads are reasonably free from defects and, as ordinary country municipal roads, meet the requirements of the law. The judgment is eminently wise and just. That the farmers should have to keep up roads suitable for automobile racing at their own expense while prevented from using the roads by the automobiles, is preposterous. These slaughter machines have lowered the value of every foot of land along the Lake Shore. Wisely used the automobile would have been a boon and a blessing to men. As generally used it is an intolerable nuisance. Five people were killed a week or two ago at one race meeting, and nobody has been prosecuted for manslaughter. Fatal "accidents" from automobile follies are of daily occurrence. We hope the suit against the corporation of Pointe Claire will serve to call the attention of the Provincial Government to the urgent need for legislation which will protect the farmers of the province from the arrogant, offensive, dangerous automobile.

The fire which destroyed the west Terento Fire. wing of the Legislative Buildings, Toronto, also destroyed the library; including, it is to be feared, much valuable material that money cannot replace. It is as-tounding to learn that fully twenty minutes elapsed after the first alarm was given, before the first firemen arrived upon the scene. Sir James Whitney and his colleagues preserved a judicious but ominous silence on the subject while the fire was in progress, but the Premier intimated that he would have something to say about the matter.

A deputation called upon Pre-Canadian Cattle mier Asquith and Lord Carrington, the British Minister of in England. Agriculture, to urge the removal

of the embargo on Canadian live cattle. The Premier was sympathetic, but allowed Lord Carrington to assume the whole responsibility of advising the government to take no action. The matter is now becoming a purely domestic one. It is of far greater interest to the British consumer than to the Canadian farmer and rancher. In some respects the embargo is a good thing for Canada, because it ensures the fattening here of cattle, that but for it, would be fattened in the United Kingdom: What Canadians object to is the false pretence upon which the embargo is maintained, the pretence that it is a necessary defence against a cattle disease which is absolutely non-existent in the Dominion. It does not seem to matter which party is in power in England; both are protectionists to the hilt on the cattle question and neither of them has the courage to confess that its practises are protectionist.

The only satisfactory feature The Lurgan Riot. about the riot at Lurgan (which arose out of nothing, but ended in the killing of one man, the wounding of many and the destruction of much property) is that it serves to call attention to the fact that such disturbances are getting very rare. Not many years ago such a fight would have attracted no notice whatever outside of Lurgan and would have aroused but passing interest there. A newspaper despatch naively remarks "the Riot Act was read, but not one word was heard a yard away." Did anybody ever hear the Riot Act? The reading

thereof is an incantation which has lost its terrors.

The British Association for British Association. the Advancement of Science has completed its labours at Winnipeg by the election of a new general council for the coming year. The new president is the Rev. Professor T. G. Bonney, of London, a distinguished geologist. Five new members have been added to the council. The 1910-11 meeting will be held in Sheffield, and the 1911-12 meeting in Portsmouth. It is not improbable that the 1912-13 meeting will be held in Canada, both the Montreal and Winnipeg meetings having been highly successful

Lord Rosebery has come Lord Rosebery Opposes out squarely against Mr. the Budget. Asquith's budget. Hitherto his attitude has been noncommittal, but he has promised to speak at an antibudget meeting at Glasgow on the 10th instant. Lord Rosebery is one of the greatest forces in British politics. His opposition to the budget will unquestionably have a tremendous influence upon the electorate.

North Pole Discovered? Herald the North Pole, it is alleged, has been reached by Dr. Frederick A. Cook, an American explorer, accompanied by two Esquimaux on April 21, 1908. Full

According to the New York

information from Dr. Cook regarding the expedition will be awaited with world-wide interest.

Floods in Mexico.

About 2,000 lives have been lost and it is stated about \$25,000,000 worth of property has

ooo worth of property has been destroyed at Monterey, Mexico, by the sudden rise of the Santa Catarina river. The survivors are suffering greatly from lack of food and shelter. If Canada is free from such apalling disasters it is due to her forests. If the forests are allowed to be destroyed Canada will suffer as so many other countries do from alternate droughts and floods.

Lord Grey's Adventure. His Excellency, the Governor General, was lost in the woods of Jervis Inlet,

B. C., for five and a half hours on Saturday last, and suffered considerable hardship before he was found, nearly falling over a precipice in the darkness. There is considerable risk involved in these hunting expeditions in the Canadian forests, without guides. We congratulate His Excellency upon his escape.

Wheat Estimates. The annual crop predictions of the Manitoba Free Press usually come pretty close to

the mark. Yesterday it issued a report estimating the total wheat crop for the three Provinces at 118,-270,000 bushels, the oat crop at 163,998,000 bushels, and barley at 30,542,000 oushels.

Neither too rapid a rush to market, or too decided a holding back of Canadian and American crops would be for the best interests of the farmers

and the general business community.

New R & O. Boat.

