

The Chronicle

Insurance & Finance.

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The Russian Loan. Caution to Investors. Efforts are being made to put the new Russian loan in a favourable light before investors. In reference to this the "London Economist" cautions investors who are liable to be influenced by the plausible statements appearing in some quarters, which, it is said, are evidently inspired by the Russian authorities.

"It is difficult to see why British investors should lend their money to the Government of the Tsar. Long before the war with Japan broke out these investors had very wisely been disposing of the Russian stocks that they had acquired, and holdings of Russian bonds in this country to-day are, happily, very small. What has happened that should induce those concerned to resort to a reversal of this wise policy? Russian Budgets have never told the real truth about the country, but it is notorious that Russia has been compelled for years to resort to borrowing in order to maintain her financial position, and so soon as borrowing facilities were curtailed it was found necessary to resort to a great increase in the paper circulation. Indeed, if the war had been continued much longer the Government would, no doubt, have been driven again to the desperate expedient of a forced currency, M. Witte himself, in discussing Russian power of further resistance, having pointed to the reserve of gold held against the note issue as an asset which could be used if the necessity arose. The great struggle in the Far East has absolutely impoverished the Russian Treasury, the internal condition of the country is appalling, and if the Tsar declined to assent to a war indemnity, one reason, no doubt, was that the Russian Government could not raise a loan for this purpose and at the same time obtain the money necessary to meet current obligations and requirements. Where in these circumstances is there any inducement for British investors to facilitate still further borrowing operations by Russia? It has been suggested that we ought to

participate in the loan, because by so doing we should promote more friendly relations with Russia. We are, of course, desirous to be on friendly terms with Russia as with other foreign countries, but it is too much to propose that we should be prepared to pay millions of money for the privilege of her friendship."

The Public and Fire Waste.

The subject of "Fire Waste" is ably treated in a paper contributed by Mr. J. Allan Cook, general manager of the Scottish Union & National Insurance Company, Edinburgh, to the Transactions of the Insurance & Actuarial Society of Glasgow. He points out that each person should look to safety from fire as only second to safety from disease. His premises should be so constructed and ordered as to minimise the possibilities of an outbreak of fire in his own premises and the spread of it to a neighbour's. He regards municipal authorities, as a rule, neglectful of duty in regard to fire protection. The true relationship of an insurance company to the public is little understood, and Insurance Institutes can do great service by educating the City Fathers to a perception of the true state of things.

In their efforts to economise in fire protection City Councils are penny wise and pound foolish. When members of Municipal Councils in every city awake to the fact that every \$1,000 consumed by a fire is \$1,000 lost by the people of the city, then, and not until then, shall we find them waking up to their duties as the custodians of the citizens' welfare. But so long as a City Council is disposed to economise in the provision of fire protection, so long as they continue to saddle upon insurance companies as much as possible of the cost of inadequate protection, then so long will the public suffer from the supineness and indifference of City Councils in this regard.

The duty of extinguishing a fire which has broken out is one that is known and appreciated, but, in

Mr. J. Allan Cook's judgment, "it would be still better known and the work better done were the fallacy removed from the minds of our legislators of endeavouring to make the insurance companies pay the bill."

The Insurance Investigation.

The New York Bankers' Magazine has some very sound observations on the insurance investigation now going on in New York. While the fact has been brought out that the banks and trust companies owned or controlled by the insurance companies may render the latter valuable, legitimate service yet there are other services which the insurance companies ought not to require, and that the banks and trust companies should not perform.

"It is one thing for a trust company to employ its machinery in the legitimate purchase of high-class investments for the parent insurance company; but it is quite another thing for the trust company to be made use of to take over and carry assets of a character that the insurance company does not wish to appear in its balance-sheet.

"Some of the facts brought to light show a regrettable lack of the finer and higher sense of appreciation of the duties and responsibilities of trusteeship on the part of those charged with the handling of the vast funds entrusted to the life insurance companies.

"The accumulation of enormous sums of money in the hands of life insurance companies and savings banks is bound to give rise to serious problems when this money comes to be invested. For many years the Legislature of New York has been under pressure from interests that desired to sell securities to the savings banks, and it was only quite recently that a general investment law was passed which will, it is believed, put a stop to the scandals possible under the former order of things. Perhaps the law relating to the handling of insurance funds could be so modified as to prevent the recurrence of conditions like those which have lately been the subject of so much unfavourable comment.

"Absolute control over several hundred millions of dollars is a tremendous power to be lodged in the hands of one man. To avoid mistakes in the management of so large a fund would imply almost superhuman wisdom, and perhaps it would also require superhuman virtue to administer such a trust without being in some measure influenced, directly or indirectly, by considerations other than those which should obtain. Too much money, like too much honour, is a burden rather heavy for a man who hopes for heaven.

"If the investigation of the insurance companies results in checking their growth for a time, it will probably be of great benefit to the policy-holders. There has been, unquestionably, too much racing for big totals, and the present problem would seem to be not how to get more business, but how to take better care of that already in hand.

"Notwithstanding the conspicuous faults in insurance management which have been brought to the

surface by the investigation of the legislative committee, it is at least well to bear in mind that the solvency of none of the companies appears to be in doubt. Their investments, upon the whole, are of a very high character. It is, of course, deplorable that such an investigation has been rendered necessary, but its results can hardly fail to aid in clearing up the financial atmosphere."

FIRE INSURANCE IN CANADA.

THE BUSINESS RECORD FOR 36 YEARS.

The table published in this issue relating to fire insurance in Canada gives an exhibit of the business of the companies for 36 years (1869 to 1904), the figures for which were taken from the reports of the superintendent of Insurance.

The official statistics have been supplemented by tables of percentages showing, (1) the ratio of losses to premiums received, (2) the ratio of expenses to premiums, (3) the ratio of losses and expenses combined to premiums, also the balance between the amount of losses and expenses combined and the premiums, with the percentage ratio thereof.

In his report for year 1899 the superintendent of insurance said:

"In prosperous times it is well to prepare for the day of adversity. Conflagrations must be looked for. The possibility, indeed, the probability of such disasters constitute a liability on the part of the fire insurance companies, for which provision should be made by the creation of special funds, varying according to the nature of the business transacted, to the many conditions and circumstances to which the business of each company is subject, but which it would be impossible to enumerate. Such liability cannot be accurately estimated, but it should always be regarded as a substantial amount and the fund exacted to meet it should be looked upon as an actual liability and not treated as a surplus."

In reference to these remarks by the Superintendent of Insurance, we said on December 6, 1901, "To create such a fund as the Superintendent of Insurance speaks of, it is obvious judging from past experience, that the companies must charge higher premiums to enable them to do so."

Since the above date higher premiums have been charged, but the results have shown that they were not adequate to meet the requirements of the business, for in 1904 the losses paid amounted to \$14,099,534 as against \$13,169,882 premiums received; the excess of losses over premiums last year having been \$929,652, the excess of losses being 7.06 per cent. of the premiums.

Since 1890 there have been 5 years in which the losses and expenses exceeded the premiums received in the fire insurance business transacted in Canada. As the result of 36 years' operations the gross amount by which the aggregate premiums in these years exceeded the aggregate losses and expenses was only \$793,024, which equalled the insignificant fraction of 0.30 or two-fifths of 1 per cent. on the aggregate premiums received in 36 years.

FIRE INSURANCE IN CANADA FOR 36 YEARS (1869 TO 1904) COVERED BY GOVERNMENT RETURNS.

COMPILED FROM THE REPORTS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF INSURANCE.

YEAR	Net Premiums Received	Net Losses Paid	Ratio of Losses	Expenses Estimated	Ratio of Expenses	Losses and Expenses Combined	Ratio of Losses & Expenses	E D	Balance Excess The Reverse	Ratio of Balance
BRITISH OFFICES										
1869 to 1903.....	\$ 124,542,115	\$ 83,497,403	67.04	\$ 37,362,634	30.0	\$ 120,855,039	97.04	E	\$ 3,687,076	% 2.96
1904	8,343,665	9,172,919	109.94	7,503,199	30.0	11,676,018	139.94	D	3,332,352	39.93
Total	\$132,885,781	\$92,665,324	69.73	\$39,865,733	30.0	\$132,531,057	99.73	E	\$354,724	0.27
CANADIAN OFFICES										
1869 to 1903.....	42,291,063	28,642,988	67.73	12,687,319	30.0	41,330,307	17.73	E	66,756	2.28
1904	2,681,275	2,561,475	95.53	804,382	0.0	3,365,857	125.53	D	684,582	25.53
Total	\$44,972,338	\$31,204,463	69.39	\$13,491,701	30.00	\$44,696,164	99.39	E	\$276,174	0.61
AMERICAN OFFICES										
1869 to 1903.....	21,572,558	14,077,909	65.25	6,471,767	30.0	20,546,677	95.25	E	1,025,871	4.81
1904	2,144,941	2,365,140	110.27	643,482	30.0	3,008,622	140.27	D	861,681	40.27
Total	\$23,717,499	\$16,440,049	69.32	\$7,115,249	30.0	\$23,555,299	99.32	E	\$162,200	0.68
RECAPITULATION										
British	132,885,781	92,665,324	69.73	39,865,733	30.0	132,531,057	99.73	E	354,724	0.27
Canadian	44,972,338	31,204,463	69.39	13,491,682	30.0	44,696,145	99.39	E	276,174	0.61
American	23,717,499	16,440,049	69.32	7,115,243	30.0	23,555,292	99.32	E	162,200	0.68
Grand Total	\$ 137,575,618	\$140,309,836	69.61	\$40,472,658	30.0	\$200,782,494	99.61	E	\$793,024	0.39

RATES OF INCURRED LOSSES, 1890 TO 1904.

COMPANIES	1904	1903	1902	1901	1900	1899	1898	1897	1896	1895	1894	1893	1892	1891	1890
Canadian	% 97.50	% 53.17	% 42.51	% 58.22	% 83.25	% 53.20	% 55.22	% 69.0	% 69.50	% 65.87	% 72.17	% 72.45	% 77.33	% 71.79	% 63.07
British	110.34	50.97	40.40	74.15	97.99	58.80	79.12	63.50	59.50	69.32	67.76	76.57	66.36	62.00	56.79
American	110.55	47.93	38.61	68.83	107.17	57.25	71.05	64.3	61.72	73.11	68.84	74.40	73.86	61.26	62.08
Ratio of all Co.'s	107.76	50.94	40.55	70.29	97.00	57.75	74.37	64.41	61.31	69.31	68.69	75.55	68.64	63.95	58.25
Ratio of Expenses	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00
Estimated Total % of Losses and Expenses..	137.76	80.94	70.55	100.29	127.00	87.75	104.37	94.41	91.31	99.31	98.69	105.55	98.64	93.95	88.25
Excess of Premiums over Losses and Expenses..	.....	19.06	29.45	.....	.....	12.25	.....	5.59	8.69	.69	1.31	.....	1.36	6.05	11.75
Excess of Losses and Expenses.....	37.76	.....	.....	.29	27.00	.....	4.37	.....	.....	.....	.....	5.55	.....	.....	.....

