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LIFE AGENTS' MANUAL.

As this highly valuable work will shortly be ready for distribution it is desirable for those intending to secure a copy to place their orders without delay.

Every insurance manager, every agent and every one intending to insure his life ought to have a copy. It contains the premium rates of all the life companies doing business in Canada, and reserve values. H.M. 3 p.c., 3½ p.c., 4 p.c. and 4½ p.c.—Actuaries 4 p.c.—Am. 4 p.c. and 3 p.c. Also tables of interest and discount, expectation of life, annuity values, net single premiums proportionate height, weight and chest measurement, with other information that is useful in field work, etc.

Fire Companies' fire companies went out of busi-Mortality 1905. ness in the United States, 19 mutual companies, 3 Lloyds, etc., a

total fatality list of 35. For each one of these derelicts there are three new ones being placed on the stocks, so the supply of wrecks will not fail this year.

Against Against Rebating. Association, New York, about 150 members agreed to organize an anti-rebating bureau to prevent the practice of giving

or accepting rebates on life insurance premiums. Each of those entering into the agreement signed the following pledge:

"That the subscriber will not hereafter grant rebates directly or indirectly. That whenever in his solicitation the subscriber runs across a case written after this date in which he has reason to believe a rebate has been given, he will report the name of the policy-holder receiving the rebate and such other information as he may be able to ascertain concerning the incident, including the name of the rebating

company or agent if possible to the clerk of the bureau."

Having "taken the pledge" the usual question arises, how long will it be observed and what will happen to any agent who breaks his pledge?

The financial interests of America are **A Forestry** claimed to represent something like **Lesson.** \$96,000,000,000. Our forests have given us \$25,000,000,000 to \$30,000,000 -one-quarter or, say, one-third of the financial value of the entire country! The gold product of California from 1848 to 1890 amounted to \$1,348,-000,000. The lumber interests in the single year of 1890 amounted to \$1,345,000,000-or very nearly as

much in one year as California had produced in gold in fifty years! In 1895 all the products of the soil—gold, oil, iron, etc.—amounted to \$540,000,000. To this

should be added a wheat crop whose value was \$400,000,000—that is to say, the minded and cultivated soil of America in one year produced \$940,-000,000. The uncultivated and devasted forests in that year produced \$1,335,000,000!

Figures like these, says the "Evening Post," which spell sheer waste without any hint of resupply or reproduction—exhaustion pure and simple—point rather sternly toward the old law of supply and demand. We cannot stretch our lumber regions any more than we can stretch the surface of the earth. The figures covering the supply, and the waste and ruin of the supply, are more than colossal; they are terrifying.

The Kansas Supreme Court, in the case of the Shawnee Fire vs. E. I. Kneer, has decided regarding the iron safe clause as follows:

"The iron safe clause in the policy under consideration is a condition, the performance of which is precedent to the right of the insured to maintain an action on the policy.

"The acts of an adjuster while investigating the cause of a fire and the amount of loss sustained, made under a non-waiver agreement, cannot be construed into a waiver by the company of its right to insist that the policy was void because of the noncompliance with the 'iron safe clause' contained therein."

THE MONTHLY BANK STATEMENTS, 1905.

THE DECEMBER STATEMENT COMPLETES THE YEAR, COMPARISONS OF CAPITAL AND OTHER LEADING ITEMS BY YEARS; GREAT EXPANSION IN LAST 10 YEARS, EXHIBIT OF THE MONTHLY MOVEMENTS OF BANK BUSINESS IN PAST 4 YEARS, WITH MAX-IMUM AND MINIMUM DATES, AND ADDITIONS MADE IN EACH YEAR.

The issuance of 'the December Bank Statement completes the monthly returns for last year by which we are enabled to make a comparison of the movement of bank business for the entire year as well as for the individual months, with the same periods in preceding years.

The exhibit affords remarkable evidence of the development of Canada's trading and financial interests as is shown by the following comparisons:

PRINCIPAL I	TEMS IN BAN	K RETURN	s, December, 18	95 to 1905.
Years.	Circulation.	Deposits.	Discounts,	Call loans,
	8	8	\$	*
1905	69,981,574	556,291,30		110,714,940
1904	64,507,390	492,226,79	0 431,124,240	87,733,420
1903	62,539,407	434,336,75		74,021,090
1902	60 574,144	407,307,70	357,010,326	95 0×9,940
1901	54,372,700	367,095,50		82,915,900
1900	50,758,246	318,358,80	0 295,726,200	61,216,200
1899	45,099,700	273,233,80		32, 435, 400
1898		218,572,10		26,532,000
1897		222,002,20	0 205 931,000	19,359,800
1866		196,630,00	0 210,522,000	14,060,900
1895		187,119,57	0 202,083,260	17,083.300
Increase 190	5			
over 1895.	. 37, 16,394	369,171,73	30 287,150,060	93,625,640
Percentage o				
increase	114%	196%	142%	547%
	С	APITAL PAR	D UP.	
	\$			\$
.905	85,29	4,210 1	899	63,584,020
1904			898	
1903			897	62,289,320
1902			896	61,731,350
1901			895	62,196,390
1900				
	1905			
	\$23,097	.820		
Per cent. of i		37%		
1000				in

The following shows the monthly movement in circulation, deposits, discounts and call loans in 1902, 1903, 1904 and 1905:

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MONTHLY N	OVEMENT	IN 1902,	1903, 1904	and the second sec
Month . Yr.	Circulation.	Deposits.	Discounts.	Call loans.
Jan , 1905 " 1904 " 1903 " 1902	\$ 58 021.070 56.973,273 55,040.987 48,586 529	490,703,900 431,872,506 402,914,134 364,687,460	431.225,220 402,8 3.435 353,658,326 316,442,100	84.399.190 74.583,400 95,478,566 82,269,200
Feb., 1905 " 1904 " 1903 " 1902	58,524,920 57,136,243 55,746,498 49,450,994	498 942,873 4 5,541,170 402 ×27 527 363,699,996	407,623;482 363,764,728	82,473,400 78,505,144 93,308,24 80,763,300
Mar., 1905 1904 1904 1903 1902	58,721,170 59, 60,129 58,283,484 52,442,982	496,257,150 444,501,203 406,936,546 362,022,000	422,090,100 375.761.022	83,047 340 78,558,294 88,208,505 82,818,600
Apl., 1905 " 1804 " 1903 " 1902	59,941,640 5×,619,870 55,×77,647 50,691,588	498.958.050 439,821.270 412,188,387 371,153,600	428,068,887 385,845.525	73,198,530
May, 1905 4 1904 4 1903 4 1902	58, 136,070 57,857 170 56 94 1,119 50,754,716	508,260,910 454,365,060 413,625,053 371,847,00	460,329.140 424,446 593 3 385,279,580	75,727.696 79,517,~69
June, 1905 4. 1904 4. 1963 4. 1963 4. 1972	61,587.560 60,098,180 54,865.845 53 953,043	512,610.97 459,170 120 415,173,11 380,681 30	4 32,576,160 3 3×5,273,319	73.768,720 80,386,703
July, 19 5 1901 1903 1902	61,277,590 54,979 <30 57,563,665 52,070,065	522,580 62 463,689,33 41*,489,29 387,856,60	$\begin{array}{c} 433,918,190\\ 2 385,812,524 \end{array}$	71,636,00) 78,263,690
Aug., 1905. 1904 1903 1903	$\begin{array}{c} 62.497.430\\ 60.227.070\\ 60.414,740\\ 55,035,701 \end{array}$	533.954,56 467 697,99 420,216,07 390,176,30	6 426.110,370 6 391.092,52	$\begin{array}{cccc} 78.307,990 \\ 2 & 80.367,525 \\ \end{array}$
Sep., 1905 " 1904 " 1903 " 1902	69,831,260 63,795,960 63,741,270		$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	0 85,192,240 2 78,188,096
Oct., 1905 " 1904 " 1903 " 1903	76,890,860 72,226,300 70,480,611	547,568,14 479,493,01 423,111 0	$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	0 80,×37 180 9 71,313 846
Nov, 1905. 	72,592,540 69,426,931 67,425,58	$\begin{array}{c} 555 \ 930,1 \\ 491, (9),1 \\ 6 \ 430, 670 \ 4 \end{array}$	70 489,088,11 90 433 208,55 00 461,897,50	50 80,492,940 56 72 330,679
Dec., 1905. 4 1904. 4 1903. 4 1903.	59,898,390 64,407,390 62,539,40	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	00 489,238,3 90 431,124,2 57 403 036,1	40 87,733,420 95 74,021,099

MAXIMUM AND MINIMUM MONTHS.

The months in which, severally, the circulation, deposits and discounts reached their maximum and their minimum for the years 1902, 1903, 1904, 1905, were as follows:

were as romen	1905.	1904.	1903.	1902.
Circulation Depo-its Discounts	min. Jan. max. Dec. min. Feb.	min. Jan. max. Dec. min. Jan. max. Oct.	max. Oct. min. Jan. max. Dec' min. Feb. max. Oct. min. Jan.	min. Jan max. Dec. min. Mar. max. Pec.

The differences between the minimum and maximum in each year were as follows. The figures show the addition made during the year to each class of business:

class of busi	1905.	1904. \$	1903. \$	1902. \$
Circulation. Max. over min.	18,863,490	15,253,027	15,439,624	17,342,440
Depcsit. Max. over min.		60,354,284	31,509,230	45,235,707
Discounts. Max. over min.		32,967,755	51,104,473	40,533,22

The minimum and maximum months varied in earlier years, but the above shows that they are now fixed periods, as, after January, with occasional exceptions, the totals in the monthly bank statements go on enlarging until, in the case of circulation, October is reached, and in deposits and discounts the end of the year sees the maximum of the year.

NEW YORK CITY FIRE PREMIUMS.

The New York-city fire premiums for the entire year 1905, 1904 and 1903, are given in the "Commercial Bulletin" as follows for companies operating in Canada:

I iverpool & Lon. & Globe Aetna of Hartford. Phoenix of Brooklyn Sun In-urance Office Western of Toronto Northern of Loadom Caledonian British America Agricultural	1905. \$864 164 280,295 274,579 263,512 189,176 160,894 153,187 144,813 132,524 80,670	1904. \$968,162 274.470 270.833 236,459 176,299 166.370 150,865 111,725 112,989 79,010	1903. \$720.629 281,273 218.785 191.411 168.568 165,103 138.936 102.186 124,858 78,997

BANK OF HAMILTON.

The prosperity prevailing in Ontario to which Mr. B. E. Walker recently referred is evidenced by the highly favourable statement of the Bank of Hamilton for last year.