A party of Richelieu & Ontario directors with a number of guests left on Thursday for Detroit to witness the launching of the company's new steamer, the Rochester. The boat will be available for any of the routes on the line, but is primarily intended for use on the south side of Lake Ontario to connect Niagara Falls, Rochester, the Thousand Islands and Prescott.

We regret to have to record the death of Sir Henry Strong, former-ly Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada, and since his retirement from that office, a member of the Judicial Committee of His Majesty's Privy Council.

British Revenue and Expenditure. The revenue of the United Kingdom has increased

from £101,697,304 in 1894-5 to £151,578,295 in 1908-1909; and in the same period the expenditure has increased from £100,931,963 to £152,292,395. The income tax has increased from seven pence to a shilling in the pound. The cost of the army has increased from £17,900,000 to £26,840,000 the cost of the navy from £17,545,000 to £32,188,000 and the cost of the civil services from £18,915,000 to £32,338,000.

### TRANSATLANTIC IMPRESSIONS.

Mr. Robert Bickerdike, M.P., Provincial Manager of the Western Assurance Company at Montreal, arrived in the city a few days ago, after spending three weeks in England, and two weeks in France and Belgium. He was accompanied by his two daughters. While in England, Mr. Bickerdike had the opportunity of viewing the Channel Fleet

and was greatly impressed by the spectacle it presented. The Imperial Defence Conference was in session during his stay in London, and Mr. Bickerdike states that public opinion rests assured that whatever is finally arranged as regards Canada's share in defence will be fully satisfactory to the Home Government. Referring to the Lloyd George budget, Mr. Bickerdike states that the popular impression seems to be that it is on the whole a good one.

Business on the other side is progressing on a good solid basis. The Western Assurance Company's business in London has been very favourable this year, and is making steady progress. General Manager Meikle and Senator Cox were among the Canadians whom Mr. Bickerdike met in London; both gentlemen will sail for Canada on the 6th instant.

### FIRE AT TORONTO PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS.

Fire broke out in the west wing of the legislative buildings, Toronto, on the afternoon of the 1st instant, causing an insurance loss estimated at \$175,000. It is understood that no insurance was carried on contents of building.

The apartments in the building badly damaged or destroyed are the Library, Insurance Department, offices of the Registrar-General, offices of the Municipal Railway Board, Bureau of Labour, apartments of the Sergeant-at-Arms, and those of the King's Printer. The library was a most valuable one. It is stated that the insurance was allowed to lapse some time ago.

The following companies are interested:

The following c	ompanie	es are interested.	
Alliance	0.000	North American North Brit, and Mer. Northern Northern Norwich Union Ottawa Phoenix Phoenix of Brooklyn Queen City Queen Richm'd and Drum'd Rochester Ger Royal Scottish U. and N Sovereign Standard Sun Union Waterloo Western York Yorkshire	\$ 5,000 29,000 5,000 5,000 5,000 35,000 15,000 16,000 10,000 24,000 24,000 20,000 6,000 10,000 10,000
N. Y. Underwriters	10,000		

### FIRE AT WINNIPEG, MAN.

A disastrous fire occurred on the 28th ult., in the six-storey warehouse of the McClary Manufacturing Company at Winnipeg. The following companies are interested:

## Hitelearn ## 5,000 British America. 10,000 Home 5,750 Liv. & Lon. & Globe. 15,000 Quebec. 5,500	0 Manitoba
Royal. 6,000 Sun. 5,000 Union 14,250	) Eastern

Established 1817

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Rest, \$12,000,000.00.

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Altona, Man.
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Calgary, Alta,
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at the Bank's Branches.

### LIFE UNDERWRITERS CONVENTION.

### Toronto Gathering of Canadian Fieldmen has been One of much Interest and Enjoyment.

To-day, at Toronto, ends the third annual convention of the Life Underwriters' Association of Canada. That those attending have received a stimulus from the formal sessions and from informal intercourse with their fellows, goes without saying. Weather conditions have favoured indoor attention to addresses and discussious much better than the "dog days" that are usually associated with conventions in general. To the indefatigable energy of President John R. Reid, and his executive associates the association owes much.

Since its beginning the association has done good work in cultivating the spirit of co-operation among the life underwriters of Canada. Good comradeship can do more than anything else to diminish, if not ultimately eliminate, the undesirable practices which in the past have been too often connected with the business—more especially

the twin evils of rebating and twisting.

When the delegates convened on Wednesday in the gallery of the Ontario Society of Artists, they were welcomed and addressed by Mr. J. C. Richter, vice-president of the association and by Mr. J. A. Tory, the energetic Toronto president.

The report of the secretary, Mr. J. E. Weston, dealt with the material progress made by the association in the past year. During the twelve-month the membership had increased from 424 to 508. This increase was largely due to the new organizations in Brockville and Winnipeg.

Mr. W. C. Johnson, of the Phoenix Life Insurance, New York, told the convention of the work done by the agents during the famous insurance investigation in New York State. He demonstrated the importance of the agents forming themselves into a protective association. He held that the policyholders in this were of paramount importance, and pointed out that in guarding the policyholders the agents were really looking to their own best interests, as they were identical with those of the men with whom they did business.

