

ESTABLISHED JANUARY, 1881

## Vol. XXXIX. No. 6.

# MONTREAL, FEBRUARY 7, 1919

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# THE GENERAL FINANCIAL SITUATION.

While business on the Canadian Stock Exchange continued dull, the activity in the market for high-grade bonds which has been so pronounced a feature of the local investment situation since It is time the armistice continues unabated. that there has been some slight recessions from the high prices recently traded by the war bonds, but on the other hand, various important bond issues have found a ready market. In this connection emphasis must again be laid upon the considerable part which is being played by American buying in the existing market for high-grade Can-Their favourable terms are made adian bonds. more favourable to American buyers through the two per cent. premium on New York funds, and while this continues it will undoubtodly exert an important and useful effect in stabilizing American purchases of Canadian securities, which at the same time will, of course, have the tendency to The week's adjust exchange towards a parity. new issues include two made directly in the Amer-The Canadian National Railways ican market. have sold in New York \$7,500,000 6 per cent. 10-1 year scriff equipment trust certificates on a basis to yield 61/4 per cent., and the public issue was A Chicago investment readily over-subscribed. house is offering \$500,000 7 per cent. gold notes of the Whelen Pulp and Paper Mills Ltd., matur-It is to be exing at various dates until 1924. pected that this issue is the forerunner of a considerable amount of financing by the pulp and paper companies, both established concerns and new ventures, as there is good reason to believe that this industry which has come so much to the fore in Canada in recent years, will be developed considerably in the near future.

There was keen bidding for \$450,000 15-year 51/2 p.c. Province of New Brunswick bonds, which The favourable figure were awarded at 100.35. secured for this offering emphasises the healthy The big issue of \$5.state of the bond market. 254.652 Grand Trunk Pacific bonds, guaranteed by the Dominion Government, and issued at a price to yield 51/2 per cent., is announced as being sold out, and the interesting fact is stated that over 80 per cent, of this issue was taken by Can-The issue doubtless appealed adian investors. principally to institutional investors, the long

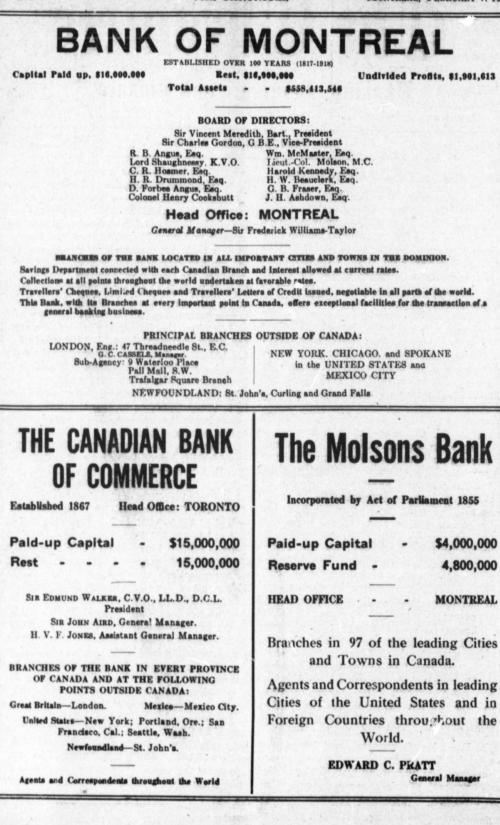
term of the bonds-they run to 1962-making them particularly attractive to the life insurance companies and others.

The statement of the banks' temporary financing of the Dominion Government asclosed in the recently published December bank statement, indicates that the maximum strain imposed upon the banking institutions during the fall by the demands of the Government and by those of industry and trade is about over, and that liquidation, and a consequent marked easing of the situation is now proceeding fairly rapidly. Between June and October, the Government's indebtedness to the banks increased from \$100,152,237 to \$277,-053,142, this item being understood to consist almost exclusively of short term treasury bills. In November, these loans increased slightly to \$278,208,357 but in December were reduced sharply to \$206,935,283, or by about \$72,000,000, the proceeds of the Victory Loan being used, of course, to repay these loans. In the next two or three months, this item will doubtless continue to show further heavy decreases. It is to be noted also that in recent months, there has been a considerable liquidation of the liabilities to the ban's of the municipalities and school districts. In June last, these reached their nightst level on record of \$58,000,424, but by December had been reduced to \$30,684.452, their lowest level since While much of this reduction is March, 1917. doubtless due to payments of loans in anticipation of tax collections, a proportion of it is undoubtedly a result of the recent ability of the municipalities to undertake permanent financing.

The fact that since the armistice the Canadian banks have opened 200 new branches is the best possible answer to the charge which populist orators-especially in the West-are so fond of making that the reduction in the number of the banks means a reduction in the public's banking facili-Everyone who is at all familiar with the ties. facts, is, of course, aware that the exact contrary is the case, and that in recent years, as the number of banks has diminished, so has the keenness of competition between them increased, a keenness which has resulted in innumerable conces-It stands to reason that sions to the public. where there are a half-dozen banks in a compara-

(Continued on page 145)

THE CHRONICLE



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## MONTREAL, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY, 7th, 1919

#### THE GENERAL FINANCIAL SITUATION. (Continued from page 141)

tively small town, with half a dozen managers all equally intent on making the best possible showing of business, that the lot of the borrower is apt to be considerably easier than would be the case were there only one or two branches in that same town.

The announcement that the Department of Municipal Affairs of the Province of Alberta is preparing legislation in aid of municipalities which are in financial difficulty is of some interest, particularly to institutional investors, who have placed in the aggregate large amounts of funds in the hands of the smaller municipalities throughout This legislation is in fact a welcome the West. sign of an increasing spirit of responsibility in provincial affairs, and of an enlarged realization of the duties imposed upon the provincial governments of safeguarding the interests of investors within their borders. Apparently several of the Alberta municipalities are having difficulty in meeting their interest payments, some of which have become in arrears, as a result of the municipalities being unable to realise on their outstand-The reason is the familiar one-overing taxes. optimism, resulting in the increasing of extravagant obligations during hard times, when there was no provincial authority to control the issue of Since a system of debentures by municipalities. provincial control was established, it is stated. there has been no trouble of this kind. If the present action is mentally reminiscent of the timehonoured expedient of locking the stable door after the horse is stolen, at lea there is the suggestion that in future the interests of investors in these securities will be more closely safeguarded.

It is of interest to note that private advices recently received here by financial houses indicate a strong feeling among their London correspondents that at no distant date the British Treasury restrictions upon the issue of such securities will be removed, and that it is wise to consider immediately preparations for such a development. It is also understood that several of the well-known financial houses are now considering plans for re-establishing their London connections dislocated as a result of the war.

#### THE DOMINION BANK.

In common with other Canadian banks, the Dominion Bank reports increased profits for the year 1918.

Judged from every standpoint 1918 has been a progressive year for the bank. Net profits. through an increase of \$81,435 amounted to \$1,-From these profits the directors were 086.498. able to return \$720,000 to the shareholders in the form of dividends at the rate of 12 per cent., which, based on the present market value of the stock on the exchange, means a yield of about 5.53 Besides the amount entailed in diviper cent. dend payments \$38,000 was contributed to patriotic and benevolent funds, \$25,000 to officers' pension fund, and \$250,000, an increase of \$50,000 over the previous year, was written off bank pre-The balance, \$446,500, or \$53,000 in exmises. cess of 1917, was carried forward to profit and loss account.

In respect to assets the report also shows a decided increase. This is particularly true of those coming under the classification of Immediately Available Assets, which increased \$5.800.000 and now amount to \$63,500.000, or sufficient to meet 53 per cent. of the bank's liabilities to the public. The cash assets alone are equal to 23.80 per cent. of the liabilities to the public, having increased by \$1.160.000 to \$28,498,000. Total assets stand at \$133,500,000, there having been an expansion during the year of \$24,000,000.

#### Gain in Deposits.

A gratifying feature in connection with the bank's deposits, indicating as it does the prosperous condition of the country as well as an advantage to the bank, is the fact that the sum of money on deposit not bearing interest, being the surplus cash of its industrial and financial customers, increased by \$18.626.000 during the vear, the amount of December 31 standing at \$33.843.000. The deposits bearing interest, namely \$62.264,000 were less than at the close of the previous year by \$4,400,000,—the cause is, of course, directly traceable to withdrawals made for the purchase of Victory bonds. Taking deposits as a whole, there was a net augmentation to the extent of \$14,100,-000, the total being \$96,107,000.

