The Chronicle

Insurance & Ifinance.

R. WILSON-SMITH.

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The Baltimore fire caused thirteen companies either to collapse, Baltimore fire or retire from business; or, to be Fire taken over by another company; or, Victims. to be re-organized. The record is as follows, the collapsed companies being tabulated :---

The Home Fire, Baltimore. The Old Town Fire, " The Maryland Fire, " The Maryland Fire, " The Hamilton, New York. The Potomac, Washington.

The Firemen of Baltimore. The Peabody, "The Baltimore Fire, Baltimore. The Lafayette, New York. Millers and M'frs, Minn.

The Greenwich of New York, which was thought to be prosperous, reinsured its business, owing to the fire. The Security Fire of Baltimore is to be reorganized. The Thuringia, a German company, has reinsured its American business, and will cease to write risks in the United States, this step, it is believed, having been taken, owing to the Baltimore fire.

Trying to build up a fire insurance company upon a local business is a risky enterprize to both the company and its policyholders.

Grasping Shadow Lost Substance.

Some time ago an exposure was made of a form of fraud carried on wholesale in New York, by which too credulous and over victims lost several greedy

hundreds of thousands of dollars. A company that has been operating in this city recently "suspended," which invited deposits, the rates of interest offered upon these being most extravagant. The ingenious plan was carried out of paying interest at short intervals to depositors, who were led to believe they had struck a gold mine, so rich was the yield of their money. The fact was, the depositors were paid back a portion of their own principal as interest. This was done for advertising purposes, as reports of these periodic payments of interest at rates ranging as high as 50 per cent. spread like wild-fire, and brought in a flood of deposit money. A game of

this class, however cleverly conducted, is necessarily of short duration, but, while it lasts, it has in several places proved disastrous to a large number of persons, who suffered for their credulity and greed. That any sane man could suppose it possible for his deposit money to earn 50 per cent., would be incredible were it not shown to have been the case.

Insurance Company Victory re Electric Wiring.

The New York Edison Company has been condemned to pay the German-American Insurance Company \$5,315 for damages caused to a building by defective instalment of wires at Third

Avenue and 119th Street, New York The wires had been seen burning on the building. It is remarkable to find a company named after Edison, the famous electrician, convicted of carelessness in placing wires. The case ought to be a caution to all engaged in electrical installations.

Creating **Distrust** in Fire Companies.

Great annoyance to several highly substantial fire insurance companies operating in Chicago, has been caused by unscrupulous agents of other com-

panies endeavouring to create distrust in their competitors, by reports of their inability to pay their Baltimore claims. In some cases the companies so struck at, were not involved at Baltimore, and in others, the losses were far too small to cause them difficulty. Such tactics are most dishonourable, and in the long run will do more damage to those who have set such slanders afloat, than the companies sought to be damaged. Of all places in the world, Chicago has reason to remember with gratitude the services rendered by the leading British fire insurance companies at the time of its conflagration.

THE WESTERN AND BRITISH AMERICA INSUR-ANCE COMPANIES.

DECIDE TO WRITE OFF ONE-HALF THEIR CAPITAL

AND RE-ISSUE A LIKE AMOUNT OF NEW STOCK.

We congratulate our two oldest Canadian fire offices which have had a career respectively of 71 and 53 years upon the action taken by the directors as stated below.

These companies are each held in the highest esteem wherever they transact business, and Mr. J. J. Kenny, who is the Vice-President and Managing Director, is probably one of the most popular underwriters on this continent.

We trust the shareholders will unanimously ratify the decision of the Board of Directors as their action is decidedly in the best interests of both companies.

CIRCULAR.

The following circular has been issued to the shareholders of the Western Assurance Co. A similar circular also to those of the British America Assurance Co., except that \$500,000 is written off and \$500,000 issued. Sufficient subscriptions have been obtained for any stock which shareholders may not care to accept to ensure success of both issues. Circular is as follows:

"I beg to advise that owing to the heavy losses sustained by the Baltimore and Toronto conflagrations, the directors have decided that a portion of the Company's stock should be written off to overcome the impairment in the capital which these disasters have entailed. While such an impairment exists the payment of dividends would necessarily be stopped and in order to obviate this and enable the directors to feel reasonably assured of being able to continue regular dividends in the future they have deemed it well to reduce the capital to such a figure as will give the company a surplus over capital and all liabilities after providing for the exceptional losses by those two disasters. A by-law reducing the paid-up capital of the company to \$1,000,000 has been approved by the Board of Directors and will be submitted to the shareholders for confirmation at a Special General Meeting, to be held on the 9th prox.

"It may be pointed out that this reduction in the capital will not, as a matter of fact, reduce the intrinsic value of the holdings of each shareholder. The assets represented by the shares in the company being, of course, in no way reduced by this action, but it will place the company in a stronger position financially, and as has been intimated, practically ensures the payment of regular dividends. To further strengthen its position with the insuring public, the shareholders at the approaching meeting will also be asked to approve of the issue of one million new stock. These shares will be issued at par, and the shareholders will be entitled to an allotment of them in proportion to their respective holdings. While the directors cannot but regret that the Baltimore fire which, next to the great Chicago fire

of 1871, involved the largest insurance loss in the world's history, closely followed by a twelve million conflagration in our own city, has rendered necessary the action above outlined. It may be reasonably expected that the increased rates of insurance and withdrawal of a number of companies from business which has taken place, will result in such favourable conditions for the companies which remain in the field, as to compensate them within a comparatively short time for the losses they have sustained. I may say that this method of meeting exceptional losses has been adopted in the past by a number of the largest and most successful companies now operating on this continent."

> (Signed), J. J. KENNY.

DETAILS OF LIFE INSURANCE ISSUED AND TER-MINATED IN CANADA DURING 1903.

A table presented on page 607 shows the main features of the movement of the life assurance business transacted in Canada during the year 1903. The table shows that the amount in force on January I, 1903, and on 31st December, 1903, was for the Canadian Companies on their Canadian business exclusively, \$312,680,604, and \$340,821,763, a gain of \$28,141,159; for British companies, \$42,060,350, and \$42,578,999, a gain of \$518,649; for the American companies, \$159,200,654, and \$170,845,947, a gain of \$11,645,293. The aggregate amount of Canadian assurance in force of all the life companies operating in Canada in 1903 was \$554,246,709, as against \$513,941,608 at close of 1902, the total increase during last year being \$40,305,101.

The terminations by death of policyholders amounted to \$5,701,059; by maturity, \$2,104,189; by expiry, \$3,285,928; by surrender, \$6,268,800; by lapse, \$32,154,517. The total amount of life assurance terminations in 1903 was \$58,560,353. So large a sum indicates there having been a wide field opened for new business.

Owing to the exigencies of space, it was impracticable to include three of the columns given in the Abstract of the Superintendent of Insurance, so they are given here :--

| Companies. | Old Policies revived, 1903. | Old Policies changed and Increased, 1903. | Change and Decrease, 1903. |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| Canadian Companies | 895,756 | 623,768 | 1,689,687 |
| British Companies | 172,789 | 12,591 | 69,253 |
| American Companies | 475,112 | 615,293 | 809,605 |
| Total | \$1,543,657 | \$1,251,652 | \$2,568,545 |

The average percentage of surrenders to amount of policies new and taken up, was 6.84, and of lapses, 35.11, and the average proportion of surrenders to amount in force at close of previous year was 1.23 per cent., and of lapses, 6.31 per cent. The death claims in 1903 averaged 1.11 per cent. of the total assurance in force at the end of 1902.

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DETAILS OF LIFE INSURANCE ISSUED AND TERMINATED IN CANADA DURING THE YEAR 1903.

(Compiled from abstract of the Superintendent of Insurance.)

| No. of the second | Amount in | New | | 1 | Amount of 1 | Policies Terr | ninated by | | | Gross Amount iu |
|--|--|-----------------------------|---------------------|--|------------------|---------------------|--------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | Force Jan. 1, 1908. | Policies Issued 1903. | Death, 1903. | Maturity. 1903. | Expiry. 1903. | Surrender. 1903, | Lapse. 1903, | Not Taken, 1963. | Total Ter- minated, 1903, | Force, Dec. 81, 1903. |
| | | | 4 | \$ | \$ | \$ | s | 8 | 8 | |
| Canadian Companies. anada Life (Can. business). | 74.251,400 | 5,619,007 1 | ,125,543 | 274.522 | 67,000 | 374,043 | 804,099 | 520,471 | 3,531,492 | 76,414,662 |
| inada Life (Can. Dustinees). | 34 251,731 | 3,704,566 | 284,870 | 278,210 | 115,550 | 207,583 | 717,000 | 380,828 | 2,029,081 | 35,927,216 |
| nfederation | 2,704,467 | 1,273,624 | 10,500 | None. | 3,000 | 12,500 | 549 785 | 5,000 | 587,050 | 3,428,041 |
| Tife | 1,280,000 | 1,361,850 | 5,500 | None. | None. | None. | 247,000 | 265,000 None. | 539,500 483,889 | 2,126,850 5,231,297 |
| minion life | 4,898,538 | 809,500 | 17,570 | 2,850 | 43,530 8,000 | 45,914 37,592 | 374,025 497,530 | 21,360 | 627,732 | 6,089,729 |
| malaine | | 1,582,793 | $28,250 \\ 131,500$ | 2,000 16,860 | 53,500 | 125,395 | 1,324,985 | 103,500 | 1,835,917 | 14,945,250 |
| doen] | | 2,748,173 | 80,334 | 21,495 | 78,500 | 165,050 | 824,100 | 823,750 | 2,153,402 | 18,023,639 |
| reat West | | 4,662,350 | 29,500 | None. | None. | 21,500 | 726,621 | 138,238 | 958,359 | 3,543,600 |
| ome Life | | 3,832,600 | 48,629 | None. | 6,190 | 411,364 | 869,400 | 595,776 | 2,030,715 | 15,077,266 |
| nperial Life (Can. bus.) | 2,978,013 | 792,425 | 33,338 | 5,490 | None. | 30,811 | 354,613 | 59,675 | 498,827 | 3,287,848 |
| ondon Life { Ordinary Industrial | 3,868,822 | 1,082,304 | 51,464 | None. | None. | 29,718 | 709,170 | None | 790,352 | 4,200,781 |
| anufact'rs Life (Can. bus,) | 26,036,351 | 4,344,356 | 229,482 | 27,792 | 50,100 | 250,252 | 961,050 | 591,846 | 2,430,188 | 28,056,207 |
| atual Life of Canada " | 34,319,960 | 4.927,599 | 278,504 | 122,587 | 70,000 | 277,050 | 1,046,178 | 182,621 | 1,951,831 | 37,370,091 4,086,112 |
| ational Life | 3,425,897 | 1,569,027 | 13,675 | None. | None. | 41,735 | 721,465 | 142,395 | 929,812 2,541,849 | 29,571,248 |
| orth American (Can. bus.) | 27,852,508 | 4,063,241 | 213,509 | 52,100 | 7,000 | 490,811 | 1,319,542 580,033 | 295,000 16,000 | 651 207 | 3,586,160 |
| orthern Life | 3,140,001 | 1,072,030 | 14,135 | None. | 8,000 None. | 17,000 | 509,945 | 126,431 | 651,297 714,700 | 3,924,770 |
| val Victoria | 3,513,931 | 1,103,214 | 30,000 | None. | None. | 21,000 None. | 27,000 | 27,208 | 54,208 | 737,300 |
| wareign Life | None. | 791,508 | None. 6,500 | None. None. | None. | 8,124 | 63,076 | 16,000 | 93,700 | 862,940 |
| ncient Order of Foresters. | 757,790 37,041,662 | 197,350 6,560,924 | 294,234 | 166,535 | 27,675 | 576,689 | 1,269,720 | 977,398 | 3,520,364 | 40,425,778 |
| un Life of Can. (Can. bus.) | 1,522,389 | 5,510,928 | 23,282 | None. | None. | 3,340 | 3,133,076 | 15,000 | 3,174,698 | 3,904,979 |
| Totals | 312,680,604 | 58,750,508 | 2,950,329 | 970,441 | 538,045 | 3,047,471 | 17,629,413 | 5,303,497 | 32,128,873 | 340,821,763 |
| British Companies. | | | | 1.001 | | N | 5,505 | None. | 25,924 | 691,313 |
| Commercial Union | 650,387 | 66,848 | 18,988 | 1,431 | None. None. | None. 4,433 | None. | None. | 25,912 | 136,12 |
| Habarry Life | 150.277 | 10,409 | 21,479 | None. | None | 2,993 | 11,680 | None | 57,786 | 1,366,79 |
| ife Association of Scotland | 1,423,604 | None. | 37,405 | 5,708 None. | None | 1,500 | None. | None | 7,415 | 173,36 |
| iverpool & London & Globe | 180,200 | None. | 5,915 6,727 | None. | None. | None. | None. | None. | 6,727 | 26 91 |
| ondon Assurance | 33,186 941,189 | 21,868 | 37,612 | None. | None. | 1,993 | 8,065 | None. | 53,104 | 910,94 |
| forth British and Mer | | None. | None. | None. | None. | None. | None. | None. | None. | 13,93 |
| Norwich Union Life | | 147,500 | 226,641 | 116,375 | None. | 127,750 | 56,923 | None. | 527,689 | 6,085,44 |
| Pelican and British Empire. Reliance Mutual | | | | | | | | | | ********** |
| loyal | | 235,000 | 30,629 | None. | None. | 2,638 | 12,500 | 1,000 | 48,460 | 980,42 |
| eottish Amicable | | None. | 4,927 | None | None. | 1,848 | None. | None. | 6,775 | 203,79 |
| Scottish Provident | 122,443 | None. | 1,348 | | None. | 436 | None. | None. 157,000 | 1,784 1,568,425 | 21,586,32 |
| Standard | 21,136,553 | 1,861,223 | 288,474 | | 24,500 | | 646,691 12,000 | None. | 51,554 | 467,48 |
| Mar | 495,576 | 19,500 | 34,776 | | None. | None. | 366,241 | 55,450 | 726,702 | 9,815,48 |
| ondon and Lancashire Life | 9,449,514 | 1,079,176 | 99,485 | | None. | 104,373 | | | | 42,578,99 |
| Totals | 42,060,350 | 3,441,524 | 814,406 | 385,926 | 24,500 | 481,117 | 1,119,605 | 213,450 | 3,108,257 | 42,010,00 |
| American Companies. | 10 499 944 | 1,254,736 | 252,383 | 344,856 | 35,500 | 129,175 | 253,293 | 56,200 | 1,430,550 | |
| Ætna Life | 16,472,344 | None. | 41,979 | | None. | 8,613 | | None. | 54,592 | 1,399,01 |
| Connecticut Mutual | 1,453,602 21,769.926 | 3,046,153 | 275,327 | | 67,100 | | | 440,503 | | |
| Equitable | 219,559 | 19,866 | | | None. | 4,824 | None. | None. | 15,477 | |
| fermania (Ordinary | | 2,849,440 | | | None. | 129,154 | | 343,355 | | |
| detropolitan { Ordinary Industrial | . 20,761,027 | 11,204,652 | 145,127 | | 98 | | | None. | 8,301,019 | |
| Jutual Life of New York | . 27,294,235 | 4,511,864 | 272,630 | | 24,87) | | | | 2,465,749 | |
| futual Reserve Life | | 204,292 | | | None, | 40,003 | | None. | 1,408,013 | |
| National Life of U.S | . 94,006 | None- | 14,191 | | None, | None. | None. | None. None. | 3,401,638 | |
| New York Life | . 35,078,615 | 7,903,549 | 363,404 | | +1,950,18 | 0 718,493 | | None. | 13,994 | |
| Northwestern Mutual | . 275,407 | None. | 9,994 | | None. | 1,000 | | None. | 38,303 | 574,0 |
| Phœnix Mutual | | 427 | 26,69 | $ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$ | None. 519,70 | 0 3,314 36,000 | | | | |
| Provident Savings | | 649.380 882,970 | | | | | | | | 7,393,3 |
| Travelers | . 7,106,380 6,318,833 | 1,090,766 | | | | | | 47 000 | | 6,823,7 |
| Union Mutual United States | 1,815,035 | 204,000 | | | | | | | 363,408 | 1,804,5 |
| Totals | . 159,200,654 | 33,912,095 | 5 1,936,33 | 4 747,822 | 2,723,38 | 3 2,740,211 | 2 13,405,499 | 960,368 | 8 23,323,223 | 3 170,845,9 |
| | 1969 - 1940 - 1940 - 19 | | RE | CAPITUL | ATION. | | | | | |
| | 1 8 | 1 \$ | 1 \$ | 1 8 | \$ | 1 8 | 8 | \$ | 30 100 070 | 240 001 7 |
| Canadian Companies | 312,680,604 | 58,750,50 | 8 2,950,31 | | 538,04 | 3,047,471 | 17,629,413 | 5,303,497 213,450 | 32,128,873 | 42,578,99 |
| British " | 42 060 350 | 3.441.52 | 4 814,40 | 6 385,920 | 6 24,500 | 481,117 | 1,119,600 | 213,400 | 3,100,201 | 170,845,9 |
| American " | 150 900 65 | 4 33,912,09 | 5 1,936,33 | 747,82 | 2 2,723,383 | 3 2,740,212 | 13,405,499 | 960,368 | 40,040,440 | 110,010,0 |
| | | | | | - | | | | 1 50 500 950 | 554 246 70 |

| rican " | 42,060,350 159,200,654 513,941,608 | 33,912,095 | 1,936,334 | 747,822 | 2,723,383 | 2,740,212 | 13,405,499 | 960,368 | 23,323,223 | 170,845,947 554,246,709 | 1 |
|----------------|--|------------|-----------|--------------------|-------------------|-----------|-------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|---|
| dian Companies | 312,680,604 | 58,750,508 | 2,950,319 | 970,441 385,926 | 538,045 24,500 | 3,047,471 | 17,629,413 1,119,605 | 5,303,497 213,450 | 32,128,873 3,108,257 | 340,821,763 42,578,999 | |

* Including transfers to Foreign branches. + \$1,830,355 was transferred during the year from All Life and Endowments to Extended Term insurance.