A note of hopefulness as to the outlook for life insurance in Canada characterized the convention generally. Now that "good times" are here again the Canadian life agent is resolved to take advantage of them—promptly, before any spirit of "speculative boom" has a chance to divert the popular mind from the realities of insurance protection to "glittering unsubstantialities."

Social enjoyments were not lacking at the convention. The programme's provision for afternoon and evening outings, and the closing banquet were alike thoroughly enjoyed by the delegates present.

A DELEGATION of fire insurance representatives, from the Lower Provinces, are in Montreal this week, with the object of consulting with insurance interests in this city regarding insurance legislation. The delegation is composed of Messrs. MacEachren, Charlottetown, Thompson, Halifax, Otty and Knowlton, St. John, N.B.

DOMINION COAL directors have declared the regular quarterly dividend of 1 per cent. on the common, payable October 1.

### Financial and General Items.

The Board of Conciliation of the Fort William longshoremen's strike recommends a scale of 20 1-2 cents an hour day work, and 25.1-2 cents night work. The old rates were 18 cents and 21 cents. The board recommends that the bonusing system be done away with. There was no evidence of abuse of the men by the foremen. The company has accepted the finding, and it is expected the men will do the same.

MR. S. STANLEY BROWN, general manager Employers' Liability Assurance Corporation, London, England, who has been on this side of the water for some weeks, arrived in Montreal last night from Boston. He will be joined here by Mr. W. E. Gray, secretary and assistant manager of the company, who arrived at Quebec yesterday per S.S. Empress of Britain.

It has been Announced that the applications received and accepted for 6 p.c. bonds of the Black Lake Consolidated Asbestos Company necessitated the closing of the subscription books at 5 p.m. yesterday, instead of to-day as previously advertised.

TORONTO BANK CLEARINGS for August were \$105,726,880 as compared with \$91,086,602 in 1908 and \$95,410,355 in 1907. For the eight months of 1909 the aggregate was \$909,555,633 as compared with \$706,528,101 in 1908 and \$825,-251,670 in 1907.

MR. D. W. MACLENNAN, general manager British Crown Insurance Corporation, Glasgow, Scotland, arrived in Montreal, on Tuesday, and left last night for Toronto, and the West. Mr. MacLennan is looking over the Canadian field from a fire insurance standpoint.

WET WEATHER in the American Northwest drove shorts to cover in the market at Chicago, yesterday, which resulted in advances in all wheat deliveries. Winnipeg closing prices yesterday were 98 for September, 94½ for October and 90½ for December delivery.

LORD STRATHCONA, Sir Edward Clouston, and Mr. C. C. Chipman, chief commissioner of the Hudson's Bay Company, arrived at Victoria, B.C., on Wednesday, and were guests at a luncheon given in honour of His Excellency the Governor-General.

THE STR. PRESCOTT, of the R. & O. line, was burned at its Montreal moorings a week ago. Loss is said to have been about \$40,000, insurance being chiefly with London Lloyds.

THE DOMINION CUSTOMS collections during the five months of the present year, which ended August 31, show a betterment of four and a half millions compared with last year.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF LABOUR, Mr. Ackland, arrived at Glace Bay this week to confer with the U. M. W. regarding possible settlement of coal strike.

MR. EDWARD W. S. MORREN, marine underwriter Western Assurance Company, was in the city this week.

(Items on page 1316.)



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HEAD OFFICE

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WINNIPEG BRANCH: A. W. Blake. District Secretary. 507-8 McGreevey Block.

# THE ACADIA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY

CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED. CAPITAL PAID-UP.

1314

\$400,000.00 \$300,000.00

Total Cash Assets(as at Dec. 31st last) \$374,574.63 Uncalled Capital - - - . 100,000.00

\$674,574.63 71,210.22

Liabilities, iccl. Reinsurance Reserve Surplus as to Shareholders - \$603,364.41

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2nd: That when it is further demonstrated that the Equitable is the strongest Company in exist-ence, the average man will prefer it to any other.

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\$802.461

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### Stock Exchange Notes

Thursday, 2nd September, 1909.

While trading in general was not in any way active, there was a fairly wide market for the Dominion Iron Securities, both Common and Preferred. A dividend of 7 per cent. has been declared on the Preferred, from the year's earnings, payable 1st October and the stock advanced to 135, closing with 134 7-8 bid. C. P. R. now selling ex dividend of 3 1-2 per cent., closed slightly higher and Soo Common is up a point. Toronto Railway on sales of less than 300 cm and Twin City closed is up a point. Toronto Railway on sales of less than 300 shares, closed over 2 points higher, and Twin City closed 2 5-8 points up, while Richelieu & Ontario was firm at 84 3-8 bid, a gain of over one point. The general tone is firm and prices generally are higher. A few exceptions will be noticed. Crown Reserve is two cents higher at 3.95 on sales of 12,660 shares. The Bank of England rate is unchanged at 3 1-2 per cent. unchanged at 2 1-2 per cent.