Commercial loans, representing funds alvanced for the business necessities of the country, increased by \$18,500,000, the total amount at the end of the year standing at \$64,100,090. In notes in circulation there was a gain of \$400,000, a further evidence of the business expansion of the bank.

The chartered banks of Canada are rendeing ar increasing measure of service to the public and in this respect the Dominion Bank is in the front rank. The present balance sheet, indicates progressive and conservative management under the direction of Mr. Clarence A. Bogert, general manager.

(Continued on page 148.)

THE CHRONICLE

# **Buy War-Savings Stamps!**

BUY a War-Savings Stamp each day this year for 300 days and you will own 30 "Bonds" each worth \$50.00 cash on January 1st, 1924 —



# \$1500 for \$1216.20

# NATIONAL WAR-SAVINGS COMMITTEE, OTTAWA

SIR HERBERT B. AMES, Chairman.

CAMPBELL SWEENEY, Vancouver.	
	W. M. BIRKS, Montreal. RENE T. LECLZRC, Montreal.
HON, GEO. A. BELL, Regina	SIR J. DOUGLAS HAZEN, St. John.
#OHN GALT, Winnipeg.	W. A. BLACK, Halifax. HON. MURDOCK McKIN-
GEO. M. REID, London.	NON, Charlottetown.

# TRAFFIC RETURNS

	Canadian F	acine manwa	ay	
Year to date	1916	1917	1918	Increase
Dec. 31\$	136,321.000 \$	148,937,000 \$	154,024,000	\$5,087,003
Week ending	1917	1918	1919	Increase
Jan. 7	2.238.000	2,343.000	2.856,000	513,000
Jan. 14	2,417,000	2,368,000	2,891,000	523,000
Jan. 21	2,215,000	2,324,000	2,949,000	625,00)
Jan. 31	3,071,000	3,535,000	4,101,000	566,000
	Grand T	runk Railwa	y	
Year to date	1916	1917	1918	Increase
Dec. 31	60,260,630	58,057,913	70,704.132	12,646,219
Week ending	1917	1918	1919	Increase
Jan. 7	1.076,606	*******	********	*********
Jan. 14	1.072.915	654,794	1,029,578	
Jan. 21	1,026,907	565,504	940,925	
Jen. 31	1.564.660	982,192	1,428,095	445,903
	Canadian N	Sational Rail		1.1.2.4.1
Year to date	1916	1917	1918	Increase
Dec. 31				
Week ending	1917	1918	1919	Increase
Jan. 7		900,157	1,294,039	393,882
Jan: 14		1,056,607	1,420,433	364,825
Jan. 21		1,034,923	1,541,392	
Jan. 31		1,705,880	2,488,154	782,274

#### THE DOMINION BANK (Continued from Page 145)

# Balance Sheet Comparisons.

Datance Sheet Comparisons.

Following are the leading items of the balance sheet in comparison with last year:---

	1917.	1918.
Profit and Loss Balance	\$ 393,005	\$ 446,503
Circulation	9,417,684	9,858,533
Deposits not bearing interest	15,213,784	33,843,584
Deposits bearing interest	66,731,312	62,264,126
Total liabilities to public	95,861,513	119,876,081
Specie and Dominion Notes	15,412,635	15,414,248
Deposit with Central Gold Reserve.	4,300,000	
Bank Balances Abroad	2,142,266	2,443,405
Call Loans in Canada	3,987,122	8,408,800
Call Loans Abroad	3,644,969	1.269,403
Securities held	22,691,227	
Total of Quick Assets	57,660,453	
Current Loans	45,663,610	
Total Assets	109,436,145	133,506,274

The Dominion Bank's St. James Street, Montreal, branch is attaining increased importance under the management of Mr. M. S. Bogert.

#### BANK OF TORONTO DIVIDEND INCREASED.

The Bank of Toronto has increased its dividend rate from eleven to twelve per cent. Up to 1911 the rate was ten per cent. In that year it was raised to eleven per cent., and from 1912 to 1914 inclusive, the rate was eleven per cent., plus one per cent. Since 1915, however, the extra one per cent. has been dropped until the present increase to a twelve per cent. basis.





#### THE CHRONICLE

# COMPARATIVE ABSTRACT OF THE BANK STATEMENT, DECEMBER, 1918

(Compiled by the Chronicle).

and the second	December 31, 1918	November 30, 1918	Me	fonth's ovement, 1918	December 31, 1917		fonth's ovement, 1917	N	Year's lovement
Assets				19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 1					
pecie	\$79,315,616	\$83,776,756		\$4,461,140		-\$	1,146,868	-	2,717,247
Dominion Notes	175 744,883	182,212,720	-	6,467,837	167,509,121	+	1,993,984	+	8,235,762
Deposits in Central Gold Reserves	130,900,000	131,500,000	-	600,000	97,270,000	+	6,150,000	+	33,630,000
Notes of other Banks	31,379,083	27,474,088		3,904,995	24,078,909	+	3,695,204	+	7,300,174
heques on other Banks	116,359,031	111,466,271		4,892,760	95,598,932	+	4,571,825	+	20,760,099
Deposit to secure Note issues	5,858,102	5,853,438	+	4,664	5,769,631	+	5,571	+	88,471
Deposits with and balances due from	Secolar Secolar		1.00	1 101 007	0.005 010		805,200		1.157,014
other Banks in Canada	5,838,216	7,239,313		1,401,097	6,995,230 13,372.044	7	973,231	1	495,153
Due from Banks, etc., in U.K	13,867,197	13,026,750		840,447	51,355,562	+	12.487.396	T	8,134,624
Due from Banks, etc., elsewhere	43,220,938	46,632,903		3,411,965	188,703,175	-	6,804,914	1	18,232,108
Dom. and Prov. Securities.	206,935,283	278,208,357	-	71,273,074	100,100,110		0,004,014	Τ.	10,202,100
Can. Mun. Brit., For. & Col. Pub.	050 510 074	040 000 007		5,120,007	224.093.823	+	5,688,180	4	29,424,251
Securities.	253,518,074	248,398,067 52,678,241		459,721	55,609,275	-	605,265	<u> </u>	2,471,313
Rlwy, and other Bonds and Stocks	53,137,962 513,591,319	579,284,665		65,693,346	468,406,273	_	1,721,999	+	45,185,046
Total Securities held.	89,120,423	85,675,063		3,445,360	71,779,020	-	399,325		17,341,403
Call Loans in Canada	150,248,322	171.035.732		20,787,410	134,483,482	-	5.349,070		15,764,840
Call Loans outside Canada	239.368.745	256,710,795		17,342,050		-	5,748,395		33,106,243
Current Loans and Discounts in	200,000,110	200,110,100				1.00		1	
Canada	1.075,640,003	1.082,709,655	-	7.069,652	858,533,298	-	10,440,416	+	217,106,705
Current Loans and Discounts outside	119,153,924	110.010.815		9,143,109	111,581,098	+	15,626,574	+	7,572,826
Total Current Loans and Discounts.	1,194,793,927	1,192,720,470	+	2,073,457	970,114,396	+	5,186,158	+	224,679,531
Loans to Dominion Government			1.						
Loans to Provincial Governments		6,132,065	5+	2,288,191	9,774,419		1,134,020		1,354,163
Loans to Cities, Towns, etc		40,865,358	3-	10,181,306			106,559		5,668,987
Bank Premises	52,550,835			3,508			633,612		1,066,249
TOTAL ASSETS	2,689,835,181	2,783,641 297	-	93,806,116	2,323,163,783	+	2,892,798	+	366,671,398
LIABILITIES	12. 1. 2. 2. 2. 3.					15			
Notes in Circulation				10,481,861			3,211,986		31,577,293
Dae to Dominion Government	254,927,913			134,042,814			5,072,543		188,929,360
Due to Provincial Governments	14,756,299	18,287,22	7-	3,530,928	16,781,521	-	2,617,971	-	2,025,222
Deposits in Canada, payable on	1213 1 32 4		10		E00 441 071		20 570 500	1.	141 500 100
demand		666,366,35	9+	44,667,701	569,441,871	T	30,572,509	+	141,592,189
Deposits in Canada, payable after		020 200 27		19,144,286	995,978,013	-	12,679,861	1	37,504,456
notice				63,811,987			17,892,648		104,087,733
Total Deposits of Public in Canada.				14,454,568			865,90		32.066.039
Deposits elsewhere than in Canada .				49,357,419			17,026,73		136,153,772
Total Deposits other than Govt				2,364,48			918,70		500,802
Deposits and Bal., other Can. Bks Due to Bks. and Correspts. in U.K				1,217,08			363,26		1,336,178
Due to Banks & Correspts. elsewhere				323,97			438,25		3,952,569
TOTAL LIABILITIES				99,547,09		2+	3,632,16	2+	366,518,240
CAPITAL, ETC.		1200							
Capital paid up	. 109,492,393	7 106,587,64		2,904,74					2,181,379
Rest			0 + 0	2,590,82			53,94		1,915,13
Loans to Directors and their Firms.	. 9,021,43			272,05			316,96		800,03
Greatest Circulation in Month		0 242,309,08	2 -	1,603,54	2 208,753,33	1+	6,572,00	9+	31,952,23