TAXING LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANIES.

The proposal to tax American life insurance companies operating in this city at a rate double that imposed on Canadian companies, is much to be deprecated. Taxing a life company is a highly censurable form of taxation; it is a tax on thrift; it is a tax on the most commendable form of foresight; it is a tax on the provision made for the bereaved. As is said by Mr. Francis A. Walker, the eminent political economist:—

"If a man's income belongs to him to spend, it belongs to him to save; and on the ground of equity the State cannot lay its hands upon that which represents the double virtue of industry and frugality, while sparing that which represents the single virtue of industry. To lay a burthen upon that which has escaped the maw of appetite, which represents the courage, prudence and faith requisite to subordinate the present to the future is thoroughly vicious."

A tax on life assurance adds to the cost of life assurance and lessens the resources of a life company to meet the claims of policyholders. This tax increases the cost of the protection a prudent man seeks to provide for his family in the event of his death. No tax is so utterly indefensible as it is a fundamental principle of public economy, as it is of wise, public policy that life insurance by the head of a family, for the protection of his family, ought to be rather encouraged by public authorities, and not taxed.

To impose on foreign companies a tax of double that which is placed on home companies is most objectionable in principle. Such a policy is deplorably narrow. It introduces an element of irritation by creating a sense of injustice and unfriendliness between neighbouring nations whose interests in this relation as in others, are most intimately interlaced, which are distinctly antagonistic to that mutual good-will by which both are enriched.

THE MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION REBUKED BY ONE OF ITS MOST PROMINENT MEMBERS.

The unreasonable attitude taken by the Manufacturers' Association towards the insurance companies has been sharply rebuked by one of its prominent members. Mr. James Kerr Osborne, of the Massey-Harris Company, Limited, wrote in the following trenchant terms to the secretary of the Manufacturers' Association :—

"Does the secretary of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association think that the underwriters, who have been engaged in the business of fire insurance for many years, are all babies? Does he think that they do not understand their business; that they are incompetent; that it is their duty to confer with anybody and everybody in regard to the running of their business? Or to put it in another way. Does he think that an underwriting company managed by the secretary of the Manufacturers' Association, and the man from Buffalo who suggested a great international fraternal organization, would be better, or more economically managed, or more successfully operated, than existing companies that have had years and years of experience in the underwriting business? There is reason in all things, and I think it is fair to presume that success is the result of experience.

The Canadian Manufacturers' Association finds time to express an opinion on many subjects; but in this particular case I fear that their zeal has overstepped the bounds of prudence. Suppose all the insurance in Toronto, or covered in the late lamentable and disastrous conflagration had been carried by a company such as is proposed by the men from Buffalo, or by the new (and necessarily weak), foreign companies proposed to be brought into the arena by the secretary of the Manufacturers' Association, or by the much discussed plan of civic and municipal insurance, would the losses have been any less? Would the results have been less disastrous? and would the consequences have been otherwise than they are? To the last I answer, Yes! The consequences would have been vastly different to the insured, because their losses might or might not have been paid, whereas under existing circumstances, no insurer will lose a dollar of his just loss.

As business men, let us look at things in a business way. We cannot get a dollar for fifty cents unless some other fellow puts up the other fifty cents, and that is what the fire insurance companies have been doing for some years. Instead of talking nonsense, let us, as business men, co-operate with the underwriters, help to place the fire insurance companies again on a sound and proper basis, become co-insurers by adopting all the improved safeguards that tend to the improvement of our own risks, and thus help to build up instead of destroy the underwriters' business, which, from time immemorial, has been one of the greatest safeguards of commerce and of credit."

THE LONDON ASSURANCE CORPORATION.

The London Assurance Corporation is one of the oldest of British insurance companies, as it is also one of the strongest financially. A Corporation that has passed triumphantly through such tremendous convulsions as repeatedly shook England to its centre, toppling over thousands of banks, trading companies, mercantile firms, in the later years of the eighteenth and earlier part of last century, must have had very sound foundations and a superstructure well designed and built for permanence. The contingencies which, when they arise, bring fire companies into difficulty that have made no provision for any more serious conditions than those of ordinary years, must have been foreseen and provided for in the early stages of the London Assurance Corporation, for, though it has had to face a number of conflagrations, it has always met claims, however, exceptionally large, with all due promptitude.

Last year the business was favourable. The premiums after deducting reassurances and returns, amounted to \$2,565,430, and the net income from interest and dividends, \$121,351. The losses, after deduction of reassurances and salvage, were \$1,186,-806, which was equal to 46.2 per cent. So moderate a loss as the result of the year's operations enabled \$50,000 to be added to the Fire Fund, raising it to \$3,550,000, and \$502,095, to be transferred to profit and loss account. The Corporation shows possession of a general reserve fund amounting to \$2,250,-000, and a fire fund of \$3,550,000. The total assets amount to \$21,817,850.

Messrs. W. P. Kennedy and W. J. B. Colley, joint managers of the London Assurance for Canada, are conducting the business on conservative lines.

MONTREAL CITY AND DISTRICT SAVINGS BANK.

The virtue of thrift is evidently very widely cultivated in this city and district, judging by the annual reports of the local Savings Bank, of which the fifty-seventh annual meeting was held on 3rd inst. The amount due to depositors at close of 1903 was \$15,302,061, the open accounts numbered 69,487, and the average amount due each depositor was \$220.39. During last year the sum of \$1,216,255 was added to the total amount of deposits held by this bank. The number of depositors was raised from 62.843 to 69.487, an increase of 6,644. There must have been very general prosperity prevalent in this city last year to have enabled 6,644 more citizens to have been added to the list of depositors, and nearly a million and a-quarter of dollars. The average deposit per head was \$220.29, against \$224.14 in 1902. So far as the lowering of this average being coincident with a large increase in the number of depositors, indicates a development of thrift in a lower stratum of the people, as seems reasonable, it is a very healthy sign.

The financial position of this highly popular and well-managed Savings Bank is exceptionally strong. Against \$15,302,061, of deposits, it holds \$1,208,697 of cash in hand and in chartered banks, \$8,443,606 of high-class securities, and \$6,920,503 of call and short loans secured by collaterals, making a total of \$16,572,806 of cash, securities and loans that would be promptly available in case of need. The several new branches in the city are reported to be acquiring deposits satisfactorily. Mr. Robt. Archer was elected to the position vacated by death, of Hon. James O'Brien, and Sir William Hingston was re-elected president, the manager being Mr. A. P. Lesperance.

COMMERCIAL UNION ASSURANCE COMPANY.

The Commercial Union Assurance Company's forty-second annual report shows the improved conditions of business, as regards enlarged business and diminished fire losses, which commenced in 1902, were maintained in 1903. The wide area in which this company operates is favourable for a moderate average of losses being experienced. The branches in the United Kingdom represent the conditions of fire business in the chief centres of population, of all classes, in the three kingdoms. The Australasian and South African Colonies, the British settlements at Hong Kong and Singapore, the chief cities of India, Japan, the Argentine Republic, Germany, and the United States are severally spheres in which this strong and progressive company is represented. In Canada the chief office is in this city, of which Mr. James McGregor is the able and highly respected manager. When a fire company is operating over a, practically, world-wide area, it would require almost an impossible prevalence of serious fires to raise the average fire loss to any such height, as it is liable to be raised in any one locality by a local conflagration.

Last year the net premiums amounted to \$8,859,-100, as against \$8,700,260 in 1902, the increase in premium receipts last year having been \$158,840. On the other hand the losses paid and outstanding were \$4,313,795, as against \$4,382,535 in 1902, showing a decrease of \$68,740 in amount of losses. The loss ratio last year was 48.69 per cent. of the premium income, which is the lowest for some years, as is shown by the following :—

| Years. | Fire premiums. | Fire losses, | Loss ratio. |
|---------------------|-------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| | 8 | 8 | P. c. |
| 1903 | 8,859,100 | 4,313,795 | 48.69 |
| 1902 | 8,700,260 | 4,382,535 | 50.37 |
| 1901 | 8,322,034 | 4,951,179 | 59.51 |
| 1900 | 7,060,150 | 3,558,740 | 50.40 |
| 1899 | 5,748,470 | 3,391,770 | 59.00 |
| Totals and average. | \$38,690,014 | \$20,598,019 | ave. 53.2 |

We fear the results of the business in Canada will cast a shadow over the returns of the current year. The policyholders, whose property was swept away to the extent of over thirteen millions by the Toronto conflagration, have every reason to feel intense gratification that their buildings and stocks were covered to a large extent by policies in companies that were fully prepared for such disastrous emergencies.

RECEIVERS OF THE BALTIMORE LOCAL FIRE COMPANIES, according to "The Investigator," estimate that settlements will be on the following basis: Baltimore Fire, 65 per cent.; Firemen's, 85 per cent.; Home Fire, 60 per cent.; Old Town Fire, 90 per cent.; Peabody Fire. 35 to 40 per cent.

BANK DIVIDENDS AND ANNUAL MEETINGS.

The following dividends have been declared at the rates and payable on dates specified. Although May and June have lost much of their distinction in regard to bank meetings, they are still those months in which a large distribution is made of dividends. The following shows the companies whose dividends are payable in the current month and June, the rate of the dividends and dates of annual meetings:—

| Banks, | | ate of | Term. | When P'ble, | Annual Meeting. |
|----------------------------------|----|--------|--------|----------------|--------------------|
| Bank of Montreal | 5 | p. c. | 1 year | 1st June | |
| Canadian Bk. of Com- | | | | | |
| merce | 3] | " | ** | ** | |
| Merch. Bk. of Canada. | 34 | 44 | 66 | 44 | |
| Bank of Toronto | 5 | 16 | 66 | ** | |
| Imperial Bank | 5 | 66 | ** | 61 | 15th June |
| Bank of Ottawa | 43 | 44 | === | 44 | |
| Quebec Bank | 33 | 66 | == | ** | 6th June |
| Ontario Bank | 3 | 46 | \$1 | ** | 21st June |
| Bank of Hochelaga | 31 | 44 | . 6 1 | 46 | 15th June |
| Bank Nationale | | 64 | 44 | 2nd May | 18th May |
| Traders' Bank | 31 | 61 | ** | 1st June | 21st June |
| Union Bank | 31 | 66 | | ** | 20th Jun. |
| Bank of Hamilton | | 41 | ** | ** | 20th Jun |
| Standard Bank | 5 | 65 | ** | == | 15th June |
| Bank St. Jean | 3 | ** | ** | " | |
| Sovereign Bank Miscellaneous. | | " | } year | 16th May | 14th June |
| Montreal St. R'y | 24 | | 1 " | 1st May | |
| R. & Ont. N. Co | | 44 | 1 14 | 2nd May | |
| Mont. L., H. & P. Co. | | ** | 1 " | 16th May | 4th June |

The aggregate of the bank dividends payable on 1st June next, will be about \$2,150,000, which ought to give some animation to the market for securities.

THE MONTREAL CITY BILL. THE MAJORITY OF THE OBJECTIONABLE CLAUSES STRUCK OUT.

In our last issue reference was made to the extraordinary powers asked for in the Bill presented to the Quebec Legislature, which had been passed by the City Council. It is satisfactory that the majority of the most objectionable clauses were struck out by the Legislative Committee, such as, electing the aldermen for a three-years term; the clause concerning the opening, widening and prolongation of the streets or parts of streets, to be carried out at the discretion of the Council; the conduit and gas clauses, and several others of minor importance.

The Bill presented was, it is contended, unique, for, probably no city council ever had the hardihood to ask a Legislature to grant such unlimited powers, more, especially those connected with street widening and borrowing. We stated that we did not believe the Mayor and several members of the civic delegation could possibly be in favour of a Bill asking for such autocratic powers, which, if granted, would have such a far-reaching effect, both as regards the resources and credit of the city. This effect never for a moment can have been contemplated, or thought of by those who were instrumental in preparing this peculiar form of municipal legislation, which can certainly claim to be without any precedent.

It has already been stated, that the consolidated Charter of 1897-99, was prepared by a Commission consisting of members of the City Council, as well as the best outside talent, and based upon the past experience of the city, having special regard to its future requirements and development. It cannot be too strongly emphasized that under the operations of this Charter the financial affairs of the city were getting ino a very satisfactory condition; they were fast recovering from the effects of previous over-progressive and extravagant administrations. However, our Civic Fathers, who love to make changes, took the "Charter Tinkering Craze" just like their predecessors had the "Street Opening and widening craze," only that the former tried to go one better in connection with street opening and unlimited borrowing powers.

Last year some of the safeguards surrounding our civic finances were wiped out and the door opened once more for street widening and opening, although to a rather limited extent. Surely every citizen of Montreal realizes that the city is not in a position to undertake any more work of this nature at the present time-excepting, of course, those who want to have their property expropriated and sold to the city. It was mentioned that owing to certain improvements not having been carried out the property-owners on several streets suffered very severly, but instead of opening the door again for this class of work, it would have been well for the city to pay any reasonable damages which may have occurred to them. Our aldermen have only to look at some of the claims which are already appearing to realize that the few expropriations undertaken will cost double, if not treble, what was anticipated. It would, no doubt, be very nice to widen the streets, but is there an instance on this continent, or elsewhere, of works of this nature being undertaken similar to those which have been done in the city of Montreal, under like conditions. It may be stated without fear of contradiction, that the city of Montreal is not in a position,-in fact few cities on this continent are in a condition-to undertake works of this description on such a scale. All expropriations and streets widening should be stopped as quickly as possible under existing conditions.

* * *

The citizens of Montreal would do well to consider some of the following points:

Charter tinkering and patching should be stopped, if for no other reason than this, we should take some pity upon the Quebec Legislature and not wholly monopolize its time year after year. It would be in the interests of the city to "change all the changes" that have taken place, and get back to the consolidated Charter and work under it.

All expropriations, street widenings and such like should be stopped.

The debt limit and borrowing powers as now fixed, should be unalterable. For the credit of the city and the credit of the province these should not be tampered with.

If for any reason more money is needed than can be borrowed under existing limits, the city should follow the permission granted in the Charter, namely, that of submitting a by-law to the ratepayers, to meet any extraordinary expenditures by a special tax—spread over a term of years if necessary—to wipe out any special loan which may be voted by those who have to foot the Bill.