Call money in Montreal		- 4
Call money in New York		2
Call money in London		
Bank of England rate		24
Consols		84
Demand Sterling	*** ****	84 94 94
Sixty days' sight Sterling		9
The quotations at continental points were	as follows	:
The quotations at continuents points	Market.	Bank.
Paris	11	3
Berlin	24	31
Vienna	31	4
Amsterdam	1 5-16	3
Brussels		9

#### SUMMARY OF WEER'S SALES AND QUOTATIONS.

Security.	Sales.	Closing bid. Aug. 26th.	Closing bid. to-day.	Net change
Canadian Pacific			1821 X	
"Soo" Common	60		144	+ 1
Detroit United			694	+ #
Halifax Tram		116	1164	+ 1
Illinois Preferred		941	941	
Montreal Street	193		213	+ +
Quebec Railway:		53	521 X	D+ 1
Toledo Railways			81	
Toronto Railway		124	1261	+ 21
Twin City	518		1097	+ 2½ + 2½ + 1½
Richelieu & Ontario	1,469	82	844	+ 11
Can. Con. Rubber Com	20	95	95	
Can. Con. Rubber Pfd				:
Dom. Coal Com	120		74	_ 1
Dom. Iron Common	9,25	0 443	478	+ 2
Dom. Iron Preferred	1,63	2 133	1347	+ 17
Dom. Iron Bonds	\$3,000	0 96		- ::
Lake of the Woods Com.		1 1291	126	_ 3½
Mackay Common	3		83	- "
Mackay Preferred	3		74	- 1
Mexican Power	12		714	+ 21
Montreal Power	80		125	+ .3
Nova Scotia Steel Com	70		701	+ 11
Ogilvie Com				:
Rio Light and Power		0 881	893	+ .!
Shawinigan	. 1,15		95	+ 14
Can. Colored Cotton	62		591	+ 31
Can. Convertors		80 42	414	- 1
Dom, Textile Com	10		748	= 1
Dom. Textile Preferred .	0	0 1054	106	- 1
Montreal Cotton		. 1271	125	- 2
Penmans Common		10 54}	547	+ 1
Crown Reserve	12,66	3.93	3.95	+ 2

MONTREAL BANK CLEARINGS for week ending September 2, 1909, were \$32,872,253. For the corresponding weeks of 1908 and 1907 they were \$31,752,345 and \$26,196,773 respectively.

Toronto Clearings for week ending September 2, 1909, were \$25,370,939. For the corresponding weeks of 1998 and 1907, they were \$24,345,591 and \$17,958,468 respectively.

OTTAWA BANK CLEARINGS for week ending August 26, 1909, were \$3,141,034. For the corresponding weeks of 1908 and 1907 they were \$3,901,027 and \$2,903,317 respectively.

THE BANK OF ENGLAND Statement this week shows reserve to have decreased £321,000 to £28,927,000. The ratio to liabilities decreased from 53.11 p.c. to 52 25 p.c.

### Traffic Earnings.

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 1907 and 1908 were as follows:

GRAND	TRUNK	RAILWAY
907.	1908.	. 19

1908.

794,562

Year to date, 1907. 1908. July 31..... \$24,990,313 \$20,914,656

1907.

915,430

Week ending.

Aug. 7.....

1909.

\$21,717,117

1909.

832,475

" 14	910,996	778,936	868,402	89,466
" 21		798,254	857,003	58,749
21				
	CANADIAN	PACIFIC RA		
Year to dat	e. 1907.	1908.	1909.	Increase
July 31	. \$41,327,600 \$		\$41,922,000	\$5,692,000
Week endir	ng. 1907.	1908.	1909.	Increase
Aug. 7	1,565,000	1,470,000	1,627,000	157,000
" 14		1,420,000	1,586,000	166,000
" 21	1,546,000	1,356,000	1,555,000	199,000
	CANADIAN N	ORTHERN R	AILWAY.	
Year to dat	e. 1907.	1908.	1909.	Increase
July 31		\$4,433,000	\$4,877,300	\$444,300
Week endin		1908.	1909.	Increase
Aug 7		174,400	195,200	20,800
" 14		167,600	183,200	15,600
" 21		162,500	175,100	12,600
	DULUTH, SOUT	H SHORE &	ATLANTIC.	
Week andi		1908.	1909.	Increase
Week endi			77,470	20,988
Aug. 7				
" 21			68,595	17,021
	MONTREAL		AILWAY.	
		1908.	1909.	Increase
Year to da		\$2,047,423	\$2,157,658	\$110,235
July 31		1908.	1909.	Increase
Week endi		70,414	78,470	8,056
Aug 7	68,866		77,952	5,221
"14	74,316	72,731 72,720	76,464	3,714
" 21				0,111
100	Toronto	STREET RA		
Year to d	ate. 1907.	1908.	1909.	Increase
July 31	\$1,876,869	\$1,972,393	\$2,141,367	\$168,974
Week end	ing. 1907.	1908.	1909.	Increase
Aug. 7		67,788	<b>75,</b> 203	7,415
" 14		66,397	75,999	9,602
" 21		66,818	72,252	5,433
		m	- Country	