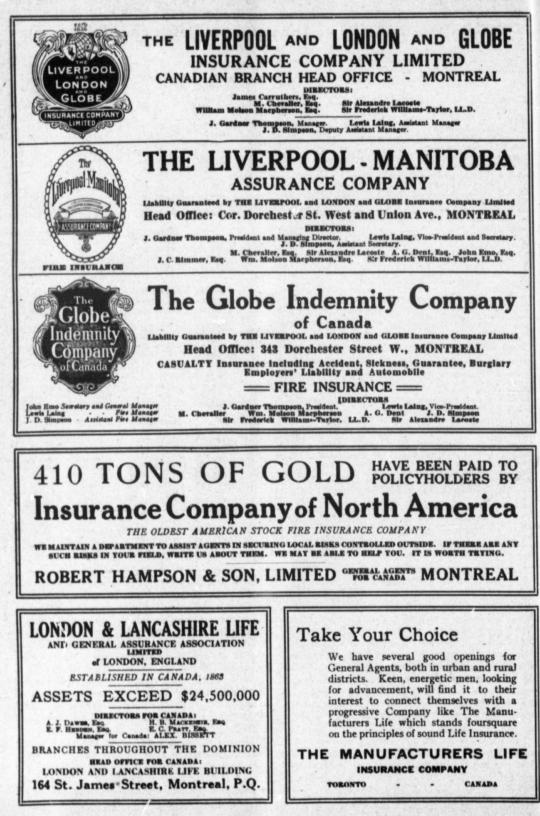
#### CANADA'S WATER POWER.

A census of the developed water power in the Dominion just completed by the Dominion Water Power Branch, in co-operation with the Dominion Census Bureau, discloses exceptionally inforesting figures. The water power resources of Canada, with their strategic locations adjacent to practically every industrial centre, constitute one of our greatest assets, and it is satisfactory to note that the economic advantages accruing from uitllization of these powers for industrial purposes is being fully realized in practice.

The returns indicate a total developed water power capacity of 2,305,310 horse power. This figure is several hundred thousand in excess of any estimate previously published and indicates that Canada's utilization of hydro power is even more marked than had been realized.

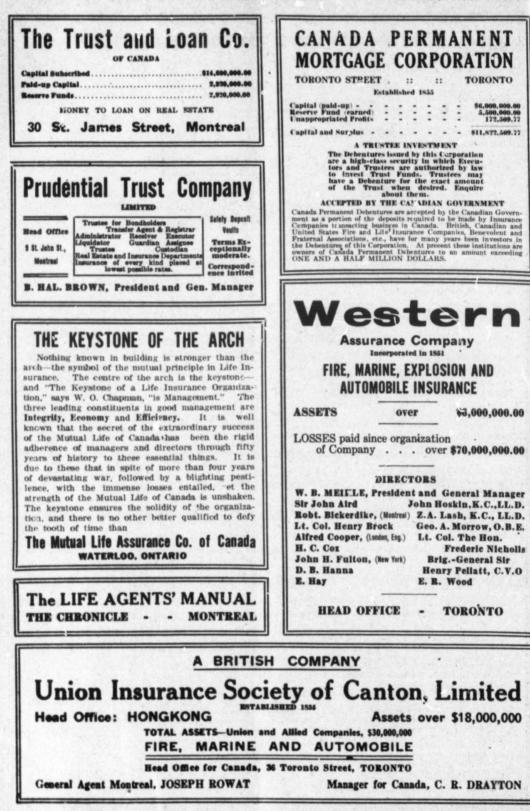
The percapita figures of hydro power developed for the Dominion, when compared with similar figures for other countries, are. indicative of the advanced position which this country takes both in the extent and in the utilization of its Norway and possibly water power resources. Sweden are the only countries where the per capita utilization of water power exceeds that of The most recent figures available for Canada. the United States would indicate a utilization of less than 100 hydraulic horse power per thousand population, as compared with 276 per thousand The fundamental reason underlying in Canada. the extensive use of water power in Canada is the fact that practically every commercial centre from coast to coast, excepting only a few in the middle Prairie Provinces have abundance of water power available, not only for present needs, but for all anticipated requirements.