BRITISH FIRE OFFICES, 1904.

Table showing the figures of the British Fire Offices transacting business in Canada, including Paid-up Capital, Premium Income, Losses, Expenses, Balance of Profit or Loss, Interest on Investments, with their respective percentages to Premiums, and the percentage of Dividends to the Paid-up Capital.

COMPANY.	Paid-up Capital.	Fire Premiums.	Fire Losses.	Ratio to Premiums.	Fire Expenses.	Ratio to Premiums.	Balance of Profit.	Ratio to Premiums.	Interest on Fire Investments.	Dividend.	Percentage of Dividend to Paid-up Capital.
	£	£	£	%	£	%	£	%	£	£	%
Alliance.....	765,625	936,697	464,639	49.54	327,241	34.93	146,417	15.53	81,608	232,812	30
Atlas.....	264,000	83,424	394,222	47.41	289,111	34.77	148,091	17.82	29,950	55,000	20
Caledonian.....	107,500	419,239	268,107	63.95	147,680	35.23	3,452	.82	16,245	25,800	24
Commercial Union.....	250,000	1,967,712	1,091,895	55.49	654,967	33.29	220,850	11.22	102,150	112,500	45
Guardian.....	1,000,000	507,865	284,593	56.03	189,897	37.39	33,176	6.58	65,994	85,000	84
Law, Union & Crown.....	373,360	221,745	139,732	63.01	70,914	31.98	11,099	5.01	25,982	56,949	15
Liverpool & London & Globe.....	245,640	2,189,835	1,380,967	63.06	724,757	33.09	84,111	3.85	178,421	221,076	90
London.....	448,275	554,294	299,232	53.98	197,793	35.68	57,279	10.34	62,354	89,655	20
London & Lancashire.....	227,500	1,319,869	719,810	54.53	453,261	34.34	146,798	11.13	55,069	67,789	30
North British & Mercantile.....	687,500	1,938,336	1,273,458	65.70	640,598	33.04	24,280	1.26	118,294	189,750	27½
Northern.....	300,000	1,090,252	725,659	66.56	366,966	33.65	2,383	.21	72,749	96,000	32
Norwich Union.....	132,000	1,173,073	752,468	64.14	414,280	35.31	6,325	.55	41,700	55,000	41½
Phoenix.....	268,880	1,448,471	943,045	65.12	502,074	34.66	3,452	.12	59,677	94,108	31½
Royal.....	391,887	2,995,616	1,735,030	57.92	1,042,486	34.80	218,150	7.28	131,364	248,195	63
Scottish Union & National.....	300,000	597,261	358,321	59.99	208,631	34.93	30,309	5.08	36,721	52,500	17
Sub.	120,000	1,306,180	797,977	61.09	454,176	34.77	54,027	4.14	91,445	114,000	95
Union.....	180,000	685,486	457,184	66.69	238,989	34.80	10,687	1.57	26,409	33,750	18½

* Loss.

RETURNS OF BRITISH FIRE OFFICES FOR 1904.

The year 1904 will long be remembered by the fire insurance companies transacting business on this continent. There are certain events which engrave themselves indelibly upon the memory, and years become known by some striking event or incident, as Confederation year, so, a fire insurance man may talk of Chicago's, Boston's, or St. John's year, and now we have had the Baltimore-Toronto year.

We have received a table of the returns of the British fire offices, for the year 1904, and as a matter of interest to our Canadian readers, have taken the figures of the seventeen companies transacting business in this country, a synopsis of which will be found on another page.

We have given the paid-up capital of the various companies, the premium income, losses and expenses, showing the percentage of each and the net results, to which have been added the interest on the fire investments and dividends paid, with the percentage of the latter on the different amounts of the paid-up capital, from which it will be seen—as might be expected—that those offices whose capital is the smallest in proportion to the income pay the largest percentage of dividend.

But, what must strike everyone who glances at the table before us, is that in spite of the two disastrous conflagrations on this side of the Atlantic, nearly all the companies show a fair to a handsome profit on the year's business, which goes to prove, what we have so often maintained, that the wider the field, the better for a fire insurance company and the less likely for its being crippled by any special disaster, its eggs not being all in one basket, as the saying is. If a heavy blow is received in North America the profits from South America, Europe or Asia may more than balance the same, thus illustrating the law of average.

We can remember the time when a million sterling was considered a wonderful income in fire premiums, yet over half of the seventeen companies exceeded that sum last year, and some very considerably, which is the best criterion we know of to prove the confidence the public all over the world have in the honesty and fair dealing of those institutions.

In these large corporations, the financing is quite as important a feature as the underwriter. The figures in the table show that this department has been well attended to, and this tends to meet the increase of the expense account from which fire insurance is suffering in common with most classes of business. Formerly the expense ratio used to average about 30 p.c. whereas now it is close upon 35 p.c.

The loss ratio in ordinary years should be kept down, therefore, below 60 p.c. to leave a fair margin of profit on the annual outlay. That this in many instances has been done in the past year (which was

exceptional) speaks volumes in favor of the supervision exercised in the management of such far-reaching concerns. In repeating that fire insurance cannot be judged by one year alone, we leave our readers to study the table we have compiled, showing the main features in the returns of the British fire offices transacting business in Canada for the year 1904.

THE ROCHESTER-GERMAN INSURANCE COMPANY.

Mr. H. F. Atwood, secretary of the Rochester-German Insurance Company, has been in Montreal this week to complete arrangements for its entering the Dominion to transact fire insurance business.

As we have already stated Mr. Walter Kavanagh has been appointed chief agent of the company in Canada. He also represents the Scottish Union and National and the German-American. The Rochester-German Insurance Company has an honourable record and occupies a strong position. It commenced business in 1872. Since September, 1901, its resources have risen from \$1,249,510 to \$1,687,076, an increase of \$437,566 in 4 years. Its net surplus on 30th September last, was \$421,416, and the surplus to policy-holders was \$621,416. The company will be a member of the Canadian Fire Underwriters' Association.

The Rochester-German Insurance Company comes to Canada under favourable auspices having for many years enjoyed a high prestige which entitles it to confidence and support. The president is Mr. Frederick Cook, who is very highly respected in business circles in the State of New York.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS OF THE AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

The Treasurer of the Commonwealth, Australia, has just issued his statement for year ended 30th June last.

The revenue and expenditure of these federated colonies has now assumed a form that is likely to be continued. For a few years after they were united, there was some confusion created by the newness of the conditions. The customs and excise, postal and telegraph services and the defence of the country which hitherto had been controlled by each of the States came under the sole control of the Commonwealth, to which also were committed a number of departments of less importance.

The constitution provides that for 10 years 75 per cent. of customs and excise revenues shall be returned to the several States wherein they are collected. This, in principle, is on a line with the subsidies annually granted by the Federal Government of Canada to the provinces.

This arrangement is, however, much more liberal

than the Canadian system, and leaves the central Government with only a meagre proportion of the public revenue.

The Commonwealth plan is reported to have had the following results in 4 past years:

	Revenue. \$	Expenditure. \$	Returned to States. \$
1902-3.....	59,362,000	24,506,800	39,850,000
1903-4.....	57,170,000	21,262,500	35,907,000
1904-5.....	56,588,000	21,592,000	34,996,000
1905-6 Estimate.....	56,548,000	23,031,000	33,516,000

The spending powers of the Federal Government under this system are very limited, and the temptation is strong to impose taxation to provide a revenue entirely independent of the several States. Those States have each authority to impose taxes, much after the plan in vogue in Canada.

This system seriously complicates the question of Free Trade and Protection in Australia, for, as the revenue of the States is so largely dependent on customs duties, there is a natural objection to this source of income being cut off by a Free Trade policy. On the other hand, the Protectionists are desirous of increasing the revenue from customs, not only to enlarge the Federal, but to give the States more spending money.

The unification of the country has had a very beneficial effect upon the postal and telegraphic services, which, naturally, are more economically administered and with greater convenience to the public than when the several States had each its own post and telegraphic service.

The Commonwealth Parliament has taken action against charging certain classes of public works to capital. Such works as in Canada are quite justifiably charged to capital in the Commonwealth are to be charged to revenue. Although this policy is defensible on some grounds, it seriously hampers a Government in undertaking public works for the cost of which the yearly revenue will not provide. Had such a policy been imposed on Canada at Confederation this country would have made little progress. It may sound somewhat paradoxical, but it is a demonstrable fact that the debt of Canada has been a source of wealth and of development.

The naval defence of the Commonwealth is a live question in Australia. In the table of expenditure we find the sum of \$3,651,000 down under the head of Defence. A conviction exists and is growing that the colony ought to have a navy, but its finances, at present, are not equal to this provision.

The proposal, to consolidate all the State debts, is favoured, but it hangs fire; hence several of these debts are being renewed.

The Commonwealth is not yet clear of the financial and administrative difficulties incident to the consolidation of a number of independent States into one political unit, while leaving wide freedom of action to each of them.

The wisest course is to avoid rushing new methods and policies. Patience is strength under such conditions as exist in the Commonwealth, which has in its physical resources and its people splendid materials for building up a powerful, prosperous State.

Canadians have nothing but good will towards the Australians. We, however, are vain enough to consider our political and financial system as examples which our friends of the Commonwealth would benefit by following.

THE UNITED STATES' CURRENCY SYSTEM.

A STORM SIGNAL RAISED BY THE SECRETARY OF THE UNITED STATES TREASURY; THE AMERICAN CURRENCY SYSTEM IS DANGEROUSLY NON-ELASTIC, CURRENCY BASIS IS CONTRACTING WHILE CURRENCY NEEDS ARE EXPANDING; OPPOSITE FORCES AT WORK; AMERICAN BANKS ARE HAMPERED BY BOND BUYING AND SELLING FOR CURRENCY PURPOSES; A NATIONAL DEBT NO RATIONAL BASIS OF A NATIONAL CURRENCY; TEMPORARY DEVICES TO RELIEVE THE SITUATION BASED ON NO PRINCIPLE; FOLLY OF IGNORING THE WORLD'S EXPERIENCE; CANADA'S EXAMPLE THE TRUE SOLUTION OF THE UNITED STATES CURRENCY PROBLEM.

The main defect of the currency system of the United States is its inelasticity, and this quality is the natural result of the note issues being bound up with another non-elastic financial system with which it has only a very artificial connection.

The amount of the circulation of bank notes by a bank in the United States is regulated by the amount of the bank's deposit of Government bonds with the Treasury. As the national debt of the United States is being gradually redeemed the volume of Government bonds available for the banks, as security for their note issues, as indeed the basis thereof, is growing smaller while the requirements of the country for more enlarged note issue are growing larger. Here then are two financial forces at work which are made to be most intimately associated by the currency system, yet they are being affected by influences which are directly contrary the one to the other. The mercantile and the financial needs of the United States for more currency are expanding rapidly while the basis of the currency, the outstanding bonds of the Government, is being gradually narrowed.