* * *

A wealthy city such as Montreal should devise some scheme of paying its way. Civic administrators should hesitate a good deal before going to Quebec for powers which involve increased burdens on the ratepayers, or the carrying out of special works without first consulting the tax-payers, and the Quebec Legislature should not only hesitate, but refuse to grant any such legislation, except on condition that it be submitted to and approved of by the rate-payers.

The most urgent needs of the city to-day seem to be made a sort of side-show, namely, keeping our streets and sidewalks in proper condition. Surely some means could and should be devised to meet this need, or the commercial business of the city will suffer irretrievably; real estate will depreciate in value, and instead of being the most favourite city for tourists, it will be avoided.

The more money that is borrowed, the less there will be for street cleaning or repairs, or any other administration purposes.

Then the Fire Brigade and some of the watermains want attention. Our merchants are paying increased rates because of the neglect, to a large extent, of these requirements.

Some attention should be given to a large amount of exemptions which, to-day, amount to over forty millions. While we do not advocate that churches, charitable institutions and such like, as far as the buildings are concerned, should be taxed, yet it would be a good plan to tax all real estate in the city, except that on which the building actually stands, or at all events, not to allow more than a certain limited area in connection therewith. Why should large tracts of property be held in this city

practically free from taxation, which are increasing in value all the time, that will eventually be disposed of at enormous profits? It seems like discrimination.

* * * *

As far as conduits are concerned, it would be unwise and unbusiness-like to start in with this work without counting the entire cost, preparing every detail or scheme which would be workable, making some arrangement with the companies here as to the payment of a rental, and placing matters on a comprehensive business basis. The idea of borrowing a million and a-half for what may be of litt'e or no value, and not knowing how much more would be required to be expended, is not wise or in accordance with business methods.

* * * *

In Boston there are several Companies, and the majority of them have placed their own conduits under of course proper regulations, and for the privilege of building these conduits they are compelled to keep the streets not only immediately over the conduits, but for several yards on each side in proper repair for a period, we think, of ten years. It must be remembered that the Bell Telephone Co. has practically completed a system of conduits. That the Standard Light & Power Co., which is now owned and operated by the Montreal Light Heat & Power Co. has several miles of conduits in the streets, without any restrictions whatever, for the city refused to recognize their rights to put them down and the case was carried to the Privy Council where the Company won. All these matters would have to be considered very carefully.

* * * *

Then comes the all absorbing question. "The people want cheap Light," and any person who for a moment doubts, or even has the hardihood to suggest that it is questionable whether cheaper light could be had under civic administration than that from private enterprise, must necessarially be interested in the Montreal Gas Co. There are some great minds in this city, nevertheless there are those who are not afraid to express their opinion, and we unhesitatingly say that we do not believe the time is ripe yet in the city of Montreal for civic ownership of industries. But let us look at the proposition which has been made to the Quebec Legislature. The City Council asks for unlimited borrowing powers for the purpose of acquiring by purchase, or otherwise, the existing Gas Co's, entire plant. What fun there might be in arranging this matter! We are under the impression that gas as far as lighting is concerned is not gaining much headway. It is being superseded by other means of lighting. Its chief utility is for heating and cooking purposes, and to a large extent at all events, the price that the Company can charge for this is regulated by the cost of coals and other fuel. It would be much better for the city, when giving away valuable franchises to see that it reaps its portion of the profits which may be earned by the enterprises, whether they be lighting, or railway, or any work of that nature.

We are sure that the citizens generally are pleased with the recent action of the Council in accepting the Bill with the objectionable clauses omitted, but we would suggest that they go a little further and strike out the whole Bill.

We have advocated for years the desirability of appointing three commissioners to look after the administration of the affairs of this city, with the aldermen acting as a Legislative body. It is not fair to expect that the aldermen who have their own private business to attend to can devote sufficient time and attention to the details connected with civic affairs, The strongest evidence of this is that they allowed such a Bill to be presented, at Quebec.

OTTAWA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

The shareholders of this company have held a meeting to consider its present financial position, when it was decided to make a further call, which is reported to be in the vicinity of 30 per cent. on the subscribed capital, which amounts to \$500,000, on which 20 per cent. or \$100,000 has already been paid-up. The net loss of the Ottawa by the recent Toronto conflagration amounted to about \$75,000.

CANADIAN FIRE UNDERWRITERS ASSOCIATION

A monthly meeting of the above Association commenced in this city on the 4th inst., and we understand the meeting is in session to-day also. The important question of increase in rates is still under consideration.

The following Western managers were in attendance, Messrs. James Boomer (Manchester); P. H. Sims (British America); Alfred Wright (London & Lancashire) and H. M. Blackburn (Sun.)

INSURANCE ON MONTREAL CITY PROPERTY.

The following Companies are on the new schedule of insurance for city property,

| Scottish Union and Nat. | 20 | p. c. | Royal | 15 | p. c. |
|-------------------------|-----|-------|-----------------|-----|-------|
| Montreal Canada | 15 | 44 | Ottawa Fire | 121 | 66 |
| Equity Fire 1 | 121 | ** | London Mutual. | 10 | ** |
| Law, Union & Crown | 10 | " | Anglo-American. | 5 | ** |

The total insurance amounts to \$475,000 of which \$322,000 is for three years at a rate of \$1.45 and \$153,000 for one year at the rate of \$1.55.

The rates quoted by the tariff Companies were \$1.60 and \$1.72 1-2 respectively.

Shortly after the policies were issued a fire occurred in the Eastern Abbattoir, which fortunately was got under control, in time to prevent what might have been a serious loss.

FIRE AT WALDRON, DROUIN & CO, MONTREAL

By the fire which occurred on the 5th inst., at Messrs. Waldron, Drouin & Company, wholesale furriers, corner St. Peter and St. Paul Street Montreal, the following companies are interested :---

| Anglo American | | \$ 5,000 |
|------------------------------|-----|----------|
| Ætna | | 5,000 |
| Alliance | | 10,000 |
| Atlas | | 8,600 |
| British America | | 10,000 |
| Caledonian | | 5,000 |
| Commercial Union | •• | 7,500 |
| Home | | 10,000 |
| Liverpool & London & Globe | •• | |
| Liverpool & London & Globe | • • | 12,500 |
| London & Lancashire | | 5,000 |
| London Assurance | | 8,600 |
| Manchester | | 5,000 |
| National of Ireland (Western | | 5,000 |
| North British & Mercantile | | 5,000 |
| Northern | | 10,000 |
| Norwich Union | | 5,000 |
| Ottawa | •• | 5,000 |
| Phoenix of London | • • | |
| Phoenix of London | | 5,500 |
| London Mutual | • • | 5,000 |
| Scottish Union and National | | 10,000 |
| Sun | | 10,000 |
| Union | | 17,000 |
| Western | | . 5,000 |
| Hartford | | 2,500 |
| | | |

Loss about 75 per cent.

\$177,200

PROMINENT TOPICS.

In the United States the opening of the St. Louis Exhibition is the talk of the day. The buildings of this exposition are said to surpass those of the one at Chicago. All such boasts are subject to discount. Evidently, however, there have been a number of exceedingly fine buildings erected at St Louis, and very attractive exhibits collected. The Exhibition was opened on 30th April, in commemoration of the signing of the treaty by which France transferred the territory of Louisiana to the United States in 1804, the consideration being \$15,-000,000, which is about 2 per cent. of the value of the annual crops of the territory sold by France!

* * *

Mr. John Shaw, a veteran in municipal and political spheres, Toronto, was elected on 30th ult., as member of the Board of Control, by an overwhelming majority. His opponent, Mr. Richardson, who had lost his seat owing to association with the who were convicted of ballot frauds, in trying to regain that seat, secured only a crushing defeat.

* * *

Hon. Mr. Fielding, replying to Dr. Sproule, stated that the amount of treasury bonds outstanding at present is £845,000, of which £300,000 at 3 5-8 per cent. fell due on 30th April, 1904, the remainder at 3 1-4 per cent. becoming due on 6th October, 1904. Arrangements have been made by cable by which £400,000 will be discounted at 3 per cent. and £55-000 at 2 3-4 per cent. on 30th April, both falling due on 7th of November, 1904. These will replace the

MAY 6, 1904

 $\pounds_{300,000}$ which fell due on 30th April, and the total amount of treasury bills outstanding will be increased to $\pounds_{1,000,000}$ (\$5,000,000), but the funded debt will be considerably reduced.

No little surprise is being expressed at the news that the Canadian Pacific Railway has commenced work on a branch from Toronte to Sudbury, via Byng Inlet and Barrie. The branch is to be built without any subsidy in land, or money or guarantee of bonds from the Provincial or Federal Government, or any municipality. The route is the same as for the James Bay Railway, the bonds of which have been guaranteed by the Ontario Government, work on which was about to commence. The C. P. R. branch will probably lead to the James Bay line being abandoned.

PERSONALS.

MR. CHARLES P. CLEGHORN, who has been connected with the Guardian Assurance Co., in Montreal, for ten years, is about to sever his connection with that institution, to the regret of the management and other officers of the Company here. Mr. Cleghorn has been appointed special agent for the Hartford Fire in Montreal. We have no doubt the arrangement will be of mutual advantage to the Hartford Fire and Mr. Cleghorn, who should be well adapted for his new position.

AN INTERESTING EVENT took place in the Office of the North American Life Assurance Company. Toronto, on Thursday, the 28th ult., when the officers and staff presented Mr. D. E. Kilgour, M.A., A.I.A., of the Actuarial Department, with a handsome silver tea and coffee service, on the occasion of his marriage, to the daughter of Mr. E. E. Sheppard. editor of "Saturday ..ight." The Directors, to mark their appreciation of the high esteem in which Mr. Kilgour is held, presented him, through Mr. Goldman, the managing director, when a cheque for a nice amount. The secretary, on behalf of the staff, tendered their hearty congratulations to Mr. Kilgour, and showed in every way, by the remarks made by some of those present, the friendly and hearty feeling existing among the Office staff of the Company.

Ma. F. H. MATHEWSON, manager of the Canadian Bank of Commerce in this city, is now "en rotte" to the Pacific Coast, accompanied by Mrs. and Miss Maxhewson. Their trip is expected to extend over four or five weeks. This holiday, we trust, will be highly enjoyed by Mr. Mathewson and his wife and daughter, to whom it will be very pleasant to meet old friends in the Northwest.

MR. C. CHEVALIER CREAM, general manager of the Nationa of Ireland, arrived in Canada a few days ago, and is at present in Toronto.

MR. CHARLES E. CHASE, of Hartford, vice-president of the Hartford Fire Insurance Company, was in Montreal on Wednesday and Thursday of this week. He has been in Toronto for some days and returned to that city yesterday evening. Mr. Chase states that the Hartford is interested in the Toronto conflagration to the extent of about \$150,000. The Hartford is one of the oldest and strongest fire offices in Aemerica; and is noted for honourable and liberal dealings with its policyholders. Speaking of the Toronto conflagration Mr. Chase says it somewhat resembles that of Baltimore, inasmuch as it occured in the wholesale district, where the largest values were.

MR. GEO. WEGENAST, manager of the Mutual Life Assurance Co., of Canada, spent a day in the City recently, in connection with the business of the Company. He was accompanied by Mr. P. R. Earle, superintendent of Agencies. It is pleasing to see the very satisfactory progress, which is being made by this conservatively managed life office, whose operations are practically limited to the Dominion of Canada. It is not only building up.a progressive business. but also a substantial surplus.

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.

1169. H. M., Montreal.—When Dominion Coal Common was paying 8 per cent. per annum the dividend was paid in quarterly installments of 2 per cent. each. The last of the quarterly dividends of 2 per cent, was paid on 1st July, 1903, and on 1st January, 1904, a dividend of 3 per cent. for the preceding six months was paid, tacitly putting the stock on a 6 per cent, dividend basis. No further announcement has been made, but it is expected that a further dividend of 3 per cent. will be paid on the 1st of July next.

1171. D. T. N., Quebec.—On the 30th June, 1903, the Canadian Pacific Railway common stock issued amounted to \$84,500,000, and the preferred stock issued was \$32,500,000. There was also outstanding \$67,252,253 of debenture stock, \$61,738,-086 of other classes of bonds and debentures. The Canadian Pacific Railway operates over 7,600 miles of railway, besides subsidiary lines.

1172. C. R. B., Montreal.—The Consumers' Gas Company of Toronto has a paid-up capital of \$1,-800,000 shares of a par value of \$50 each. There is no bond issues. They pay 10 per cent. per annum in quarterly dividends on the 1st February, May, August and November. Power has been applied for to increase the authorized capital from \$2,000,000 to \$5,000,000. The net price per 1,000 cubic feet charged by the company to consumers is 80 cents.

1175. B. J. S., Ottawa.—Choctaw, Oklahama and Gulf R. R. was started as Choctaw Coal and Iron Company, it passed through reorganization, and emerged under the above title. The first mortgage bonds and the first mortgage bonds of the Choctaw and Memphsis, which is an extension of the old road, are both excellent investments.

1174. R. C. G., Halifax.—The Detroit, Hillside and Southwestern is leased to the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern, which guarantees 4 per cent. dividends to the stock.

1176. D. T. E., London.—The New Jersey Junction road connects the West Shore with all the other roads entering Jersey City or Hoboken. It is a very valuable property. It is leased to the New York Central Road for 100 years.

Hotes and Items.

AT HOME AND ABROAD.

THE BANK OF HOCHELAGA has opened a branch office at St. Boniface, Man.

THE CANADA LIFE has organized a local board of directors at Glasgow, Scotland.

GFRALD E. HABT is now manager of the burglary department of the National Surety, New York.

THE UNION BANK is building an office in Winnipeg, and is reported to be arranging to open a branch at St. Bonifree.

MR. J. J. GALLOWAY, manager of the Merchants Bank at Carnduff, Assa., has been promoted to the charge of the Souris branch.

OTTAWA CLEARING HOUSE.--- iotal for week ending 28th April, 1904: Clearings, \$1,838,061; corresponding week last year, \$1,671,314.

THE UNITED INSURANCE Co., N.C., a local concern, was formed to have assets amounting to \$5,000, when placed in charge of a receiver.

LONDON STREET RAILWAY.—Earnings week ending April 23, 1904: \$2,760.00; corresponding week 1903, \$2,525.03. Increase, \$254.97 or 9.2 per cent.

THE FIRE AND LIGHT COMMITTEE, TORONTO, is about to consider a plan for installing a pumping engine in the warehouse district to draw water from the Bay in case of a fire, so as to be independent of the ordinary supply.

RAILWAY GRANTS IN AID.—The Ontario Legislature passed an act last session, granting a land subsidy of 6,000 acres per mile and a cash subsidy of \$2,000 per mile for the 200-mile branch of the Grand Trunk Pacific, north from Thunder Bay to the main line.

THE ALLIANCE is pushing business over new territory 'n the United States, having opened up connections in Milwaukee, Louisville, New Orleans and other cities, under the direction of Mr. Belfield, who was manager in the State for the Imperial, which was taken over by the Alliance.

NEW YORK.—Since 1st January, this year, it is stat³d that 5,000 persons have died of pneumonia in New York, where tuberculosis, and measles are very prevalent. Many persons go to New York, even from Canada, under the impression that its climate is mild and steady, which is often a fatal mistake.

THE SYMPATHY EXPRESSED BY OUR ENGLISH CONTEMPO-PARIES, with Toronto, in the trouble of the great fire called out some remarks that provoke a smile. Our leading journal in London, expresses great relief that the buildings of Toronto University were not burnt. The fact is the fire was a mile south of these structures. Had the fire reached them at all Toronto would almost inevitably have been consumed. University College is in little danger of fire from exposure. It is so isolated.

Correspondence.

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

NEW YORK INSURANCE LETTER.

New York, May 4, 1904.