THE CHRONICLE



THE DOMINION BA	NK	
At the Forty-Eighth Annual General Meeting of the Shareholders of The Dominion Ba n Toronto, on 29th January, 1919, the following Statement of the affairs of the Bank as a	nk, held at the in the 31st Dec	Head Office, ember, 1918,
was submitted: PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT		Second Second
Profits for the year, after deducting charges of management and making full provision for bad and doubtful debts	\$1,169,798.38	\$393,004.84
Less: Dominion Government War Tax (on circulation)	83,300.00	
Making net profits of	1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1	1,086,498.38
uaning net promo of	10.00	\$1,479,503.22
Which amount has been disposed of as follows:     Dividends (quarterly) at Twelve per cent. per annum.     Contribution to Toronto and York Co. Patriotic Association and Canadian Red     Cross Society.   \$25,000.00     Contribution to Navy League of Canada.   10,000.00     Contribution to Navy League of Canada.   10,000.00     Contribution to Catholic Army Huts Campaign.   1,000.00     Contribution to Y.M.C.A. Red Triangle Fund.   2,000.00	\$720,000.00 38.000.00	
Contribution to Officers' Pension Fund	25,000.00	
Written off Bank Premises	250,000.00	
Balance of Profit and Loss Account carried forward	1,033,000.00 446,503.22	
GENERAL STATEMENT		\$1,479,503.22
Capital Stock paid in. Reserve Fund. Balance of Profit and Loss Account carried forward. Dividend No. 145, payable 2nd January, 1919. Former Dividends unclaimed.	446,503.22 180,000.00	\$6,000,000.00
Former Dividends unclaimed		7,630,193.22
Total Liabilities to Shareholders.     Notes in Circulation.     Due to Dominion Government.     Deposits not bearing interest.     S33,843,584.77     Deposits bearing interest.     Bearing interest.     Composition bearing interest.     S33,843,584.76     Deposits bearing interest.     S33,843,584.76     Deposits bearing interest.     Deposits bearing interest.     S33,843,584.77     Deposits bearing interest.     Deposits bearing interest.  <	9,858,533.00 11,000,000.00	
Balances due to other Banks in Canada. Balances due to Banks and Banking Correspondents elsewhere than in Canada. Bills Payable. Acceptances under Letters of Credit. Liabulities not included in the foregoing.	96,107,711.38 1,131,994.04 1,002,534.64 86,520.00 305,616.76	
Balances due to other Banks in Canada Balances due to Banks and Banking Correspondents elsewhere than in Canada Bills Payable. Acceptances under Letters of Credit. Liabuilties not included in the foregoing.	96,107,711.38 1,131,994.04 1,002,534.64 86,520.00 305,616.76 	119,876,081.76
Balances due to other Banks in Canada Balances due to Banks and Banking Correspondents elsewhere than in Canada Bills Payable. Acceptances under Letters of Credit.	96,107,711.35 1,131,994.04 1,002,534.64 86,520.00 305,616.76 383,171.94	119,876,081.76
Balances due to other Banks in Canada Balances due to Banks and Banking Correspondents elsewhere than in Canada Bills Payable. Acceptances under Letters of Credit. Liabuilties not included in the foregoing.	90,107,711.53 1,131,994.04 1,002,534.64 86,520.00 305,616.76 383,171.94 \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$	133,506,274.98
Balances due to other Banks in Canada	99,107,711.53 1,131,994.04 1,002,534.64 86,520.00 305,616.76 383,171.94 \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$	133,506,274.98
Balances due to other Banks in Canada	99,107,711.53 1,131,994.04 1,002,534.64 86,520.00 305,616.76 383,171.94 \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$	133,506,274.98
Balances due to other Banks in Canada. Balances due to Banks and Banking Correspondents elsewhere than in Canada. Bills Payable Acceptances under Letters of Credit Liabilities not included in the foregoing. Total Public Liabilities . Consider the Coin ASSETS Gold and Silver Coin ASSETS Gold and Silver Coin ASSETS Gold and Silver Coin ASSETS Coleques on other Banks . Cheques on other Banks . Balances due by other Banks in Canada. Balances due by banks and Banking Correspondents elsewhere than in Canada. Balances due by Banks and Banking Correspondents elsewhere than in Canada. Dominion and Provincial Government Securities, not exceeding market value. Canadian Municipal Securities and British Foreign and Colonial Public Securities other	99,107,711.53 1,131,994.04 1,002,534.64 86,520.00 305,616.76 383,171.94 \$ \$ \$1,940,780.53 13,473,468.00 1,037,315.49 4,600,000.00 1,037,315.49 4,995,232.10 7,779.15 2,443,405.46 \$28,497,980.73 9,966,508.15 13,009,830.54 2,376,325.95 d 8,408,800.22	133,506,274.98
Balances due to other Banks in Canada. Balances due to Banks and Banking Correspondents elsewhere than in Canada. Bills Payable Acceptances under Letters of Credit. Liabilities not included in the foregoing. Total Public Liabilities . Balances due built Liabilities . Deposit with Central Gold Reserves. Notes of other Banks . Balances due by other Banks in Canada. Balances due by other Banks in Canada. Balances due by Banks and Banking Correspondents elsewhere than in Canada. Balances due by Banks and Banking Correspondents elsewhere than in Canada. Balances due by Banks and Banking Correspondents elsewhere than in Canada. Conadian Municipal Securities, and British, Foreign and Colonial Public Securities other than Canadian, not exceeding market value. Canadian Municipal Securities and Stocks, not exceeding market value. Call and Short (not exceeding thirty days) Loans in Canada on Bonds, Debentures an Stocks	99,107,711.53 1,131,994.04 1,002,534.64 86,520.00 305,616.76 383,171.94 \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$	\$63,528,849.5 \$63,528,849.5 \$
Balances due to other Banks in Canada	99,107,711.53 1,131,940,74 1,002,534.64 86,520.00 305,616.76 383,171.94 <b>\$1</b> ,940,780.53 13,473,468.00 4,600,000.00 1,037,315.49 4,995,232.10 7,779.15 2,443,405.46 <b>\$28,497,980.73</b> 9,966,508.15 <b>F</b> 13,009,830.54 2,376,325.92 d 8,408,800.22 5,128,97.980.73 9,966,508.15 <b>F</b> 13,009,830.54 2,376,325.92 d 8,408,800.22 5,128,554.00 3,304,500.0	\$63,528,849.5 5 1 1

THE CHRONICLE



MONTREAL, JANUARY 7, 1919.

#### THE CHRONICLE

No. 6 151

# THE DOMINION BANK-Continued.

AUDITORS' REPORT TO SHAREHOLDERS

We have compared the above Balance Sheet with the books and accounts at the Chief Office of The Dominion Bank, and the certified returns received from its Branches, and after checking the cash and verifying the securities at the Chief Office and certain of the principal Branches on December 31st, 1918, we certify that, in our opinion, such Balance Sheet exhibits a true and correct view of the state of the Bank's affairs, according to the best of our information, the explanations given to us and as shown by the books of the Bank.

In addition to the examinations mentioned, the cash and securities at the Chief Office and certain of the principal Branches were checked and verified by us at another time during the year and found to be in accord with the books of the Bank.

All information and explanations required have been given to us and all transactions of the Bank which have come under our notice have, in our opinion, been within the powers of the Bank.

Toronto, January 21st, 1919.

G. T. CLARKSON { of Clarkson, Gordon & R.J. DILWORTH } old Clarkson, Gordon & Dilworth, C.A.

#### CONFEDERATION LIFE ASSOCIATION

The forty-seventh Annual report of the Confederation Life Association indicates considerable development of business written in 1918, amounting to \$15,062,374, including revived policies and bonus additions, as compared with \$15,037,517 in 1917. This marked development in new business was accompanied by a substantial addition of \$9,712,464 to insurance in force, which totalled \$91,986,165 on 31st December. Net Premium income at \$3,495,670 shows the substantial growth of \$343,383 over the 1917 figures, while interest and rents are up to \$1,230,419, as compared with \$1,090.478 in 1917, total income being raised to \$4,726,085, an advance, upon the 1917 income, of \$480,629. Disbursements to policy-holders and their beneficiaries reached \$2,528,126, against \$2,504,879 in the preceding year.

The directors report in dealing with Death Claims draws attention to the fact that the claims by death of insured lives for the first nine months of 1918 showed a decided decrease, as compared with the same period for 1917, but two circumstances occurred following that date, which caused a material change; these were war claims, and claims arising through the epidemic of influenza. The total war claims amounted to \$259,218, and almost equal in volume to war claims were those incurred from the influenza epidemic, amounting to \$254,864. The combined claims—war and influenza— represent 43%4% of the total death claims. Maturing endowments at \$610,540 indicates an

Maturing endowments at \$610,540 indicates an increase of \$135,984 over 1917. Maturing investment policies were \$17,328, less at \$288,927 against \$306,-255. Profits paid to policy-holders during the year were \$355,426, against \$313,509 in 1917.

After payment of expenses, etc., the balance on the year s operations was such as to increase the net invested assets from \$21,161,404 to \$2.,250,503, as at 31st December, 1918. Total assets are \$23,418,782 a substantial gain of \$1,107,000 over the previous year.

It is satisfactory to note that the investments for the year were mainly in the debenture class, in Victory Loan Bo. 4s. The holdings in this very desirable class of security for any Life company was enlarged by the Confederation Life during the year by an increase of \$1,496,296 to \$10,081,556.

In mortgage investments, repayments to the amount of \$790,385 were made, exceeding the new loans by the sum of \$474,417. The total amount of mortgages held at December 31st, figures at \$5,-575,175, as compared with \$6,049,593 in 1917 and \$6,390,237 in 1916.

After calculation of liabilities upon the usual conservative basis, there is a surplus above all liabilities of \$1,969,045.

The old established Confederation Life stands in the front rank of life companies doing business in Canada and goes steadily on its way, year by year, making sound progress, under most conservative managenent. While the experience of life insurance companies is bound to fluctuate in line with favourable and unfavourable conditions, of individual years, there can be no doubt that in the case of so well established and sound an organization as the Confederation Life, continue 1 steady progress is assured.

#### PRUDENTIAL INSURANCE CO. OF AMERICA REDUCES DIVIDEND.

Increased death claims, greater expense for labour and material and also higher taxes are given by the Prudential as the causes militating to compel the company to reduce its dividend scare for 1919. The cut will approximate 20 per cent. on annual dividend policies, with a corresponding reduction in deferred dividends of about 5 per cent. on last year's earnings. This decision is regarded by the company as looking forward in the right way, in the confident belief that it will safeguard the interests of its policyholders, old and new, and strengthen its position with regard to future dividends. The influenza has cost the Prudental \$14,000,000. Industrial claims increased in a short time to four times the normal, and swamped the staff in that department. Ordinarily, an average day's run of industrial claims with the Prudential would be between four hundred and fve hundred; last fall it reached four and five times that.

#### BILL TO REQUIRE AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE.

A bill has been introduced in the Massachusetts Legislature to require that owners of motor vehicles file a certificate of insurance covering personal injury and property damage liability with some insurance before license be issued to the motor vehicle owner.