During the existence of this bank the year 1905 was the best and most successful it ever enjoyed. This was the case despite the misfortune of losing a comparatively large sum by the fraud of one of its trusted branch managers. This was no reflection upon the management, as it is impossible to conduct such an institution as a bank without trusting some officials. The amount so lost left the net profits nearly 15½ p.c. of the paid-up capital, so that, had this loss not been made public, the shareholders would have had good reason to be highly gratified at the results of the year's business, the percentage of net earnings having considerably exceeded the average of any group of previous years.

The net profits amounted to \$357,273; to this there was added \$205,421 from premiums on new stock, \$40,176 brought from 1904, making a total of \$602,870 for distribution. From this was taken \$231,719 for two 5 per cent. dividends, \$135,319 was added to reserve fund from profits and \$205,421, the premiums on new stock, and \$5,000 was allowed to the ex-president by vote of the shareholders. When those appropriations had been made there was \$25,410 left to be carried forward to year 1906.

Authority was given the directors to call up further capital to amount of \$500,000 at their discretion to provide for the future growth of the business.

It was also decided to pay quarterly dividends which is becoming the general practice.

The leading items of the Bank of Hamilton in statements for 1905 and 1904 are as follows:

	1905.	1904.	Inc. in 1905,	
Capital paid up	\$2,440,740	\$2,235,280		
Reserve Fund	2,440,740	2,100,000	340.740	
Circulation	2,279.755	2,017,511	262 244	
Deposite	21,464,121	19,100,365	2,343,756	
Discounts	17,151,131	16,388,616	762,415	
Call and short date loans	2,161,093	1,568,142	592,851	

New branches were opened last year at Toronto Junction, Carberry, Kenton and Killarney, Man., Battleford, Sask., and Fernie, B.C., also on College St., and Ossington Ave., Toronto.

It was a very proper recognition of the long and valuable services of Mr. John Turnbull, the general manager, to elect him vice-president.

THE HARTFORD FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

"The Oldest Insurance Company in Hartford" as the Hartford proudly boasts itself is near to its centenary, the statement for 1905 being its 96th annual exhibit. The exhibit is the most favourable ever issued by the company. We are not favourable with the amount received for premiums nor with the fire loss, but as the company received nearly 12 millions of dollars for premiums in 1904 it may be fairly assumed that the receipts last year were a million more in the previous year, which sum beats the record of American fire companies.

The amount of the leading items in the 96th Annual Exhibit compared with those of 1904 and the several increases are as follows:

Total Assets Reinsurance Reserve Net Surplus Surplus to Policy-holders	1905. \$ 18,061,926 10,997,401 5,150,696 6,400,696	1901. 8 15,632,483 9,010,891 4,026,249 5,276,249	Increase \$ 2,429.443 1,0<6,510 1,124,447 1,124,447
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The results of last year's business are tius shown to have been highly satisfactory, the conditions were more favourable it is true, but the success of the Hariford throughout its long career has been owing to skilful underwriting, excellent business management, and sound judgment in making investments. The honourable and prompt settlement of claims has always been a feature in the Hartford and contributed much to its success.

The President, Mr. George L. Chase, has been a strength to the Hartford for some 40 years and still retains his interest in its affairs as we trust he will be spared to do for many years. He has able coadjutors in Mr. C. E. Chase and R. M. Bissell, vicepresidents; Mr. P. C. Royce, secretary; Mr. Turnbull, assistant secretary, and in Mr. Fromings, in this city, the Hartford has an efficient representative.

THE RELATION OF OCCUPATION TO LIFE INSURANCE.

At the last meeting of the Montreal Insurance Institute a paper was read by Dr. F. G. Finley, on "The relation of occupation to life insurance."

As the author is a well-known expert as a medical examiner for life companies his judgment on this and relative questions is of high value.

Apart from the working classes and those who follow a few dangerous trades the occupation question is regarded by Dr. Finley as one of minor importance, and bankers, brokers, business men, clerks and professional men are accepted without reference to their special duties. Such persons enjoy comfortable surroundings and "are not subject to the hardships resulting from poverty and vice."

The object of the paper is not to refer in detail to all occupations attended by increased hazards, but rather to deal with some of the principles, determining the healthfulness or reverse of certain callings.

Reference is made to a paper by W. F. Standen, actuary of the United States Life Insurance Company, in which a list is given of occupations regarding which companies differ in their practice as to acceptance or rejection. Baseball players are refused by 13 and accepted by 12 companies, billiard markers, refused by 11, accepted by 12, firemen, accepted by 8, refused by 7, and 11 exercise discretinary selection. Railway employees, with exception of passenger train conductors, are not favourably regarded passenger train engineers refused by 7, accepted by 3, and 11 companies exercise discretion in regard to this class.

Amongst those liable to accidents from their occupation, are, explosive handlers, aeranauts, divers, linemen, bridge builders engaged on large structures, sheriffs, policemen, horse trainers and jockeys. All these classes are subject to special risks, fire brigade chiefs, motormen, car conductors, fishermen, boatmen, bargemen, raftsmen have to pay extra on account of occupation.

Army and navy officers, and trainmen, engineers and locomotive firemen are not favourable risks.

On the other hand clergymen stand at the head of the list. Dr. Finley says, "Their meagre salaries seldom permit of over-indulgence," he might have gone further and said, their salaries are often too meagre for subsistence, but the defect is supplied by private hospitality.

As compared with professors of law and medicine the mortality of clergymen shows to great advantage, Ogle's figures being, 106 for clergymen, 152 for lawyers and 202 for doctors.

Dr. Finley doubts the accuracy of the United States Census figures of 1000, one reason for suspicion being the very high rank of clergymen's mortality, the other that certain risky occupations are credited with an extremely low mortality. He considers, however, that rural clergymen in this country

are subjected to greater hardships than in Great Britain while in cities they are more affected by the strenuous life.

In regard to lawyers their higher mortality is attributed to mental energy and strain. Long hours spent in ill-ventilated court rooms, and offices must prove injurious, but consumption in the legal profession is considerably below the average

The mortality rate amongst doctors compares very unfavourably with that of the clerical and legal professions, indeed, it is only exceeded by callings which are notoriously unhealthy. Accidents to medical men also are more frequent than to others of the same social standing.

Tuberculosis is rare in the faculty, but typhoid and other infections claim a larger number than normal. Mental strain, worry, disturbed nights and exposure to the weather account for the high rate of mortality amongst doctors. The insurance companies, however, deal generously with medical applicants.

MORAL HAZARDS.

Dr. Finley states it to be a matter of universal experience that persons engaged in handling alcoholic liquors are extremely bad risks for life insurance. Bartenders and saloonkeepers are generally regarded as uninsurable at ordinary rates and if taken are admitted for short periods and often at a high premium. Salesmen for breweries, for bar supplies, hotel keepers, etc., are subject to unusual temptations, and excessive drinking is a too frequent accompaniment of their daily work. It is not the occasional excesses, but the daily over-indulgence of these men which tells against them, and the injurious effects of such practices on the heart, kidneys and liver are recognized by all medical authorities. Alcoholic patients succomb readily to acute diseases and they are more liable to accidents.

Gardeners, farmers, and farm labourers are, next the clergy, the most long lived of the population. Even an unhealthy occupation like stone cutting is much less harmful when carried on in the open air. Town labourers, cabmen, carters, are poor risks. They are very exposed to accidents, they squander wages in drink rather than nourishing food and many idle and dissolute men are returned as "labourers" in Census returns.

Dust is highly injurious, and where an attendant upon the occupation, bronchitis, pneumonia and tuberculosis are prevalent. Dr. Finley refers to the Sheffield workmen, who grind knives, razors, saws, forks, needles, etc., as conspicuous victims of dust. These men have a saying, "A short life and a merry one." In this connection Dr. Finley quotes Dr. Holland, who is a somewhat old authority, a more modern one with statistics of a later date than his would have been interesting as we believe that the mortality of the above class of men has improved in recent years. cul

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JANUARY 26, 1906

Exposure to the fumes, or dust of arsenic, mercury, phosphorous or lead is dangerous. Painters, plumbers, lead-pipe makers suffer from affection by white lead, and those who have suffered therefrom are easily re-affected and become uninsurable. Glass workers are bad risks, but steel workers better ones, as the work of the latter can only be done by unusually robust and muscular men.

Dr. Finley lays stress upon the necessity of all workers practicing cleanly habits and of the hygicnic value of fresh air. He concludes his highly interesting paper as follows:

"Improvement of hygienic surroundings will tend to lessen the risk in occupations classed as dan-

gerous and our point of view will change from time to time. Individual intelligence must also play a part in determining the risk of certain employments and with the more general diffusion of education, it will prove an easier task to overcome prejudice amongst workmen and lead them to adopt precautions which science has shown to be necessary for the preservation of health."

Perhaps in the distant future our civic rulers will have intelligence enough to adopt some of these precautions by keeping our streets cleaner and in better condition. At present they tend to increase the mortality of citizens of all occupations.

STATISTICAL ABSTRACT FOR DECEMBER 31, 1905, OF THE CHARTERED BANKS OF CANADA.

Comparison of Principal Items, showing increase or decrease for the month and for the year.