While only seven or eight American companies were interested in the great Toronto fire, that event has, of course, excited much interest and comment in this city on account of its disastrous character and the inroads, which it mekes upon the funds of the foreign and American corporations. While the Toronto losses will not directly affect the American branches of the foreign companies, still, these branches will feel deeply in sympathy with the home offices in this severe additional loss. There have now been three extensive conflagrations since the first of the year, and it would seem that a widespread and decisive movement should be begun in the direction of improving risks all over the country, and also so far as possible, in increasing rates to meet the hazards, which, it is now shown, actually exist. The underwriters will make a mistake if they do not take advantage of these occurrences to put rates where they think they ought to be. It is always easier to get better prices for insurance when the companies have been better prices for insurance when the companies have been hard hit, as they have during the past three or four months.

In line with any atcempts to decrease losses and to raise the rates comes the decision by the Western Union. at its recent meeting, in Atlantic City, to reduce expenses in the so-called "expected cities." The reduction of expenses, of course, means a reduction in commissions. The cities excepted, have not been subject to the uniform commission rate, which has prevailed in every portion governed by the Union, and it is now thought that these cities should also be somewhat restricted in the amounts to be paid hereafter for business.

The life insurance men in this locality are glad to note that the Canadian companies have followed the example recently set here, by adopting a rule prohibiting the use of competitive literature by the canvassers for the companies. While there are exceptions to all rules, it is thought that the compact entered into by the companies here has been fairly well lived up to, and it is to be hoped that our Canadian companies will also be consistent in their practice since the adoption of a similar agreement.

Much interest attaches to the action of the North British in discontinuing all its branch offices in this country. It will be remembered that the big English company had trouble with the New York Fire Insurance Exchange over the appointment of a branch manager to whom the Exchange objected. We believe Mr. Richards to be as fair and consistent an underwriter as is to be found anywhere, and his faithful support of the man whom he had appointed, must be regarded with approval. However, the trouble has been remedied, so far as the North British is concerned, by the action mentioned; and, while the remedy was a heroic one, it may prove in the end to be the most efficacious.

NOTES.

We regret to note the death, since our last letter, of Mr. John Harman-Áshley, editor and proprietor of the "Insurance Advocate," of this city. Mr. Ashley was born in England sixty years ago, and, after a successful career, there as business man and litterateur, removed to this country some twenty years ago, and eventually established the "Advocate," which he developed into a prosperous and paying property.

Manager J. J. Guile, of the Sun Insurance Company, has just returned from a prolonged trip to the Pacific Coast.

All his friends will learn with pleasure of the approaching return of Captain A. W. Masters, United States Manager of the London Guarantee and Accident Company. Captain Masters, it is reported, is much improved in health, and all will be glad to seehim once more at the helm

NEW YORK STOCK LETTER.

New York, May 4, 1904. For some time it has been a common expression that there was a lack of buying power in the market, the inference being that the cash was so tied up in various ways that there was little or nothing left for stock market, or investment purposes. The refutation of this statement was found in the tremendous over-subscription of the New York City bonds, for which bids were opened yesterday. The offer was \$37,000,000 of 31/2 per cent. bonds, of which \$32,000,000 were to run for 50 years, and \$10,000,000 for 10 years. One hundred bids were received on these bonds, aggregating £200,071,950. The successful bids being 101.53 maximum and 101 the minimum. Certainly such a showing as this does not denote any lack of buying power, but does emphasize the fact that there is a lack of disposition to buy anything except absolutely gilt edged securities, and further, that the funds available are not temporary balances, which are likely to be drawn against at any moment, but are funds for permanent investment. The comptroller has stated that it is not likely that there will be any further sales of bonds this year for city purposes, and, therefore, those who have failed to secure any part of this issue must, of necessity, look for other investments in order to keep their funds actively employed, and the question naturally arises as to what they will take for this purpose. Such funds cannot be profitably used for call loans as the rate for these is now down to from 1/2 to 1 per cent., and mercantile demands are much lighter than they have been before in many months,

About the only thing left is to purchase railroad bonds, and the better grades of stocks and this, we believe, is what will happen. Not only is this true of this centre, but it is also true of London and Berlin where the evidence of recuperation from the depression of the past two years is very great, and where there is a growing tendency to in-It is true crease their interest in American securities. that the depression which has existed at this centre for some time is gradually making itself felt further west every month, but with a diminishing intensity as it nears those portions of the West, Southwest and South, where the high prices obtained for last year's crops has made the people wealthy to an extent undreamed of a few years ago. Ths also is the natural course of recuperation, though choicest investments are absorbed first, and in due time the movement extends to other classes until the general run of stocks is reached. As has been stated before, there is an improving investment demand, but the principal thing which is lacking at the present time is-confidence.

The continuance of regular dividends will have a very reassuring effect, and that these may reasonably be ex-pected is shown by the estimated disbursements for May of dividends and interest. These are said to be \$74,577,803, as compared with \$67,973,323 for 1903, and \$58,643,000 for 1902

Notice has been received to-day that the Panama Canal has been transferred to representatives of this Government and is now legally a part of the United States. the payment of this property has been going forward and is still being shipped, \$1,175,000 having been engaged for shipment by to-morrow's steamer; but the matter is so far concluded that it can be considered as one of the things of the past, and no further apprehension regarding its effect Many persons upon the money market need be feared. have an idea that the \$40,000,000 is being paid out for something, of. to say the least, very doubtful, if not actually of very little value, but we think that the day is not distant when events will prove that this Government has made a very good bargain, and one which judged by dollars and cents will be a profitable one.

The consumation of this transaction removes another one of the disturbing factors, which have been hanging over the market. The two most important factors remaining, which have to be reckoned with, being the contraction in general business and the Presidential Election. In a measure, one of these is somewhat dependent upon the other, but the reports from those best able to judge, regarding this matter is that after the Conventions are held. and it has been definitely decided who the candidates will be, that the general trade of the country will show a marked improvement. One of the best posted men in the dry goods trade says, "there has never been a time in the history of the dry goods trade when collections have been Retailer sare doing wealthy as good as they are now. Retailer sare doing wealthy conservative business; all that this trade needs is a week or two of good weather, and the stores throughout the country will be taxed to their utmost capacity." Reports from other lines of trade, while not quite so glowing, are still good, and the outlook is certainly one of great en-

couragement. While the market has been very dull, it exhibits a certain amount of strength, and transactions are on a somewhat larger scale than they have been for some time past. Being so completely in the hands of professionals as it is at the present time, it is not unlikely that drives will be made at it from time to time, but aside from such operations the market has a distinct tendency upwards.

T. C. DELAVAN.

20 Broad Street, New York City.

STOCK EXCHANGE .. OTES.

Wednesday, p.m., May 4, 1904.

After a week of dullness the market showed some signs of improvement to-day in point of activity, and the trading took on more life. Throughout the early part of the week, when trading was at its lowest, prices sagged slightly, but even at the worst a firm feeling was evident throughout, and at the close to-day, a stronger feeling was apparent, and in one or two cases reasonably notable advances have taken place. The statement that general buying from the public is absent from the market, is now worn Nevertheless it continues to be the main threadbare. reason for the conditions prevailing. A gradual improvement in this respect is being noted now, and a great part of the buying is coming from what is practically investment sources. As before stated, those who postpone their purchases too long will, no doubt, pay for the delay in the higher prices they will have to give for their securitles. Such stocks as Toronto Railway, Montreal Street, Richelieu and Montreal Power, to say nothing of Halifax Tram and Nova Scotia Steel Common, which are purely Cauadian securities and all paying dividends well warranted by their A decided imearnings, are ridiculously cheap to-day. provement took place in the price of Dominion Steel Bonds, and this advance was made under a comparatively small volume of business. The demand that has sprung up for these Bonds does not yet seem to have been satisfied. In a small way the sale of 14 shares of Montreal Steel Company Common, vulgarly known as "Switch Common," at 30, was interesting. This is the first sale since the dividend on the Common Stock of this Company was discontinued. Previously the stock sold around 50.

There is no change in the money situation, and call money is easy in Montreal at 5 per cent. The rate for call money in New York to-day was 11/4 per cent., and in Lon-don the rate was 11/4 to 11/2 per cent.

The quotations for money at continental points are as follows:

| | Market. | Bank. |
|--------------------|---------|-------|
| Paris Berlin | ** 0 | 3 4 |
| Amsterdam | 01 | 34 |
| Vienna Brussels | 0.5 | 31 |
| * * * | | |

C. P. R. closed with 1171/2 bid, a fractional decline from the price prevailing a week ago, and 850 shares in all changed hands. The earnings for the last ten days of April show an increase of \$71,000. *

The Grand Trunk Railway Company's earnings for the last ten days of April show an increase of \$19,533. stock quotations as compared with a week ago are as follows:-

*

| A STAR AND A STAR TO A MELLINE TO A | A week ago. | To-day. |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|---------|
| First Preference | 1014 | 101 |
| Second Preference | 85) | 841 |
| Third Preference | 36% | 37 |
| | | |

The trading in the Mackay Company's stocks was small this week, the Common Stock on sales of 110 shares closing with 231/2 bid. The Preferred closed with 671/2 bid, and 160 shares were traded in.

The trading in Montreal Street involved 325 shares, and the closing bid was 208½, as compared with 208¼ a week ago. There were 13 shares of the New Stock traded in, and the closing bid was 204½, a decline of % of a point from last week's close. The earnings for the week ending 30th ult. show an increase of \$2,689.55, as follows:-

| Sunday | \$5,259.77 | Increase. \$206.07 |
|-----------|------------|-----------------------|
| Monday | 6,294.05 | 85.18 |
| Tuesday | 6,408.00 | 298.28 |
| Wedneeday | 6,383.78 | 368.51 |
| Thursday | 6,491.53 | 266.05 |
| Friday | 6,435.53 | 806.55 |
| Saturday | 7,016.99 | 658.91 |

Toronto Railway was firm and closed with 1011/2 bid, on sales of 886 shares for the week. The highest touched during the week was 102. The earnings for the week ending 30th ult. show an increase of \$5,254.53, as follows:-

| | | Increase. |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Sunday | \$3,237.93 6,068.69 5.861.60 | \$ *57.34 894.06 520.10 |
| Tuesday Wednesday Thursday | 5,965.08 6,376.60 | 770.17 469.67 |
| Friday Saturday *Decrease. | 6,731.25 8,041.38 | 1,101.87 1,556.00 |

Twin City was the most active stock in this week's market, and 2,286 shares were traded in. The stock closed with 93% X.D. bid, equivalent to an advance of 15% points for the week. The dividend of 11% per cent. is due and payable on 15th May.

Detroit Railway closed with 62 bid, an advance of 1/4 point for the week on sales of 65 shares.

Halifax Tram sold up to 94 this week, closing with 9215 bid, and 75 shares were traded in.

> * * .

Toledo Railway closed with 19 bid, which is the same price as that prevailing last week, and 160 shares in all changed hands.

R. & O. is firm and closed with 87 bid, an advance of 1/2 point for the week, and 832 shares were involved in the week's business.

Montreal Power is now selling ex-dividend of 1 per cent., and closed with 73¼ X.D. bid, a decline of 5% of a point from the closing last week, and 890 shares changed hands. * . *

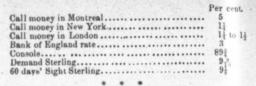
. .

Dominion Steel Common closed unchanged with 10 bid on sales for the week of 415 shares. The Preferred Stock is fractionally stronger and closed with 281/4 bid, and 145 shares were traded in. The Bonds are decidedly firm and on transactions of \$66,000 advanced to 66%, a gain of 31/2 points for the week.

Nova Scotia Steel Common closed with 761/2 bid, a decline of 1/2 point for the week on sales of 257 shares. Some broken lots of the Preferred Stock changed hands, amounting in all to 53 shares, and there were also sales of \$2,000 of the Bonds, \$1,000 at 108 and \$1,000 at 1071/2.

> * * *

The trading in Dominion Coal Common involved 520shares, and the stock closed with 65% bid, a loss of % of a point for the week. The Preferred Stock closed with 1081/2 bid and 40 shares were traded in, the last sales being made at 110.



Thursday, p.m., May 5, 1904.

A firm market was in evidence to-day, and although stocks were not active, prices advanced somewhat, and Pacific opened at 117%, and the last the closing was firm. sales were made at 1171/2, while Twin City sold up to 94, at which price most of the day's sales were made. R. & O. continued its upward movement and reached 871/4. the last sales being made at 871/8. Toronto Street was traded The Dominion Steel Securities were all stronger, the Bond's particularly so, the highest price to-day for these securities being $67\frac{1}{2}$, and the last sales were made at $67\frac{1}{2}$. The Preferred Stock sold at 29 and closed with 29% bid, while the Common changed hands at 101/2. Some scat-tered transactions in Montreal Street New Stock were made at 204%, while a broken lot of the old stock changed hands at 208. Dominion Coal Common sold at 65% and closed with 65 bid, and the Preferred Stock was traded in at 110. Nova Scotia Steel Common was the only weak feature, and after opening at 76%, sold down to 76 and closed with 76% bid. Mackay Common Stock was traded in at 23% and at 2414 for a broken lot, while Bell Tele-phone, after selling at 14316 in the morning advanced to 144% in the afternoon. Bank of Montreal Stock continues strong and sold up to 250. A broken lot of Union Bank at 132. and Merchants Bank at 160 completed the day's business

* * * MONTREAL STOCK EXCHANGE SALES

THURSDAY, MAY 5. 1904.

MORNING BOARD.

| No. of Shares. | Price. | No. of Shares. | Price. |
|---|---|---|---|
| 50 C.P.R 50 " Ontario 57 Kich. & Ontario 63 " " 43 " " 43 Toronto St. Ry 2 Montreal St. Ry 35 New Mont. St. Ry 10 Twin City | 117½ 87 87 87¼ 87¼ 87¼ 101¾ 208 20458 | 5 Dom. Iron Com 25 Dom. Iron Pref 60 Dom. Coal Pref 25 N. S. Steel Com 25 " 10 MacKay Com 25 Bell Telephone 10 Union Bank 4 Bank of Montreal 518000 Dom. Iron Bonds. | 110 76% 76% 24% 143% 132 149% |
| 130 " 100 Dom. Iron Com | 94 | 3000 ff | 67 1/2 67 1/2 |

AFTERNOON BOARD.

| 25 R 5 25 50 25 8 M 12 5 T | C.P.R oronto St. ich. & Onte " " tontreal Pow " win City, | Ry 1 ario | 17 36 17 36 10 | 5 Dom. Iron Com 10½ 25 " 10½ 25 " 76½ 25 " 76 25 MacKay Com 23¼ 25 Bell Telephone 144¼ 2 Merchants Bank 160 25 " 160 6 Bank of Montreal 249½ 50 " 250 |
|---|--|--------------|--|--|
| 12 5 T | win City, | | | 50 " 250 |
| 25 | 46 66 | | 94 94 | 39 250 \$4000 Dom. Iron Bds 67 |
| 50 | | | 94 | 1000 ⁴⁴ 67 1000 ⁴⁴ 67 |
| 5 | | | 94 | 3000 " 67 |

WANTED.--By a young man, position in a Fire Insurance Office. Several years' experience. First-class references. Apply,

X. Y., Box 578.

INSURANCE AND FINANCE CHRONICLE.