A parallel to the currency situation in the United States would be a gradual reduction in the amount of the paid-up capital of the chartered banks while the demand for circulation was simultaneously increasing. This would create in Canada a difficulty of the same nature as exists in the United States, only we should have this remedy, the banks could call up more capital so as to obtain a larger circulation, but the enlargement of the national debt of the

United States, which is the basis of the national currency system of that country, is not a feasible operation.

In Canada the same influences such as expanding trade, general prosperity, development of resources which create a demand for more currency also create a necessity for the banks having more paid-up capital. Thus, the regulating basis of our currency expands under the same influences as create a larger demand for currency. We might indeed say of these two forces, "The appetite grows with what it feeds upon," enlarged bank capital develops trade, as trade develops more currency is required, which is provided by the increased amount of paid-up bank capital. Our financial system is harmonious, each part stimulates and supports the other parts, the organism is, therefore, kept healthy and free from the spasms and fits and nervous depressions which periodically afflict the United States financial system.

The note issuing banks in the United States find it an unprofitable operation to purchase bonds merely for them to serve as security for note issues. A sudden call for more currency is not easily met when, before such currency can be issued, the amount of it must be covered by Government bonds. What the demand for currency will amount to can only be guessed, and bonds may be bought beyond the bank's need or be inadequate, both conditions involve further visits to the bond market, to either sell the superfluous, or purchase the needed bonds. A more irrational, clumsy, cumbrous arrangement was never conceived by any currency crank than the present system of the United States.

True it is that in recent years devices of a temporary, tentative, experimental character have been adopted in the States. The bond operations of the banks for currency purposes have been made less uncertain as regards chances of profit or loss, the banks have been given the privilege under rigid conditions, of withdrawing government bonds from the Treasury and replacing them with another class of securities. These devices are based on no economic principle, they are not consistent with each other, or with the general currency system. They are like stimulants given to an invalid to enable him to display temporary strength, when his constitution demands more radical, more scientific treatment.

It is amazing that any official associated with financial affairs should make the amount of a country's authorized bank note circulation dependent in any way upon the payment of a tax upon it. Yet this eccentricity is part of the scheme of the Secretary of the United States Treasury. He proposes that,

"The national banks should have the right to increase their circulation to an amount equal to 50 per

cent. of their outstanding volume of circulation secured by Government bonds, and should pay a tax of 5 to 6 per cent. upon the increased circulation during the time it was maintained."

The association of currency with a tax thereon as, in any way, or to any extent, a regulating feature, is, we submit, most eccentric, arbitrary and devoid of basis in economic principle.

We can understand there being a sentiment of national pride cherished by the people of the United States which keeps them from accepting the currency system of Canada, or, indeed, of any other country. They have all along been desirous of founding an American currency system. Their efforts have been failures, as is generally the experience of those who treat the experience of others with indifference or disdain. The leading nations of the world have been experimenting with currency systems for a longer time than the United States, as such, have existed. The shores of the financial sea are strewn with the wrecks of currency systems and those who trusted in them. The publications of currency doctors in the last half century are innumerable. "This way madness lies" may be said of the road to such literature. But there have been incomparably more successful efforts made to establish a safe, elastic, convenient system of currency than any yet made in the United States. Of these successes, more or less, the Canadian system justly claims to hold the palm. It expands and contracts in accordance with the legitimate monetary requirements of the country, it affords absolute security to the note-holder, it has been and yet is of incalculable service to the business interests of this Dominion by enlarging the capital available for mercantile needs, it never has caused the slightest embarrassment.

The following shows the expansive capacity of the Canadian system, the data being taken from the Government returns of a number of years:

	Capital paid up.	Circulation		Increase from lowest
	\$	Lowest.	Highest.	\$
1904	79,747,000	57,857,100	72,226,300	14,369,200
1903	78,286,600	56,949,100	70,480,600	13,531,500
1902	71,137,500	50,754,700	65,928,900	15,174,200
1901	67,009,200	46,148,200	57,954,700	11,806,500
1900	64,589,400	42,856,700	53,198,700	10,342,000
1899	63,617,300	37,012,900	49,588,200	12,576,300
1898	63,426,015	36,261,700	42,543,400	6,281,700
1897	61,943,156	31,820,400	41,580,900	9,760,500
1896	62,198,400	29,395,400	35,955,100	6,559,700
1891	60,480,300	30,917,200	37,182,700	6,265,500

As surely as the seasons come round so regularly does the circulation of the Canadian banks expand in accordance with the requirements created by the annual harvests, as systematically also does the circulation contract when a lesser volume of currency is needed. These movements cause no excitement, no flurry in the money market, no more noise than the works of a chronometer, or the mercury in the barometer.

Our United States neighbours would do well to take the currency system of Canada as a model in its leading feature, and adapt it to the special conditions of their country.

DANGER AND COST OF OVERHEAD WIRES.

An object lesson was given recently as to the danger of overhead electric wires and the cost they are liable to entail. A youth passing through the Berri tunnel in this city, which runs from Craig St. under Notre Dame St. to the wharves, inadvertently grasped a loose electric wire, by which act he was seriously maimed for life. Suit for damages resulted in a verdict against the company defendant for \$3,500. During the hearing Judge Curran strongly condemned the stringing of wires where they are liable to create accidents of a very serious nature. Mr. Charles Mortan, manager of the Central Electric Company, is reported to have said in regard to such incidents as the above:

"Wires carrying 10,000 volts, practically unprotected, as he claims is the case with those in some parts of the city, is an infernal nuisance and an element of great danger.

"If," said he, "we had a storm like we had some fifteen years ago, when poles and wires were wrecked on McGill street, I don't know what would happen. Some of the wires are a menace to the public. In some parts of the city, protection against high voltage is afforded by a 'cradle,' but in other parts the full current runs through the wires.

"The whole system of transformers," he continued, "is a dangerous one, and the protection afforded represents about three sheets of paper."

The fire underwriters, he remarked, had been looking up the matter of unprotected high voltage, and they were going into it pretty soon in a somewhat strong way. He recommended that all wires be placed in conduits, this being the only really safe way, and expressed the opinion that it should be made compulsory to protect the public. The city should construct conduits, and rent them to companies desirous of using them.

HOME LIFE ASSOCIATION OF CANADA.

The absorption of the People's Life Insurance Company, by the Home Life marks another event in this era of amalgamations by which companies seek to still further strengthen their resources. By this mark the Home Life have added to its insurance in force at 31st December last, over \$2,500,000 and to its premium income some \$69,000 making the former over \$6,500,000, and the premium income \$200,000.

The Hon. J. R. Stratton becomes president of the Home Life, Mr. J. S. King retaining the Vice-Presidency. Mr. J. K. McCutcheon becomes managing director, and Mr. J. S. Kirby, secretary, with a good directorate.

THE LONDON AND LANCASHIRE is reported to have been fined by the Western Union for violating the commission rule at Detroit.

QUERIES' COLUMN.

In order to furnish our readers with information we propose to devote this column to replies to correspondents. Letters should be addressed to "THE CHRONICLE, Enquiry Department, Montreal."

Answers will only be given to such communications as bear the writer's name, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and only to questions referring to matters of general interest in regard to which the Editor of Queries' Column will exercise his own discretion.

1405.—R. C. J., Napanee. Your broker will attend to the collection of the dividends on stock you are carrying on margin and will credit your account with them on the day the dividends are paid. During the period that a stock is selling ex-dividend the amount of the dividend, although as yet unpaid, is always considered as so much additional margin.

1406.—G. O. B., Charlottetown, P.E.I. During the year 1904 there were sales of 114,197 shares of Canadian Pacific on the Montreal Stock Exchange, the highest price for the year was 136 in October and the lowest was 109 $\frac{1}{4}$ in March.

CANADIAN RAILWAY ACCIDENT INSURANCE COMPANY.

Mr. James Balfour, formerly special agent of the company, has been appointed superintendent of agencies, west of Winnipeg. Mr. Balfour is one of the oldest agents in the employ of the company, and has been very successful as a field worker.

CASUALTY INSURANCE IN CANADA, 1904.

The report of the Superintendent of Insurance for Canada covers statements of the business companies which transact various classes of casualty business other than accident insurance.

The business of sickness insurance has been carried on by 1 American, 4 British and 5 Canadian companies. Four of the companies combine it with accident insurance, four with guarantee and accident insurance, one with accident and plate glass insurance, and one with accident and steam boiler insurance. It appears, however, that sickness insurance not in combination or in conjunction with accident risks has been carried on only to a very limited extent, and returns of the premiums received in respect thereof and losses paid, etc., have not been made to the insurance department.

The business of plate glass insurance was transacted by 2 Canadian (one of which combined it with accident insurance) and 2 American companies. The companies, having adopted the system of insurance by replacement, instead of paying the value

of the glass broken, and their contracts not stating any amounts as insured thereby, their returns do not show the amount of insurance effected during the year nor the amount in force at the end thereof.

Guarantee business was transacted by two Canadian, three British and two American companies.

Two companies, both American, are licensed to carry on a class of business not defined in the Insurance Act, but particularly described in the licenses of the companies concerned, and may be known as the business of guaranteeing and becoming security for the due performance of any office, trust, contract or agreement, executing and guaranteeing bonds, undertakings and obligations, including appeal and other bonds in legal actions and proceedings. This class of insurance is, for the sake of brevity and convenience, styled "contract insurance." Although not covered by the definition contained in the Insurance Act of guarantee insurance, it is analogous thereto, and might with propriety be considered a branch thereof, and it will probably be deemed desirable at an early day to enlarge the definition of guarantee insurance so as to include the same.

Burglary insurance, which is transacted to a considerable extent in Great Britain, was introduced into Canada twelve years ago. On June 14, 1893, a license was issued to the Dominion Burglary Guarantee Company (Limited), now the Dominion Guarantee Company, Limited, whose head office is at Montreal, to transact the business of guaranteeing against loss or damage by burglary or house-breaking, and guaranteeing against loss of jewelry, bullion and other movable property deposited with it for safekeeping. This company, which was incorporated by an Act of Parliament of Canada, assented to on April 1, 1893, was at December 31, 1904, the only company licensed by the insurance department to carry on the business of burglary guarantee insurance in Canada. On May 15, 1905, a license was granted to an American company, the Fidelity & Casualty Company of New York, to transact this class of insurance.

PROMINENT TOPICS.

THE DAWN OF LIBERTY IN RUSSIA.—Under the terrible pressure of a national revolt against the system of Government in Russia, the Czar has issued a manifesto, which, after declaring it his supreme duty to adopt measures for the pacification of all his people, goes on as follows:

"We direct our Government to carry out our inflexible will in the following manner:

"(1) To extend to the population the immutable foundations of civic liberty based on the inviolability of person, freedom of conscience, speech, union, and association.