	Dec. 31,	Nov. 30, 1905.	Dec. 31, 1904.		ase or ase in onth.	Decre	ease or ase in ear.
Assets.	1905.		D20'03412.		",1",33	Inc. \$	1,650,653 4.560,827
Specie and Dominion Notes	28,345 49 3,435.334 64,98	25,325,95 3,875,499 573,784 7,977,408	21.584,068	Dec. Inc. Inc.	440,165 111,114 6'4,3 ⁸ 8	Dec. Inc.	127, 56 4 8,396 73 952
Loans to other Banks in Canada Deposits with and due from other Bks. in Canada Due from Banks, etc., in United Kingdom Due from Banks, etc., elsewhere	8,591,796 8,308 2 9 14,344,574 9,182.353	11,421,005 15,86,242 8,657,075 19,949,634	9,041, 91 20,849 4 9 0,5' 1,422 17,241,6' 3	Dec. Inc. Inc.	1,541.668 225,278 21,305	Dec. Dec. Inc. Inc.	6,5 4,925 379,069 2, 21,256 9 4,433
Government vecurities. Canadian Municipal and other Securities Railway Bonds and Stocks. Total Securities held	20,163.939 39,649,068 68,9 5,360	<u>39.576, 94</u> 68,453,003	38,714,634 65.547 730	Inc.	72,774	lic.	3,417,630
Call Loansin Canada	40,704,928 61,010,020	48,792,009 58,508,734	38.950,978 48,782,441 87,733,119	Inc.	912,919 2,5' ,780 3,41417 5	Inc. Inc.	12,227,579
Call Loans outside Canada	458, 355,3' 6	107,301,243 4 7,008,145	413,7:9,520	Inc.	1,347,221	Inc.	41,575,846
Loans and Discounts in Canada, Loans and Discounts outside Canada	30,582,059	- 32, e 80, e 27 484,028,172	and the second s		150, 53		58, 14,081
Total Current Loans and Discounter total	609,953,273	596,388,415	518,857,66	Inc.	13,56:, 58		9 ,095,610
Aggregate of Loans to Public Loans to Provincial Governments	2,063,362	1,85 ,850	2,149,10	2 Dec.	204,503 3 .991 348,752	Dec.	870,944 483,430 1,403,790
Overdue Debts Bank Premises	11,569,13 1,17 :,79 8,696,97	1,19',80	1 1,40,08 7 6,10,8	3 Dec.	18,003	Dec.	322,885 1,956,166 85,017,340
Other Real Estate and Morigages Other Assets Total Assets	815,533,3	0	2 729,915,46	2 1 ec.	1,013,830		
Liabilities. Notes in Circulation Due to Dominion Government' Due to Provincial Governments	155 34' ,75	8 3,6,2,40 1 6,602,05 9 157,548,55	6 7,148,4 9 134,72 .1 310,132,0	16 Inc. 12 Dec. 14 Dec. 18 Inc.	1,53 ⁸ ,85 257,91 2,201,78 2 487,02	Dec, Dec, 1 lnc.	5,474,180 97.128 80,2 I 21,06,555 37,748,896 55,815,65I
Deposits in Canada payable on ternantice Deposits in Canada payable after notice Total Deposits of the Public in Canada			2 4 3, 112,1		285,24		5,248 959
Total Deposits of the Fubic In Canada	41.003 5					and a succession of	64 064, 510
Deposits elsewhere than in Canada Total Deposits		99 577,8	65 811,0	4 Inc.	188.93	o Dec	5,674
Coans from other Banks in Canada Deposits by other Banks in Canada Due to Banks and Agencies in United Kingdom	4.098 0	95 5,280.5 28 2,150,4	60 2,452,6 88 1,2 4,7	o3 ec	589 6 1,115,2	60 Inc. 51 Inc.	34;,625
Due to Banks and Agencies in Onico Due to Banks and Agencies elsewhere Other Liabilities Total Liabilities					2,168,2	ou Inc	74,242,064
Capital, etc. Capital paid up Reburre Fund. Lib bilities of Directors and their firms. Greatest circulation during the month.	85.204.3 59,898.3 *.6:9,3	197 58.5 9.0 44 8,594,	05 9.688,	655 Ind	1, 68	612 Inc 773 Inc 139 Dec 138 Inc	1,049,36

THE DECEMBER BANK STATEMENT.

In a preceding article the movements of the banking business in each month of last year are treated in such detail as to render it needless to dwell upon those changes which occurred last month, which were of the class usual at the close of the year.

The deposits after making the remarkable advance of \$11,251,517 during November, ceased to expand in December during which month the increase was only \$285,241. It is in the comparison of 1905 with 1904, that there is matter for surprise, the total increase last year of deposits in Canada having been \$58,815,551. This increase in one year equals the total amount of the deposits held by the chartered banks of Canada in 1870.

The current loans and discounts in Canada were only enlarged to extent of \$1,347.221 last month, which was offset by a decrease of \$1,197,068 in those outside Canada.

The call loans in Canada increased \$912,919, and those elsewhere \$2,501,786.

The return of the circulation tide drew down the note issues to extent of \$2,610,969 against a decrease in December, 1904, of \$4,919,537, but left the total at close of 1905, greater by \$5,474,180 than at close of 1904. The paid-up capital though increased by \$5,238,614 last year did not increase in anything like the degree that the deposits and loans enlarged. The loans in 1905 increased over 15 per cent. whereas the increase of paid-up capital was only 6½ p.c.

There are already indications that a number of banks will increase their capital this year, the prospects being bright for an enlarged trade.

Last year nine of the banks called up more capital, and twenty bank enlarged their reserve fund. It is obvious that the paid-up capital of the banks has not increased proportionately with the current loans and discounts. In 1895 when the total capital was \$62,195,390, the discounts were \$202,088,260, a ratio of capital being 30 per cent.; in 1905 the total capital was \$85,294,210, and discounts \$489,238,320, the ratio of capital being 17 per cent.

ONE GOOD YEAR, NO REASON FOR REDUCED RATES.

The year 1905 has been as prospercus one for fire insurance in Canada, as 1904 was the reverse. The public will doubtless now be clamoring for reduced rates, saying that the returns fully justify such reduction, yet we were told that a bad year was no reason for increasing the price of insurance. To follow these statements to their logical conclusion, means that the companies must never raise the rates because of a disastrous year, since it would be unfair to act from an exceptional case, but rates should always be reduced when the companies have had a more than an ordinarily successful year.

Is not this placing the companies in a very ano-

malous position? It is unreasonably contended that rates must never be increased for exceptional causes, but should certainly be reduced for seasons just as exceptional in the opposite direction.

These arguments are not only illogical but are founded upon erroneous premises. Fire insurance is a business, the results of which cannot be judged by one or two years. The transactions of twelve months are not closed by putting the premiums up to the 31st of December, against the losses and expenses at that date. A conflagration on the 1st of January may alter the tables of the previous years business, altogether, and it is only by comparing the results of a number of years that a true estimate of the results of the business can be arrived at.

It is the law of average, not merely upon individual risks, but upon the business as a whole, which guides, or should ouide fire underwriting. Every grocer who knows at what price he can sell his sugar, tea and other articles, at a profit, takes the same limited view of fire insurance, assuring you that, as he has not had a fire for twenty years the companies must have been coining money out of him.

The figures of the premiums and losses in Canada for 36 years were published some time ago and if those of 1905 are added the net result will be some two or three per cent. better than at the end of 1904, which would not seem of itself to warrant a material reduction in rates.

But, it is argued, the misfortunes of St. John, N.B. Quebec, Hull, Montreal and Toronto, are passed and done with, and should not influence the future. Should they not? By parity of reasoning the companies might justly reply that the good returns of 1905 should not influence the future. But it is mainly experience which must govern fire underwriting, as it does other forms of business, in its entirety. Rates cannot be fixed for one year alone, but must have reference to exposure hazard, construction, municipal, or private protection, etc. Premiums must do more than meet the annual losses and expenses with a margin for profit. Sufficient reserves must be accumulated to provide for extraordinary losses, otherwise when those losses come bankruptcy ensues and the companies that have neglected such precautions will join the ranks of the sixty offices retired from business to their own and the public's detriment.

It is manifest that fire insurance, like banking, should be on a sound basis and profitably managed, so that both may be a benefit to the community. It will be readily allowed that bank managers know more about banking than outsiders, in like manner, fire insurance managers are more competent to conduct underwriting than those not brought up to the business. Rates can be reduced by conforming to regulations laid down by those who have made a study of the subject. JA

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FIRE LOSSES IN 1905.

The fire losses for the United States and Canada during the calendar year 1905, compiled from the carefully kept records of the New York "Commercial Bulletin," reached the sum of \$175,157,800, which is a larger amount than in any year in the history of the country, except those in which disastrous conflagrations occurred, such as 1871, 1872 and 1904. Considering that there were no very large fires during 1905 the total loss is rather excessive, and is only to be accounted for by increased valuations of stocks destroyed and an unusual number of medium sized fires.

The loss of 1904 was excessive, due to its being credited with two conflagrations-one at Baltimore, Md., and another at Toronto, Ont. The fires during the entire year of 1005, where the aggregate loss reached \$10,000 or over in each case, numbered 3363. The December losses aggregated \$15,276,600, or over four million dollars less than the same month of the previous year. The following table presents a comparison by months for the past three years :

January February April May June Angust September October November December	$\begin{array}{c} 1903,\\ \$13,166,350\\ 16,090,800\\ 9,907,650\\ 13,549000\\ 16,366,800\\ 14,684,350\\ 12,838,600\\ 8,428,350\\ 9,939,450\\ 16,409,800\\ 13,559,550\\ 17,224,700\\ \end{array}$	1004. \$ 21,790,200 90,051,000 11,2 2,150 23,623,000 15,221,400 10,646,700 19 715,200 14,3×7,655 12,866,200 1,515,000 19.422,350	1005. \$ 16,378,100 25,591,000 14,751,400 11,901,350 12,736,250 11,789,800 13,173,250 11,435,600 13,715,250 12,267,600 16,178,200 *15,276,600
Decement	sectors and a sector se		000 711 117 000

Total..... \$156,195,600 \$252,364,050 \$175,157,800

* December losses partly estimated. There were sixteen fire. d ring the year just closed, which rvolved a loss of half a million dollars or over each. They

were :	\$ 630,000
Omaha, Neb., several business houses	550,000
Omaha, Neb., several bushaw yachts	1,070,000
	1,250,000
	1,500.000
	3,203,000
	1,500.000
	50,000
	597.000
Nashville, Tenn., department well rigg.	875,000
Nashville, Tenn., department such riga	
depot Chicago, Ill., grain elevator	811,000
Broadford, Pa, distinery waterse and other	. 000,000

The fire losses during 1905 were widely scattered throughout the country and while some of the Southern cities experienced a heavy loss ratio, the only section which has appeared with undue frequency in the fire record has been the Pacific coast. The result of 1905 to the fire insurance companies has been decidedly satisfactory. Rates in general have been adequate and security values have increased materially, so that the year is one of the best from a fire underwriting standpoint that underwriters have experienced for some years.

MONTREAL STREET RAILWAY COMPANY.

The passenger traffic of the above enterprise continues to show large increases. The earnings in December were \$234,710, which is \$26,282 in excess of closing month 1904. The operating expenses and fixed charges being larger by \$19,310 left the net surplus of the month \$6,351, and surplus for first quarter of current year \$16,803, in excess of same period in 1904.

The company's expenditures in the past year over improvements and repairs were enormous; this year outlays for these purposes will probably be reduced.

PROVIDENT SAVINGS LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

We are advised that 1905 was the best year in Canada the Provident Savings Life has had since entering this field. Applications for assurance were received amounting to \$1,659,000 and policies were issued for \$1,263,000.

THE QUEBEC LEGISLATURE AND

BANKING LICENSES.

SUCH LICENSES CREATE OR DEVELOP A CLASS OF BUSINESS WHICH IS CONTRARY TO THE SPIRIT OF THE BANK ACT AND AGAINST PUBLIC INTER-ESTS.

No person can study the Bank Act of Canada without being convinced, that the whole intent of this Act is to restrict the business of banking to such corporations as comply with its provisions. That is to say, the Bank Act is designed to confine the business of banking to those who have given substantial guarantees that they are possessed of such financial resources as will give protection to depositors and other creditors of banking institutions. This intention is especially manifest in Clause 100 of the Bank Act, which reads as follows :

"Every person assuming or using the title of "bank," "banking company," "banking house," "banking association," or "banking institution" without being authorized to do so by this Act, or by some other Act in force in that behalf, is guilty of an offence against this Act."