MONTREAL, FEBRUARY 7 1919 THE CHRONICLE 152 No. 6 **Commercial Union** Palatine ASSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED **INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED** of LONDON, England of LONDON, England (As at 31st December, 1917) The largest general Insurance Company in the world \$1,000,000 Capital Fully Paid (As at 31st December, 1917) Fire Premiums 1917, Net..... \$2,896,395 Capital Fully Subscribed ...... \$14,750,000 Interest, Net..... 142,130 1,475,000 Capital Paid Up..... Total Income...... \$3,038,525 Life Fund, and Special Trust \$5,476,985 Funds..... 73,045,450 Funds..... Total Annual Income exceeds...... 57.000.000 Deposit with Dominion Gov'nt .... \$318,267 i otal Funds exceed ...... 159,000,000 N.B.-In addition to the above there is the further guarantee of the Commercial Union Assurance Company Limited, whose Funds exceed \$159,000,000. Deposit with Dominion Govern-1.323.333 ment..... Applications for Agencies Solicited in Unrepresented Districts Head Office: CANADIAN BRANCH COMMERCIAL UNION BUILDING. MONTREAL 232-236 St. James Street. W. S. JOPLING, Assistant Manager J. McGREGOR, Manager Security Assets Head Office GH CA Head Office for Canada; Exceed for Canada OVER TOBONTO \$65,000,000 \$65,000,000 TOBONTO The Eagle Star ROWN BRITISH AND Dominions Assurance Corporation Limited of Glasgow, Scotland British Guaranteed by Eagle, Star and British Dominions Insurance Company Limited Insurance Company, Limited, of London, England Of London, England J. H. RIDDEL, Manager E. C. G. JOHNSON, Asst: Manager J. H. RIDDEL, Manager E. C. G. JOHNSON, Asst. Manager DALE & COMPANY, LIMITED JOSEPH ROWAT, General Agent LEWIS BUILDING - - - - - MONTREAL MONTREAL AND TORONTO C. R. G. JOHNSON, POIRIER & JENNINGS, INC. INSURANCE BROKERS AGENTS AETNA INSURANCE CO. OF HARTFORD SC. PAUL FIRE & MARINE INSURANCE CO. BRITISH TRADERS INSURANCE CO., LIMITED 11 ST. SACRAMENT STREET . MONTREAL, P.Q. THE FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF CANADA MONTREAL Subscribed Capital, \$250,000 Paid Up Capital, \$100,000 Authorized Capital, \$1,000,000 GENERAL FIRE INSURANCE BUSINESS TRANSACTED President: Hen. R. DANDURAND Vice-President and Managing Director: J. E. CLEMENT

ASSETS First mortgages on real estate .. .. .. \$ 5,575,175.93 Bonds and debentures... ... ... ... 10,081,556.00 Stocks .. ... 1,152,725.35

Toronto and Winnipeg ... ... ... 2,118.887.71 Loans on Company's policies ... .. ... 3,190 270.84 Sundry items ... .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. 9,175.39 Cash in banks and at head office..... 159,730.18

Net invested assets as per cash statement ... \$22,250,503.11

Real estate, including Company's buildings at

Less current accounts.. ... ... ... ...

Interest and rents due and accrued ....

Net outstanding and deferred premiums, reserves thereon included in the liabilities ...

#### THE CHRONICLE

# FORTY-SEVENTH FINANCIAL REPORT OF THE CONFEDERATION LIFE ASSOCIATION

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st, 1918

Submitted at the Annual Meeting, Held at the Head Office, Toronto, January 28th, 1919.

#### CASH STATEMENT

Net invested assets, Dec. 31st, 1917\$21,161,404.51	DISBURSENENTS
RECEIPTS	To Policyholders and Beneficiaries :
Premiums-	Death claims \$988,876.64
First year \$ 642,910.94	Endowments 610,540.60
Renewal	Annuities
Single 198,950.80	Matured investment policies 288,927.00
Annuity	Surrendered policies 175,636.92
	Profits
\$3,550,597.54	\$ 2,528,126.17
Less re-assurances 54,926.79	Expenses, salaries, rents, commissions to
3.495.670.75	agents, doctors, solicitors, etc 1,014.997.15
Interest \$1,185,034.77	Government taves and license fees 80,592.86
Rents, net 45,384.38	Dividend to stockholders 20,000.00
1.230,419.15	Grant to General Hospital by shareholders 1,600.00
Profit on sale of securities 7,724.88	Net invested assets, Dec. 31st, 1918 22,250,503.11
\$25,895,219,29	\$25,895,219.29
	unservice and a service and

BA	LA	NC	E	SH	EET	ľ
			-			

\$22,287,521.40

37,018.29

561.715.92

606,563.57 \$23,418.782.60

#### LIABILITIES

surances — including premium reductions and annuities	20,409,652.00
Death claims advised but not yet paid, includ- ing all claims reported to date, and reserve	
held for unreported claims	570, 15.36
Endowment claims	13 884.00
Present value of instalment claims, death, en-	
dowment and disability	62,919.00
Reserve for taxes payable in 1919	41 090.00
Profits to policyholders due and unpaid	51,237.42
Profits allotted to deferred dividend policies	
issued since 1911	183 590.49
Capital stock paid up	190,000.00
Premiums and interest paid in advance	12.497.06
General expenses	4,752.06
Cash surplus above all liabilities, including	
investment reserve fund of \$277,531.37	1,960,045.21

#### \$23.418.782.60

JR. F. Spence, F.C.A., (Can.) Auditors.

Audited and found correct : A. C. NEFF, F.C.A., President. **INSURANCE ACCOUNT OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS** Vice-President and Chairman of the Board, President. Vice-President, W. D. Matthews, Esq. J. K. MACDONALD, Esq. SIR EDMUND B. OSLER. Lieut.-Col. J. F. Michie. Joseph Henderson, Esq. Lt.-Col. The Hon Frederic Nicl olls Col. Albert E. Gooderham John Macdonald, Esq. Peleg Howland, Esq. Thos. J. Clark, Esq. John Firstbrook, Esq. Secretary: JAMES A MACDONALD. James E. Ganong, Esq. General Manager of Agencies, Medical Directo", Actuary, ARTHUR JUKES JOHNSON, M.J., M.R.C.S. (Eng.) V. R. SMITH, A.A.S., A.I.A. J. TOWER BOYD

#### No. 6 153

J. K. MACDONALD.

THE CHRONICLE



#### PERSONALS

Mr. J. E. Clement, Managing Director of the Fire Insurance Company of Canada, arrived in Montreal a few days ago, after an absence of seven weeks, during which time he visited England and France.

Referring to conditions in England, Mr. Clement states that there is considerable unrest regarding the labour situation, but the sentiment appears to be that the English nation will overcome the difficulty in the near future, and that business will be resumed with more energy than ever.

In connection with fire insurance, Mr. Clement informs us that many influential insurance men whom he met are quite convinced that fire insurance business in the Colonies will develop very materially, especially in Canada and Australia, anticipating a considerable movement of emigration to these countries.

Mr. Clement states that he arrived in Paris immediately following the arrival of the several Kings who visited France and also President Wilson; the population were still under the influence of the festivities for the occasion, and it was most pleasing to note the joyful demonstrations of the people on the boulevards after emerging from the deep depression under which the populace laboured during the war. The presence of a large number of American soldiers on furlough helped to enliven the situation.

Mr. Clement stated that the cost of living is extremely high, both in England and France, and likely to continue so for some time. In Canada, however, we do not realize the hardships that still exist in this respect both in England and France. While in Paris, Mr. Clement visited the Head Office of the Nationale of Paris which he represents in Canada. He found the officials of the Company very pleased to be delivered of the nightmare (consequent of the war) under which they in common with others had been labouring so long. The French companies have already started to adjust their business in the invaded regions; this has necessitated returning considerable premiums which had been collected before the war, as there was no liability incurred on the buildings destroyed by the enemy. Insurance contracts in France having been made for a term of years, considerable sums have to be refunded the assured, and this, with the fact that one of the richest sections in France has been ruined, naturally means a reduction in insurable values in that country. Notwithstanding these set backs the more important French companies have increased business during the war, due to industrial activities in the manufacture of War munitions, etc. The loss ratios have been less than normal and the experience of companies generally have been most satisfactory.