The gross traffic earnings of the Grand Trunk Canadian Pacific, Canadian Northern, Duluth, South Shore & Atlantic railways, and the Montreal, Toronto, Halifax, Twin City and Havana street railways, up to the most recent date obtainable, compared with the corresponding period for 1602 and 1903, were as follows:

| Die, compared | more as f | allows . | | |
|----------------|---|---------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| 902 and 1903, | were as i | Unows. | | |
| | GRAND TRU | INK RAILWA | AY. | |
| Year to date. | 1902. | 1903. | 1904. | Increase |
| far. 31\$6 | 825.777\$9.0 | 24.269 \$6.5 | 2,682 Dec.\$ | 1,481,587 |
| Week ending. | 1002. | 1903. | 1904. | Increase |
| | 546,709 | 637,980 | 661,513 | 23,533 |
| pl. 7 | 555,073 | 671,127 | 677,192 | 6,065 |
| 14 | 584,197 | 638,800 | 641,576 | 2,761 |
| | ANADIAN P | ACIRIC RATE | WAY. | |
| | | | 1904. | Increase |
| Year to date. | 1902. | 1903. | 800.000 Dec. | |
| ar. 31\$ | 7,892,000 \$9 | ,515,000 \$0, | 1090,000 2000 | 40-310-00 |
| | GROSS TRA | FFIC EARNI | NGS | |
| Week ending | 1902. | 1903. | 1904. | Increase |
| April 7 | 729,000 | 830,000 | 891,000 | 61,000 |
| 14 | 704,000 | 909,000 | 961,000 | 52,000 |
| 21 | 746,000 | 856,000 | 939,000 | 83,000 |
| 30 | 1,050,000 | 1,168,000 | 1,239,000 | 71,000 |
| 3 | | FIC EARNIN | NGS. | |
| 1. 1. 4.1 | | | | Inc. |
| Month. | 1902. | 1903. | \$357,652 De | |
| anuary | \$820,451 | | 82,541 " | 660,200 |
| ebruary | 674,361 | 742,741 | | |
| farch | 1,054,915 | 1,493,173 | 030,034 | 4-111 |
| pril | 1,291,700 | 1,383,357 | | |
| May | | 1,246,055 | | |
| une | 846,737 | 1,318,527 | | |
| uly | 1,175,711 | 1,434,102 | | |
| August | 1,362,901 | .,434, | | |
| September | 1,616,134 | 1,654,027 | | |
| October | 1,558,240 | 1,477,981 | | |
| November | 1,672,442 | 1,581,145 | | |
| December | 1,0/-,44- | -,,-,-,, | | |
| Total | 14,651,255 | | | |
| 10141 | CANADIAN N | ORTHERN R. | AILWAY. | |
| | | AFFIC EARN | | |
| | | | | |
| July 1st, 1903 | a Ju | ly Ist, 1903 | | |
| to | . M | ar 21, 1004 | Inc | crease. |
| Mar. 31, 150 | | ar. 31, 1904 2,316,800 | | 5,450 |
| \$1,601,350 | | | | |
| Week ending. | | | 1904. | Increase |
| April 7 | 50,3 | | 56,500 | 6,200 7,700 |
| 14 | | | 51,200 | |
| 21 | | | 54,500 | 10,800 |
| 30 | | | 72,100 | 11,400 |
| Du | LUTH. SOUT | H SHORE & | ATLANTIC. | |
| | 1902. | 1903. | 1904. | Increas |
| Week ending. | and the second se | 53,121 | | Dec. 12,88 |
| Mar. 14 | 47,179 | 54,000 | | ** 7,80 |
| 21 | 49,247 | 72,407 | | 7,39 |
| 31 | 59,830 48,464 | 47,974 | | " 4,47 |
| Apl. 7 | | | | |
| | MONTREAL | STREET R | | 10 S & 1 S |
| | Charles 22 11 | 1000 | TOOA | Increas |

| Month. January \$ February March April May June | 1902 153,3 132,1 154,89 152,53 173,90 182,8 194,1 | 74 \$ 59 25 25 75 | 1903. 168,883 139,065 168,987 170,050 170,778* 205,454 212,337 | \$ | 1904 182,386 167,023 183,689 184,905 | Increase \$13,503 27,958 14,702 14,855 |
|--|--|---|---|------|--|--|
| July August September. October November. December. Week endin April 7 | 195,6 189,1 179,4 170,8 173,0 g. | 10 50 33 34 42 1902. 35,614 | 208,586 212,156 204,452 187,930 187,780 1903. 37,804 | | 1904. 42,016 | Increase 4,212 |
| 14 21 30 | | 34,010 :6,276 46,725 | 40,248 39,290 52,708 | | 42,333 43,347 57,209 | 2,085 4,057 4,501 |
| | To | RONTO S | STREET RAI | LWA. | Υ. | |
| Month- January February March täpanis | 141 | ,135 ,233 ,681 | 1903. \$ 161,938 146,539 159,943 | | 904. 179,360 168,90 4 183,643 | Increase \$17,422 22,365 23,700 |

TORONTO STREET RAILWAY. Increase 1902. 1903. 1904 Month 21,487 162,276 183,763 April. ... 132,947 May 174,519 145,195 132,266 June. 177,593 192,629 185,822 July. 162,072 165,165 August September. 195,689 237,010 183,810 October ... 155,150 151,033 174,039 169,620 199,155 Inc 1004 1902. 1903 ng. 6,991 43,156 31,142 36,165 40.478 572 41,050 32,030 5,070 30,108 38,420 43,490 56,067 39,667 47,213 WIN CITY RAPID TRANSIT COMPANY. Inc. 1902. 1903. 1904. \$270,485 \$310,084 \$329,354 243,150 280,947 310,180 277,575 317,839 338,580 19,270 29,233 277,575 261,456 20,741 315,465 295,153 337,699 308,131 346,018 362,702 335,715 363,379 321,842 337,965 370,349 302,634 346,673 307,756 329,686 333,424 375,452 ending. 1902. 1903. 1904. Inc. 62,510 74,973 79,575 4,602 59,523 74,635 77,969 3,330 59.869 71,373 > 75,900 4,527 HALIFAX ELECTRIC TRAMWAY CO., LTD. Railway Receipts. 1902. 1903 1904. Inc. \$10,764 \$10,867 10,677 Dec. 190 8,498 9,322 9,894 572 11,152 9,761 10,195 957 10,026 10,533 11,126 11,528 11,844 14,835 15,942 16,786 17,177 17,494 18,494 11,382 12,055 9,946 11,220 12,160 11,207 1902. 1903. 1904. Inc. nding. 2,460 2,606 146 2,352 2,680 2,582 Dec. 98 2,287 2,368 2,257 2,595 227 Lighting Receipts. 1903 Inc. 1002 1904 \$13,863 12,969 16,317 2,454 9,529 11,924 14,227 2,303 12,718 10,523 9,207 2,195 9,066 9,020 8,368 8,403 7,055 8,351 8,826 7,336 8,028 10,781 9,139 13,186 11,528 October 14,200 November 16,611 15,816 December HAVANA ELECTRIC RAILWAY CO. 1902. 1903. 1904 Increase Month. +130.709 187,597 102,000 128,709 Jan. 87,014 104,647 130,579 25,932 Feb. March 101,951 120,389 98,435 119,974 April 120,712 130,925 May 91,223 122,125 June 104,565 127,918 July 136,570 ie 109,092 Aug 2 105,959 128,323 Sept 125,031 5 Oct 7 102,349 122,415 Nov I 104,791 127,644 Dec..... Week ending 1904. Increase 1903 27,538 28,380 32,308 4,770 April 3 se 1,524 29,904 10.... 22 28,715 32,232 3,517 17 55 4,192 27,743 31,935 25

INSURANCE AND FINANCE CHRONICLE.

STOCK LIST

Reported for THE CHRONICLE by R. Wilson-Smith & Co., 160 St. James Street, Montreal. Corrected to May 4th, 1904, P. M.

| BANKS. | Capital subscribed | Capital paid up, | Reserve Fund. | Per centage of Rest to paid up Capital.p | Par value of one share. | Market value of one share. | Dividend for last half year | Revence per cent. on investment at present prices. | | When Dividend payable. |
|--|---|--|--|---|---|---|-----------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|---|
| | 8 | | 8 | | 8 | 8 | Per Cent. | Per Cent. | Asked. Bid | |
| ritish North America anadian Bank of Commerce Jominion astern Townships | 4,866,666 8,700,000 3 000 000 3,000,000 | 4,866,666 8,700,000 3,000,0 0 2,467,350 | - 1,946.666 8,000,000 8 000,000 1,450,000 | 40.00 34,48 100.00 59.59 | 248 50 50 100 | 303 75 77 00 | 3 3 3 4 | 4 80 4 54 | ···· 125 ···· 154 | Jan.Apl.JulyOct. |
| familton lochelaga mperial a Banque Nationale | 2,236 300 2,000,000 3,000,000 1,560,000 | 2,226,170 2,000, 00 2,995,316 1,500,000 | $\substack{1,892.244\\1,650,000\\2,650,000\\400,000}$ | 85.00 52,50 96.67 26.66 | 100 100 100 30 | 138 00 213 00 38 00 | 6 85 5 3 | 5 07 4 69 5 45 | ····· 138 ···· 213 110 ··· | June Dec June Dec June Dec May Nov |
| ferchants Bank of P. E.I ferchants Bank of Canada fetropolitan Bank lolsons contreal | 843,976 6,000,000 1,001,000 3 000,000 14,000,000 | 343,976 6,000,000 1,100,00 2,923,085 14,000,000 | 266,136 2,9-0,008 1,000,000 2,720,778 10,000,000 | 77 40 48.33 100,00 93 90 71,56 | 82.44 100 100 50 130 | 157 50 100 50 220 00 | 4 3) :: 4) 5 | 4 45 4 29 4 00 | 157 201 200 250 248 | 1.00 |
| iew Brunswick איז Scotia mario Htawa sopie's Bank of Haltfax. | 500,000 2,000,000 1,500,000 2,492,100 1,0.0,000 | 500,000 2,000,000 1,500,000 2,484,920 999,282 | 775,000 3,100,000 500,000 2,401.428 440,000 | 155.00 155.00 33.33 93.50 42.12 | 100 100 100 100 20 | 211 00 | 6 5 3 44 3 | 4 96 | 211 | January July February Aug June Dec June Dec |
| People's Bank of N. B Provincial Bank of Canada uebec | 180,000 846,537 2,500,000 3,000,030 1,800,000 | 180,000 823,301 2,500,000 3,000,000 1,300,000 | 170,000 930,000 3,192,705 325,000 | 94.44 36.00 161.00 25.00 | 150 100 100 100 100 | 119 00 210 00 | 4 19 3 4 11 0 | 5 04 3 80 | 210 119 | |
| tandard it, Rtephens . 3. Hymeinthe 1. Johns | 1,000,000 200,000 504,600 500,200 2,978,000 | 1,000,000 200,000 329,515 278,825 2,974,260 | 925,000 45,000 75,000 10,000 3,174,260 | 92.50 22,50 22,76 3,77 106,77 | 50 100 100 100 100 | 225 00 | 5 2) 3 3 5 & 1† | 4 86 | 920 | April Oct February Aug |
| Traders Julion Bank of Hallfax. Julion Bank of Canada. We tern. Farmouth | 2,000 000 1,336,150 2,500,000 800,000 800,000 | 1,997,457 1,832,125 2,500,00 458,889 300,000 | 450,000 928,790 1,000,000 217,500 50,000 | 23.50 68.13 40.00 53.00 16.66 | 100 50 100 100 75 | 135 00 | 34 34 38 88 | 6 18 | 135 | February Aug June Dec |
| MISCELLANEOUS STOCKS. dell Telephone. Jan. Colored Cotton Mills Co Janadas General Electric Janadas Paelão Dommercial Cable | 1,475,000 | 5,395,370 2,700,000 1,475,000 84,500,000 13,333,300 12,500,000 | 953,361 285,000 3,947,232 | 25,58 34,75 | 100 100 100 100 100 100 | 144 00 42 00 117 75 63 00 | 20 10 5 3 11* & 1 | 5 55 9 52 5 08 6 34 | 144 143 42 34 117] 117 63 63 | Jan. Apl.Jul.Oet January Jul J April Oc Jan.Apl.July Oc |
| Dominion Coal Preferred do Common Dominion Cotton Mills Dom. Iron & Steel Com do Pfd | 3,000,000 15,000,006 3,035,600 20,000,000 5,000,000 | 3,000,000 15,000,000 3,033,000 20,000,000 5,000,000 | | | 100 100 100 100 100 | $\begin{array}{c} 110 & 00 \\ 66 & 00 \\ 38 & 00 \\ 10 & 25 \\ 29 & 00 \end{array}$ | 4 3 | 7 27 9 0J | 66 68 38 34 101 10 | Mar.Jun.Sep.De |
| Duluth S. S. & Atlantie do Pid Balifax Tramway Co Hamilton Electric St. Com do Pfd | 12,000,000 | 12,000,000 10,000,000 1,350,000 1,500,000 2,250,000 | 107,178 | 8.00 | 100 100 100 100 100 | 100 00 | | 5 00 | 100 9 | Ton some some Ton |
| Intercolonial Coal Co | 200,000 1,600,000 5,000,000 34,853,200 29,338,000 1,500,000 14,000,000 7,000,000 | 500,000 219,700 1,600,000 29,338,000 1,500,000 14,603,000 7,000,000 750,000 | \$ 90,474 | | 100 100 5 100 100 100 100 100 100 | 100 00 100 00 25 00 70 00 | 1 ¹ 2 31 | 7 00 | 70 6 | Jan. Feb. Augu Jan.Apl. Jul. Oc Jan.Apl. Jul. Oc |
| Montreal Cottou Co. Montreal Light, Ht, & Pwr. Co, X.D Montreal Street Railway. Montreal Telegraph National Balt Com | . 6,000,000 . 2,000,000 . 7,000,000 | 7,000,000 | 798, 92 | 13.31 | 100 100 50 40 100 | 110 00 75 00 105 00 64 80 | 10 24* 20 11 | 8 18 5 33 4 76 4 93 | 75 7 210 20 162 18 | 6 Mar.Jun SepDe 31 Feb.MayAug.N. 84 Feb.MayAug.N. 7 Jan Apl.Jul.O. June Decemb |
| North-West Land, Com do Pref N. Seotia Steel & Coal Co, Cm. X.R. do I id Oglivie Flour Mills Co do Pid | 1,467,681 5,642,921 8,090,000 1, 1,030,0*0 1,250,000 | 5,642,92 3,090,00 1,030,00 1,250,00 | 0 | : | 25 100 100 100 100 | 200 00 | 3 2* | 6 00 7 77 5 83 | 77 5 | 0 March. A pril Octob Jan. A pl. Jul. O Mar. Jun. Sep. Do do do |
| Richalieu & Ont. Nav. Co St. John Street Railway. Toledo Ry & Light Co. Toronto Street Railway Twin City Itapid Transit CoX.D. do Preferred Windsor Hotel. Winnipeg Elee. Sh Railway Co | 2,505,600 500,000 12,000,000 6,000,000 15,010,000 8,000,000 | 2,505,63 500,00 12,000,00 6,000,00 15,010,00 | 0 131,55 0 39,643 0 1,086,283 0 2,163,50 0 | 0 5.22 7.98 7 8.10 7 14-41 | 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 | 120 00 20 50 102 50 94 00 100 | 0 3 0 1 * 0 1 * 0 1 * | 6 89 5 00 4 90 5 31 6 00 3 00 | 1029 19 94 | 7 May Nov. 0 Mar.Jun.Sep D 10 Jan. Apl. Jul. 6 13 Feb.MayAug.N Dec.Mar.Jun.S 5 May Nov. 71 Apl. July. Oct |

| STOCK LIST-Continu | iea. |
|--------------------|------|
|--------------------|------|

| BONDS. | Rate of Interest per annum | Amount outstanding. | When Interest due | Where Interest payable. | Date of Redemption. | Latest quota- tions. | REMARKS. |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|--|--|---|----------------------------|---|
| ommercial Cable Coupon | 4 | \$18,000,000 | 1 Jan. 1 Apl. July 1 Oct. | New York or London | 1 Jan., 2397. | 96 96 | |
| an. Colored Cotton Co | 65 | 2,000,000 200,000 | | Bank of Montreal, Mnotreal Merchants Bank of Can., Montreal | 2 Apl., 1902. 1 May, 1917. | | |
| teil Telephone Co | 0 | 1,200.000 2,551,000 £ 308,200 | 1 Mch. 1 Sep. | Bank of Montreal, Montreal Bank of Montreal, Montreal | 1 Apl., 1925 1 Meh., 1913 1 Jan., 1916 | 1091 | Redeemable at 110 Redeemabl : at 110 |
| Dominion Iron & Steel Co | 1 | \$ 7,876,000 | 1 Jan. 1 July | Bank of Montreal, Montreal | 1 July, 1929. | 663 | Redeemable at 110 |
| falliax Tramway Co Intercolonial Coal Co Laurentide Pulp Montroel Gas Co | 5 5 5 | \$ 600,000 344,000 1,200,000 1,000,000 880,074 | 1 Apl. 1 Oct. | Bk, of N. Scotia., Hal. or Montreal Company's Office, Montreal. | 1 Jan., 1916. 1 Apl., 1918. 1 July, 1921. | 106j 100 | Kedeemable at 105 |
| Monireal Street Ry. Co | | 1292,000 681,333 1,500,000 | 1 Meh. 1 Sep 1 Feb. 1 Aug 1 May 1 Nov | " Montreal | 1 1 AHE. 1922 | 103 | |
| Nova Scotia Steel & Ccal Co Ogilvie Flour Mill Co | . 6 | 2,500,000 1,000,000 | | TOL NOVA SCOUN, NO CLOFT FIND | | | Redeemable at 1 |
| Bichellen & Ont. Nav. Co. Royal Electric Co [*] St. John Rallway. Toronto Rallway | 5 4 | 471,580 £ 130,900 \$ 675,000 6 0,000 2,509,953 | 1 Apl. 1 Oct 1 May 1 Nov 1 Jan. 1 July | Bank of Montreal, St. John, N.B. | Oet., 1914 1 May, 1925. | | Redeemable at 11 Redeemable at 11 |
| Windsor Hotel | 5 | 840,000 1,000.(0) 700,000 5,185,000 4,000,000 | 1 Jan. 1 Jul 1 Jan. 1 Jul 1 Jan. 1 Jul | y y y y y y | 1 Jan. 1927 1 July, 1912 1 July, 1909 | | |