Clause 101 fixes the penalty for such offence at a fine of \$1,000, or, to imprisonment for 5 years, or both in the discretion of the Court.

Yet, in the face of this stringent Act, and its manifest intention, the Quebec Government has a License Law, by virtue of which any person on paying a fee of \$200 to the Government can be licensed to keep a loan office, or a private bank in this city, or for \$150 in Quebec, or for \$50 elsewhere. This license law works directly contrary to the

Bank Act, for, under it a company may take such a name, for instance, as "The Mutual Trust Company of Montreal," may announce who are its directors, or "Advisory Board," and solicit deposits, against the risk of private operators securing which is one object of the Bank Act of Canada.

It seems absurd, certainly is most anomalous and deplorable, for a Provincial Government to license persons to transact one of the leading classes of banking business, which is the reception and utilisation of deposits, and for the Dominion law to prohibit under penalty of imprisonment or heavy fine, such person from styling his place of business a "bank," or his business a "banking institution."

The Quebec license reads :

"The license is granted to of to keep a Loan office or Private Bank situated"

Yet, if the holder of this license speaks of his carrying on a "Bank," he commits a grave offence against a law of the Dominion !

It is a scandal to the Legislature of the Province of Quebec, to have passed a law so diametrically opposed in its intention to the Dominion Bank Act and so contrary to the public interests, which imperatively demand that whoever solicits deposits to carry on a loaning, that is a banking business, shall give substantial guarantees for the protection of such depositors as entrust him, or his "Board" with their money.

CALENDARS.

THE UNITED STATES CASUALTY COMPANY, NEW YORK, have favoured us with a calendar which is attached to an illustration of exceptional excellence. The picture consists of a reproduction in colours of the figure of a beautiful young woman who is a representative of Winter, as is shown by her magnificent fur cloak, etc. The original painting is by a distinguished French artist. The pose of the figure, the face, and accessories are very artistic. The United States Casualty Company has our best thanks for this beautiful calendar.

THE STANDARD LIFE, in addition to its calendar and pocket book, sends us a desk diary of useful size.

FIRE CORNER McGILL AND ST. JAMES ST., MONT-REAL.

As we go to press a fire occurred in the Campbell Clothing Store, on St. James St. The building is the property of the Eastern Townships Bank, and has several tenants.

The insurance loss may be anywhere from \$25,-000 to \$50,000.

PERSONAL.

MR. JAMES L. MCCULLOCH, of Messrs. Dale & Co., has been nominated to represent the Marine Insurance interest on the Council of the Board of Trade.

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.

1522.--P. F. T. D., Fredericton, N.B.-Dominion Copper Company has a capital of \$2,400,000 in shares of a par value of \$1 each. There is also a bond issue of \$700,000. The mine is situated in the Kettle River district, British Columbia. The company owns a mill and sme'ter. Around 50 cents a share it offers a fair speculation for one interested in coppers.

1523.—A. J. B., Ottawa.—Yes, Dominion Iron 5 p.c. first mortgage bonds seem cheap around 85. There is an issue of \$2,500,000, second mortgage 6 p.c. behind them, on which the interest is regularly paid. The preferred stock is selling around 79 and the common at 29.

1524.—L. B., Marieville.—The Canadian Pacific Railway Company have increased their capital within the past few years from \$65,000,000 to \$110,000,-000 in two issues. In each case the shareholders had a pro-rata allotment of the new issue at par. As the stock was selling at a considerable premium in the open market, this allotment or "right" was equivalent to a decided additional dividend.

PROMINENT TOPICS.

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS HONOUX.—The healthiness of humour is so great, its power of softening the asperities of an election is so wholesome, its ca pacity for bringing out the weakness of a doubtful cause is so effective, that those who introduce a genuine vein of humour into an election contest do the public a service, though they bring on themselves ridicule.

Some of our well-meaning, but erratic citizens have been roused into making an exhibition of intolerance which is quite ludicrous, by their opposition to one of the Mayoralty candidates, on the ground that he is a brewer, "simply that and nothing more." His past record, his services for many years, his business and private character are admitted to be without reproach. His qualifications are not questioned—but he manufactures a beverage which is consumed daily by millions of the best citizens in the Empire, and some who are not we admit.

In speaking on this matter, a speaker referred to the names of Church members being on a nomination paper. Of these persons he said, "The Women's Temperance Union should see that these people are excommunicated from the Churches," with, we presume, the "bell, book and candle" ceremonial, and the consequences of that action.

To give added force to this terrible advice a doggrel song has been published which commences :

"Montreal wants no Brewer for its Mayor,

We must guard its morals with a jealous care" and so on and so forth in lines and rhymes which, in a literary sense, are utterly demoralized, in fact, they sound as though inspired by something stronger than what the Brewer brews.

Seriously, such intemperate language is most injurious to the cause of true temperance, and religion is never served by uncharitable judgments and condemnations of individuals. Those partaking in such displays are certainly both intolerant and intemparate.

HONOURS PAID TO CANADA'S STATESMAN .- Never before were such honours paid by any country to the remains of a foreign statesman as those of France to the late Raymond Prefontaine, Immediately the sad end came to his visit to Paris, the French authorities undertook charge of the obsequies so far as they could be observed on French soil. The casket was removed to the Madeleine Church, where it was escorted by several thousand troops and the service was attended by a large number of the leading members of the Government and Legislature and the professional classes. The honours paid en route to Cherbourg, and while there were most imposing. The transfer from the shore to the British war vessel, the "Dominion," and the reception on that ship were marked by such tokens of respect to the late Canadian Minister as were worthy of a royal personage. The President of France and his colleagues, the British Ambassador at Paris, and the British Admiralty are entitled to the gratitude of this Dominion for the honours they paid to a deceased Canadian statesman, and through him to his country.

THE WEATHER IS A PERPETUAL TOPIC for comment, however, ordinary it may be. This week there have been conditions that will be talked about "as long as memory holds its seat," for this generation never saw the like. At noon on Monday 'ast, an outside thermometer, north aspect, rose to 56. The snow on the mountain sides ran off in streams, as is usual in April, the streets were covered with water, the gutters on leading throughfares had to be opened to carry off what was running from the roadway, indeed there were all the signs of winter break-ing up in haste. Sleighing will have to be abandoned unless snow falls soon, as, beyond patches of ice there is nothing to facilitate the use of sleighs. Snow, now and again, is troublesome in Montreal, but this season the absence of it is giving a lesson as to its value as a winter-road maker.

IS A WOMAN A PERSON IN THE EYE OF THE LAW? The Supreme Court of New Brunswick refused to admit a lady as an attorney because, they said, a woman is not "a person" in a legal sense and only persons can become attorneys. A woman who was arraigend for disorderly conduct plead.d that under the above reading of the law she could not be punished inasmuch as the law is directed against "any person" who so offends and she, not being "a person" is not amenable to punishment! The judge had to admit that the point was valid, so the woman was set at liberty.

The ladies of New Brunswick will give the Supreme Court judges a piece of their minds over their judgment which is as irrational as it is ungallant.

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A BANKER'S INSTITUTE FOR MONTREAL is projected on the lines of, and for the purposes suggested several times in THE CHRONICLE.

This was announced at a meeting of bank officers held on 23rd inst., to hear a lecture on Banking, by Mr. R. D. McGibbon, K.C.

Owing to sickness his paper was read by Mr. C. M. Cotton.

Mr. J. T. Knight, manager of the local Clearing House, announced that the Banker's Institute was projected, the main object of which would be to provide bank officers whose parental home was outside the city with a pleasant resort in leisure hours. The Institute, we understand, is to be a Club without some of the temptations which are not unknown to such institutions. . .

THE LECTURE COURSE TO BANKERS .- At the first of the course of lectures to be delivered to the bank officers of this city, the chair was taken by Mr. F. H. Mathewson, manager of the branch of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, and president of the Montreal Board of Trade. Mr. McGibbon's paper dwelt on the general aspects of a banker's calling, and showed how needful it was for bank officers to acquire a thorough knowledge of the political, commercial, and personal affairs which affected the money market. He referred also to the necessity of bankers being familiar with the laws relating to bills, notes and all negotiable instruments, and of deeds securities and other legal instruments.

The attendance was large and Mr. McGibbon's paper was highly appreciated. We shall take an early opportunity of giving it a more extended notice.

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THE CANADIAN MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION is desirous of the Government instituting an enquiry into the fire insurance companies and adopting measures for regulating them. The Association overlooks the fact that a Government official, with his staff, institute an enquiry into fire insurance companies every year, and those companies are now subject to regulations imposed by an Act of Parliament passed for that purpose.

Perhaps it would be in the interests of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association to devote more of their attention to the manufacturing interests of the country and less to a class of business, which they do not seem to understand. How would it suit for a Committee of Parliament to undertake to regulate and run the manufacturers' business?

1114

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THE RUSSIAN PARLIAMENT which is called the "Imperial Duma," will meet at an early date. What the powers of that assembly will prove to be is being discussed with more freedom outside than in Russia. The movement towards a constitutional form of Government; to a monarchy controlled by Parliament, is not regarded as likely to make much headway for years to come by several leading English newspapers. But the movement has started, its course is clearly away from the present despotic system, the voice of at least a section of the people will be heard and all history shows that when once a nation becomes inspired by a desire for political freedom, its ultimate enfranchisement is assured. As Mr. Gladstone once said, "Time fights on our side and time is ever victorious." Russia will prob bly have years of trouble, her finances will take a long period to bring into a healthy condition, but all will wish her a good and early deliverance from the present distress and unrest.

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FORESTRY WEALTH WASTED .- Our valued contemporary "The Evening Post" has an article, suggested apparently by the Forestry Convention held at Ottawa, in which the waste and ruin of the supply of timber in the United States are described in startling terms. In one year the lumber products of America were nearly as of much value as the aggregate value of the gold produced in California in 50 years. Yet the vast bulk of the forests which produced this wealth have been made desolate by fires and wasteful methods. Michigan that supplied enormous quantities yearly of white pine, without any serious decrease of the stock, is now left practically without this wood of which billions of feet have been wasted by recklessness. So with other timber, the supply yearly used to be of the value of many millions while now there is great scarcity with every prospect of an entire clearance. The Federal Government and the Provincial authorities need to take prompt and energetic measures to stop the waste of Canada's magnificent timber resources.

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MR. F. H. MATHEWSON, local manager of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, in Montreal, has been elected by acclamation president of the Board of Trade, of this metropolitan city. The position is one which Mr. Mathewson will fill with advantage to the interests represented by the Board of Trade, and with honour to himself.