### TWIN CITY RAPID TRANSIT COMPANY.

Year to date. July 31 Week ending. Aug. 7 14	1907. \$2,828,288 1907. 123,036 127,446 123,025	1908. \$3,551,512 1908. 132,633 126,282 129,305	1909. \$3,851,169 1909 143,073 142,117 145,089	\$299,657 Increase 10,440 15,835 15,784
		Twiner Parts	,	,

#### Week ending. 150,819 148,167 147,351 174,112 Aug. 7 ..... 169,896 157,165 HALIFAX ELECTRIC TRAMWAY Co., LTD.

1908.

1907.

1909.

Increase

25,945

22,545

	Railway	Receipts.			
Week ending.	1907.	1905.	1909.	Incr	
Aug. 7	4.758	3,982	5,057	1	,075
" 14	4,738	4,637	5,011		374
" 21	4,431	4,901	4,761	Dec.	140
HA	VANA BLECT	RIC BAILW	AT Co.		

			RAILWAY Co.	Increase
We	ek ending.	1908.		4,955
Aug.	1	34,870	39,825	5,131
**	8	36,178	41,309	4,436
	15	36,147	40,583	4.078
**	22	35,380	39,458	3,195
	29	32,485	35,680	0,120

CANADIAN FAILURES in August were 89 with liabilities of \$985,997. Last year there were 124 for \$1,506,807.

Dominion Iron & Steel Company directors at their meeting this week declared a dividend of 7 per cent. on the preferred stock, payable October 1, to shareholders of record on September 15. This will leave 28 per cent, still due on the preferred stock. President Plummer pointed out that the dividend now declared would naturally come out of the company's earnings, no definite settlement having yet been reached with the Coal Company regarding the balance of the Steel Company's claim. Mr. Plummer expressed himself as highly pleased with the outlook for the company: "The plant," he said, 'is fully employed, there is a big demand, and prices are improving, so that the outlook is most encouraging."

THE RECENT BURNING of the Strathcona Hotel at Niagara, calls attention once more to the need for better protection from fire in summer hotels. As The Star of Toronto points out, the hotel was situated close to Lake Ontario, and it would have been a simple matter to provide an ample supply of water, with a large main and a powerful engine to give the necessary pressure for fire. Having none of these things, the hotel was burned down in a few minutes. What would have happened if the fire had broken out at night?

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY earnings and expenses for July were as follows:

Net profits ..... \$2,479,870.73

In July, 1908, the net profits were \$2,274,573.25. The gain in net profits over the same period last year is, therefore, for July, \$205,297.48.

WORD FROM PRINCE ALBERT, SASK, tells of much local interest in the return of a party of prospectors and guides from the Lac la Rouge and Churchill region with promising specimens of silver, gold and copper ore. The Board of Trade is making every effort to have further systemastic prospecting done. Specimens of the ore have already been expressed to the Saskatchewan exhibit at Toronto.

The Business Centre of Monterey Mexico was destroyed by fire two weeks ago while a week later came the greater calamity of a flood. Property damage totalling millions of dollars and the loss of hundreds of lives followed. The electric light and street railway system of Monterey, modern in every respect, constructed about three years ago by a Canadian company, in which the Mackenzie & Mann are heavily interested, was damaged somewhat.

THE WISEST STEP ever taken by the Ancient Order of Foresters was the securing of its Dominion incorporation as a legal reserve organization. At the biennal session of the High Court, a resolution was carried levying an extra tax on all members, this money to be used in an extension campaign covering all of Canada. The executive council and officers' reports showed a great increase in members and funds.

THE USUAL QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS of 1 per cent. have been declared on the Mackay shares. They are payable October 1.

#### MONTREAL CLEARINGS.

Montreal clearing house figures for the month of August show a notable increase over the corresponding period of last year and 1907. There was a gain of about \$20,000,000 over August, 1908, and of about \$4,000,000 over the "banner" August of 1907. The figures for August follow, with comparisons:

August, 1909	\$141,448,158
August, 1908	121,677,231
August, 1907	137,507,656
Clearings for the year to date:-	
January	\$134,935,526
February	120,115,223
March	131,487,574
April	135,180,233
May	
June	169,031,230
July	
August	
Ti-l-11- 1000	21 145 950 990
Eight months, 1909	015,140,206.896
Eight months, 1908	915,013,933
Eight months, 1907,	1,016,887,114

Eight Cobalt Mines shipped 466.21 tons of ore last week. Nipissing shipped 255,170 pounds, with Larose second largest with 193,020 pounds. The aggregate weight of the shipments from January 1, 1900, is 19,611.80 tons.