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| Fires: Their Causes, Prevention and Extinction; combining also a guide to agents respecting insurance against loss by the, and containing information as to the construction of buildings, special features of manufacturing hazards, writing of policies, adjustment of loses, etc. by F. C. MOORS, N. Y., 230 pp., 12mo., eloth, bevelled edge. Price per copy 200 | Hine's Expiration BookGood for ten years from any date of beginning. No. 1. 72 leaves, 10x16 is to month, mixbled sides, leather back and corners; for small agencies. Price 200 No. 2. 96 leaves (3 to month), cloth and leather |
| Griswold's Tables of Consta-t Multipliers and Time Tables. —The Time Tables exhibits at a glane the number of monits or days intervaling between any two given dates, from one day to five years. The Table of Constant Multipliers, for the rapid Conjust term policies, Castley of Interest, etc.; in set of dards with portfolio. Price. Griswold's First End-zewriter's Text Brok.—Revised and brought down to da a. Much new and valuable matter has brought down to da a Much new and valuable matter has brought down to da the Much new and valuable matter has | No. 3. 163 le ives (14 to month), cloth and leather |
| been introduced, minima are numerous and cover the emire courts. These vitations are numerous and cover the emire field, giving comprehensively the LAW OF FICE INVERTIANCE. The index is very comprehensively in the index is seen tions. Large octave, 100 p. gers, fail law sheep. Published at the office of the INSU 4.XCE X FIXANCE CHAPNICLE. Frice. 25 00 Chemistry of Fire and Fire Prevention. A Handbook for In- surance Sorreorors, Work's Managers and all interested in Fire Kisks ank their diminution, by Herbert Lugle, F. I. C., F. C. S. and Harry Ingle, Ph. D., B. Sc. Frice | Bond Values by Montgomery Rollins. — Tablas showing not re- turns of Bonds and other investments maturing in from s x months to one hundred years, and bearing interest at from 2 per cent, to 5 per cent, payable haid-yearly, at rates to yield from 2 per cent, to 5 per vent, assent ing by eights and tenths. Copies may be obtained at this office. Price |
| BABCOCK & WILCOX, LIM | PARTIERS |
| | TORONTO OFFICE, 114 KINC ST. WEST |

COMMERCIAL UNION Assurance Oompany, Limited.

£169,998 13 0

The Directors have much pleasure in submitting to the Shareholders their Forty-Second Annual Report, with the Audited Accounts.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The Net Premiums for 1903 amounted to £1,771,820, being an increase of £31,768, as compared with the year 1902, and the losses paid and outstanding to £862,759 or 48.7 per cent, of the Premium Income.

From the Profits of this Department the sum of £100,000 has been carried to Profit and Loss; and, after providing for outstanding Losses, the Fire Fund stands at $\pounds1,781,576$ as against £1,538,901 at the same time last year.

LIFE DEPARTMENT.

The New Business of the year consisted of 1,122 Policies assuring £954,780, while the New Premiums included in the Account amounted in gross to £52,619

The claims by death, £142,519, were within the amount expected.

Notwithstanding the quinquennial payments of £118.363 in respect of profits to Policyholders and Shareholders, the Life Fund at the end of the year showed an increase of $\pounds 26,817$, and stood at $\pounds 2,619,089$.

MARINE DEPARTMENT.

The Net Premiums received were £231,684, and the Net Losses paid and outstanding amounted to £113,147.

From the Profits of this Department the sum of £40,000 has been carried to Profit and Loss; and, after providing for outstanding Losses, the Marine Fund stands at £485,094 16s. 11d.

ACCIDENT DEPARTMENT.

The Net Premiums received amounted to £117,548, and the Losses paid and outstanding to £55,825.

PROFIT AND LOSS.

| This ac | count | has | been | closed | with a | a. | bal- | |
|---------|--------|-----|------|--------|--------|----|-------------|---|
| | e of . | | | | | | £169.998 13 | 0 |

and out of that amount the Directors recommend:-

| (c) The payment of a Dividend of Twenty-five Shillings per Share (free of Income Tax), making, with the Interim Dividend of Fifteen Shillings paid in November last, Forty Shillings per Share for the | | | | |
|---|--------|----|---|--|
| year 1903 | 62,500 | 0 | 0 | |
| (6) The provision for an Interim | | | | |
| Dividend on account of the year 1904, of Twenty Shillings per Share | | | | |
| to be paid on the 4th Nov. next leaving a balance to be carried for- | 50,000 | 0 | 0 | |
| ward of | 57,498 | 13 | 0 | |
| | | | | |

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

REVENUE ACCOUNT, FROM 1ST JANUARY TO 31ST DECEMBER, 1903. Du

| DR, | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----------|------|------|
| To | | | £ | 4 | d. |
| Amount of Fire Fund at the beginn | ing | of | - | | |
| the year. | | | 1,538,901 | 6 | 7 |
| Fremiums, after deduction of Re | ins | IT- | | | |
| ances | 1 | | 1.771.819 | 11 | 11 |
| Interest | 1 | | 47,789 | 16 | 10 |
| | 60 | | 11,102 | 10 | 10 |
| | | 3.3 | 58,510 | 1 15 | - 18 |
| | 1 | | 00,010 | | CR. |
| By £ | | d. | £ | | |
| Losses paid and outstanding. after deduction of Reinsur- | - | | ~ | | u. |
| BDC68 | | | 862,759 | 0 | 6 |
| Commission and Brokerage | | | 279,458 | | |
| Contributions to Fire Brigades 12,482 | 10 | 7 | | | 1 |
| State Charges- | | | | | |
| Foreign | 4 | 0 | | | |
| Expenses of Management 292,736 | 0 | 4 | | | |
| and the second | | | 334.248 | 14 | 11 |
| | | | | | |

| Bad Debts.

| Amount to | Profit | and Los | 8 | end of the | 100,000 | | |
|-----------|--------|---------|---|------------|-----------|---|---|
| year | | | | | 1,781,576 | 4 | 5 |

£3,358,510 15 4

BALANCE SHEET OF THE COMPANY.

31st December, 1903. Tinhillat-

| Liabilities. | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| Succession and G | £ | 8. | d. |
| SHAREHOLDERS' CAPITAL- Subscribed-50,000 Shares · | | | |
| of £50 each £2,500,000 0 0 | | | |
| Paid up | 250,000 | 0 | 0 |
| "Belating" 4 p.c. Term Deb. Stock | 298,700 | 0 | 0 |
| Terminable Depentures issued by "Deleties" | 267,468 | 0 | 0 |
| Balance of Appropriation for payment of | 30,000 | 0 | 0 |
| | 16,374 | 6 | 7 |
| | 200,000 | 0 | 0 |
| | 26,009 | 8 | .5 |
| | 60,000 | - 0 | 0 |
| Shareholders' Life Profits. | 51,555 | 4 | 0 |
| Fire Fund. | 1.781,576 | | |
| Life Account, as per separate Balance Sheet | 2,713,094 | | |
| Marine Fund | 485,094 | 16 | 11 |
| Profit and Loss Account | 60,691 | 14 | 6 |
| Accident Fund. Profit and Loss Account Leasehold Redemption and Sinking Fund. Bills Payable | 169,998 | 13 | 0 |
| Bills Payable. | 2,891 | | |
| Bills Payable | 2,437 | | |
| Perpetual Premiums and Fire Deposits | 660 | | |
| interest received in advance of due dates | 6 055 | 15 | 8 1- |
| Amounts due to Agents and others | 4,097 | 9 | - |
| Outstanding Losses £152,191 0 0 Fire. | 4,001 | - | 9 |
| Marine | | | |
| Accident 15.857 16 10 | | | |
| and the to other com- | | | |
| panies for Reinsurances 183,902 19 2 | | | |
| partices for reemsurances 185,902 19 2 | 957 699 | 10 | |
| Survey Fees | 357,682 28 | 16 0 | |
| Survey Fees | | 0 | |
| Survey Fees £6, | 28 | 0 | 0 |
| Survey Fees | 28 803,328 | 0 6 | 8 |
| Survey Fees£6, £6, Assets. Mortgages on Property within the United | 28 803.328 £ | 0 6 s. | 0 8 d. |
| Survey Fees£6, <i>Assets.</i> Mortgages on Property within the United Kingdom | 28 803,328 | 0 6 s. | 0 8 d. |
| Survey Fees£6, Assets. Mortgages on Property within the United Kingdom | 28 803.328 £ | 0 6 s. 14 | 0 8 d. 3 |
| Survey Fees£6, Assets. Mortgages on Property within the United Kingdom | 28 803.328 £ 27,898 66,811 18,098 | 0 6 8. 14 0 5 | 0 8 d. 3 0 11 |
| Survey Fees£6, Assets. Mortgages on Property within the United Kingdom | 28 803,328 £ 27,898 66,811 18,098 | 0 6 8. 14 0 5 | 0 8 d. 3 0 11 |
| Survey Fees£6, Assets. Mortgages on Property within the United Kingdom | 28 803,328 £ 27,898 66,811 18,098 | 0 6 8. 14 0 5 0 | 0 8 d. 3 0 11 |
| Survey Fees£6, Assets. Mortgages on Property within the United Kingdom Mortgages on Property out of the United Kingdom Mortgages on Rates raised under Acts of Parliament Loans upon Life Interests and Reversions Loans upon Personal Security Life Investments and Outstanding Account as per separate Balance Sheet | 28 803.328 £ 27,898 66,811 18,098 47,600 1.172 s. | 0 6 8. 14 0 5 0 15 | 0 8 d. 3 0 11 0 8 |
| Survey Fees£6, Assets. Mortgages on Property within the United Kingdom Mortgages on Property out of the United Kingdom Mortgages on Rates raised under Acts of Parliament Loans upon Life Interests and Reversions Loans upon Personal Security Life Investments and Outstanding Account as per separate Balance Sheet INVESTMENTS— British Government Securities Indian and Colonial Government Securities | 28 803.328 £ 27,898 66,811 18,098 47,600 1.172 s. | 0 6 8. 14 0 5 0 15 13 | 0 8 0 11 0 8 6 |
| Survey Fees£6, Assets. Mortgages on Property within the United Kingdom | 28 803.328 £ 27,898 66,811 18,098 47,600 1.172 8, 2,713,094 170,000 | 0 6 8. 14 0 5 0 15 13 0 | 0 8 d. 3 0 11 0 8 6 0 |
| Survey Fees£6, Assets. Mortgages on Property within the United Kingdom Mortgages on Property out of the United Kingdom Mortgages on Property out of the United Mortgages on Property out of the United Mortgages on Rates raised under Acts of Parliament Loans upon Life Interests and Reversions Loans upon Personal Security Life Investments and Outstanding Account as per separate Balance Sheet NVESTMENTS British Government Securities Indian and Colonial Government Se- curities | 28 803.328 £ 27,898 66,811 18,098 47,600 1.172 5, 2,713,094 170,000 280,072 | 0 6 8. 14 0 5 0 15 13 0 11 | 0 8 d. 3 0 11 0 8 6 0 5 |
| Survey Fees£6, Assets. Mortgages on Property within the United Kingdom Mortgages on Property out of the United Kingdom Mortgages on Rates raised under Acts of Parliament Loans upon Life Interests and Reversions Loans upon Life Interests and Reversions Loans upon Personal Security Life Investments and Outstanding Account as per separate Balance Sheet Investments | 28 803.328 £ 27,898 66,811 18,098 47,600 1.172 ⁸ , 2,713,094 170,000 280,072 71,034 | 0 6 8. 14 0 5 0 15 13 0 11 9 | 0 8 d. 3 0 11 0 8 6 0 5 11 |
| Survey Fees£6, Assets. Mortgages on Property within the United Kingdom | 28 803.328 £ 27,898 66,811 18,098 47,600 1,172 8, 2,713,094 170,000 280,072 71,034 192,502 | 0 6 8. 14 0 5 0 15 13 0 11 9 13 4 | 0 8 d. 3 0 11 0 8 6 0 5 11 9 8 |
| Survey Fees£6, Assets. Mortgages on Property within the United Kingdom | 28 803.328 £ 27,898 66,811 18,098 47,600 1.172 * 2,713,094 170,000 280,072 71,034 193,641 192,502 576,492 | 0 6 8. 14 0 5 0 15 13 0 11 9 13 4 4 | 0 8 d. 3 0 11 0 8 6 0 5 11 9 8 8 |
| Survey Fees£6, Assets. Mortgages on Property within the United Kingdom Mortgages on Property out of the United Kingdom Mortgages on Property out of the United Kingdom Mortgages on Rates raised under Acts of Parliament Loans upon Life Interests and Reversions Loans upon Personal Security Life Investments and Outstanding Account as per separate Balance Sheet NVEETMENTS British Government Securities Indian and Colonial Government Se- curities Foreign Government Securities Foreign Government Securities | 28 803.328 £ 27,898 66,811 18,098 47,600 1.172 * 2,713,094 170,000 280,072 71,034 193,641 192,502 576,492 | 0 6 8. 14 0 5 0 15 13 0 11 9 13 4 4 | 0 8 d. 3 0 11 0 8 6 0 5 11 9 8 8 |
| Survey Fees | 28 803.328 £ 27,898 66,811 18,098 47,600 1,172 8, 2,713,094 170,000 280,072 71,034 192,502 | 0 6 8. 14 0 5 0 15 13 0 11 9 13 4 4 | 0 8 d. 3 0 11 0 8 6 0 5 11 9 8 8 |
| Survey Fees£6, Assets. Mortgages on Property within the United Kingdom | 28 803.328 £ 27,898 66,811 18,098 47,600 1.172 5, 2,713,094 170,000 280,072 71,034 193,641 192,602 576,492 113,148 181,415 | 0 6 8. 14 0 5 0 15 13 0 11 9 13 4 4 1 6 | 0 8 4. 3 0 11 0 8 6 0 5 11 9 8 8 4 8 |
| Survey Fees£6, Assets. Mortgages on Property within the United Kingdom | 28 803.328 £ 27,898 66,811 18,098 47,600 1.172 * 2,713,094 170,000 280,072 71,034 193,641 192,502 576,492 | 0 6 8. 14 0 5 0 15 13 0 11 9 13 4 4 1 6 15 | 0 8 4.30 11108 6051198848 2 |
| Survey Fees£6, Assets. Mortgages on Property within the United Kingdom | 28 803.328 £ 27,898 66,811 18,098 47,600 1.172 8, 2,713,094 170,000 280,072 71,034 193,641 192,502 513,418 181,415 318,149 | 0 6 8. 14 0 5 0 15 13 0 11 9 13 4 4 1 6 15 | 0 8 4.30 11108 6051198848 2 |
| Survey Fees | 28 803.328 £ 27,898 66,811 18,098 47,600 1.172 5, 2,713.094 170,000 280,072 71,034 192,562 113,148 181,415 318.149 132,458 644,422 | 0 6 8. 14 0 50 15 13 0 11 9 13 4 4 1 6 15 3 16 | 0 8 d. 3 0 11 0 8 6 0 5 11 9 8 8 4 8 2 6 2 |
| Survey Fees | 28 803.328 £ 27,898 66,811 18,098 47,600 1.172 8, 2,713,094 170,000 280,072 71,034 192,502 576,492 113,148 181,415 318,149 132,458 | 0 6 8. 14 0 5 0 15 13 0 11 9 13 4 4 1 6 15 3 16 10 | 0 8 d. 3 0 11 0 8 6 0 5 11 9 8 8 4 8 2 6 2 11 |

INSURANCE AND FINANCE CHRONICLE.