A BILL TO RESTRAIN USURY.—It is stated that the Minister of Justice has under consideration a Bill to restrain the scandalous practices of usurers in Canada.

It is most desirable that such a Bill be enacted as will prevent borrowers being fleeced by excessive and oppressive charges for loans.

Of course, due regard must be paid by any antiusury act to the exigencies of borrowers of a class differing from those who ordinarily seek loans from usurers.

THE FUNERAL OF LATE HON. RAYMOND PREFON-TAINE, was the most numerously attended and in every respect the most imposing ever seen in Canada. Every public body in the city was fully represented as were those of surrounding and some The City Corporation, distant municipalities. Board of Trade, Chambre de Commerce, other commercial organizations, also the Judges, members of the Bar, the Governor-General, the Federal and Provincial Governments, were represented in the funeral cortege. In spite of the intense cold sidewalks were packed with dense crowds of citizens who were present to join in paying tributes of respect to the departed statesman who had a far stronger hold on popular affection and respect than even his friends realized.

There can be no doubt that Canada and the British Empire have suffered a sore bereavement by the calling away of the Hon. Raymond Prefontaine, who, as Minister of Marine and Fisheries was pursuing a course that would have been of inestimable advantage to the shipping and mercantile interests of the Dominion.

THE PROPOSED ANTI-USURY BILL will probably be framed on the lines of the British Money Lender's Act, which provides that where a money lender seeks to recover money lent and the court is satisfied that the interest or other demand in respect of the money actually loaned is excessive, it may relieve the person sued from payment of the amount in excess of such sum as the judge may hold to be reasonable. The court may, moreover, order a refund of the excess charges he paid and may order the lender to indemnify the borrower for any securities with which he may have parted in the transaction.

A case is on record of an English Judge giving a sharp lesson to an usurer. His claim of \pounds_{10} sterling was allowed, but the debtor was ordered to discharge the debt by instalments of one penny per week, at which rate the claim would be settled in 43 years!

EXCELLENT TRADE RETURNS.—The trade returns of Canada for half-year to 31st December, last show an increase of \$10,770,560 in import, and of \$21,-218,026 in exports as compared with some period in 1904. It is very satisfactory to find exports of every class increased as much as to make up for the falling off in previous fiscal year. THE QUEBEC LICENSE LAW needs to be so amended as to prevent one individual or two or three persons combining in a very loose and irregular manner to conduct business under the name of a Trust Company. Before any license is issued to any persons or persons to carry on a money lending, deposit borrowing, banking or trust company business, he or they should be required to furnish evidence of their financial reliability. This would be in the same principle that a joint stock bank is compelled to prove its having a subscribed capital of at least, \$500,000 before it is authorized to commence business.

Under the Quebec License Law any person or persons without having a dollar of their own money, after paying for a license, may begin soliciting deposits, and discounting notes precisely as though they were incorporated as a bank with a mumum of \$500,000 subscribed capital. They may operate as a Trust Company and under such a title mislead the public. The Dominion Bank Act is practically set aside by the Quebec License Law, which ought never to have gone into froce.

MONTREAL CLEARING HOUSE.—Total for week ending January 25, 1906—Clearings, \$30,133,027; corresponding week, 1905, \$19,516,363; corresponding week, 1904, \$16,-993,396.

STOCK EXCHANGE NOTES.

Wednesday, p.m., Jan. 24, 1906.

Traction stocks were leaders this week in a broad and active market in which prices rapidly advanced. Transactions in Montreal Street, Toronto Railway and Detroit Railway totalled over 10,000 shares each, and the market today closed firm with an evident tendency towards a higher level. The rapid changes in quotations are somewhat puzzling to followers of the Montreal market who had become used to prices remaining practically unchanged from week to week. The long delayed advance is well warranted in view of general conditions, and prices of standard stocks here are moderate in comparison with quotations prevailing in New York for those of a similar class. The more speculative issues such as Dominion Coal, Nova Scotia Steel Common, Dominion Iron Common have again come into prominence this week, the two former stocks making decided gains. The price of Dominion Iron Preferred seems moderate when compared with the figures of the Common, taking into consideration that within a few months 21 per cent. back dividends will have accrued, for which it seems probable some provision will be made in the near future. As usual the advance has been accompanied by rumours and counter-rumours affecting each stock as it in turn advanced, and the story that the three big iron and steel industries would amalgamate or consolidate was current. There is, however, no truth in the rumour, and the two big Companies, the Lake Superior Corporation and the Dominion Iron & Steel Company, will continue to requirements of the maintain their individuality. The Dominion will keep both plants more than fully occupied for some years on orders already in hand, and to meet growing requirements. It is not unlikely that the securities of the Lake Superior Corporation will be listed in Montreal. This Corporation has now turned the corner, and its earnings are satisfactory.

The international stocks, such as C. P. R., the Mackays and Twin City have been inactive this week, although firm in price, being neglected in favor of the more active and buoyant Canadian securities. A decidedly interesting feature of the recent market has been the marked advance in the Laurentide Pulp stocks, both Common and Preferred, the former in particular scoring a rapid advance to 107, while the latter sold up to 110⁴. Higher dividends on the Common stock are expected.

Money conditions remain unchanged in Montreal, the

bank rate for call money continuing at 5½ per cent. In New York the ruling rate to-day for call loans was 4 per cent., while in London the quotation was 4 per cent. The quotations for money at continental points are as follows:—

	Market.	Bank.
Paris Berlin.	. 3	3 5 4
Amsterdam		4
Brussels		41
Vienna		

C. P. R. on transactions of 1,224 shares closed unchanged from a week ago with 175 bid. The last sales to-day were made this morning at 176¹/₄. The earnings for the third week of January show an increase of \$259,000.

There were no transactions in Soo Common this week, and the closing bid was 1581/2 bid, the stock not being offered under 160.

The Grand Trunk Railway Company's earnings for the third week of January show an increase of \$47,123. The stock quotations as compared with a week ago are us follows:—

	A	week ago.		
Third Preference		0.89	628	
Ordinary	•••	27 §	271	

Montreal Street continued its advance and made a rapid gain to 254, reacting and closing with 252 bid, a net gain of 14 points over last week's closing quotation. The stock was very active and 12,435 shares figured in the week's business. Higher prices are confidently predicted. The earnings for the week ending 20th inst., show an increase of \$6,245,93 as follows:-

		increase.	
Sunday	\$5,921.10	\$1,004.64	
Monday	7,997.13	871.44	
	7,683.40	850.68	
Tuesday	7,756.48	781.77	
Wednesday	7,517.30	861.70	
Thursday		856.05	
Friday	7,622.28		
Saturday	8,130.87	1,019.65	

The advance in Toronto Railway moved the price up to 115, reacting to 1143% bid at the close, a net gain of 51% points over last week's closing quotation. An active business was done in the stock and 12,446 shares changed hands. The earnings for the week ending 20th inst., show an increase of \$7,297.21 as follows.—

• •	•	Iucrease.
Sunday	\$3,835.88	\$ 833.31
Monday	7,877.13	973.21
Tuesday	7,778.08	940.41
Wednesday		1,159.36
Thursday		1,204.07
Friday	8,153.81	1,110.04
Saturday	9,019.89	1,076.81

Twin City closed with 119% bid, a gain of % of a point on quotation for the second week on transactions involving 1,432 shares. The earnings for the second week of January show an increase of \$12,311.65.

Detroit Railway advanced to 981/4 and closed with 975/8 bid, a gain of 3 full points for the week on sales of 10,901 shares. The earnings for the second week of January show an increase of \$14,121.

Halifax Tram Sold up to 105, and closed with 104% bid, as compared with 102 a week ago, and 157 shares were dealt in.

Toledo Railway came into prominence advancing to 36 and closing with $35\frac{1}{2}$ bid, a net gain of $2\frac{1}{2}$ points for the week on sales of 3,955 shares.

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Ohio Traction has recovered and sold up to 321/2, closing with 32 bld, a net gain of % of a point from last week, and 2,925 shares were dealt in.

Havanan Common closed with 34 bid, a gain of 1 point on quotation for the week, and 85 shares figured in the week's business. The Preferred stock was dealt in to the extent of 540 shares, and closed with \$1 bid, a gain of 2 full points for the week.

. . . . R. & O. sold up to 791/2 and closed with 79 bid, a gain of 31/2 points for the week and 1.229 shares changed hands. .

Montreal Power also had a good advance and touched 93 closing with 92% bid, an advance of 2% points from last week's closing quotation. The stock was more active than for some weeks past, the transactions involving 6,746 shares.

. . . . Mackay Common advanced to 64¼, but reacted from this point and closed with 631/2 bid, being a net gain of 2 fuil points for the week on sales of 2005 shares. The Preferred stock sold up to 751/2, and closed with 741/2 bld, a gain of ¼ point for the week on sales of 355 shares.

Dominion Iron Common advanced to 2914, and closed with 29 bid, a net gain of 13% points over last week's closing quotation. The stock was actively dealt in 12,340 shares figuing in the week's business. The Preferred stock closed with 78% bid, a gain in quotation of 2¼ points for the week,and 2.596 shares were traded in. The Bonds closed with 84% bid, as compared with 841/2 a week ago, and \$295,000 were dealt in.

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Dominion Coal Common after selling up to 82, reacted to \$6.5% bid at the close, a net gain of 2% points on quotation for the week, and 1.700 shares changed hands. The Preferred stock was dealt in to the extent of 232 shares, and closed with 120 bid. The Bonds closed offered at 101 with 100 bid, and \$16,000 were dealt in, the last sales being made at 101. . . .

Nova Scotia Steel Common closed with 73¼ bid, a gain of 314 points for the week on sales of 2,386 shares. The Preferred stock closed with 118 bld, and 71 shares changed hands during the week. In the Bonds \$4,000 were dealt in, the last sales being made at 108, and the closing quotation

Montreal Cotton on sales of 65 shares closed with 128 bid, a gain of 2 points on quotation for the week.

was 108 asked and 1061/2 bid.

Dominion Textile Preferred closed with 1061/2 bid, a gain of 11/2 points on quotation from last week's closing old, and 322 shares figured in the week's business. The clos-Ing quotations for the Bonds were as follows:-Series "A" "B" and "C" 9612 bid, Series "D" 97 bid.

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Lake of the Woods Common closed with 91 bid, a gain on quotation of 3 full points for the week. Only 50 shares were derigt in, the sales being made at 89. In the Prefir-red stock 50 shares changed hands at 111. There were no transactions in the Bonds which closed offered at 110 % with 107 bid.

The closing quotation for Laurentide Preferred was 112 asked and 110% bid and the Common stock closed with a 107 bid.