### Inspectors and Agents

WANTED—BY THE EQUITY FIRE INSUR-ANCE COMPAMY OF CANADA, Ten District Inspectors and General Agents; Applications for Local Agencies. Men with large business connection, underwriting knowledge, and ability to conduct a recording Agency preferred. Address:

> Wm. Greenwood Brown, 24 King St. W., Toronto.

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Agency to loan money on First Mortgages. Will guarantee both interest and principal, if desired, for a small fee.

CANADIAN FINANCIERS, Limited
Authorised Gapital - - \$2,000,000
HEAD OFFICE - - - VANCOUVER, B.C.

DOMINION COAL CO. 5 % BONDS.

DOMINION IRON & STEEL CONSOLIDATED 5 % BONDS.

NOVA SCOTIA STEEL & COAL 5 % BONDS.

We can offer any of the above Securities at market price in blocks to suit either small or large investors.

R. WILSON-SMITH & CO.

160 ST. JAMES STREET,

MONTREAL.

List of Leading Stocks and Bonds
REPORTED FOR THE CHRONICLE BY R. WILSON-SMITH & CO., 160 ST. JAMES STREET, MONTREAL.
CORRECTED TO THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2nd, 1909.

BANK STOCKS.	Closing prices or Last sale.	Par value of one share.	Revenue per cent, on investment at present prices,	Capital subscribed	Capital paid up	Rest Fund	Per cent'ge of Rest to paid up Capital	Rate of Annual Dividend	When dividend payable,
British North America	Asked, Bid. 155 181 2471	\$ 243 100 50 100	Per Cent. 4 51 4 44 4 85 4 93	\$ 4,866,666 10,000,000 3,983,700 3,000,000	\$ 4,866,666 10,000,000 3,983,600 3,000,000	\$ 2,433,333 6,000,000 4,981,960 2,000,000	\$ 50,00 60.00 125,06 66,66	Per cent. 7 8 12 8	April, October. March, June, Sept., Dec. Jan., April, July, Octobe Jan., April, July, Octobe
Farmers Hamilton Mochelaga Home Bank of Canada Imperial	1454	100 100 100 100 100	5 49	1,000,000 2,500,000 2,500,000 1,016,100 5,000,000	559,494 2,500,000 2,500,000 949,334 5,000,000	2,500,000 2,150,000 297,705 5,000,000	86.00 31.36	10 8 6 11	March, June, Sept., De March, June, Sept. Dec. March, June, Sept. Dec. Feb., May, August, Nov
LA Banque Nationale	168 205 2024 2514 251	100 100 100 100 100	4 76 4 87 3 99	1,954.950 6,000,000 1,000,000 3,500,000 14,400,000	1,944,595 6,000,000 1,000,000 3,500,000 14,400,000	1,050,000 4,000,000 1,000,000 ,500,000 12,000,000	66.66 100,00 100,00	7 8 8 10 10	Feb, May, Aug., Nov. March, June, Sept., De Jan., April, July, Octobe Jan., April, July, Octobe March, June, Sept., De
New Brunswick Northern Crown Bank Nova Scotia	**** ****	100 100 100 100 100	4 74	750,000 2,207,500 3,000,000 3,000,000 1,000,075		1,312,500 50,000 5,400,000 3,000,000 300,000	2,27 180,00 100.00	13 5 12 10 5	Jan., April, July, Octobe January, July, Jan., April, July, Octobe March, June, Sept. Dec. Jan. April, July, October
Quebes	2204	100 100 50 100	5 64 4 36	2,500,000 4,897,800 1,925,150 200,000	2.500,000 4.662,580	1,250,000 5,362,58 2,182,226 55,000	50.00 115.01 115.94	7 10 12 5	March, June, Sept., Dec. Jan., April, July. Octobe Feb. May, Aug. November March, September.
St. Hyacinthe Sterling Teronto Traders	220	100 100 100 100	4 54	504,600 876,300 4,000,000 4,367,500	\$29,489 4,000,000 4,853,811	75.000 207,372 4,500,000 2,000,000	25.00 112.50 45.95	5 10 7	Feb., May, Aug., Nov. March, June, Sept., Dec Jan., Apl., July, Oct.