Mr. Clement completed very valuable re-insurance connections, and both the Fire Insurance Company of Canada and the Nationale of Paris, are now in a most favourable position to write larger lines on good risks.

# NORTH AMERICAN LIFE ASSURANCE CO.

The North American Life participated fully in the 1918 expansion of business reported by most of the Canadian Life Companies. The Policies issued and revived during the year totalled \$13,552,161, this being the largest amount of business ever issued by the company in one year. When referring to this

agreeable fact Mr. L. Goldman-(president) expressed the opinion that there was no better index or guide for the prosperity of Canada than that shown by the amount of Life Insurance written by the companies. He pointed out that Canada has great natural resources, and is able to produce from its soil great wealth, but whether the present prosperity will continue in the future depends upon many things.

Business in force was increased to \$70,050,316, a growth of \$5,736,693. The total cash income for the year was \$3,467,440, indicating a substantial increase of \$328,623, as compared with 1917, showing that both premiums and interest have been remarkably well paid during 1918.

The total outgo was \$2,554,439, an increase of \$208,320 over the previous year. The amount of death losses incurred during 1918 was \$874,037, an increase of over \$300,000, as compared with 1917. This increased mortality arose from two causes, the prevailing epidemic of influenza, and the war. The claims arising from the former was \$234,800, and from the latter \$177,178, making the actual mortality experience of the year 115 per cent. of the expected. It is a source of satisfaction that the North American Life was able to bear this increased strain, witout in any way haffecting its solid financial position. Matured endowments called for \$344,016 against \$295,990 in 1917; matured investments policies for \$348,885 against \$306,136. In surrenders there was a decrease \$148,580, against \$165,044 in 1917, and \$239,842 in 1916. Dividends to policyholders during the year totalled \$285,339, against \$248,585. We understand that the same handsome rate of dividends will be continued during 1919, requiring something over \$400,000.

#### The Company's Assets

The assets of the company were substantially increased last year and at December 31st last stood at \$18,185,610, as compared with \$17,268,471 in 1917. This total is arrived at after deduction of an investment reserve fund of \$141,370. The assets include mortgages on real estate \$4,394,608, a decrease over the previous year of \$96,338; real estate including companies building \$171,216; bonds, debentures and stocks, \$10,473,714, an increase of \$762,435; loans on policies \$2,340,058.

The net surplus over all liabilities amounts to \$2,751,990.

Mr. L. Goldman, the president and managing director, who has been associated with the company since its inception, cannot but feel gratified at the results achieved during a year of much anxiety and heavy mortality losses for all companies.

## PROHIBITION OF WOODEN SHINGLES.

The Committee on Building Construction of the National Board of Fire Underwriters has prepared a table of ninety-one cities of the United States which have adopted regulations restricting or prohibiting the use of wooden shingles within their corporate limits. The table shows the date of the adoption of the ordinance, the portions of the city affected, the percentage of repairs permitted and the date set for the entire removal of existing wooden shingle roofs. Shingle roofs have been responsible for considerable fire losses in some sections of Canada.

THE CHRONICLE



#### SIX DECADES OF THE EQUITABLE.

On July 26 next, the Equitable Life of New York will attain its sixtieth anniversary. In commemoration thereof Secretary Alexander is writing a history of the society. He has it completed now, with the exception of the final chapter, which deals with the last six months. Mr. Alexander is especially equipped to prepare such a history, not only because of his skill as a writer but from the fact that he has been the society's secretary for forty years.

#### WANTED

The Dominion Gresham Guarantee & Casualty Company require the services of a Clerk, with knowledge of Underwriting. Apply in writing, stating experience and salary required, to

GENERAL MANAGER, 302 St. James Street,

Montreal.

#### NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Fidelity-Phenix Fire Insurance Company of New York has been granted license by the Government of the Dominion of Canada to transact the business of Hail Insurance in Canada, under License No. 772, dated January 10th, 1919.

#### NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Continental Insurance Company of New York has been granted license by the Government of the Dominion of Canada to transact the business of Hail Insurance in Canada, under License No. 771, dated January 10th, 1919.

#### WANTED

Bookkeeper wanted by the Atlas Assurance Company, Limited. Apply, giving particulars of applicant's experience and present employment, addressed to the Company's Branch Manager, 260 St. James Street, Montreal.

#### WANTED

A bright young man is wanted to act as Inspector for a strong Fire Insurance Office, also doing an Automobile business. Apply, stating experience and qualifications, to A.B.C., c/o The Chronicle,

Montreal.

#### WANTED

A competent Fire Insurance Inspector, Adjuster and Superintendent of Agents desires position with a good Company, for Quebec and Ontario, both languages. Address P.O. Box 2655,

Montreal.

## WANTED

A capable and reliable Inspector for Alberta and Saskatchewan is required by the Niagara Fire Insurance Co.. The position is open only to one who knows the ground and conditions. Address in confidence W. E. FINDLAY.

Manager Canadian Department, P.O. Box 1179, Montreal.

#### WANTED

Aggressive Inspector with valuable following of Quebec Agents, would accept Inspectorship, Managership, or General Agency of a Fire Insurance Company of good standing. Address

L. M. N., c/o The Chronicle, Montreal,

#### WANTED

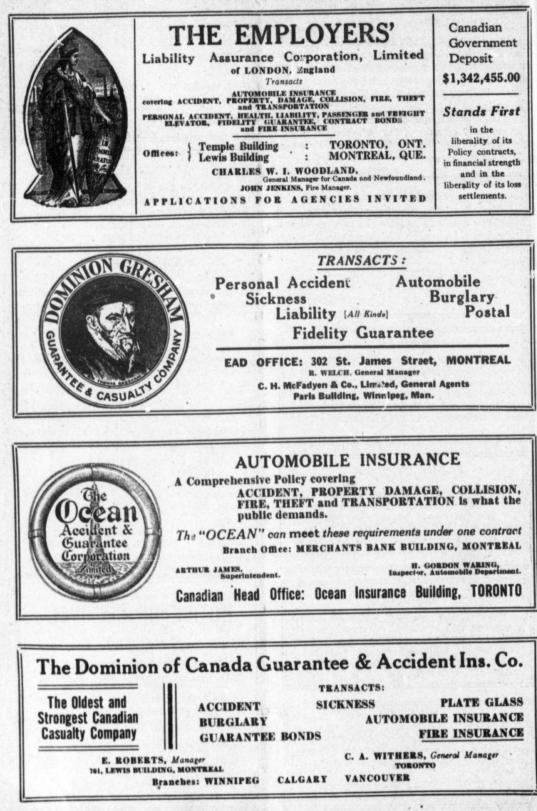
Young man with ten years' experience in Fire Insurance desires position. Can furnish the best of references. Address :

P. P. D., c/o The Chronicle, Montreal.

# NOTICE OF REMOVAL

The Montreal City Agency of the SUN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY OF CANADA, J. C. STANTON, Jr., Manager, have removed their offices from the present location in the Guardian Building, 160 St. James Street, to the Company's down-town building, 142 Notre Dame Street West, near St. John Street, second floor.

THE CHRONICLE



Head Office

TORONTO, Canada



# NORTH AMERICAN LIFE ASSURANCE CO.

THE business for 1918 was the largest in the Company's history. To-day the financial position of the Company is stronger than ever.

EVIDENCE of this is found in the following outstanding figures which are substantially in excess of those for any previous year.

Policies Issued and Revived \$13,	552,161.00
Total Assurance in Force 70	,950,316.00
Cash Income 3	,467,440.76
	,185,610.75
Net Surplus 2,	751,990.60
Profits Paid Policyholders	285,339.48
Total Payments to Policyholders 1	,780,385.04

THE amount of death losses incurred was over \$300,000 in excess of the previous year, due to the influenza epidemic and war claims.

THE sum of \$2,043,035.26 has been paid to Policyholders as dividends or surplus during the past ten years.

Ask for a copy of the Annual Report

# "Solid as the Continent"

W. KERR GEORGE, D. McCRAE, Lt.-Col., Vice-Presidents.

L. GOLDMAN, President.

THE CHRONICLE



# CANADIAN FIRE RECORD.

Fire at Halifax.—On the 3rd instant a fire broke out in the dry goods store of W. Y. Kennedy, Granville St. The stock was all destroyed entailing a loss of about \$70,000 partially covered by insurance.