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	rer	cent.
Call money in Montreal		54
Call money in New York		4
Call money in London		4
Bank of England rate		4
Consols		89 11-16
Demand Sterling		98
60 days' Sight Sterling		08

Thursday, p.m., January 25, 1906. There was only one session of the Exchange to-day, the Board being closed in the morning on account of the funral of the late Hon. Mr. Prefontaine. The afternoon se-sion opened at 2 o'clock, and was active and buoyant. Montreal Power was the leading feature, and after opening at 93 sold up to 94½, closing with 945% bld. Montreal Street touched 255, reacting again to 253%. Laurentide Proferred continues its upward movement, touching 1141/2 and reacting to 114, the closing quotation being 1141/2 asked and 114 bid. Toronto Railway had a reaction to 11376, while Mackay Common sold down to $62\frac{1}{2}$. The rest of the trad-ing was well distributed throughout the list, and the clos-ing was firm. A complete list of the day's transactions will be found below.

MONTREAL STOCK EXCHANGE SALES

....

THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 1966

AFTERNOON BOARD.

o. of hares.	Price.	No. of Price.
	112	36 " 94
	13%	300 ** 944
3 · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	73	50 ** ***** 94
50	73%	100 " 94 %
/5	98	200 ** 94
75 Detroit	97%	265 " 944
**	80	5 ** 94
110 R & O	19%	100 " 94½
150		1 o Toronto Ry 1141/2
Io Laurenti !e	107 1	20 " 1144
50		10 " 114
50	107	25 " 114
40 Toledo	36	100 " 1137%
75	35 1/2	100 Mackay Com 62 5%
10	36	
7 Quebec Bank	1021	
25 Mexican		0.1 0.
315 Iron Com		a) out Dee
45 Iron Pfd		
75 "		15
185 "		160 Mont. Street 254
25 Tram	1061/2	150
25 Laurentide Pfd	. 113	210
2;0 "	. 114%	175 25/2
25 "		50 *33/4
150 "	. 111/2	125 253 2
100 "	. 114	125 " 25334
5 Merchants Bk	. 166	7 " 25 1/2
I royal Bank	. 2261/2	125 " 253%
125 Power		10 " 254
100 **	. 931/2	I Bell Telephone 157 1/2
100 "	9:34	19 Bank of Montreal 260
850 "		\$20,000 Mex Elec. B'ds 82 & Int.
10 "	1/	\$20,000 Mex. L. & P. Bs 8814
424	. 91	\$4,000 Iton Bds 85
100 11	- 11/	\$5,000 Textile B'ds. 971/2(B)
100 "		1 A



PATERSON & SON, Chief Agents

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 1904 and 1905, were as follows :

GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY	Year to date Dec. 31 Week ending. Jan. 7 14	612,601	1905 \$36,569,973 1906. 613,954 652,998 675,257	Increas \$2,004,28 Increas 32,98 40,39 47,12	2 e 8 7
1004. 1005. Inci	2			Increa	-

Year to date. 1903. 1904. 1903 Dec. 31 \$45,807,000 \$48,155,000 \$54,070,000 \$5,915,00

GROSS TRAFFIC EARNINGS

Week ending Jan. 7 14 21	1904. 697,000 772,000 625,000 NET T	1905. 778,000 747,000 750,000 RAFFIC EA	1906. 1,021,000 1,022,000 1,009,000 52 8.01068.	Increase 243,000 275,000 259,000
Month. January Yebruary March April June July. August. September October November Lecember	742,741 1,258,564 1,493,173 1,383,357 1,246,055 1,318,527 1,434,102 1,202,266 1,654,027 1,477,981	412,533	1905. \$422,668 302,171 1,182,827 531,806 1,387,935 	Inc. \$65,010 219,60 331,97 119,27 3,63 188,12 263,71 507,20 07C7,95 691,73

Total 15.708,709 13,689,804

1.1 0

21

CANADIAN NORTHERN RAILWAY.

GROSS TRAFFIC EARNINGS.

uly 1st , 1903 to		st, 1904 to	Increase \$747,000		
June 30, 1904 \$3,124,800	June 3 \$3,87	1,800			
Week ending. Jan. 7 14 21	1904. 49,500 50,300 49,900	1905. 60,200 \$8, ⁵ 00 64,300	1906 78,800 85,000 84,400	Increase 18,600 27,100 20,100	

OR & ATLANTIC

	DULUTH	I, SOUT	BSI	IORE OF AT	LANTIC.	1.1.1.1.1.1
Week end	ing.	190	4.	1905.	1906. I	ncrease
Jan. 7	1	36,1	45	39,864	41,374	1,510
	Mot	TREAT	STR	BET RAILW	AY .	
Month. January February March Aoril July July September. October vember.	170, 205 212 208 212 208 212 204 187	883 065		1904. 182,386 167.023 183,689 184,995 217,341 229,565 223,137 226,764 216,295 219,633 201,147 208,428	1905. \$ 201,096 184,132 206,725 200,910 232,999 244,436 254,097 257,463 244,85 246,606 228,601 234,710	Increase 18,710 17,109 23,036 16,005 15,658 14,871 30,960 30,609 28,290 26,973 27,454 26,282
Week er Jan. 7 14 21	1	1004 42,23 40,95 41,74	5	19°5 45,948 44,085 46,383	19r 6. 51,810 52,661 52,620	Incres e 7,862 8,576 6,237

1		TORONT	U JIAI			100 1	2472	
	Month. January February	1903. \$ 161,938 146,530	\$ 17 16	9,360 8,904 3,643	1905 \$ 196,9 185,3 207,01	70 1	ner. a:e \$17,610 16,473 23,371	
1	April	159,943	18	3,763	201,3 225,7	17	17,554	
1	May June	174,519		07,482	231.1	10	23,658	
	July	192,629	21	11,356	238,80	95	27,539	
1	August	185,822	21	7,887	250,88	72	35,710	
	September.	237,010 183,810		46,862 02,344	230,29	5	27,951	1
	October November.	174,039		8,150	220,80	04	22,654	
1	December.	199,119		13,662	241,4		27,82	
e	Week en	ding. 1904		1905.		.6	9,00	2
2	Jan. 7			44,120	53,1	818	6,93	8
8		43,319		45,580	3-,			
7	. 1	WIN CITY	RAPID	TRANSI	COMPA	NY.		
2	Month,	1903		904.	190	9469	lr (20,11	
se	January	\$310,08		329,354	134	9,811	9,6	
co	February . March	280,94	0 3	38,580	359	,584	21,3	
	April	315,46	5	332,015	35	,729	20,1 29,3	
	May	337,69	9	358,344	38	7,645	23,2	
	June	346,01		365,897		,239	49,0	15
se	July	362,70		386,629	42	0,231	33,6	02
00	August	370,34		371,476		2,284	80,8	60
000	Ostober	346,67		365,938		9,039	53,1	28
	November.	333.4		352,433	415	,461 ,415	60,0	577
	December.	357,45	52	374,738		. 6.		nc.
			04.	1905 81,484		932		442
606	Jau. 7			78,778		090	12,	312
973								
273		HALIFAX I	Railw	ay Recei	pts.	1905.	,	Inc.
126	Month	. 1903		1904		0,256	l'ec.	425
716	January	\$10,8	07	10,677 9,894		7.186		,701
,202		10,1	922	11,152		9,322	" 1	,830 626
,957		10,5	33	11,145		10,516		010
113	May	10,	68	12,074		12,796	** 1	,255
	June	11,8		14,051		17,284	66	244
	July	15,9	786	17,402	1.1.1.1	17.754		352
•	Septembe		494	17,86	2	18,669		807
	October	. 12	,055	12,43		12,833	,	399 379
	Novembe		,160	11,08	5	12,642		479
	December		,			19.6.		Inc.
		k ending. 1		190				372
	Jan. 7	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	.320	2,36		2,737 2,568		52
rea			,454	2,41	6	2,595		179
8,60								
7,10			Ligh	ting Rec				1.0.0
		10	03	\$ 16,3	4 .	1905	Per	nc. 650
	January		3,863	\$ 10,3		14,180		47
crea	Ase March		0,523	12,7	18	12,719		
	10 April .		0,156	12,1	16	11,964		* 151
* 13	May		9,020		756	8,905		93
	June .		8,368 8,351	• 8,9	953	8,653		300
icre	ase August.		8,826		596	9,619		23
18,		er	10,781	11,	720	11,9%6		266 81
17,	100 October		13, 186		,209	14,2.0		236
	036 Novemb		14,200	10,	273 684	18,542		858
	005 Decemb	er	10.011					
	658 871		RTROI	T UNITE	D RAILW	AY.		
30,	960				11. 2.1		1-	creas .
30,	699 Weel	ending	19		1906 88,002		10	11,818
	290 Jan. 7 973 Jan. 7			684 752	87,873			11,121
	454 14							No alter
26	,282	H	VANA	ELECTRI	RAILWA	y Co.		
			1905		10 6		Ir	crease.
ncr		k ending	34,07		37,19	8		3,122
7			35,09	6	40,124			5,028
6			32,61	4	39,81	,		11401
33								

TORONTO STREET RATLWAY.