Ca

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4 0 Cl

| Amounts due by other Companies for Re- insurances and Losses | 88,194 | 0 |
|---|--------------------|---|
| Contribution of Expenses due by "West of England Life Fund" | 2,534 | 4 |
| Outstanding Premiums: | $16,347 \\ 25,880$ | |
| Accident | 2,232 5,995 | |
| CASH-On Deposit£126,402 0 6 With Bankers and in | | |

hand. 321,048 9 11

447,450 10 10,767 16 Temporary Loan to Life Department. . .. 44,923 2 10 609 18 1

£6.803.328 6 8

W. M. GUTHRIE, JOHN TROTTER, HENRY MANN, Secretary. Directors

The Montreal City & District Savings Bank.

57th ANNUAL REPORT.

The fifty-seventh annual general meeting of the shareholders of the Montreal City and District Savings Bank was held on the 2nd inst., the President, Sir William Hingston in the chair.

Mr. A. P. Lesperance was requested to act as secretary of the meeting, after which the president submitted the report of the directors for the year ended December 31, 1903. It stated:

"Your directors have pleasure in presenting the fiftyseventh annual report of the affairs of the Bank, and of the result of its operations for the year ending December 31, 1903.

"The net profits for the year were \$152,445.08, which, added to \$50,263.29, brought forward from last year's profit and loss account, made the latter \$202,708.37. From this have been paid two dividends and bonus, and \$25,000 has been applied to reduce property account, leaving a balance at the credit of profit and loss of \$77,708.37.

"The number of open accounts on the 31st December last was 69,487, and the average amount due each depositor was \$220.29

"For the accommodation of our depositors in the West End, a branch was established, during the year, at the corner of St. Catherine street and McGill College avenue, which is making satisfactory progress. The Bank has also acquired a property at the corner of Ontario and Maisonneuve streets, where it is intended to open a branch as soon as possible, for the convenience of our depositors in that district.

Your directors have to record, with deep regret, the death, since the last annual meeting, of their esteemed colthe Hon. James O'Brien, who had been a director league, of the Bank for upwards of twenty-seven years, and whose rare business qualities and whose devotion to the interests of the instituton were of much value. Mr. Robert Archer, formerly president of the Board of Trade, has been elected to the position.

As usual, frequent and thorough inspection of the books

has been made during the course of the year." The financial statement showed the following for December 31, 1903:

ASSETS.

| Cash on hand and in chartered banks \$ | 1,208,697 | 36 |
|--|-----------|----|
| Dominion of Canada Government stock and accrued interest. | 2,037,012 | 50 |
| Provincial Government bonds | 403,907 | 43 |
| City of Montreal, and other municipal and school bonds and debentures | 4,840,463 | 23 |

| and ry securities | ici- ion | 6,920,503 | 68 |
|--|-------------|---------------------|----------|
| Government | | 180,000 | 00 |
| | | ,572,806 1 | 95 |
| ank premises (Head Office and branches) | | \$ 450,000 9,186 | 00 36 |
| ther assets | | | |
| | \$17 | ,031,993 | 31 |
| LIABII ITIES. | | | |
| To the public: | | | |
| mount due depositors | | \$15,302,061 | 19 |
| mount due Receiver-General | | 93,341 | 90 |
| mount due Charity Donation Fund | | 180,000 | |
| mount due open accounts | | 78,881 | 89 |
| | \$1 | 5,654,284 | 94 |
| To the Shareholders: | | | |
| apital stock (amount subscribed \$2,000, | (000) | | |
| | | 000 000 9 | |

Other bonds and debentures

| paid up | ** ** ** ** | \$ 600,000 00 |
|----------------------|-------------|-------------------|
| Reserve Fund | | 700,000 00 |
| Profit and Loss Acco | ount | 77,708 37 |

\$1,377,708 37

\$17,031,993 31

The open accounts numbered 69,487, and the average amount due each depositor was \$220.29.

On the motion of the president, the directors' report and the financial statement were adopted

Thanks were awarded the president, vice-president, directors, manager and other officers for their attention to the interests of the bank during the year, after which the retiring auditors, Messrs. James Tasker and A. Cinq-Mars were re-elected.

The old Board of Directors was unanimously re-elected: Sir William Hingston, Mr. R. Bellemare, Mr. Justice Oulmet, Mr. Michael Burke, Hon. Robert Mackay, Messrs. H. Markland Molson, C. P. Hebert, Richard Bolton, G. N. Moncel and Robert Archer.

At a subsequent meeting of the directors, Sir William Hingston was re-elected president, and Mr. R. Bellemare vice-president.

THE NEW YORK MANAGER of the North British and Mercantile has issued a circular letter, announcing that all the Company's branch offices in the island of Manhattan will be abandoned and only one office maintained in the future, viz., the Head Office, 76 William Street, New York. He writes: "Investigation into their methods of conduct extending to a majority of the leading branch offices in Manhattan borough, convinced us that, as a whole, the branch office system, as it exists, constitutes an unnatural and forced condition little less than a menace to the best interests of good underwriting in this city."

THE BESSEMER STEEL production in the United States last year and nine previous ones was as follows:---

THE BESSEMER STEEL produced in the United States last

| Year. | Tons. | Year. | Tons. |
|-------|-----------|-------|-----------|
| 1903 | 8,577,228 | 1893 | 6,609,017 |
| 1902 | | 1897 | 5,475,315 |
| 1901 | | 1896 | |
| 1900 | | 1895 | |
| 1899 | | 1894 | 3,571.313 |

The production in 1903, was 561,135 tons less than in 1902, and 136,074 tons less than in 1901, the increase, however, over the yearly average from 1894 to 1900, was 5,507,970 tons. A large portion of this steel is used for rails

621 661 385 50

220 827 25

New York Stock Exchange Quotations Paulead

| Reviseu | every | wednesday, L | y | COMMINGS | a | Co., 20 | Broad | Street, I | New | York | City. | 2 |
|---------|-------|---|---|---|---|---------|-------|-----------|-----|------|-------|---|
| | | a sea internetiel complete complete a strategy of the second second second second second second second second s | | and the second se | | | | | | | | |

| | Oratio | Last | | Range | | | for 1904 | Wednesd | SING |
|---|---|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|--|--|-------------------------------------|
| | Capita) | Dividend | Date | Highest | Lowest | Highest | Lowest | Bid | Asked |
| Amal. Corper Co American Car & Fonndry Co. American Car & Fonndry Co., Praf'd American Locomotive Co American Scaling & Refining Co., American Smelting & Refining Co., Pref'd | \$153,887,900 30,000,000 30,000,000 25,000,000 50,000,000 50,000,000 | p.e. | Feb. 29, '04 Feb. 1, '04 Feb. 1, '04 Apr. 20, '04 Apr. 5, '04 | 75) 41) 92 30] 52 98) | 37 131 64 111 391 871 | 50 21 72 23 51 94 | 45 17] 66j 16j 46 89 | 47) 17 70 18) 48) 94) | 474 18 71 181 49 953 |
| American Sugar Refining Archison, Topeka & Santa Fe, Schison, Topeka & Santa Fe, Prefd. Saltimore & Ohio, Prefd. | 36,968,000 102,000,000 114,199,500 47,874,000 59,227,000 | 2 2 2 2 2 | Apr. 2, '04 D.e. 1, '03 Feb. 2, '03 Mar. 1,'04 Mar. 1, '04 | 132 89 101 103 96 | 108 54 87# 71 85 | 130 75 94 86 90 | 123 64) 85) 74 89 | 127 8 5 2 92 2 79 90 2 | 128 721 93 791 901 |
| tr oklyn Rapid Transit Co anada Southern entral of New Jersey anadian Paelfe heerpoake & Oblo | 38,770,000 15,000,000 27,260,800 65,000,000 60,533,400 | 1) 2 2 | Feb. 1, '04 Feb. 1, '04 Apr. 2, '04 Nov. 26, '02 | 70 78 188 137 54 | $31\frac{1}{2}$ 50 149 117 28 | 51 67 162j 121 36j | 88 631 153 101 29 | 46 64 157 1173 304 | 461 65 159 1178 301 |
| bicago & Alton bicago & Eastern III. bicago & Eastern III., Prof'd. bicago & Great Westorn bicago, Milwaukeo & St. Paul. | 19,542,800 6,197,800 6,830,700 21,315,500 55,821,800 | 3 1± 3± | Jan. 2, '04 Jan. 2, '04 Apr. 22, '04 | 37 214 136 28 183 | 20 § 194 110 13 133 | 40 124 184 1479 | 34j 118j 14 136 | 87] 124 15§ 143 | 381 140 151 14 14 |
| hicago, St. Paul, Minu. & Omaha hicago & Northwestern. Aicago Term. Trans hicago Term. Trans Pref'd | 21,403,300 39,116,300 13,000,000 17,000,000 | 3 34 | Feb. 20, '64 Jan, 2, '04 | 162 223 19 344 | 114 5 154 8 21 | 148 172 12 26 | 135 162 8 174 | 135 17: 81 172 | 149 172 9 18 |
| leveland, Cincinnati, Chicago & St. Louis leveland, Lorain & Wheeling, Pref'd olorado Fael and Iros olorado Southern onmercial Cable | 28,009,000 6,000,000 23,000,000 30,995,000 13,333,300 | 2 ij 2 | Mar. 2, '04 Apr. 15,'02 Apr. 1, '04 | 97 118 81 31 175 | 67 65 26 11 140 | 80 78 33 19 190 | 70 75 28 14 162 | 70 75 31 15j 180 | 745 80 32 155 200 |
| Métroit Southern, Com do. Preféd belaware & Hudson Canal. belaware, Lae, & Weetern benver & Eito Grande R. R. Co. | 7,000,000 6,000,000 35,000,000 26,200,000 38,000,000 | | Mar. 15, '04 Apr. 20, '04 | 19 38 182 272 41] | 71 16 150 225 181 | 14] 25 167] 275 22] | 8 17 150 220 18 | 81 17 1571 2701 201 | 95 19 1575 275 |
| beuver & Rio Grande, Pref'd Duluth, S. S. & Atlantie Fie. Fie, First Prefd Fie, Second Pref'd | 44,345,800 12,000,000 112,280,700 42,880,100 16,000,000 | 2) 2 | Jan. 15, '04 Feb. 29, '04 | 894 19 424 73 57 | 65 6 22 64 44 | 74 10j 29 70 48j | 64) 7 22 61 37 | 395 75 248 631 | 20) 70 8 24) 63) |
| ocking Valley ilinois Central. owa Central. Com | 5,673,100 | 1 | Jan. 18, '04 Mar. 1, '03 | 105 148 457 759 619 | 65 126 16 35 22j | 764 1344 22 404 32 | 66 125 164 33 26 | 38} 66 130 17} 34 28} | 39 67 130] 19 36 |
| ong Island ouisville & Nashville Ianhattan Ry Ietropolitan Street Ry. Iestoan Contral | 1 52,000,000 | 1 | Mar. 2, '96 Feb. 10, (4 Apr. 1, 03 Apr. 15, '04 | 813 1284 154 141 273 | 46 96 128 101 84 | 56 110 1453 125 13 | 47 101 140 107 6 | 47 107 1423 110 | 29 50 107 143 110 |
| linn, & St. Louis linn, St. Paul & S. S. M. Linsouri, Kansas & Toxas, Prof'd lissouri, Kansas & Toxas, Prof'd | 6,000,000 14,000,000 55,280,300 13,000,000 | 2 21 | Jan. 15, '04 Apr, 15, '04 | 109 78 29 63 | 40 47 16 34 | 68 661 18 42 | 41 56 14j 34 | 41 61 163 364 | 55 61 17 37 |
| fissouri Pacifie lew York Central. W York, Chicago, Bt. Louis, Com. do. do. Ist. Prefd do. do. 2nd. Prefd | | 1] | Jan. 20, '04 Apr. 15, '04 Mar. 1, '04 Mar. 1, '04 | 115) 164 44) 120 86) | 86 113 20 105 70 | 96 12-4 284 110 67 | 87 1131 25 100 60 | 92 1154 263 100 60 | 92 116 27 110 |
| iew York, Ontario and Western Korfolk and Western Sorfolk & Western Prof'd | 66,000,000 23,000,000 202,178,450 | 1 2 3 | Dec. 19, '03 Feb. 19, '04 Nov. 30, '03 Dec. 1, '99 | 35 76 92 157 40} | 19 54 83 112 17 | 241 625 90 124 32 | 19 55 85 113 24 | 213 57 88 1173 26 | 65 21 57 89 117 |
| teading teading, First Prof'd teading, Second Prof'd teading, Second Prof'd teading, Prof'd 4. Lawrence & Adirondack | - 68,728,600 | 2 11 1 | Mar. 10, *04 Nov. 10, *03 Jan. 15, *03 Mar. 1, *02 | 68 88 78 53 72 | 381 74 60 20 30 | 474 804 61 27 35 | 39 77 57 19 30 | 438 784 604 225 | 27 43 78 61 22 |
| t. Louis & San Fran t. Louis & San Fran, 2nd Prof ⁴ d t. Louis & Southwestern, Com do. Outhern Pacific | 27,307,800 14,277,000 16,500,000 20,000,000 197,382,100 | 1 | Mar. 2, '03 Mar. 1, '04 | 89 77 25 64 68 | 50 43 12 30 39 | 49 16 36 56 | 40 13 29 42 | 478 13 34 | 47 13 34 |
| outhern R.R. exas Pacifie oledo, st. Louis & Western do. Prof'd winCity Bapid Transit. | 119,900,000 38,760,000 9,995,000 10,000 000 15,010,000 | | Feb. 15, *64 | 87) 43 | 16 21 16 25 79 | 23 27 23 37 3 95 | 18 21 22 32 87 | 473 203 226 251 283 933 | 47 21, 23 26 88 94 |
| nion Pacific, Prof'd | 104,042,400 99,514,700 550,000,000 550,000,000 28,000,000 | | Apr. 1, '04 Apr. 1, '04 Dec. 30, '02 Feb. 15, '04 | 1085 95 391 895 82 | 68 85 10 49 16 | 90 944 122 59 223 | 72 95 91 54 17 | 840 911 10 650 181 | 84 92 10 55 |
| Va: ash Pre'd Vesters Union. Moeiling & Lake Erie Com do. Iseonain Central do. Pref'd | 20,000,000 4,985,900 16,16s,800 | 1) | Apr, 15, '04 | 521 93 271 61 281 64 | 30 80] 13] 40 14] 34 | 41 89 19 51 21 48 | 35 4 84 14 1 41 16 1 38 | 87/ 88/ 16/ 45 17/ 89 | 37 88 16 48 18 |

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London Assurance Corporation. The

The Court of Directors present to the Members of the Corporation the Report, Accounts and Balance Sheet for the year 1903.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The Premium Income of the year, after deduction of Re-assurances and returns, amounted to \$2,565,430, and the losses, inclusive of all claims to the 31st December, 1903, to \$1,186,896. The balance at the credit of the Fire Fund, after transferring \$502,095 to Profit and Loss Account amounted on

the 31st December, 1903, to \$3,550,000.

PROFIT AND LOSS.

The amount standing to the credit of this account on the 31st December, 1903, after transferring \$225,000 to General Reserve and \$150,000 to Investments Depreciation Account, was \$703,538, out of which the Court of Direc-tors now recommend a dividend of 20 per cent., being \$12.50 per share payable as follows:-\$6.25 on the 2nd of April, and \$6.25 on the 1st October, free of income tax.