Fire at Brantford, Ont.—On January 31st a fire broke out in the southern wing of the packing plant of Matthews-Blackwell & Co. The cause of the fire is stated to be incendiarism by alien employees recently dismissed. The insurance on building amounted to \$150,000 (including machinery) with an estimated loss of \$25,000. Insurance on stock \$275,000; loss estimated at \$7,500.

Fire at Halifax.—On Jan. 29th, a fire broke out in the three-storey brick-faced wooden structure known as the Rex Building on Barrington Street, from this it spread to the building at the back facing Water Street. The tenants in the Rex Building were Olympic Cafe, Stitchburys Confectionery, Earles Billiard Parlour and R. L. Archibalds Automobile Show Rooms. In the Water Street building were Dresner Clothing Store and L. Levine's Clothing Store and some lodgers on top floor. The loss is estimated at \$60,000.

Fire at Halifax.—On January 7th (as already reported in The Chronicle) a fire destroyed the Roy Block Halifax, in which were numerous tenants including the large Winters dry good store. The amount of insurance carried is not available. The losses entailed by each company are as follows:

lows:	
Acadia\$ 373.74	Liverpool & London
Allianco	& Globe 486.40
Atlag	London and Lanca-
	shire
British Crown 231.40	London G. & A. Co. 158.71
British America 3,909.45	Mount Royal 5,188.40
British & Canadian. 2,000.00	National Fire 609.15
Continental 2,576.98	National Union 2,020.00
Commercial Union . 4,160.69	Nova Scotia Under-
Canadian Fire 2,537.76	writers 3,169.43
Canada Accident 8,192.62	Norwich Union 2,525.00
Connecticut Fire 413.80	North West Fire 464.41
Canada National 7,909.29	Nationale of Paris . 2,563.56
Caledonian 164.08	Northern
Dominion 2,000.00	N. B. & Mercantile. 8,505.75
Equitable 6,104.34	Now Vork Unders.
Eagle Star & British	Agency 4,000.00 Ocean
Dominions 4,560.44	Ocean 3,000.00
	Providence Washing-
Fidelity Fuenia.	ton
Fidelity Onder man	Protector Under-
	writers
Globe Under writters	Palatine 4.047.67 **
	Phenix of Hartford. 7,663.30
	Dhanig of London , 6.039.53
Globe & Rutgers 2,895.33	723.39
Halifax 135.15 Hudson Bay 9,188.30	000011
	Royal 4,275.00
	Springfield 1,014.19
Insurance Co. of	opringitors .
North America 3,482.18	
Law Union & Rock. 543.89	Mational Provide States

St. Paul	2,500.00 Yorkshife 3,102.00
Union of London	2,415.19 Sundry amounts un-
Union of Paris	
Western Westchester	
westchester	1,010.00 10001 100, 1000 11 9001001

Fire at Montreal.—On January 31st, a fire broke out on the premises of the Canada Loose Leaf Company, 113 Youville Square. Insurance as follows:

Guardian Assur \$7,000	Union, London 6,250
Imperial Undw 2,500	Aetna 3,000
London Guar 5,000	Mount Royal 3,000
Northern 5,000	Ocean 2,200
Atlas 2,500	British Crown 1,900
North Amer 2,500	British Empire : . 2,200
Westchester 3,000	Norwich Union 2,000
Continental 1,000	Charles F. Dawson, Ltd
FidPhenix 1,000	Queen\$1,000
	Contract of the second s

Fire at Montreal.—On the 2nd inst., a fire broke out on the premises of Yale Bedding Co., 323 Notre Dame Street (building owned by Estate G. B. Burland). On building, insurance as follows: British Colonial, \$2,500; North America, \$2,500; Commercial Union, \$7,500; Hartford, \$6,000; Employers, \$2,500; British Crown, \$2,500; Union of Canton, \$2,500. Total, \$26,000. Loss about 10 per cent. On stock, Norwich Union, \$6,500. Loss, total.

Fire at Montreal.-On the 2nd instant, a fire broke out on the premises of A. J. Alexandor, Ltd. (Furriers), 428 St. Paul Street. Insurance as follows: North America, \$2,500; Alliance of Phil., \$2,500; Firemen's, \$2,500; Commercial Union, \$13,500; Employers, \$1,000; Niagara, \$3,500; Springfield, \$3,000; Continental, \$3,500; Northern, \$5,500; Union of Canton, \$2,000; Union of London, \$1,500; London Mutual, \$1,500; Canada Accident, \$1,500; Hartford, \$2,500; Norwich Union, \$3,000; Strathcona, \$1,500; British Dominions, \$2,500; General of Perth, \$1,500; Fidelity Phenix, \$5,000; Palatine, \$1,000; Royal, \$2,000; Phoenix of London, \$2,000; St. Lawrence Und., \$2,500; National of Hartford, \$5,000; Globe & Rutgers, \$3,000; Queensland, \$1.500; Lloyds, \$21,500. Total, \$98,500. Loss about 40 per cent.

Fire at Trenton, Ont.—On January 30th, a fire destroyed the large storehouse of the British Chemical Company, Trenton, Ont., with all its contents. The loss is estimated at about \$100,-000 with probably no insurance.

Fire at Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.—On January 30th a fire destroyed Wades garage together with about twenty cars. Loss about \$75,000.



#### AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE

The following excerpts from a paper entitled "Motor Car Insurance," read before the Insurance Institute of New South Wales, at Sydney, in September last, may interest Canadian underwriters:---

Some prudent underwriters have made considerable profit from automobile insurance, while money has been lost by several companies.

Physically, the fire risk is from petrol.

Self-ignition may be traced generally to loose petrol having collected in the undershield. The so called "backfiring" is often "popping" at the carburetor. due to defective mechanism, wrongly timed ignition, etc., and should loose petrol be in the undershield from such causes as petrol pipe leakage, through wear, by friction, bad unions, joints loosened by vibration, leaking at the carburetor and the like conditions are ripe for a fire. "Backfire" proper is caused by a charge of gas exploding in the silencer, and although often stated as the cause of fire, has never within the essayists knowledge caused a fire.

Motor car insurance, unlike most other businesses varies considerably in every case, as the risk is affected by so many factors, some of which are as follows:----

Age of car, position of petrol tank, system of petrol feed, condition of carburetor, condition and position of petrol pipes, condition and shape of undertray, condition of ignition device, system and condition of lighting, condition of timing, vibration affecting petrol pipes and tanks, leaking petrol tanks, the fixing of various petrol saving devices, petrol dopes, and many other items.

Valuation and Rating should be done in all cases through the Underwriters Association. That a system should be installed so that the car may be identified even though both owner and license number may be changed. The makers or any other number or other identification should be noted, or numbers could be stamped on some permanent part.

A record card should be made, giving all necessary information from the inspection and all particulars affecting the risk. Instructions should be given to the owner to make any necessary alterations or additions to reduce the risk and a second inspection made after the work is carried out, and a certificate given to the company accepting the risk. The owner of the car should be charged a fee for inspection. Suitable premises should be available for the

Suitable premises should be available for the cleaning up, storing and sale of salvage without sacrificing at a figure in many cases far below value. Such a scheme in operation would reduce present fires to one fifth of present experience with few total losses is the essayist opinion.

Valuation of cars is very little understood, and the fatal error of judging by the condition of the paint is only too frequent. The proper way to value a car is by splitting up into its various parts and separably valuing them.

No matter how badly a car is burnt, there are always many signs that will guide an expert in arriving at its proper value.

Many salvage cars are sacrificed through want of care on the part of the assessor, and through the Company's anxiety to close the loss. Salvage cleaned and oiled up looks over 100 per cent better than in its burnt state, and it can be cleaned up at a very small cost. Values of salvages are greatly enhanced by showing that parts are not damaged, nstead of leaving the prospective purchaser to

suppose that it may be defective. The chassis always looks better with the burnt body removed.

Another reason why salvage should be cleaned up is that no assessor can definitely say, in all cases, whether the claim is a total loss or not, until he has got down to clean metal. One great evil in the case of a loss is the only too frequent accessory thief, who seems to drop from the clouds and vanish with magnetos, carburetors, tires, lamps, lighting dynamos, and other valuable parts that are easily detached.