STOCK LIST

Reported for THE CHRONICLE by R. Wilson-Smith & Co., 160 St. James Street, Montreal. Corrected to January 24th, 1906, P.M.

and a part of the	C	orre	cted to	January	artin,				
BANKS.	Closing prices or Last sale.	Par value of one share.	Revenue per cent. on investment at present prices.	subseribed	Capital paid up.	Reserve Fund.	Per centage of Rest to paid up Capital.p	Dividend for last half year	When Divice in payable.
iritish North America	Asked. Bid 142 140 175 172 274 268 160	243 50 100 50	Per Cent. 4 22 4 00 3 64 4 70	4,866.666 10,000,000 781,300 3,000,000 2,500,000	\$ 4,966,666 10,000,000 713,143 8,000,000 2,500,070	2,044,000 4,500,000 3,500,000 1,500,000	\$ 42,00 45,00 10.66 60.00	Per Cent. 8 31 21* 4	April November June December Jan, April July October January July
astern Townsnips 4 amilton Hobelage Home Bank of Canada mperial as Banque Nationale	153 152	100 100 100	4 57 4 00	2,462,900 2,000 000 564,200 3,790 200 1,500,000	2,428,950 2,000,000 352,540 3,627,866 1,500,000	2,428,950 1,200,000 3,627,866 500, 900	100.00 60.00 100.00 33.33	6 84 5 8	June December June December May November
a Banque Nationale Merohants Bank of P. K.I. derohants Bank of Canada Metropolitan Bank Molaona	168 167	32.4 100 100 100	4 16 4 40 3 84	344,073 6,000,000 1,000,000 3,000,000 14,403.000	344,073 6,000,000 1,000,000 8,000,000 14,400,000	296,000 8,400,000 1,000,000 3,000,000 10,000,000	56,66 100,00 100.00 71,42	4 3 4 5 6	January July June December June Docember April October June December
New Brunswick Nova Scotia Datario Litava	280 278 131 12	100		*00,000 2,500,000 1,500,000 2,500,000	500.000 2,500,090 1,500,000 2,500,000	2,500,000	168.00 43.83 100.00	0 t + - + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +	January July February August June December June December
People's Bank of N. B Provincial Bank of Canada Quebee Koyal Sovereign Bank		100 2 100 4 100	4 82 3 55	180,000 846,537 2,500,000 3,000,000 1,695,600	180,000 823,324 2, 50 0,000 3,000,000 1,604,332	1,059,000	42.50 100.00 32.50	14 34 4 14*	January July June December February August FebruaryMayAugust Nov
Standard		50 100 100		1,000,000 200,000 504,600 500,200 3,400.500	20 .00 \$29,51 299,270	45,00 75,00 10,00	0 22.50 0 22.76 0 3.60	5 24 3 8 5	June December April October February August June cember
St. Johns Tronto Union Bank of Hallfax Union Bank of Ganada Western	144] 14	3 10	4 82	3,001,000 1,386,150 2,800,000 650,000	3,000,000 1,886,150 2,800,000	970,00 1,100,00	0 74.17 0 39.28	34 34 34 34	June December February August February Agust April October October
MISCELLANBOUS STOCKS. Bell Telephone Can. Golord Octon Mills Go. Ganadia General Electric Ganadian Pasific Oommercial Cable Detroit Electric Si XD	1761 1	17 10	0 3 42	7,975,100 2,700,00 1,475,00 101,400,00 15,000,00 12,500,00	0 1,475,0 0 101,400,0 0 15,000,0	0	22 34.78	2* 5 3 1]* &1 12	March June Sept. Dec.
Detroit Electric at AD do Common Dominion Textile Co Com do Pfd Dom, Iron & Steel Com	121 1 81 1071 1 291	29 10		8,000,00 15,000,00 7,500,00 2,500,00 20,000,00 5,000,00	0 3,000,0 0 15,000,0 0 5,000,0 1,940,0 10 20,000,0	00 00 000 000 000 000		3 <u>1</u> 1]*	January, July Jan. April July October
Duluth S. S. & Atlantis. do Pfd. Halifax Tramway Oo. Intercolouial Uoal Oo do Preferred. Laurentide Paper Co	43 108 100	41 1 105 1 85 1 80 1	00 00 8 55 00 7 00 00 5 60		00 10,000, 00 1,350, 00 500, 00 219,	×0	12.06	14.	January February August
Laurentide Paper, Pfd. Lake of the Woods Mill Co, Com. do. Mackay Companies Com. do Pfd	112 93 114	91 1 111 1 63) 1	00 6 25 00 6 45 00 6 25 00 3 13 00 5 33	2,500,00 1,500,00 50,000,00	00 2,000, 00 1,500, 00 41,380,	000 000 400 700		19	March, June, Sept. De January July Jan. April July Octobe
Mexican Light & Power Co Minn. St. Paul & S.S.M. do Pid Montreal Cotton Co Montrval Light, H. & Pwr. Oo Montral Steel Work, Pid 60 do Com	***	1585 1 128 1 923 1 1111 1	00 248 00 248 00 538 00 430 00 517 00 636	7,006,0 3,000,0 17,000,0 800,0	00 14,000, 00 7,000, 00 3,000, 00 17,000, 00 801,	0 0			March June, Sept. Do
63 do Com Montreal Street Rallway XD North-West Land, Oom N. ScotiaSteel & Coal Co. Com do Prof Pfd	253 167 450	252 164 400 7 1	50 3 95 40 4 7 25 00 00 6 53	7,000,0 2,000,0 1,467,6 3,090,6 4,120,0 1,030,0	00 7,000, 000 2,000, 81 1,467, 125 3,090, 00 5,000, 100 1,030,	000 681 625 ,000 ,000 ,000	,0C0 15.0	0 65	March.
Oglivie Flour Mills Co do Pfd. Richelieu & Ont. Nav. Co St. John Street Railway Toledo Ry & Light Co. Toronto Street Railway	:: 130 80 115	127 79 854	00 5.38 00 5.38 00 5.21 00 5.21 00 6.86 00 4.36	8,132,0 707.8 12,000,0 6,600,0	00 8,132 60 7(7 00 12,000 00 6,600	,000 .860 53, .000 .000	101 7.9		June, December. May. November. Jan. Ajrii July Octol
f rinidad Electric Ry Twin City Rapid Transit Co do Preferred windsor Hotel. Winnipeg Electric Rallway Co.	924	119]	.80 5 26 00 4 16 00 7 61 00 2 50	16,511,0 3,000,0 60' 0	00 16,511	,001 2,163			May Nevember

*Quarter1"4. †Bonus of per cent. TPrice per Share. \$Annual. EThese figures are corrected from /ast Govt. Bank Statement,

STOCK LIST, Continued.

BONDS.	Latest quota- tions.	Hate of Interest per annum	Amount outstanding.	When Interest due	Where Interest payable.	Date of Redemption.	REMARKS
Commercial Cable Compon Registered Can. Colored Cotton Co Canada Paper Co	96 96 98	4 4 8 8	\$18,000,000 2,000,000 200,000 2,000.000	2 Apl. 2 Oct. 1 May 1 Nov. 1 Apl. 1 Oct.	New Yolk of Montreal, Montreal Merchants Bank of Can., Montreal Bank of Montreal, Montreal	I MOLL, LOLO	Rodeomable at 114 Redeemable at 110
Bell Telephone Co Dominion Coal Oo Dominion Textile Co do do do Dominion Iron & Steel Co	96 96 96 97	6 6	2,433,000 8 808,200 758,500 1,000 00 450,000 \$ 7,876,000	i Jan i July	Bank of Montreal, Montreal	1 July, 1929 :	Redeemable at 110 do 105 after 5 yrs Redeemable at 105 Redeemable at 110 Redeemable at 115 & accrued intrest Redeemable at 107
Halifar Tramway Go Intercolonial Goal Go Laurentide Palp. Montmorency O tton Montroal I.ght, Heas and Power Montroal Light, Heas and Power Montreal Street Br.go.	106 108	- 5 - 4 5 - 44	\$ 600,00 344,00 1,112 0 1,000 0 380,07 7,500,00 292,00 881,33 1,500,00	1 Apl. 1 Oct 1 Jan. 1 Jan 1 Jan. 1 Jul 0 1 Jan. 1 Jul 0 1 Mcb. 1 Se 3 1 Feb. 1 Au	y Company's Office Wontreal. y Bank of Montreal, Montreal. } Bank of Montreal, London. Eng	1 . unlv. 1921 1 July, 1921 1 Mch 1908 1 A ug. 1922 1 May, 1922	Redeemable at 105 after Jan. 1st, 191
Nova Scotla Steel & Coal Co Ogilvie Flour Mill Co Richalter & Ont. Nav. Co.		7 6 6 6 3 5 4	2,500,00 1,000,00 471,5 6 130,9 5 675,0	0 1 Jan. 1 Ju 0 1 June 1 De 0 1 Meh. 1 Se 0 1 Apl. 1 Oc	 Uniou Bans, Haided or Trint I of Nova Seotia, Moetlor Trint Bank of Montreal, Montreal	1 Meb., 1915 Oct., 1914	2. Redeemable at 1 after Jure Redeemable at 1 (Redeemable at 1 (5 p.c. redeemable yearly after 199
Windsor Hotel Windsor Hotel Winnlog Elee. Street Rallway Toledo Ry. & Light Co	10	61 4 77 5 5	340,0 3,000,0 700,0	53 28 Feb. 31 At 00 1 Jan. 1 Ju 00 1 Jan. 1 Ju 00 1 Jan. 1 Ju 00 1 Jan. 1 Ju	Bank of Southant, Windsor Hotel, Montreal, Bank of Montreal, Montreal, 19 19 19	2 J=\y, 191 1	2. 7 2. 9.

[FIRE] German American Insurance Company New Pork



AGENCIES THROUGHOUT CANADA.

JANUARY 26, 1906

Bank of Hamilton

THIRTY-FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT

GENERAL STATMENT.

.\$ 2,279,755 00

--- 21,464,121 50

50,262 09

120.019 28 \$23,914,157 87

4.971.890 83

\$28.886.048 70

69.397 04

119,940 28

2,440,740 00

65,000 00

25,410 83

79 00

The Directors beg to submit their Annual Report to the Shareholders for the year ended 30th November 1905:

The Balance at credit of Profit and Loss Account,

1905, after	r deducting o	harges o	of ma	nagem	ent		
and maki	ng provision	for bad	and	doubt	ful		
debts, are				** **		357,273	12
Premiums re	eceived on net	w Stock.				205,421	00

\$602.870.40

From which have been declared: Dividend 5 per cent., payable .\$111.779 29 1st December, 1905.... 119,940 28 -\$231,719 57

Carried to Referve Fund from Profits.. ...\$135,319 00 Carried to Reserve Fund from Premium on new Stock as above.. 205,421 00 - 340,740 00

Notes of the Bank in circulation ...

Amount reserved for interest due

depositors,

Dividend No. 66, payable 1st De-1905..

Capital stock (average for the

Amount reserved for Rebate of Interest on Current Bills Dis-

Balance of Frofits carried forward

Hamilton, Nov. 30th, 1905.

Bank of Hamilton.

Reserve Fund ...

counted

cember, 1905..... Former Dividends unpaid

Deposits bearing interest. \$18,033,608 74 Deposits not bearing interest. 3,361,115 72

Balance due to other Banks in Canada ...

Allowance to ex-President authorized by the Shareholders 5,000 00 577.459 57

Balance of Profit and Loss carried forward \$ 25,410 53

LIABILITIES. TO THE PUBLIC.

TO THE SHAREHOLDERS.

year, \$2,317,190).. \$ 2,440,740 00

The Directors have pleasure in pointing out that after paying the customary 10 per cent. dividend, they have been able to place to Reserve Fund, out of profits, the substantial sum of \$135,000. The year's earnings are, in the opinion of the Directors, very satisfactory indeed, considering that out of the year's profits the maximum estimated loss (\$90,-000), which the Bank has sustained by the embezzlement

and forgeries of T. Hilhouse Brown, has been provided for. The Directors beg to report that progress of the Bang still continues in a marked degree, and that, while they had thought it prudent to open during the year a few new branches in Ontario and Manitoba, in recognition of the rapid development of the country, they had mostly confined themselves to the strengthening and building up of the business at the various points at which offices had already been established. It is proposed, however, to ask of the Shareholders, at the Annual Meeting, power to increase the Capital of the Bank by \$500,000, in order that the Directors, in case it become advisable, may be in a position thus to provide for the future growth of the Bank's business

The Directors have noted the growing tendency on the The Directors have noted the growing controls of the part of banks and other corporations to pay dividends quarterly, and, believing that such a practice may be-come more or less general, have decided to adopt it, and propose hereafter to declare dividends every three months. WM. GIBSON.