"(2) Without suspending the ordered elections to the State Duma (Legislative Assembly) to invite to participation in the Duma so far as the limited time before the convocation of the Duma will permit, those classes of the population now completely deprived of electoral rights, leaving the ultimate development of the principle of the electoral right in general to the newly established legislative order of things."

The manifesto proceeds to declare no law enforceable without the sanction of the Duma, that the Government shall abstain from interfering with elections, that respect must be paid to the ideals of the great majority of society and not to the echoes of noisy groups and factions.

A significant clause in the Czar's manifesto reads: "It is especially important to secure the reform of the Council of the Empire on our electoral principle."

If that clause means all it says, or, what may be reasonably inferred from it, the Czar's manifesto puts an end to despotic Government in Russia, for hitherto the whole power and functions of Government in that Empire have been centred in the "Council of the Empire," which, in future, is to be formed on the electoral principle, and not on the mere will of the Czar.

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AN OFFICIAL INTERPRETATION OF THE CZAR'S MESSAGE.—Count Witte, who seems to have had his eyes opened and his mind broadened by his visit to the United States, has given an interpretation of the manifesto. He regards the problem sought to be solved as, the establishment of legislative forms to guarantee civil, political, and economic liberty. He regards as one principle to be observed by the legislature, "the avoidance of repressive measures in respect of proceedings which do not openly menace society or the State, such resistance being based upon law and moral unity."

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THE POWER BEHIND THE THRONE.—Count Witte, of course, does not say directly that the Czar's conferment of liberty upon his subjects was caused by dread of revolution, but, when the following is read between the lines it is evident that, the manifesto was inspired by fear and not by a recognition of the inherent, inalienable right of a nation to self-government. Count Witte, says:

"Confidence must be placed in the political tact of Russian society. It is impossible that society should desire a condition of anarchy which would threaten, in addition to all the horrors of civic strife—*the dismemberment of the Empire.*

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THAT CONTINGENCY WAS BEING THREATENED.—The Russian Empire was in the throes of a violent revolt against all authority, had the situation not been changed there was most imminent danger of

such a state of chaos being created as would have driven the Czar into exile and with him would have gone the symbol and the power of imperial unity.

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EFFECT OF THE MANIFESTO.—The year 1905 will be ever memorable in history as the date of the enfranchisement of the Russian people and the extinction of the autocratic, despotic power of the Czar and his courtiers. Very naturally, when a great concession has been granted under the stress of fear there is a tendency to exercise the powers which generated such alarm with little regard to discretion. The populace never before in Russia so overawed their rulers as to wring from them any political privileges. Now they have terrorized the Czar and his councillors, a section of the people seem inclined to make their power felt by demanding such terms as would develop social anarchy. Nihilism, which is antagonistic to religion and order, is raising its head. There is a danger of the nihilists fomenting a continuance of civic strife and creating such riotous conditions as will necessitate a revival of those very repressive measures which the Czar's manifesto abolishes.

Making every allowance for the natural exultation caused by such a victory as has been achieved for freedom and for a constitutional government, it would, indeed, be deplorable were Russia to continue being the scene of political disturbances. The eyes of the civilized world are now centred upon that unhappy Empire in the hope of seeing peace and order established on an enduring basis and all classes united in a common effort to realize all the benefits of self-government.

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PRESIDENT MCCURDY OF THE MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, OF NEW YORK, has expressed views in connection with the province of life insurance, which, if they had been enunciated by those who solicited applications for policies in past years, would have so restrained the development of the business, that there would have been no "giant" life companies such as the Mutual, New York Life, Equitable, or others in existence to-day. President McCurdy said:—

"There has been a great mistake, about the real province of life insurance companies in these latter years. People have been led to believe that the main purpose was to make money for its holders. In my view, that is not the purpose of such companies. They are eleemosynary. When a man insures in a company he should take into consideration the fact that he has entered a great philanthropic concern, that is in duty bound to spread itself, even though this growth prevents him from realizing as much as he expected."

ELECTRIC LIGHTING AT THE PUMPING STATION.—The danger arising from the use of coal oil lamps at the city's pumping station, Point St. Charles, has been repeatedly pointed out by the Fire Underwriters and Council of the Board of Trade and vigorously urged in THE CHRONICLE....It is, therefore, with much satisfaction we report that the wiring needed for installing a system of electric lighting at that station has been completed and arrangements are being made for a supply of electricity by the Montreal Light, Heat & Power Company.

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MONTREAL INSURANCE INSTITUTE.—The Syllabus of the Montreal Insurance Institute for Session 1905-6 announces as follows:

During the session the following papers will be read, and other interesting events have been arranged as in the Syllabus below.

November 21—"Some Phases of the Capital and Labour Question," J. Hague, Esq. December 10—"Fire Insurance," P. M. Wickman, Esq. 1906—January 16—"Occupation in Relation to Life Insurance," Dr. F. G. Finley; "Reminiscences," G. F. C. Smith, Esq. February 20—"Insurance Advertising," A. M. MacKay, Esq., Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada; "Casualty Contracts," F. J. J. Stark, Accident & Guarantee Company of Canada. March 20—"Insurance Law," Eugene Lafleur, Esq., K.C.; "Some Special Fire Insurance Hazards," Prof. H. M. Jaquays, of McGill University. April 17—"Field Work in Fire Insurance," T. F. Dobbin, Esq., London & Lancashire Fire; "Field Work in Life Insurance," G. H. Allen, Esq., Mutual Life of Canada.

On 6th February the Annual Dinner will be held and May 15, the Annual Meeting and Concert.

The Club Rooms, centrally located in the Inglis bldg., No. 2381 St. Catherine street, are provided with the best current Magazines and Insurance Journals.

The rooms are open until 11 p.m.

The attention of the members is drawn to the Joint Educational Courses with the Insurance Institute of Toronto.

Examinations will be held in the month of April, 1906, and it is hoped that a large number of members will enter.

Certificates of the Federation of Insurance Institutes of Great Britain and Ireland will be granted to successful candidates.

Mr. R. Wilson-Smith has kindly offered a prize of \$15 for the best essay relative to fire insurance and another prize of \$10 for the best essay relative to life insurance. Competition open to associate members only. Essays must be in the hands of the secretary not later than April 1, 1906.

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THE EASTERN TOWNSHIPS BANK'S annual meeting will be held at Sherbrooke, on 6th December next, when a very favourable report is anticipated.

UNITED EMPIRE BANK.—Mr. Reid, who for some years was general manager of the Standard Bank, Toronto, has been appointed manager of the "United Empire Bank" now in course of organization. During his association with the Standard Bank, the deposits and business were largely increased. The charter of the Pacific Bank has been acquired, and the capital will be raised to \$5,000,000.

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THE LATE CHRISTOPHER ROBINSON.—The death of Mr. Christopher Robinson, K.C., on 31st ult., after a brief illness, deprives the bar of Canada of one of its brightest ornaments and his native land of a constitutional lawyer of the highest rank. He was the most distinguished member of a family that has won distinction in various spheres of public service. His father was the late Hon. Sir John Beverley Robinson, C.B., other members of this family were the Hon. John Beverley, some time Lt-Governor of Ontario, and Major General Robinson. He was one of the Board of Arbitrators in the Behring Sea dispute, his colleagues being Sir Richard Webster and Sir Charles Russell. For his services in this matter he was offered a knighthood which he declined as he did also preferment to the Bench. He was Chancellor of Trinity University, where he was educated. There was about him the quiet dignity, gentleness and modesty of a man of high breeding and culture. His word carried great weight with the Bench because the most implicit confidence was placed in any statement he made. The passing away of one so brilliant intellectually and so loveable as a man is a distinct loss to the Dominion, where he will be ever remembered with honour.

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THE WILL OF THE LATE SENATOR FULFORD, of Brockville, has been entered for probate in the local Surrogate Court. The estate is valued at \$4,820,019, of which \$1,907,578 was in bonds and debentures, \$2,633,727 in stocks, and \$100,000 insurance. The Toronto General Trusts Corporation is given full power to manage the estate. The business is to be converted into a joint stock company. After making handsome provisions for the family, the will diverts that funds to a considerable amount be given to various charitable objects, chiefly the General Hospital, Brockville. Senator Fulford died recently from injuries received in an automobile accident at Newton, Mass.

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THE GRAND TRUNK PACIFIC.—Mr. Hays, second vice-president of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway Company, has expressed confidence in the line carrying as much grain to the western seaboard as is now borne by existing lines to the Atlantic. He is sanguine about the trade prospects with China and Japan. He spoke of the Grand Trunk Pacific as likely to establish all the services subsidiary to a thoroughly up-to-date railway.

CANADA AND AUSTRALIA.—In the reported invitation from Canada to the Commonwealth of Australia in regard to preferential trade the enquiry is made whether our fellow colonists would make a definite offer to this Dominion, or prefer to leave the whole matter for discussion by a conference between representatives of the Commonwealth and of Canada.

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ENORMOUS RECEIPTS OF WHEAT BY CANADIAN PACIFIC.—A contemporary reports that the twenty-five million bushels mark in wheat receipts was passed by the Canadian Pacific Railway on 1st inst. When it is remembered that last year at the present date the total amounted to only eleven million, the immense activity of the western farmers of the present season is apparent. Up to the close of business yesterday there had been delivered at Canadian Pacific tracks 14,652,000 bushels of wheat and 11,143,000 bushels of other grain; a grand total of 25,795,000 bushels of grain. In the corresponding period last year, the quantity was 11,536,000. The astonishing advance of the present over the past season is unaccountable, except on the supposition that the grain yield of the present year is about double that of last year. Should the present rate of receipts, as compared with last year, be maintained, the total for the year will be nearer 125,000,000 than 100,000,000. No conservative judge suggests that either of these figures will be reached, but it becomes increasingly apparent that the figures fixed early in the fall will be far surpassed.

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ENGLISH MILLERS TO USE MORE CANADIAN THAN AMERICAN WHEAT.—A prominent citizen of Minneapolis, which is a great flour milling centre, on returning from England, reports that a movement is afoot to build larger flour mills in Liverpool, than any now in Great Britain in which Canadian wheat would be chiefly used. Before many years are over the vast bulk of the bread used in the old land will be made from Canadian flour or flour made from Canadian wheat.

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SWEDEN AND NORWAY SEPARATED.—On the 1st inst., the union between Sweden and Norway was formally dissolved, each of them is now an independent nation. At Stockholm the ceremony of unfurling the new ensign of Sweden was accompanied with salutes, parades of troops and popular demonstrations which were witnessed by the King. Throughout Sweden the new flag was unfurled in every school house and saluted by the children. It is a very rare event for two nations that for nearly a century have been united under one Crown, to dissolve partnership quietly and each proceed on its own way to enjoy independence. The event marks a most distinct advance in civilisation; a century ago such a dissolution would not have been consummated without bloodshed and civil strife.