This loss falls on the assured, and is due to a wrong impression ir most people's minds, that when a fire occurs the salvage can be abandoned, and that nothing must be touched or the policy may be voided.

Every policy-holder should be more plainly warned as to his duties when a loss occurs, and that should any parts be stolen, it would be his loss.

#### FAVOURABLE SHOWING BY CANADIAN LIFE COMPANIES.

Mr. J. F. Weston, Managing Director, Imperial Life in the course of his address at the annual meeting held recently said:

There was paid in Canada up to the close of 1917 war claims amounting to nearly \$12,500,000. No report for the last year is yet available, but the claims for that year will probably bring the total for the period of the war to not less than sixteen millions of dollars. The percentages which war claims bore to the total death claims paid in Canada were: in 1915, 16 per cent.; in 1916, 29 per cent.; and in 1917, 33 per cent. At the beginning of the war no one could have contemplated such an additional strain placed on the companies and have foreseen their ability to withstand it without at least a greater shrinkage in dividends paid to policyholders than has been found necessary in the results. In Europe, the companies there, with larger percentages of lives exposed, were, under the terms of their policies, in receipt of extra premiums on the mass of the war mak they carried. But as against that, they suffered a much greater loss in assets than we, through the relatively greater shrinkage in the value of sccurities held by them, as contrasted with the holdings of our companies here. With them a number of companies found it necessary to pass their dividends the first year of the war and were followed later by others; some of the weaker companies merged with the stronger; but, on the whole, the companies of the Entente countries have stood the strain and have been fully able to meet the extraordinary claims that have been made upon them.

#### Showing of Canadian Companies.

In Canada our companies have had even a better experience. Small or large, they have met their claims and maintained their identity. The remarkable feature in their experience is that for the first three years of the war the pre-war rate of dividends to policyholders was generally maintained and any cut which it has been found necessary to make since then has, in the aggregate, amounted to only a small fraction of the \$16,-000,000 war claims which have been paid; so that the cost of the war, apart from any effect on contingency funds which the companies may have held, has been met almost entirely from the increased earnings of the companies over and above the amounts it has taken to maintain their dividends to policyholders on almost a pre-war scale.

#### Effect of Influenza.

With the closing days of the war the recent epidemic of influenza began to spread throughout the world, with more fatal consequences than any epidemic of which we have a history. Taking the experience of eight Canadian companies and, by pro-rating the amount of influenza claims they have had on the basis of business in force, the amount of these claims in Canada nas been since the first of October not less than six millions Fortunately, the epidemic has abated of dollars. and we hope it will soon nave run its course. Here again it will be demonstrated that the institution of life insurance will be found stable and strong to withstand this added strain. 'l'o have withstood the abnormal mortality of twenty-two millions of dollars which has been added to ordinary claims as a result of the war and influenza surely is an extraordinary test and justifies the confidence which the Canadian people have placed hels ner acre, as compared with 403,009,800 bushels from 13,313,400 acres in 1917, an average of 3014 bushels per acre. Of the remaining grain crops the total yields in 1918, with the figures for 1917 in brackets, were in bushels as follows: Barley, 77,200,240 (55,057,750); rye, 8,496,700 (3.857,200); peas, 3,110,100 (3,026.340); beans, 3.568,380 (1,274,000); buckwheat, 11,428,500 (7,in the institution.

The outstanding lesson which the experience of the last five years teaches us is the importance of charging adequate rates and the maintenance of a strong contingency fund to absorb the shock of unexpected mortality or material shrinkage in the value of securities.

## FIELD CROPS OF CANADA FOR 1918 AS COMPARED WITH 1917.

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics has issued a definite estimate of the yield, quality and value of the principal field crops of Canada for the season of 1918, as compared with 1917. For the year 1918 the agricultural statistics of Canada for all the provinces have been collected in cooperation with the Provincial Governments, and the reports of both the Dominion and Provincial Governments on the yield of crops in 1918 will, therefore, record identical results. The figures now issued are subject to slight revision upon completion of final adjustments with the Provincial Governments.

Yield of Field Crops.—The total yield of wheat for Canada in 1918 is returned as 189,301,350 bushels from 17,353,902 sown acres, an average yield per acre of 11 bushels. In 1917 the corresponding figures were 233,742,850 bushels from 14,755,850 acres, a yield per acre of 15<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> bushels. The yield of oats in 1918 was 380,273,500 bushels from 14,790,336 acres, an average of 25<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> bus-

149,400); flax, 5,972,200 (5,934;900); mixed grains, 35,730,309 (16,157,080); corn for husking, 14,214,200 (7,762,700); potatoes, 104,512,700 (79,-892,000); turnips, etc., 130,989,600 (63,451,000). hay and clover, 14,681,400 tons (13,684,700); fodder, corn, 4,776,000 tons (2,690,370); sugar beets, 180,000 tons (117,600); alfalfa, 446,400 The average yields per acre of tons (262,400). these crops with last year's averages in brackets were in bushels as follows: Barley, 241/2 (23) : rye, 151/4 (181/4); peas, 131/4 (151/4); beans, 151/4  $(133_4)$ ; buckwheat, 203/4 (18); flax 51/4 (61/2); mixed grains, 383/4 (321/2); corn for husking, 563/4 (33); potatoes, 1421/4 (1211/2); turnips, mangolds, etc., 3813/4 (2903/4); hay and clover, 1.40 ton (1.66); fodder, corn, 91/2 tors (7.34); sugar beets, 10 (8.40); alfalfa. 21/4 tons (2.39).

Wheat, Oats, Barley and Flax in the Prairie Provinces—The total yields in the three Prairie Provinces in 1918 were: Wheat, 164,436,100 bushels as compared with 211,953,100 bushels in 1917; oats, 222,049,500 bushels as against 254,-877,200 bushels; barley, 47,607,400 bushels as against 40,834,100 bushels, and flax 5,776,000 bushels as against 5,835,900 bushels.

Values of Field Crops-The average values per bushel of grain crops for Canada in 1918, according to the prices returned crop correspondents of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics were as follows: Fall wheat, \$2.08 as compared with the same price in 1917; spring wheat, \$2 as against \$1.93; all wheat, \$2 as compared with \$1.94 in 1917; oats, 77 cents as against 69 cents; barley, \$1 as against \$1.08; rye, \$1.50 against \$1.62; peas, \$2.54 against \$3.54; beans, \$5.42 against \$7.45; buckwheat, \$1.58 against \$1.46; flax, \$2.65 against \$3.12; mixed grains, 1.14 against \$1.16. and corn for husking, \$1.77 against \$1.84. Of potatoes the price per bushel in 1918 was 98 cents against \$1 in 1917; turnips, etc., were 42 cents against 46 cents; hay and clover, \$17 per ton against \$10.33; fodder, corn, \$6.14 per ton against \$5.14; sugar beets, \$10.25 per ton against \$6.75; and alfalfa, The total farm \$17.84 per ton against \$11.59. values for 1918 of the principal field crops are estimated as follows, with the corresponding estimates of 1917 given in brackets: Wheat, \$382 .-\$289,404,400 (\$453,038,600); oats, 165.700 (\$277,065,300); barley, \$77,381,270 (\$59,654,-400); rye, \$12,714,400 (\$6,267,200); peas, \$7,-907,900 (\$10,724,100); beans, \$19,332,900 (\$9,-493,400); buckwheat, \$18,090,600 (\$10,443,400); flax, \$18,641,000 (\$15,737,000); mixed grains, \$40,796,100 (\$18,801,750); corn for husking, \$25,-118,800 (\$14,307,200); potatoes, \$102,290,300 (\$90,804,400); turnips, etc., \$54,904,000 (\$29,-253,000); hay and clover, \$249,459,300 (\$141.-376,700); fodder, corn, \$29,335,600 (\$13,834,900); sugar beets, \$1,845,000 (\$793,800); alfalfa, \$7.-The aggregate value of 963,600 (\$3,041,300). all field crops in 1918 amounted to \$1,337,350,870. as compared with \$1,144,636,450, the figures for 1918 being the highest on record, as were also those of 1917 up to that date.