Hamilton, 18th December, 1905.

ASSETS.

Gold and Silver Coin		
Cominion Government Notes 2,150,114 00		
Deposit with the Dominion .		
Government security for Notes		
Circulation 125,000 00		
Notes of and Cheques on other		
Banks 805,511 16		
Balances due from othe Banks in		
Canada and the United States. 1,402,043 80		
Balances due from Agents of the		
Bank in Great Britain 5,308 51		
Canadian and British Government,		
Municipal, Railway, and other		
Securities		
Loans at Call, or Short Cill, on		
negotiable Securities		1.
	10,792,035	
Notes Discounted and Advances current	17.151,131	51
Notes Discounted, etc., overdue (estimated loss		
provided for)	54,351	
Bank Premises, Office Furniture, Safes, etc	776,634	33
Real Estate (other than Bank Premises),		
Mortgages, etc	43.430	72
Other Assets not included under foregoing		
heads	68,465	18
neaus,		

\$28.886.048 70 J. TURNBULL.

President.

General Manager.

In moving the adoption of the Annual Report Hon. Mr. Gibson said:

Gentlemen .-- Your Board of Directors beg to express the pleasure they have in being able to present the report to the shareholders. During the whole history of the Bank, covering a period of 34 years, this year would have been the best and the most successful that we have ever enjoyed but for the unfortunate incident in connection with our East-end branch in this city. Had that not occur-red our net earnings would have been 19.30 per cent, on our capital, and, notwithstanding that we had to make provision for that loss the net earnings of the year are 15.42. After deducting the loss of \$90,000

already referred to, our earnings for the year are considerably greater than the average for the past ten years. In the period from 1875 to 1885 the rate of earnings wis 10.1; 1885 to 1895, 11.03; 1895 to 1905, 13.98. I invite the attention of the shareholders to the fact that every dollar earned by the Bank, except what has been carried to rest, has been paid to the shareholders, and that the misfortune of the past year in the East-end brunch is like-ly to fall on the employes more heavily than upon the shareholders, for, as you know, though the Bank has had under consideration, and it is still its intention, to estab-lish a pension system, such has not yet been begun.

During the year new agencies have been opened at Col-

loge Street and Ossington Avenue, Toronto; Toronto Junction. Carberry, Kenton and Killarney, Man.; Battleford, Sask.; and at Fernie, B.C. While we have been somewhat conservative in opening new branches, we have been endeavoring to strengthen those where we alraedy have agencies. It may be said that some of the places where we have opened branches are small in the matter of population, but it must be remembered that they are in growing centres, surrounded by rich country, and that the prospect for increased business in the future is very bright. The Directors have great faith in the country. I am very glad to notice that the Bank is popular with the investing pub-Last year there were 645 shareholders on our books, and this year the number is 713, showing that the stock is going into the hands of investors.

At the same time we have made 68 new friends for the

By the report I have just read you will see that it is pro-Bank. posed to increase the capital stock by \$500,000. During the last six months a quarter of a million dollars was taken up at a premium of 100 per cent. The same care will be exercised in issuing the new stock only as the business of the

Now, in regard to the incident in the East-end. Much Bank requires it. comment and criticism have been indulged in. I had been away from the country at the time, but I want to say for the members of the board that they acted like men in the best interests of the public and of the Bank. determined to give the public the result as soon as the result could be ascertained. Our inspection is as rigid as that of other banks. You can do something with the staff of the bank when the agent is honest, but when the agent is not honest, and adds forgery to his stealing. the Bank is largely at his mercy. You have to trust the people employed by you, and we have to depend on the idelity of our agents, and while one man has proven false. the 399 other employees of the Bank have not, and we have confidence in them. You may say that the inspection is confidence in them. You may say that the inspection is not rigid enough; I believe that you may have too much not right enough, I believe that you may have too inten inspection. If you let an agent think that he is being spied upon he will probably sit and do nothing, and your business is bound to suffer. Now, in regard to quarterly dividends. I need not say much-they cannot come too

Mr. John Proctor seconded the motion, which was caroften.

ried unanimously. On motion of Mr. Samuel Barker, M.P., seconded by Mr. John A. Bruce, the following motion was unanimously

That the thanks of this meeting be given to the Presicarried: dent and Directors for their services during the past half-Carried and replied to by Hon. Mr. Gibson.

year. W. A. Robinson moved, seconded by Dr. Russell:

"That the thanks of this meeting be given to the General anager, Assistant General Manager, Inspectors, Agents, Mr Manager, Assistant General Manager. and other officers of the Bank for efficient performance of their respective duties."

This was carried, and responded to by Mr. Turnbull.

Hon. Mr. Gibson moved the adoption of the by-law to in-crease the capital stock from \$2,500,000 to \$3,000,000. Mr. John Proctor seconded the resolution, and it was carried

The Scrutineers reported the following gentlemen unani-mously elected Directors for 1906: Hon. William Gibson, John Proctor, Hon. J. S. Hendrie, George Rutherford, Cyrns A. Birge, C. C. Dakon, and J. Turnbull,

At a subsequent meeting of the Directors Hon. William Gibson was re-elected President and Mr. J. Turnbull Vice-President.

Rotes and Items.

AT HOME AND ABROAD.

OTTAWA CLEARING HOUSE .- Total for week ending 18th January, 1906-Clearings, \$2,806,821; corresponding week last year, \$2,526,901.

THE INSURANCE COMMISSIONERS' CONVENTION will be held at Chicago 1st February next. Any one who intends to be present is invited to communicate with Mr. Thos. E. Drake, Supt. for district of Columbia, 416 5th St., Washington,

who is making special terms for rates, etc., and arranging for the comfort of visitors.

THE MARYLAND CASUALTY will suffer a small loss on its burglary insurance on the Colby (Wis.) bank, the burglars who got away with \$4,000 having been arrested and the money recovered with the exception of about \$200. With a total reserve of \$763,309 for claims, a reinsurance reserve of \$949,399 and a surplus to policy-holders of \$1,669,287, the Maryland is able to give all its contracts a financial backing sufficient to satisfy the most exacting.

Too LONG TO PRINT .- In answer to the popular cry for the names and addresses of policy-holders in certain life companies to be printed the "New York Times" points out that, "In round numbers there are about 21,000,000 policyholders in old-line life insurance companies. At least 11,-991 pages would be required to print the record of names addresses. That would mean a 32-page paper for 365 days in the year."

The number of policy-holders is probably grossly exaggerated, but even assuming there are only 5 millions it would be impossible to print such a list that would begin to be worth the outlay.

MUTUAL ASSESSMENT ORGANIZATIONS die from loss of life blood absorbed by leeches in the way of fees and salaries, and the man who gets his insurance at "cost" but who don't know at what "cost," is happy until the loss comes and the treasury is found empty .- "Fireman's Fund Record."

MUTUAL LIFE SETS ITS MAXIMUM LINE AT \$250,000, one of the reform movements decided upon by the new administration of the Mutual Life is the reduction of its maximum line on any one life to \$250,000. Hitherto the company has had no limit, contracts for \$1,000,000 having been granted George W. Vanderbilt and others.

By this action, William B. Carlile, the company's Chicigo manager, loses a \$500,000 case he had secured, the applicant being a prominent Chicago railroad man who is already carrying \$370,000 in the Mutual and a similar amount in other companies .- "The Standard."

TAXING INSURANCE COMPANIES CONDEMNED .-- One daily paper in the United States has shown a knowledge of insurance matters which is quite exceptional. The "Dallas News," a Texas daily, has the following:

"The cost of State supervision is properly chargeable to the companies, but it is questionable whether the States are justified in collecting from the companies several times this cost, which would be covered by the fees imposed alone. In addition to these fees, the several States now levy a tax upon all premiums collected, and this tax has now reached such proportions that it demands the serious consideration of every citizen. Last year thirtyfive companies paid in taxes the enormous sum of \$9,707,-637, by far the greater part of which was the tax on premiums, every dollar of which comes out of the policy-The premium is itself a self-imposed tax, the payment of which is in many cases attended by great hardship, and is assumed by the citizen largely in the interest of the State as well as of other beneficiaries. Why, then, should the States discourage insurance by collecting millions of dollars from the policy-holders in excess of the necessary cost of adequate regulation? This is a tax on thrift, sobriety and all the virtues of good citizenship. It will undoubtedly involve some heriosm on the part of the several Insurance Commissioners to recommend the abrogation of such tax, but is it not their duty while they are considering the abuses of the system to consider this, which is unquestionably one of the greatest burdens the policyholder now has to bear?"

1794 OLDEST 1906

Ninety-sixth Annual Exhibit

HARTFORD

FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY,

OF HARTFORD, CONN.

ASSETS, JANUARY 1, 1906.

Cash on hand, in Bank, an	d Cash It	ems,				\$ 735,032.24
Cash in hands of Agentsa	nd in cours	se of T	ransn	nissio	n, .	2,731,794.97
Rents and Accrued Interes	st, .					9,690.90
Real Estate Unincumbered						1,018 500.00
Loans on Bond and Mortg		en),				658.500.00
Loans on Collateral Secur						1,000.00
Bank Stock, Hartford,		Market	Val	ue,		414,685.00
" New York,	5.		16			449,692.00
" Boston,			14			12,750.00
" Montreal		14.74	"			95,976.66
Railroad and Miscellaneou	is Stocks,					1,405,087.50
State, City and Railroad B						10,518,251.91
Other Assets,						10,965 69

Total Assets. - - - \$18,061,926.87

LIABILITIES.

Capital Stock, .					\$ 1,250,000.00
Reserve for Reinsurance					10,097,401.46
Reserve for all Unsettlee		ms,			1,563,828.93
Net Surplus					5,150,696.48
Surplus to Policy-hole	ders,				6,400,696.48

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ANUARY 26, 1906

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The proposition is a merger of the two companies. Neither one will be absorbed by the other, nor will the business of either one be sold to the other, but the new



The consolidated company will show insurance in force of nearly \$100,000,000, assets exceeding \$10,000,000 and surplus of \$1,100,000. It will be the only life insurance company domiciled on the Pacific coast or hiving a home office in the far Western States. It will be one of the largest companies of the United States.



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