Union Bank of HalifaxUnion Bank of CanadaUnited Empire Bank	138 134	100 100	5 07	1,500,000 3,207,200 635,600	1,500,000 3,201,590 503,212	1,200,000 1,800,000		8 7 4	Feb., May, Aug., Nov. March, June, Sept., Dec.
MISCELLANEOUS STOCKS.								١.	In April Into Oct
Bell Telephone  B. O. Packers Assn "A" pref, "B" com. Com		100 100 100 100	5 40 8 23 8 04  6 66	12,500,000 635,000 635,000 1,511,400	635,000 635,000 1,511,400			<del>-</del>	Jan. April, July, Oct. Cumulative.   In arrear Do.   21 p.c.  March, June, Sept., Dec
Canada General Fleetric Com	60 59	100 100 100		2,700,000 4,700.000 1,452,380	4,700,000 1,452,385			7 7	Jan., April, July, Oct.
do Pfd	182# 182 44 41 70 69	100	8 65	146,016,000 1,733,500 12,500,000	1,733,500				April, October.
Dominion Coal Preferred	120 115 76 74 75 74 105 104 461 46	100	5 83 5 26 6 66 6 66	3,000,000 15,000,000 5,000,000 1,858,086 20,000,000	15,000,000 5,000,000 1,858,088			5	February, Anguet. Jany., April, July, Oct. Jan., April, July, Octob Jan., April, July, Octob
40 Pt4	134) 134		- ::::	5,000,000 12,000,000					Cum. In arrears 35 p.c
Duluth S. S. & Atlantic	116 67	100	5 17	10,000,000 1,350,000 7,500,000	1,350,000				Jan., April, July, Octob Initial Div.
do Preferred Illinois Trae. Pfd	90 89 95 94 130 126	100 100 100 100	6 66 6 31 5 38	5,000,000 5,000,000 1,600,000 1,200,000 2,000,000	5,000,000 4,575,000 1,600,000 1,200,000 2,000,000			7 7 6	Jan., April, July, Octob- Jan., April, July. Octob- February, August. January, Apl., July, Oc April, October.
do Pfd Mackay Companies Com	85 83 75 74 724 71 1454 144	100	4 70 5 33 5 55 4 12	1,500,000 43,437,200 50,000,000 13,585,000 20,832,000	1,500,000 43,437,200 50,000,000 13,586.000			1	March, June, Sept., Dec Jan., April, July, Octob Jan., April, July, Octob Jan. April, July, Oct. April, October.
do Pfd  Montreal Cotton Co  Montreal Light, Ht. & Pwr. Co  Montreal Steel Work, Com  do Pfd	1	100	5 42 5 55 4 44	10,416,000 3,000,000 17,000,000 700,000 800,000	3,000,000 17,000,000 700,000			7	April, October. March, June, Sept., Dec Feb., May, August, No. Jan., July. Jan., April, July, Oct.
Montreal Street Railway  Montreal Telegraph  Northern Chic Track Co. XI  North West Land, Com. XI  N Sectia Steel & Coal Co. Com. XI	213 212 160 154	100	4 69 5 00 7 30	9,000,000 2,000,000 7,900,000 204,073 5,000,000	9,000,000 2,000,000 7,900,000 294,078			10 8 2	Feb., May, August, Nov Jan., April, July, Octol March, June, Sept., Dec
do Pfd  Ogil is Flour Mills Com  do Pfd  Richelieu & Ont, Nav. Co  Richelieu & Ont, Nav. Co	100	100 100 100	6 66 5 41 5 38 5 92	2,000,000 2,500,000 2,000,000 3,132,000 25,000,00	1,030,000 2,500,000 2,000,000	::::::::		8 7 7	Jan., April, July, Octol March, September. March, June, Sept., Dec March, June, Sept., Dec
Sao, Paulo Shawinghan Water & Power Co St. John Street Kallway. Tolede Ry & Light Co Toronto Street Railway.	954 95	100 100 100 100	6 99 4 18	9,700,00 6,500,00 800,00 13,875,00	9,100,000 6,500,000	1	:::::	10 4 6	Jan., April, July, Octol Jan. April, July, Oct. June, December. Jan., April, July, Octob
Trinidad Electric Ry		4.80	6 55	8,000,00 1,164,00	1 164 000			5	Jan., April, July, Octob
Tri, City Ry. Co. Com	90 89	100 100 100	6 66 4 57	9,000,000 2,600,000 20,100,000 3,000,000	3,000,000			5 7	Feb., May, August, Nov. Jan., April, July, Oct.
West India Elec	70		7 14 5 34	800,00 1,000,00 6,000,00	800,000 1.000,000 6,000,000		::::::::::	5 10 10	Jan. April, July, Oct. May, November. Jan., April, July, Oct.