CIVIC EXPENDITURE OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK.
 —The expenditure of New York for 1906 is estimated at \$116,805,490, which exceeds 1905 by \$6,987,897. The population of the city is 4,014,304, which gives an expenditure per head of \$29.10.

REPUBLISHING EDITORIALS WITHOUT ACKNOWLEDGMENT.—We have again to protest against articles specially written for this journal being republished in other papers without any acknowledgment. A recent instance was the publication in "The Commercial Winnipeg" of an editorial we published on the comparative progress made by the United States and Canada. No acknowledgment was made. This editorial was again re-published, the second time by the "Argus" of this city, which, naturally enough, credited our article to the Winnipeg paper. Several newspapers regularly quote our editorials in full, or at some length, without any acknowledgment. A glaring case occurred this week when a city contemporary extracted a table of statistics that had taken us some time to compile, and issued this table as though it were original matter. In re-publishing these figures they were accompanied by remarks which quite misrepresented their purport, showing that the table was appropriated by some person who did not understand the subject he was venturing to discuss.

Notes and Items.

AT HOME AND ABROAD.

MONTREAL CLEARING HOUSE.—Total for week ending November 2, 1905—Clearings, \$28,589,319; corresponding week 1904, \$24,896,708; 1903, \$25,083,834.

OTTAWA CLEARING HOUSE.—Total for week ending Oct. 25, 1905—Clearings \$1,959,500; corresponding week last year, \$1,905,968.

WINNIPEG'S GROWING TIME.—Inland revenue collections for October are the largest in the history of the city's port \$107,868.62; for the same month a year ago they were \$91,883.45.

The customs collections at the port of Winnipeg last month were very large, and were \$92,842 in excess of collections for corresponding month last year. The figures are: Collection, October, 1905, \$285,760.29; October, 1904, \$192,913.75; increase \$92,842.54.

CONVICTION FOR BARRATRY.—Thomas R. Johnson, Kansas City, who was prosecuted for stirring up unjustified litigation against casualty companies, pleaded guilty last week and was sentenced to thirty days in jail for barratry. This was the first conviction for this offence in the history of Kansas City. Johnson went among people who carried accident insurance on the monthly payment plan and if they had lapsed would induce them to sue, claiming that they were entitled to paid-up insurance. He would get batches of twenty or more suits and would then settle with the insurance companies for a trivial amount. He confessed that there was no merit in the cases and that

they were brought merely to harass the companies and compel them to settle. The Continental Casualty Company and the Northern Accident of Detroit were instrumental in securing his arrest.—N. Y. "Bulletin."

OHIO FIRE PROTECTION ORDINANCES.—Mr. Hy. D. Davis reports on the Ohio ordinances for fire protection.

It is important that the power to inspect buildings be given the fire chief because it insures him having knowledge of the amount and location of explosives in any building which is in flames.

That the boiling of oil or varnish should be controlled as directed in Section 13 is shown by the fact that the average number of buildings fired each year by the boiling over of kettles containing animal or vegetable fats is 46.

Section 14, directed against rubbish and the careless carrying of burning material, is covered by comments on Section 2.

Section 15 and 16 are of importance for the protection of property and of life as well. The loss of property, and life too, from the careless handling of petroleum products and vegetable oils is so stupendous that the matter of controlling it has been well worked out in many cities.

The fires from carelessness with kerosene numbered 304, and from the use of gasoline, which is dangerous even in the hands of the most careful, numbered 395.

Gasoline alone destroys each year about \$450,000 of the wealth of the state.

In Ohio during ten weeks of this summer gasoline fired 72 houses, burned nine persons to death and seriously burned forty-three.

A pint of gasoline exposed in a closed room will make 200 cubic feet of air an explosive compound through the vapor it gives off. And still many use it for wash water.

Section 17 is against false alarms of fire, and Section 18 prohibits interference with the fire department's apparatus while in use.

Section 19 charges the Chief of the Fire Department, the Firemen and the Chief of Police with enforcing the foregoing ordinances.

Section 20 provides a penalty of \$10 to \$100 and costs.

FIRES IN OCTOBER.—The report of the Superintendent of Fire Alarm Department for October shows that no large fire occurred in this city last month.

The following will show the causes for calling out the brigade.

	1905.	1904.
Fires	61	56
Alarms (no fire)	31	27
False alarms	21	15
Automatic	0	2
Total	113	100

The following are given as the causes for fires and alarms: Back draught, 1; carelessness with matches, 5; children playing with matches, 11; chimneys on fire, 18; cigar smoking, 1; coal oil explosion, 1; coal oil stove explosion, 1; drying plaster, 2; electricity, 5; false alarms, 21; gas jets, 2; hot ashes, 2; lamp explosions, 3; lamp upset, 2; overheated boiler, 1; overheated oven, 1; overheated stove, 3; overheated stovepipes, 2; pot of tar, 3; sparks from chimney, 1; sparks from forge, 1; sparks from furnace, 1; stove upset, 1; sugar boiling, 1; unknown, 23. Total, 113.

THE NATIONAL OF GREAT BRITAIN.—The price of the shares of the National Insurance Company of Great Britain, of which Mr. James Glen is manager, have recently advanced from 38s to 45s and it is understood that an absorption is impending.—"New York Journal of Commerce."

FIRE CURTAINS FOR THEATRES.—The local board of au-

derwriters are moving to have fire-proof curtain, which will resist fire, placed in the theatres of the city of Milwaukee. An ordinance of the Common Council provides that every theatre shall have a steel drop curtain. The front must be corrugated or sheet steel and the frame of the curtain must also be steel. The back of the curtain must be vitrified asbestos, 5-16 of an inch thick. Between the steel and the asbestos an air space of two inches will be required to be left.

THE ARKANSAS SITUATION.—It is announced that the Queen Insurance Co. as well as the Royal are prepared to issue policies on Arkansas property direct from its Atlanta general Southern offices, on applications received from owners or their attorneys and agents. It is understood further that the former agents of these companies in the State of Arkansas will be credited with commissions on business written in the irrelative territories, to be paid them when it may become lawful under State laws to do so.

Inasmuch as this is practically what some other companies are already doing, in an indirect way, the action of these large and responsible companies will be heartily welcomed by Arkansas property owners. In St. Louis and Memphis, where most of the Arkansas merchants have important business connections, there has been much dissatisfaction among the jobbers with quality of the fire indemnity heretofore offered.—"N. Y. Commercial Bulletin."

Correspondence.

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

NEW YORK INSURANCE LETTER.

New York, November 1, 1905.

The two topics of paramount interest here at the present time and which of necessity seem associated with each other are the life insurance investigation, which for the brief present has come to a close, and federal supervision of insurance, an issue which is sought to be brought about by Senator John F. Dryden, President of the Prudential Insurance Company, in which he has been apparently seconded by President Roosevelt.

As regards the life insurance investigation, nothing definite has been brought out that was not known before by those posted in insurance. Great stress has been laid by the inquisitors, whose views have been reflected in the headlines of the daily papers, upon the large salaries paid to the presidents of certain insurance companies. No account is taken, however, of the results accomplished, and as for life insurance expenses no mention is made of the \$60,000,000 paid out in 1904 in commissions to agents, made necessary by the fact that the public has to be persuaded to the last ditch in order to induce it to insure. Whether this is the fault of the companies or of the public itself is a question which the committee has not yet taken up. It is possible that investigation may result in changes in management and certainly it may result in some changes of method, but that any radical revolution in the conduct of the life insurance business, and especially in the cost of life insurance will result from these inquiries is altogether improbable.

As to federal supervision the movement in this direction seems likely to be throttled at the outset, owing to the hostility of a great portion of the insurance interests. Fire insurance almost as a solid body appears to be against it, and all the life insurance companies, with the

exception of a few of the largest, have failed to appreciate the benefits promised from national control. The bill will undoubtedly come up in the forthcoming meeting of Congress, but it is doubtful whether it will receive sufficient encouragement to cause it to obtain serious consideration.

Hints have been made from time to time that the affairs of the Fire Insurance Exchange might with profit be investigated in order that methods might be improved and economies effected in various departments. A committee having this in charge with Thomas A. Ralston, of the Northern, at its head, is now engaged in an investigation and it is thought that the committee will energetically proceed with its work.

Prosperity in the West and South is given as a reason for a falling off in fire insurance business in this city. The theory is that those sections are doing a larger proportion of the business of the country than usual, and, therefore, stocks of goods have not piled up in New York as rapidly and fully as usual, New England has complained of dull business from the same cause.

NOTES.

The Continental Insurance Company is building a fine new structure at 158 Montague Street, Brooklyn, and expects to occupy it by February, 1906.

The Home of this city has started a special department for improved risks, by means of which it expects to compete with the mutual companies for sprinkled and protected business.

Competition in the surety business continues active, one evidence being the number of new surety companies organized within the past year. Great as is the field for this business it is thought in some quarters that it is being overdone.

Worthy of note is the death on October 21, of Frederick Grinnell, the inventor of the automatic sprinkler bearing his name which has obtained larger vogue than any other device of the kind. Mr. Grinnell died in Providence at the age of 69.

Another recent death is that of Max Danziger, President of the New York Plate Glass Insurance Company and of the City of New York Fire Insurance Company, who passed away at Heidelberg, Germany, on the 28 ult. Mr. Danziger was highly connected in New York business circles.

It is rumored that the next company to be taken up by the Legislative Investigating Committee, after the vacation now preceding election, will be the Prudential, of New Jersey, and possibly the Metropolitan Life of this city may follow the Newark company upon the stand.

QUERIST.

LONDON LETTER.

London, England, October 20, 1905.

FINANCE.

The money question still remains the dominating influence of the market here. A bank of England 5 per cent. minimum rate for discounting bills is expected to be announced every Thursday now, but up to the time of writing, it has happily not matured. Consols keep at the low water figure, 88½, which is exactly the figure to which they dipped twelve months ago. In the meantime, they have been as high as 92. Even allowing for the 2½ per cent. rate of interest replacing the former 2¾ per cent. there is still a tremendous fall from the 114 of 1896.

Electrification of London's steam railways and the construction of new electric subway lines proceeds rapidly.

The Baker Street and Waterloo tube is to be completed by next March, and the Great Northern, Piccadilly and Brompton before the end of next year. Somewhat later the Charing Cross, Hampstead and Euston tube is to be ready for public use. The whole of the old steam underground line has been electrified, and the last steam train will be taken off at the end of the present month. Thus the end of a monumental labour approaches. London is being supplied with means of locomotion which are modern, and capitalists are being given something new to go for in the way of railway investment. And it has all waited upon the initiative of Mr. Yerkes, of Chicago!

Bank amalgamations continue. Messrs. Barclay and Company have just absorbed the banking business of Messrs. Hammond and Company. Gradually the old private banks are ceasing out of the land, and the big national concerns with branches all over the place, are spreading out in all directions. The era of expansion and trustification which ever and anon is believed to have stopped breaks out in fresh places. The lack of a protective tariff may discourage the growth of huge monopolies, but the manifest administrative saving from business concentration admits of no denial.