FIRE ACCOUNT.

| 1902, Dec. 31. Amount of Fire Insurance Fund at this date. \$ 3,500,000 1903, Dec. 31. Premiums after deduction of reassurances, | 1903, Dec. 31. Losses after deduction of reassurances and |
|--|---|
| and returns | salvages |
| \$6 186 787 | \$6,186.787 |

\$6,186,787

BALANCE SHEET, 31st December, 1903.

LIABILITIES.

ASSET'S.

| Shareholders' Capital, \$4,482,750, of which is pald up | 2,241,375 2,250,000 | Mortgages on Property within the United Kingdom | 6,658,918 |
|--|------------------------|---|---------------------|
| Participating | 11,095,601 | Loans on the Corporation's Life Policies Loans on Railway and on other Securities | $358,463 \\481,470$ |
| Fire Fund | 4,841,400 703,539 | Investments— In British Government Securities, viz.:— \$1,231,367 Consols\$1,109.191 Turkish 4 p.c. Guaranteed Bonds 114,500 | 1.223.691 |
| Investments Depreciation Account | 150,000 | Colonial Government Securities | 486,241 |
| 201 | .281.920 | Foreign Government Securities | 1.205.098 |
| 24 | ,201,920 | Municipal Securities. | 1.216,520 |
| \$142.584 | Tites a second | Railway and other Debentures and De- | |
| Outstanding Life Claims | 1 | benture Stocks | 4.313,396 |
| Do. Fire Losses 11,548 | | Rallway and other Preferred and Ordin- | |
| Do. Dividends to Shareholders 16,188 | | ary Stocks | 2,724,895 |
| Do. Income Tax | ALC: NO. | Indian Railway Annuities Guaranteed. | 273,775 |
| Fire Premiums due to other Companies 62,542 | | Ground Rents | 873,512 |
| Life Premiums paid in advance 451 | | Real Property | 143,025 194,468 |
| Marine Premiums due to other Com- | | Reversions | 5,585 |
| panies | | Premises Account | 7,470 |
| Clerks' Savings Fund | 505 000 | Agents' Balances, viz.: | 1.410 |
| | 535,930 | Life | |
| | | Fire | |
| | | Marine | |
| | | | 742,118 |
| | | Loans upon Personal Security | Nil. |
| | | Marine Reassurances Recoverable | 36,272 |
| | | Life\$ 33,676 | |
| | | Fire 33,834 | |
| | | Marine | |
| | | | 262.563 |
| | | Do. Interest. | 26.395 |
| | | Fire Premiums due by other Companies | 6,310 |
| | | Cash:- | |
| | | On Deposit | |
| | | In hand and on Current Accounts. 374,712 | 504 710 |
| | | Duite Deselvable | - 504.712 71.498 |
| | | Bills Receivable | 1 455 |

\$21,817,850

\$21,817,850

1,455

KENNEDY & COLLEY. Managers for Canada.





The Morth American Life

Offers special inducements for ambitious men to act as representatives, who believe they are able to sell insurance.

The Company has very attractive policy contracts, offering a wide range from which to select a suitable plan; this with its strong financial position makes it a most desirable Company for the prospective insurer, and consequently for the representative. A contract with it affords an excellent opportunity to work up a substantial income.

J L. BLAIKIE, L. COLDMAN, A.I.A., F.C.A., T. C. McCONKEY, President. Managing Director. Superintendent of Agancies



ATLAS ASSURANCE

GROWTH-INCOME AND FUNDS.

Established In the Reign of King George III. AT THE ACCESSION OF INCOME. FUNDS. KING GEORGE IV. \$ 387,065 800,605 KING WILLIAM IV. 657,115 3,038,380 OUEEN VICTORIA 789.865 4.575 410 While in 1903 they reached 3,750,000 11,500,000 and

Total Security for Policyholders Including Capital. \$17,500,000 Its guiding principles have ever been Caution and Liberality —Conservative selection of the risks accepted and Liberal Treatment when they burn. Agents—i.e., real Agents who work—wanted in unrepresented districts.

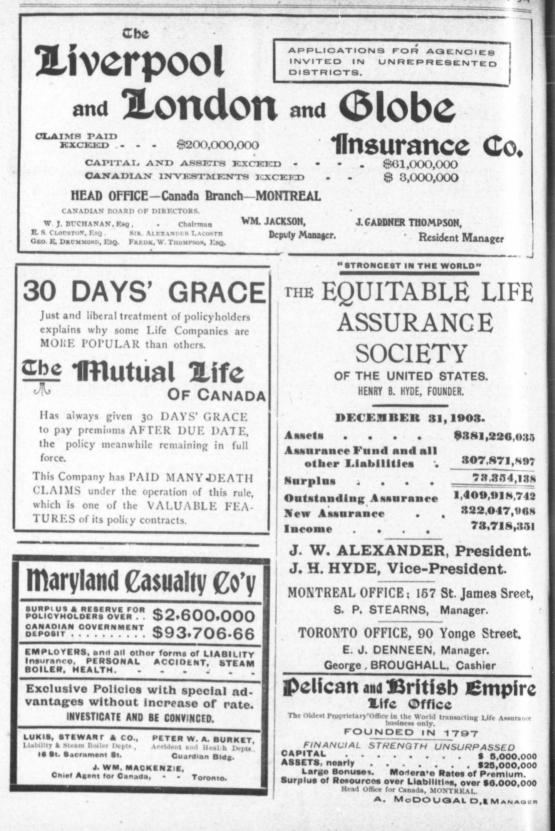
Head Office for Canada, MONTREAL.

MATTHEW C. HINSHAW, Branch Manager

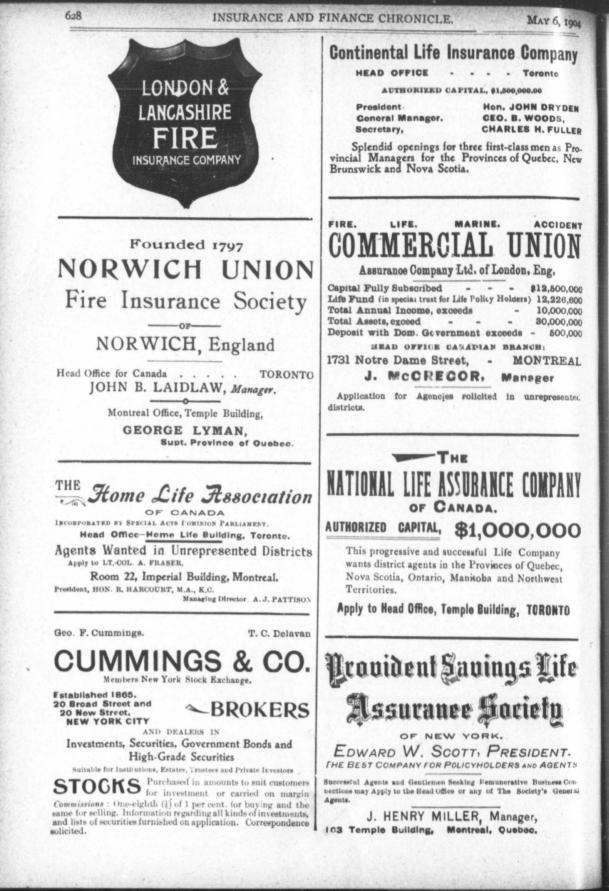


626

INSURANCE AND FINANCE CHRONICLE.









MONTREAL.

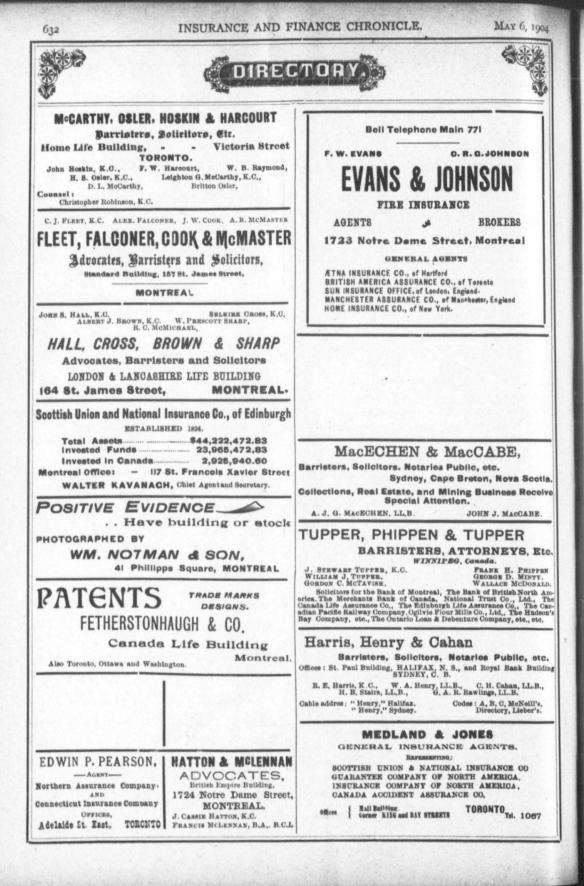
Asst. Manager

Manager

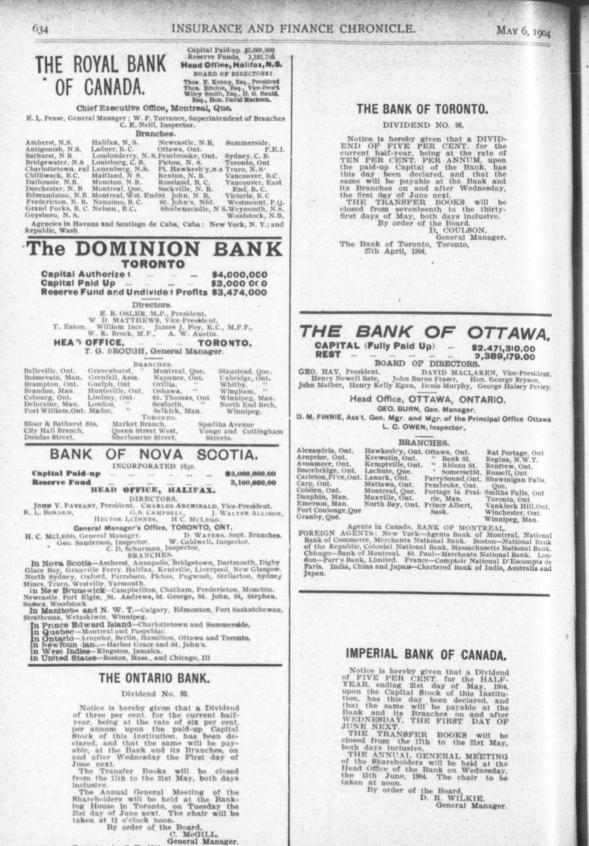
629

| 630 INSURANCE AND | FINANCE CHRONICLE. May 6, |
|---|--|
| Che Dominion of Canada Guarantee and Accident Insurance Go. Head Office, - Toronto BOONDS COVERING ALL POSITIONS OF TRUST Accident Policies Specially Adapted for Business or Professional Mon CEO. COODERHAM, Prosident M. WALKER, Manager Province of Quebec TEMPLE BUILDING. MONTREAL | ANGLO-AMERICAN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY Head Office McKinnon Building, TOROM AUTHORIZED CAPITAL, \$1,000,000 SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL, \$1,000,000 SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL, \$480,100 Deposited with the Dominion Government for the protection of Policyholder Benedicture Statement S.F. McKINNON, Esq., Pres. J. J. LONC, Esq., V-P S.F. McKinnon & Co., Tokonto. The T. Long Bros. Co., Colling MARMSTRONC DEAN, Mainger. Applications for Agencies throughout the Province of Qu cre invited. Address : E. A. LILLY, Montreal, |
| THE LONDON MUTUAL FIRE INSURANGE COMPANY OF CANADA ESTABLISHED 1859 | General Agent for Prov. Qu MANCHESTE |
| Losses paid to date \$3,500,000 00 | Assurance Company |
| Assets, 31st Dec., 1903 \$736,796 55 | CAPITAL - \$10,000,000 ESTABLISHED 1824 |
| HON. JOHN DRYDEN, President. H. WADDINGTON, Secy. and Managing Diretcor. GEO. GILL,IES Vice-President, LAUCHLIN J.EITCH, Superintendent | Head Office, - Manchester, E Canadian Branch Head Office, TORONTO. JAMES BOOMER, T. D. RICHARDSON |
| D. WEISMILLER and J. KILLER, Inspectors | Manager. Assistant Manag |
| H. BLACHFORD, General Agent for Quebec, 180 St. James St., Montreal | |
| HEAD OFFICE MONTREAL The Guaranteed Capital and Accumulated Assets of the Company for the protection of Policyholders amount to MONTREAL Steady \$1,200,000.00 STEADY PROCRESS OF THE COMPANY Cash Income 1899 68 435.85 1093 104.406.87 1093 104.406.87 1093 105.406.87 1093 105.406.87 1093 105.406.87 1093 105.406.87 1093 \$01.564.64 1093 \$01.564.64 1093 \$01.564.64 1093 \$01.564.64 1093 \$01.564.64 1093 \$01.564.64 1093 \$01.564.64 1093 \$01.564.64 1093 \$01.569.12.27 Insurance in force 1999 \$1.707.807.00 1093 \$21.707.807.00 \$2.702.466.00 1993 \$2.928.115.00 199.240.115.00 The market value of securities deposited with the Canadian Government for the protection of policy- holders amounts to over \$202,500.00 Liberal commisisons paid for | Thoroughness in every detail in the changes that have been made by the Union Mutual -re-strangement of features, reluction of rates, iberalizing of rights, a contract modern to the highest notch. A policy that looks well, sells easily and pleases long. Union Mutual Life Insurance Co PORTLAND, MAINE. PORTLAND, MAINE. Fred. E. Richards, President. Arthur L. Bates, Vice-Presider Age its always desired—the kind who write policies at hold them. <u>ADDRESS : -</u> HENRI E, MORIN, Chief Agent for Canada, 151 St. James Street, - MONTBEAL, Oana |
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| The Northern Life Assurance Company | 151 St. James St., MONTREAL. |
| Into normalization \$1,092,750 Insurance in force \$3,607,346 Cash income I31,526,90 An increase of 21,504.35 Total Assets \$407,219.23 An increase of \$75,774.52 Govern't Reserve \$241,639.32 An increase of 64,347.63 Death claims \$10,385.00 A decrease of \$2,1500 Rxpenses \$48,477.45 A decrease of \$6,105.02 You will make no mistake if you take out a policy in THE NORTHERN LIFE. Hoad Offico, London, Ont. JOHN MILNE, Managing Dir. The Northern Life has some good Districts open for live energetic agents | LAW UNION & CROWN INSURANCE CO. OF LONDON Assets Exceed \$24,000 0000. Fire risks accepted on almost every description of insurable proping Canadian Hoad Office II2 St. James St. Cor, Place d'Armes, MONTREA J. E. E. DICKSON, Manage Agents wanted throughout Canada. |









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Toronto, April 21, 1904.

REST

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CAPITAL (all paid up) Reserved Fund, \$14,000,000.00 Undivided Profits,

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Established in 1836.

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LONDON OFFICE, 5 GRACECHURCH STREET, E.C.

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\$8,700,000 PAID-UP CAPITAL

3,000,000 -

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This Bank transacts every description of Banking Business, including the issue of Letters of Credit and Drafts on Foreign Countries, and will negotiate or collect bills on any place where there is a bank or banker.

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THE BANK OF ENGLAND, THE BANK OF SCOTLAND, LLOYDS BANK LIMITED, THE UNION OF LONDON AND SMITHS BANK, LTD. PARR'S BANK, LIMITED.

SONS THE MOI

INCORPORATED BY ACT OF PARLIAMENT, 1855.

HEAD OFFICE, MONTREAL.

| Capital A | uthorized aid Up | | | | \$5,000,000 3,000,000 |
|-----------|---------------------|-----|---------|-----|-----------------------|
| Reserve F | Fund | *** | *** | *** | 2,850,000 |

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