### STOCK AND BOND LIST Continued

BONDS. Closin		sing	Rate p. c. of Int- great per	Amount outstanding.	When Interest	Where Interest payable	Date of Materity,	REMARKS
	Anked	Bid.	an- num.					
Bell Telephone Co			5	\$3,363,000	lst Oct. 1st Apl	Bk. of Montreal, Mtl	April 1st, 1925	
Can. Colored Cotton Co	100		6	2,000,000	2nd Apl. 2nd Oct.		April 2nd, 1912	
Dominion Coal Co	97	94	5	6,175,000	let May let Nov.		April 1st, 1940	Redeemable at 105 and
Dom. Iron & Steel Co	951		5	7,674,000	let Jan. let July.	Bk. of Montreal, Mtl	July 1st, 1929	Int. after May let, 1910
" 2nd Mortg. Bds Dom. Tex Sers." A"	100	973	6	1,968,000 758,500	lst Apl. 1st Oct. 1 March 1 Sept.	Bk. of Montreal, Mtl. Royal Trust Co., Mtl	March 1st, 1925	\$250,000 Redeemable Redeemable at 110 and Interest.
" "В"			6	1,162,000			•	Redeemable at par af
""			6	1,000,000			•	ter 5 years. Redeemable at 105 and Interest.
" "D"				450,000	• •			Interest.
Havana Electric Railway		1	5	8,311,561	let Feb. 1st Aug.	52 Broadway, N. Y	Feby. 1st, 1952	Redeemable at 105;
Halifax Tram		100	5	600,000	let Jan. let July	Bk. of Montreal, Mtl.	Jany. 1st, 1916	
Keewatin Mill Co		102	6	750,000	let Mch. 1st Sept	Royal Trust, Mtl	Sept. 1st, 1916	Redeemable at 113
Lake of the Woods Mill Co	112	108	6	.,,	1	Merchants Bank of Canada, Montreal	June 1st, 1923	
Laurentide Paper Co		110	6	1,036,000	2 Jan. 2 July.	Bk. of Montreal, Mtl	Jany. 2nd, 1920	
Magdalen Island			6	967 000	30 June 30 Dec.			
Mexican Electric L. Co	85	643		6.000.000	I Jan. 1 July.		July 1st, 1935	
Mex. L't & Power Co	05	041		12,000,000	il Feb. l Aug.		Feby. 1st, 1933	
Montreal L. & Pow. Co	1001	100	44	5,476,000	I Jan. 1 July	" "	Jany. 1st, 1932	Redeemable at 105 and
Montanal Steam D. Co	1	1	١				W 1-4 1000	Int. after 1912.
Montreal Street Ry. Co N. S. Steel & Coal Co	103	99	44	1,500,000	1 May 1 Nov.	U.B. of Halifax or B.	May 1st, 1922 July 1st, 1931	
b. bleer & Coar Co		••	6	2,282,000	1 Jan. 1 July.	of N.S.Mtl.or Toronto.	July 181, 1931	Redeemable at 110 and
N.3.Steel Consolidated	110	109	6	1.470.000	Jan. 1 July.	or 11.5-million Toronto.	July 1st, 1931	Interest. Redeemable at 115 and
	1	1				DL of Wanters! Will		Int. after 1912.
Ogilvie Milling Co	116	••	6	1,000,000	1 June 1 Dec.	Bk. of Montreal, Mtl	July 1st, 1932	Redeemable at 105 and
Price Bros			6	1,000,000	1 June 1 Dec.		June 1st, 1925	Interest.
Rich. & Ontario		1 000		000 140	1 Mch. 1 Sept.			
Rio Janeiro	951	991	5	23,284,000			Jany. 1st, 1935.	
	1 -	321		23,204,000	L van. I vuly.	C. B. of C., London	July, 100, 1930.	
Sao Paulo		١	5	6,000,000		Nat. Trust Co., Tor.	June 1st, 1929	
				\$ 1,000,000	I July 1 Jan.	Bk. of Montreal, Mtl	Jany. 1st, 1927	17 S 18 S 1 S 1 S 1 S 1 S 1 S 1 S 1 S 1 S
Winnipeg Electric	1043	103	5	3,000,000	2 July 2 Jan.	do.	Janv. 1st, 935	

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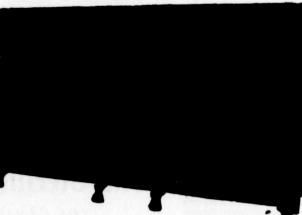
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President.

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Gowganda New Liskear
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By order of the Board.

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Head Office, RICHMOND, Que. CAPITAL, \$250,000.

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The Company transacts a general Fire Insurance business, which is confined to the Dominion of Canada, no foreign risks written.

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 Tôtal Cash Income
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 Total Assets
 9,690,638.09

 Net Surplus
 876,214.15

 Payments to policyholders
 654,991.05

 Insurance in Force
 40,340,091.00

For information respecting Agency openings write, T. G. McCONKEY, Supt. of Agencies

# SUN LIFE ASSURANCE OF CANADA

AT 31st DECEMBER, 1908.

ASSETS - - - - \$29,238,525.51
SURPLUS over all Liabilities & Capital, Hm. 3½ & 3 per cent. Standard 2,596,303.95
SURPLUS, GOVERNMENT STANDARD - - 4,118,491.91
INCOME 1908 - - - - 6,949,601.98
ASSURANCES IN FORCE - - - - 119,517,740.89

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Policies in force on December 31st, 1908 \_\_\_\_\_ 9,960,000

In 1908 it issued in Canada Insurance for \$16,812,000

It has deposited with the Dominion Government, exclusively for Canadi-

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Hamilton, Canada. —

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