A steady improvement in the market quotations of leading banking shares is one result of the prospect of better profits in the current half-year. Trade develops satisfactorily in many directions and business on the Stock Exchange has certainly increased in volume.

Competing foreign money has been withdrawn to a considerable extent in order to promote loans for financing Russia and Japan, with better conditions to work under than has been the case for a good many half years now, and with deposit and current account reaching an unusually big total, the bankers are in a more comfortable frame of mind. It is too soon perhaps to argue how far profits will exceed the recent best figures, but improved dividends are hoped for. Hence the price appreciation.

INSURANCE.

Every now and again, some British office or the other has a spurt of enthusiasm over the matter of selling annuities. There seems to be a general consensus of opinion that sufficient attention is not paid to this phase of thrift by the British public. A good deal of the current annuity business still goes to the Government Insurance Department, run in connection with the Post Office. This is despite the fact that the rates compare very badly with most insurance companies' schedules.

The Royal Exchange is stimulating the business very considerably, however, by paying special attention to inferior lines. These are offered superior terms after a careful examination by the company's own medical officers.

So far as actual rate comparisons are concerned the Colonial offices trading here charge less for annuities than any home institution; we have, however, had an overflowing dore of "exposure" news in connection with outside insurance organization that this mere comparative cheapness is not the successful charm it once was.

STOCK EXCHANGE NOTES

Wednesday, p.m., November 1, 1905.

Developments in the internal affairs of Russia have had a large bearing on stock market conditions during the past week. This was shown by the upward tendency in prices on the announcement of the granting of a constitution that would promote the civil and political liberties of the people. It would be unreasonable to expect that the Czar's manifesto will immediately check restlessness and disorder, but it has certainly been a great step forward. The more moderate and enlightened of the agitators for reform will bring their weight to bear on the side of peaceable rearrangement of the whole policy of the Russian Empire. The Russian loan will be floated as

early as circumstances will permit, but the monetary markets have had ample warning of this demand for funds, and it is not likely to seriously derange the financial position. The money situation still controls the stock markets, but the tendency of prices shows that securities are struggling against this restraint, and everything points to a buoyant market with decidedly higher prices just as soon as the money strain is relaxed.

Dominion Iron Common was under some pressure of selling this week, but only declined fractionally and the liquidation was well absorbed. Pacific has again advanced in price and closed strong. Twin City and Montreal Power are both selling X. D. to-day and closed at an advance over the quotation prevailing a week ago. Montreal Street has shown some activity during the last few days and is prone to advance on any buying demand. The annual statement of the Company, which is referred to more fully in another column, is considered to be a very satisfactory one, and the outlook is for a further improvement in earnings in the coming year. The large outlays on permanent improvements will now be showing results, and the physical condition of the road is daily improving. The already creditable service that the citizens are receiving, is improving rapidly and is being brought to a high state of efficiency and regularity. The Mackay stocks have improved in price, and the Common stock especially will likely be a prominent feature of the market.

Money conditions locally remain unchanged, and bank call loans continue to rule at 5 per cent. The prevailing rate for call money in New York to-day was 5 per cent, while in London call loans were made at 3½ per cent.

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

	Market.	Bank.
Paris.....	3	3
Berlin.....	4½	5
Amsterdam.....	2½	2½
Brussels.....	3½	3
Vinna.....	4½	5½

* * * *

C. P. R. advanced to 174 and closed with 173½ bid, an advance of 2½ points for the week, and 1,210 shares were dealt in, of which over 800 shares figures in this afternoon's trading.

* * * *

The Grand Trunk Railway Company's stock quotations as compared with a week ago are as follows:—

	A week ago.	To-day
First Preference.....	112½	112
Second Preference.....	103½	102
Third Preference.....	60	56½

* * * *

Montreal Street sold up to 287, and closed with 286 bid, a net gain of ¼ of a point for the week on sales of 1,003 shares. The earnings for the week ending 28th ult. show an increase of \$5,631.64 as follows:—

		Increase.
Sunday.....	\$6,430.52	\$ 614.13
Monday.....	8,222.95	608.67
Tuesday.....	7,810.49	1,166.23
Wednesday.....	7,894.82	966.10
Thursday.....	7,165.17	225.85
Friday.....	7,906.41	1,102.80
Saturday.....	8,372.05	1,078.86

* * * *

Toronto Railway continues inactive and only 155 shares changed hands during the week. The stock closed with 106½ bid, a decline of ¼ point from last week's closing quotation. The earnings for the week ending 28th ult. show an increase of \$6,922.85 as follows:—

		Increase.
Sunday	\$3,890.02	\$349.19
Monday.....	7,621.88	1,007.98
Tuesday.....	7,452.21	724.32
Wednesday.....	8,188.59	1,415.59
Thursday.....	7,726.18	1,164.48
Friday.....	8,305.41	1,523.74
Saturday.....	9,109.41	737.55

Twin City is now selling X. D. of 1¼ per cent. payable on 15th inst., and closed with 116¾ X. D. bid, equivalent to an advance of ¼ of a point for the week. The trading was comparatively small and only 300 shares were dealt in during the week. The earnings for the third week of October show an increase of \$10,243.65.

Detroit Railway on transactions involving 1,060 shares closed with 91½ bid, a decline on quotation of ½ point for the week. The earnings for the third week of October show an increase of \$7,395.

There were no transactions in Halifax Tram this week, and the closing quotation was 106 asked and 103 bid.

Toledo Railway sold down to 33 and closed with 33 bid, a decline of ¾ of a point for the week on transactions totalling 280 shares.

Havana Common has continued firm around 30, and closed with 30 bid, a gain of ½ point over last week's closing quotation, and 775 shares figured in the week's business. The Preferred stock has made a decided advance and sold up to 78, closing with 77¾ bid, a net gain of 2¾ points for the week and 150 shares were dealt in.

R. & O. shows an advance of 1 point on quotation, closing with 70 bid. Only 25 shares were dealt in, this little lot changing hands at 71½.

Montreal Power is now selling X. D. of 1 per cent. payable on 15th inst., and closed with 91¾ X. D. bid, equivalent to an advance of ⅞ of a point for the week, and 904 shares changed hands.

Mackay Common was decidedly stronger and sold up to 48¾, closing with 48¾ bid, a gain of 2 full points over last week's closing quotation, and 825 shares were dealt in. The Preferred continues steady around 74 and closed with 73¾ bid, a fractional decline of ⅓ point from last week's closing quotation. The stock was neglected and only a broken lot of 21 shares was dealt in.

Dominion Iron Common was the most active security in this week's market, and on transactions involving 2,276 shares declined to 20¾, recovering and closing with 21¾ bid, a gain of ¾ of a point on quotation for the week. The Preferred was dealt in to the extent of 385 shares, and closed with 71¾ bid as compared with 70¾ a week ago. The trading in the Bonds involved \$49,000, and the closing bid was 84¾, a decline of ¾ of a point for the week.

Nova Scotia Steel Common strengthened in price to-day and closed with 66 bid, a gain of 2¼ points on quotation for the week, and 260 shares were dealt in. There were no transactions in the Preferred stock nor in the Bonds.

Dominion Coal Common on sales of 35 shares for the week closed with 76¾ bid, a decline of ⅓ of a point. There were no transactions in the Preferred stock nor in the Bonds.

Only 10 shares of Montreal Cotton were traded in this week, the transaction being made at 120, and the stock closed with 119 bid.

There were no sales in Lake of the Woods Common this week, and the stock was offered down to 92½ this morning, and closed offered at 95 with 90 bid. There were two sales in the Preferred stock, 10 shares at 114 and 25 shares at 113¾, and the stock closed with 113½ bid. In the Bonds \$4,000 were dealt in, the last sales being made at 112.

Dominion Textile Preferred continues decidedly strong and closed with 98 bid, an advance of ¼ point for the week on sales of 255 shares. The Bonds are also in fair demand and closed with 95½ bid for Series "A", "B", and "C", the last transactions in Series "B" being at 96. There was no quotation for Series "D" at the close to-day.

	Per cent.
Call money in Montreal.....	5
Call money in New York.....	5
Call money in London.....	3½
Bank of England rate.....	4
Consols.....	88½
Demand Sterling.....	9½
60 days' Sight Sterling.....	8½

Thursday, p.m., November 2, 1905.

To-day's market was fairly active and prices in several instances showed gains. Nova Scotia Steel Common opened at 66½ and sold up to 67, closing offered at 67 with 66¾ bid. Mackay Common sold up to 49½ and closed at 50 with 49¾ bid. There were no transactions in C. P. R. and the stock closed offered at 172½ with 172 bid. A complete list of the day's transactions will be found below.

MONTREAL STOCK EXCHANGE SALES

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1905.

MORNING BOARD.

No. of Shares.	Price.	No. of Shares.	Price
25 Twin City.....	117½	25 Soo Com.....	138¾
26 ".....	117	50 ".....	138¼
5 ".....	117¾	10 Duuth Com.....	17½
40 Toronto Ry.....	106½	75 Mackay Pfd.....	73¾
100 Detroit Ry.....	91½	25 Havana Com.....	30½
15 ".....	92	5 Bell Telephone.....	157
45 Iron Com.....	21¾	8 Bank of Montreal..	259
25 ".....	21½	11 ".....	260
15 Toledo.....	34	3 Textile Pfd.....	97¾
25 Mackay Com.....	48¾	\$1000 Scotia Bds.....	109¾
150 ".....	49	\$3000 Lk. of Woods Bds.	113
75 ".....	48¾	\$4000 Iron Bonds.....	84¾
25 Street.....	236	\$500 Mont. St. Bonds..	102¾
25 Lk. of Woods Pfd..	114	100 ".....	103¾
25 Switch Pfd.....	109¾	\$5,000 Textile B'ds. (C)	96
25 Scotia Com.....	66¾	5,000 "..... (A)	96
25 ".....	66¾	10,000 "..... (C)	96
		100 "..... (C)	96¾

AFTERNOON BOARD.

200 Twin City.....	117¾	2 Detroit Ry.....	92
25 Power.....	92	25 Scotia Com.....	66¾
100 Mackay Com.....	49½	25 ".....	66¾
125 ".....	49½	75 ".....	67
14 Ogilvie Pfd.....	128	100 Mont. Street.....	235
10 Mackay Bid.....	74	50 ".....	235¾
2 Bell Telephone.....	156¾	25 Toronto Ry.....	106¾
1 Union Bank.....	146¾	2 ".....	105
50 Detroit Ry.....	91½	50 Havana Com.....	30¾
5 ".....	91	\$2000 Iron Bds.....	85

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

GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY.

Year to date.	1903.	1904.	1905.	Increase.
Sept. 30.....	\$26,410,866	\$24,814,347	\$26,153,235	1,338,888
Week ending.	1903.	1904.	1905.	Increase
Oct. 7.....	687,406	738,716	791,030	52,314
14.....	726,971	736,514	793,853	57,339
21.....	709,312			

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY

Year to date.	1903.	1904.	1905.	Increase
Sept. 30.....	\$31,053,000	\$34,254,000	\$37,211,000	\$2,957,000

GROSS TRAFFIC EARNINGS

Week ending	1903.	1904.	1905.	Increase
Oct. 7.....	952,000	1,057,000	1,189,000	132,000
14.....	1,026,000	1,031,000	1,305,000	274,000
21.....	1,019,000	1,106,000	1,184,000	178,000

NET TRAFFIC EARNINGS.

Month.	1903.	1904.	1905.	Inc.
January.....	\$916,771	\$357,652	\$422,668	\$65,010
February.....	742,741	82,541	302,171	219,606
March.....	1,258,564	850,854	1,182,827	331,973
April.....	1,493,173	412,533	531,806	119,273
May.....	1,383,357	1,391,565	1,387,935	3,630
June.....	1,246,055	1,449,911		
July.....	1,318,527	1,449,652	1,637,778	188,126
August.....	1,434,102	1,527,930	1,791,646	263,716
September.....	1,202,266	1,268,808		
October.....	1,654,027	1,566,114		
November.....	1,477,981	1,669,575		
December.....	1,581,145	1,662,669		
Total.....	15,708,709	13,689,804		

CANADIAN NORTHERN RAILWAY.

GROSS TRAFFIC EARNINGS.

July 1st, 1903 to	July 1st, 1904 to	Increase	
June 30, 1904	June 30, 1905	\$747,000	
\$3,121,800	\$3,871,800		
Week ending.	1904.	1905.	Increase
Oct. 7.....	80,800	100,200	19,400
14.....	88,700	122,300	33,600
21.....	98,200	118,700	20,500

DULUTH, SOUTH SHORE & ATLANTIC.

Week ending.	1903.	1904.	1905.	Increase
Oct. 7.....	\$55,411	\$53,583	\$59,293	\$5,710
14.....	54,458	49,878	59,240	9,362

MONTREAL STREET RAILWAY.

Month.	1903.	1904.	1905.	Increase
January...	\$ 168,883	\$ 182,386	\$ 201,096	18,710
February...	130,065	167,023	184,132	17,100
March....	168,987	183,689	206,725	23,036
April....	170,050	184,900	200,910	16,005
May.....	170,773	217,341	232,999	15,658
June.....	205,454	229,565	244,136	14,871
July.....	212,337	223,137	254,097	30,960
August...	208,586	226,764	257,401	30,699
September.	212,156	216,205	244,585	28,290
October...	204,452	219,633		
November.	187,930	201,147		
December.	187,780	208,428		
Week ending.	1903.	1904.	1905.	Increase
Oct. 7.....	47,018	50,425	58,074	7,649
14.....	46,751	49,715	56,945	7,230
21.....	46,356	50,593	55,198	4,605

TORONTO STREET RAILWAY.

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

TORONTO STREET RAILWAY.

Month	1903.	1904.	1905.	Increase
April.....	\$162,276	183,763	\$201,317	\$17,554
May.....	174,519	198,337	225,768	27,431
June....	177,593	207,482	231,140	23,658
July.....	192,689	211,356	238,895	27,539
August...	185,822	217,887	250,880	33,943
September.	237,010	246,862	282,572	35,710
October...	183,810	202,344		
November.	174,039	198,150		
December.	199,115	213,662		
Week ending.	1903.	1904.	1905.	Inc.
Oct. 7.....	40,636	45,237	53,504	8,267
14.....	41,020	45,519	52,785	7,266
21.....	41,895	47,369	51,723	4,354

TWIN CITY RAPID TRANSIT COMPANY.

Month.	1903.	1904.	1905.	Inc.
January..	\$310,084	\$329,354	\$349,469	20,111
February..	280,947	310,180	319,811	9,634
March.....	317,839	338,580	359,884	21,304
April....	315,465	332,615	354,729	20,114
May.....	337,699	358,344	387,645	29,301
June.....	364,018	365,897	389,120	23,229
July.....	362,702	381,224	432,239	49,015
August...	363,579	386,629	420,231	33,602
September.	370,349	371,476	452,284	80,808
October...	346,673	365,938		
November.	333,424	352,433		
December.	357,452	374,738		
Week ending.	1903.	1904.	1905.	Inc.
Oct. 7.....	77,440	81,791	95,591	13,800
14.....	79,297	79,198	90,258	17,060
21.....	77,266	83,739	93,982	10,243

HALIFAX ELECTRIC TRAMWAY CO., LTD.

Railway Receipts.

Month.	1903.	1904.	1905.	Inc.
January..	\$10,867	10,677	\$10,256	Dec. 421
February..	9,322	9,894	7,186	" 2,705
March...	10,195	11,152	9,322	" 1,830
April....	10,533	11,145	10,516	" 619
May.....	10,768	12,074		
June.....	11,844	14,051	12,796	" 1,255
July.....	15,942	17,528	17,284	" 244
August...	16,786	17,402	17,754	352
September.	18,494	17,862	18,669	807
October...	12,055	12,434		
November.	11,220	11,085		
December.	12,160	12,163		
Week ending.	1903.	1904.	1905.	Inc.
Oct. 7.....	3,003	\$2,682	\$3,192	210
14.....	2,740	2,850	2,774	Dec. 76
21.....	2,603	2,749	2,986	37

Lighting Receipts.

Month.	1903.	1904.	1905.	Inc.
January..	\$13,863	\$ 16,317	\$ 15,667	Dec. 650
February..	11,224	14,227	14,180	" 4
March....	10,523	12,718	12,719	" 2
April....	10,156	12,116	11,964	" 151
May.....	9,020	9,756		
June....	8,368	8,998	8,905	" 93
July.....	8,351	8,953	8,653	" 310
August...	8,826	9,596	9,619	" 21
September.	10,781	11,720	11,976	216
October...	13,186	14,209		
November.	14,200	16,273		
December.	16,611	17,684		
Week ending.	1904.	1905.	Increase.	
Oct. 7.....	\$8,854	100,191	15,338	
14.....	85,513	97,724	12,211	
21.....	86,354	92,749	7,395	

DETROIT UNITED RAILWAY.

Week ending	1904	1905	Increase.
Oct. 7.....	84,854	100,191	15,338
14.....	85,513	97,724	12,211
21.....	86,354	92,749	7,395

HAVANA ELECTRIC RAILWAY CO.

Week ending	1904	1905.	Increase.
Oct. 3.....	\$33,498	\$35,465	\$1,967
10.....	36,450	39,500	3,050
17.....	31,450	40,105	8,655
23.....	29,753	38,004	8,251

STOCK LIST

Reported for THE CHRONICLE by **R. Wilson-Smith & Co.,** 160 St. James Street, Montreal.
Corrected to November 1st, 1905, P.M.

BANKS.	Closing prices or Last sale.	Par value of one share.	Revenue per cent. on investment at present prices.	Capital subscribed	Capital paid up.	Reserve Fund.	Per centage of Rest to paid up Capital.	Dividend for last half year	When Dividend payable.	
	Asked. Bid.	\$	Per Cent.	\$	\$	\$	Per Cent.			
British North America.....	243	100	.....	4,866,666	4,866,666	2,041,000	42.00	3	April	November
Canadian Bank of Commerce.....	168	50	4 16	9,819,950	9,793,150	3,937,260	40.25	3 1/2	June	December
Crown Bank of Canada.....	100	100	.....	781,300	708,752	.....	110.66	2 1/2	Jan. April	July October
Dominion.....	50	100	.....	3,000,000	3,000,000	3,500,000	60.00	4	January	July
Eastern Townships.....	100	100	.....	2,500,000	2,500,000	1,500,000	60.00	4	January	July
Hamilton.....	100	100	.....	2,456,100	2,415,930	2,415,930	100.00	5	June	December
Hochelaga.....	145 14 1/2	100	4 82	2,000,000	2,000,000	1,200,000	60.00	3 1/2	June	December
Imperial.....	100	100	.....	3,752,230	3,581,325	3,581,325	100.00	5	June	December
La Banque Nationale.....	30	100	.....	1,500,000	1,500,000	500,000	33.33	3	May	November
Merchants Bank of P. E. I.....	32.44	100	.....	344,073	344,073	296,000	86.02	4	January	July
Merchants Bank of Canada.....	103 160 1/2	100	4 29	6,000,000	6,000,000	3,400,000	56.66	3 1/2	June	December
Metropolitan Bank.....	100	100	.....	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	100.00	4	June	December
Molson.....	230 227 1/2	100	4 34	3,000,000	3,000,000	3,000,000	100.00	5	April	October
Montreal.....	230 258	100	3 81	14,401,000	14,400,000	10,000,000	71.42	5	June	December
New Brunswick.....	100	100	.....	500,000	500,000	800,000	160.00	6	January	July
Nova Scotia.....	268 263	100	.....	2,341,000	2,331,800	3,735,650	160.00	5	February	August
Ontario.....	100	100	.....	1,500,000	1,500,000	650,000	43.33	3	June	December
Ottawa.....	225	100	4 00	2,500,000	2,500,000	2,500,000	100.00	4 1/2	June	December
People's Bank of N. B.....	150	100	.....	180,000	180,000	175,000	97.22	4	January	July
Provincial Bank of Canada.....	100	100	.....	846,537	823,324	.....	.....	14	June	December
Quebec.....	135	100	5 18	2,500,000	2,500,000	1,050,000	42.50	3 1/2	June	December
Royal.....	220	100	3 63	3,000,000	3,000,000	3,000,000	100.00	4	February	August
Sovereign Bank.....	100	100	.....	1,625,000	1,598,034	471,508	32.50	1 1/2	February	May August Nov
Standard.....	50	100	.....	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	100.00	5	June	December
St. Stephens.....	100	100	.....	200,000	200,000	45,000	22.50	2 1/2	April	October
St. Hyacinthe.....	100	100	.....	504,600	329,515	75,000	22.76	3	February	August
St. Johns.....	100	100	.....	800,000	299,270	10,000	3.60	3	June	December
Toronto.....	239	100	4 18	3,451,400	3,410,765	3,700,765	110.00	5	June	December
Traders.....	100	100	.....	3,000,000	3,000,000	1,100,000	31.66	3 1/2	June	December
Union Bank of Halifax.....	50	100	4 72	1,336,150	1,336,150	870,000	74.17	3 1/2	February	August
Union Bank of Canada.....	148 147 1/2	100	.....	2,500,000	2,500,000	1,100,000	40.00	3 1/2	February	August
Western.....	100	100	.....	550,000	650,000	250,000	45.45	3 1/2	April	October
MISCELLANEOUS STOCKS.										
Bell Telephone.....	156	100	5 12	7,978,100	7,916,980	135,607	25.53	2*	Jan. April	July Oct
Can. Colored Cotton Mills Co.....	100	100	.....	2,700,000	2,700,000	.....	.....	5	January	July
Canada General Electric.....	100	100	.....	1,475,000	1,475,000	265,000	.....	5	April	October
Canadian Pacific.....	174 173 1/2	100	3 44	101,400,000	94,020,000	.....	.....	1 1/2	Jan. April	July Oct
Commercial Cable.....	100	100	.....	15,000,000	15,000,000	4,923,122	34.75	1 1/2	Jan. April	July Oct
Detroit Electric St.....	92 91 1/2	100	5 43	12,500,000	12,500,000	.....	.....	1 1/2	March	June Sept. Dec
Dominion Coal Preferred.....	100	100	.....	3,000,000	3,000,000	.....	.....	3 1/2	January	July
do Common.....	76 76 1/2	100	.....	15,000,000	15,000,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Dominion Textile Co Com.....	100	100	.....	7,500,000	5,000,000	.....	.....	1 1/2	Jan. April	July October
do Pfd.....	99 98	100	7 07	2,500,000	1,941,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Dom. Iron & Steel Com.....	22 21 1/2	100	.....	20,000,000	20,000,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
do Pfd.....	72 71 1/2	100	.....	5,000,000	5,000,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Duluth S. S. & Atlantic.....	100	100	.....	12,000,000	12,000,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
do Pfd.....	100	100	.....	10,000,000	10,000,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Halifax Tramway Co.....	106 103	100	5 66	1,350,000	1,350,000	.....	.....	1 1/2	Jan. April	July October
International Coal Co.....	100	100	.....	200,000	200,000	80,474	.....	.....	.....	.....
do Preferred.....	100	100	.....	120,000	120,000	.....	12.06	7 1/2	January	August
Laurentide Paper Co.....	100	100	.....	1,800,000	1,700,000	.....	.....	3	February	August
Laurentide Paper, Pfd.....	104	100	6 73	1,200,000	1,200,000	.....	.....	3 1/2	January	July
Lake of the Woods Mill Co, Com.....	95 90	100	6 31	2,700,000	2,000,000	.....	.....	1 1/2	Feb. May	August Nov
do Pfd.....	114 113 1/2	100	6 14	1,500,000	1,500,000	.....	.....	1 1/2	January	July
Mackay Companies Com.....	48 48 1/2	100	4 15	50,000,000	41,880,400	.....	.....	1*	Jan. April	July October
do Pfd.....	75 73 1/2	100	5 33	60,000,000	35,968,700	.....	.....	1*	Jan. April	July October
Min. St. Paul & S.S.M.....	138 137 1/2	100	2 87	11,000,000	14,000,000	.....	.....	2	January	July
do Pfd.....	100	100	.....	7,000,000	7,000,000	.....	.....	3 1/2	March	June Sept. Dec.
Montreal Cotton Co.....	100	100	.....	3,400,000	3,400,000	.....	.....	1 1/2	Feb. May	August Nov.
Montreal Light, H. & Pwr. Co. X.D.....	92 91 1/2	100	4 34	17,000,000	17,000,000	.....	.....	1*	March	June Sept. Dec.
Montreal Steel Work, Pfd.....	100	100	.....	800,000	800,000	.....	.....	1 1/2	.....	.....
do Com.....	100	100	.....	700,000	400,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Montreal Street Railway.....	236 236	100	4 23	7,000,000	7,000,000	694,37	18.31	2*	Feb. May	August Nov.
Montreal Telegraph.....	46	50	.....	2,000,000	2,000,000	.....	.....	2*	Jan. April	July October
North-West Land, Com.....	400	25	.....	1,467,683	1,467,681	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
do Preferred.....	100	100	.....	3,000,000	3,000,000	.....	.....	6 1/2	March	.....
S. Scotia Steel & Coal Co, Com.....	66 66	100	.....	4,120,000	5,000,000	750,000	15.00	.....	.....	.....
do Pfd.....	100	100	.....	1,030,000	1,030,000	.....	.....	2*	Jan. April	June October
Ogilvie Flour Mills Co.....	100	100	.....	1,250,000	1,250,000	.....	.....	1 1/2	Jan. April	July October
do Pfd.....	133 128	100	5 38	2,000,000	2,000,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Richelieu & Ont. Nav. Co.....	72 70	100	.....	3,132,000	413,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
St. John Street Railway.....	100	100	.....	707,860	707,860	23,100	7.93	3	March	June & October
Toledo Ry & Light Co. X.D.....	34 33	100	5 88	12,000,000	12,000,000	.....	.....	1*	May	November
Toronto Street Railway.....	168 166 1/2	100	4 67	6,300,000	5,300,000	1,424,138	8.10	1*	Jan. April	July October
Trinidad Electric Ry.....	4 80	100	.....	1,000,000	1,032,000	.....	.....	1 1/2	Jan. April	July October
Trin City Rapid Transit Co. X.D.....	118 116 1/2	100	4 23	6,114,000	16,114,000	2,163,507	14.41	1 1/2	Feb. May	August Nov.
do Preferred.....	100	100	.....	3,000,000	3,000,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Windsor Hotel.....	100	100	.....	500,000	500,000	.....	.....	4	May	November
Windsor Electric Railway Co.....	100	100	.....	4,000,000	4,000,000	.....	.....	1 1/2	Jan. April	July October

*Quarterly. †Boards of directors. ‡Price per share. §Annual. *These figures are corrected from last Govt. Bank Statement, AUGUST 31st, 1905.

STOCK LIST - Continued.

BONDS.	Latest quotations.	Rate of interest per annum	Amount outstanding.	When interest due		Where interest payable.	Date of Redemption.	REMARKS
Commercial Cable Coupon.....	96	4	\$ 18,000,000	1 Jan.	1 Apl.	{ New York or London.....	{ 1 Jan., 1927.	
Registered.....	96	4		1 July	1 Oct.			
Can. Colored Cotton Co.....	98	6	2,000,000	2 Apl.	2 Oct.	Bank of Montreal, Montreal.....	2 Apl., 1922	
Canada Paper Co.....	95	5	20,000	1 May	1 Nov.	Merchants Bank of Can., Montreal	1 May, 1917	
Bell Telephone Co.....	102	5	2,000,000	1 Apl.	1 Oct.	Bank of Montreal, Montreal.....	1 Apl., 1925	
Dominion Coal Co.....	102	6	2,433,000	1 Meh.	1 Sep.	Bank of Montreal, Montreal.....	1 Meh., 1918..	Redeemable at 105 after 5 yrs
Dominion Cotton Co.....	95 1/2	4 1/2	\$ 998,200	1 Jan	1 July	Bank of Montreal, Montreal.....	1 Jan., 1918	Redeemable at 105 after 5 yrs
do do B.....	95 1/2	6	758,500					Redeemable at 105 after 5 yrs
do do C.....	95 1/2	6	1,165,000					Redeemable at 105 after 5 yrs
do do D.....	95 1/2	6	450,000					Redeemable at 105 after 5 yrs
Dominion Iron & Steel Co.....	84 1/2	6	\$ 7,876,000	1 Jan.	1 July	Bank of Montreal, Montreal.....	1 July, 1929..	Redeemable at 105 after 5 yrs & accrued interest
Halifax Tramway Co.....	95	5	\$ 600,000	1 Jan.	1 July	Bk. of N. Scotia., Hal. or Montreal	1 Jan., 1918.	Redeemable at 105 after 5 yrs
Intercontinental Coal Co.....	106 1/2	5	344,000	1 Apl.	1 Oct.		1 Apl., 1918..	Redeemable at 105 after 5 yrs
Laurentide Pulp.....	108	6	1,112.00					Redeemable at 105 after 5 yrs
Montmorency Cotton.....	95	5	1,000,000					Redeemable at 105 after 5 yrs
Montreal Gas Co.....	102 1/2	4 1/2	480,074	1 Jan.	1 July	Comman's Co. Montreal.....	1 July, 1927	Redeemable at 105 after 5 yrs
Montreal Light, Heat, and Power.....	102 1/2	4 1/2	7,500,000	1 Jan.	1 July	Bank of Montreal, Montreal.....	1 July, 1932.	Redeemable at 105 after 5 yrs
Montreal Street Ry. Co.....	95	5	292,000	1 Meh.	1 Sep.	Bank of Montreal, London, Eng.	1 Meh., 1908	Redeemable at 105 after 5 yrs
do do.....	95	5	681,353	1 Feb.	1 Aug.	" Montreal.....	1 Aug., 1922.	Redeemable at 105 after 5 yrs
do do.....	104	4 1/2	1,500,000	1 May	1 Nov.	" Montreal.....	1 May, 1922.	Redeemable at 105 after 5 yrs
Nova Scotia Steel & Coal Co.....	107	6	2,500,000	1 Jan.	1 July	Union Bank, Halifax, or Bank of Nova Scotia, Mont' or Tr'rnto	1 July, 1931.	Redeemable at 105 after 5 yrs
Ogilvie Flour Mill Co.....	116	6	1,000,000	1 June	1 Dec.	Bank of Montreal, Montreal.....	1 June, 1932	Redeemable at 105 after 5 yrs
Rebellion & Ont. Nav. Co.....	103	5	471,580	1 Meh.	1 Sep.	Montreal and London.....	1 Meh., 1915	Redeemable at 105 after 5 yrs
Royal Electric Co.....	103 1/2	4 1/2	\$ 130,900	1 Apl.	1 Oct.	Bk. of Montreal, Mont' or London	Oct., 1914	Redeemable at 105 after 5 yrs
St. John Railway.....	95	5	\$ 675,000	1 May	1 Nov.	Bank of Montreal, St. John, N.B.	1 May, 1928.	Redeemable at 105 after 5 yrs
Toronto Railway.....	106 1/2	4 1/2	600,000	1 Jan.	1 July	Bank of Montreal, London.....	1 July, 1914.	Redeemable at 105 after 5 yrs
do do.....	106 1/2	4 1/2	2,509,953	28 Feb.	31 Aug.	" "	31 Aug., 1921	Redeemable at 105 after 5 yrs
Windsor Hotel.....	95	4 1/2	340,000	1 Jan.	1 July	Windsor Hotel, Montreal.....	2 July, 1912.	Redeemable at 105 after 5 yrs
Winnipeg Elec. Street Railway.....	107	5	3,000,000	1 Jan.	1 July	Bank of Montreal, Montreal.....	1 Jan., 1927..	Redeemable at 105 after 5 yrs
Toledo Ry. & Light Co.....	95	5	700,000	1 Jan.	1 July		1 July, 1912.	Redeemable at 105 after 5 yrs
do do.....	95	5	5,185,000	1 Jan.	1 July		1 July, 1925	Redeemable at 105 after 5 yrs
do do.....	95	5	1,000,000	1 Jan.	1 July		1 July, 1920	Redeemable at 105 after 5 yrs

[FIRE]

German American
Insurance Company
New York

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

AGENCIES THROUGHOUT CANADA.