# The Chronicle

Banking, Insurance and Finance

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# Vol. XXXX. No. 31 MONTREAL, AUGUST 6th, 1920

# THE GENERAL FINANCIAL SITUATION

The heavy decline in the prices of all grains which took place at the end of last week and the opening days of the current week have a good deal of interest for Canada at this juncture. In the opinion of many grain authorities, the decline is fictitious, there being no warrant for the heavy selling apart from excellent weather in the United States grain area. One reason for the decline in prices is stated to be the reports of beneficial rains in our North West, which it is held will help to give an impetus to trading in wheat futures, which will be resumed in Winnipeg about August 15.

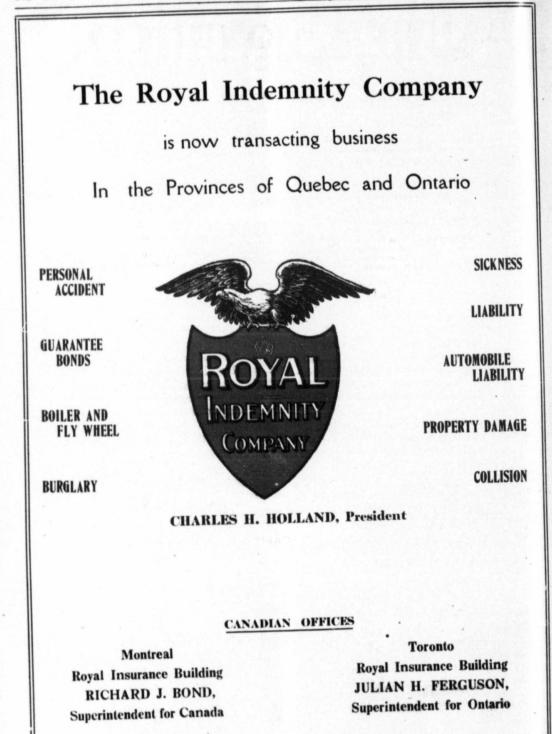
In regard to conditions in the Western Provinces, these are so varied that the present state of the grain is far from uniform. Loss from excessive heat and drouth is estimated at 50,000,000 bushels, principally in Saskatchewan. From some parts of that province, however, come most optimistic accounts of the wheat harvest. Alberta, on the whole, is showing splendid stands of grain and gives promise of a 70,000,000 bushel crop. In Manitoba, the recent rains have wrought a remarkable improvement, although some districts are still in need of moisture. The proposal for "a farmers' pool" of the wheat crop to take the place of the Wheat Board appears to be falling through. Possibly individual farmers are figuring that they do not stand so-badly without a fixed price, as, following the removal of control, they were at first inclined to think.

The crop position in the United States is a very extraordinary one. As a consequence of a rarely propitious growing season, the country's yield of grain and cotton during 1920 will vastly exceed the expectations of two months ago. But at present there are no cars available to move the grain to market. The shortage is so serious in some of the wheat growing states that it is calculated it will take over a year to move the grain from where it grew. What this condition of things will mean in the tying up of banking credit is a point too apparent to require elaboration.

With regard to the renewed weakness shown at the end of last week in the New York Stock Market,

it is pointed out that the causes which are back of the falling prices of commodities in various lines, are to a very great extent at work on the stock market also. The crop results alluded to above, if actually achieved in the final out-turn, cannot fail to exert a beneficient influence on the country's general situation. The average citizen, it is pointed out, will unquestionably benefit by the change, but it is not so evident how producers and middlemen, who have been using credit in a tightening money market to sustain the extravagant prices of three or four months ago, will be affected in their business calculations. One observer puts it thus :- "The most that can be said, perhaps, that an all round lowering of the cost of living, primarily achieved through contraction of credit and refusal of customers to buy at the old prices, but emphasized by increased production, was bound to disturb one part of the community, while it greatly relieved another. As to which class had the paramount right, this year, to hope for a turn of events, in its own favour, there is not the slightest question.

A considerable number of local stock market followers had a very nasty jar towards the end of last week, none the less painful because it was to some extent forseen. The one satisfactory feature in the very unsatisfactory business of the failure of Thornton Davidson and Company is that the failure is not a sympton of widespread trouble, and of conditions which might lead to something like a local panic, but it is purely the result of causes originating within the firm itself. As is well known, the firm has been closely concerned with stocks, which (some years ago, and others more recently), have been the subject of much manipulation of a certain group. One result of the firm s failure was to cut in half the normal price of the stock, which was the most outrageous example of this manipulation, Ames-Holden common, which slid down 60 points on sales by private lenders who held the stock as collateral. Even at its present price around 70, the stock appears considerably above its intrinsic value, and is certainly altogether out of line with the preferred, with its 7 per cent, divi-



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#### MONTREAL, FRIDAY, AUGUST 6th, 1920

#### (Continued from front Page)

dend and  $33\frac{1}{4}$  per cent. of arrears of dividends, although there seems at present small prospect of the latter being cleared off. Presumably the stocks held as collateral for the failed firm's loans will be held and liquidated gradually. Certainly, any attempt to force liquidation in such a small market as Montreal, would result only in a miniature panic, and heavy general losses.

The balance of the local Stock Exchange list has had a downward tendency, although in the early part of the week it was noticeable that the paper stocks had held their own particularly well in the face of discouraging conditions and development. The solid fact is that the paper companies are uniformly making money hand over fist and it seems probable enough that the present movement is merely a marking time stage, which will be followed later on by new high levels. Particularly, some of the stocks of the younger companies, quoted only in the unlisted department of the exchange, appear to have discounted much less than the better known stocks, the prosperity which this industry is enjoying.

A fact of the present situation which is possibly not so widely appreciated as it should be is that the existing money stringency has brought about the levels of bond prices which afford the highest yields that have existed in a generation. There is not the least doubt as to the bargain character of the present price of Victory Bonds, and the are others in line with them. The position of purely investment stocks is very much the same. Under present conditions, they are absolutely neglected, and their purchase around present levels affords the real investor opportunities, which, it seems, are likely enough to result handsomely, when conditions improve.

The amendments to the Business Profits War Tax Act passed at the recent session of Parliament contain a provision of some interest which reads as follows — "In the case of two or more incorporat-

ed companies merged or consolidated at any time after the 1st January, 1916, for thé purposes of this Act, the capital employed in the business of the company into which such other company or companies are merged or consolidated, or of the company created on such merger or consolidation, shall not exceed the capital of the companies so merged or consolidated as the same existed before such merger or consolidation, together with any additional capital that may have been invested in such business in cash at the time of such merger or consolidation or thereafter.

This provision prevents a company getting credit in the calculation of its capital for the purposes of the Business Profits War Tax for the mere writing up of its assets, without the investment of additional real money. This writing up of assets is of course, the basis of the recapitalisations of the paper companies which have recently gone through and may be justified from the companies' point of view, by existing real values and earning power. To allow such writing up for the purposes of taxation, would be clearly to discriminate in favour of corporations which had been fortunate enough to have their assets increased in this way, as compared with those undertakings which had not been so fortunate.

#### ARSON

Every man owes it to himself and to the community to do what he can to prevent crime of whatsoever character, and yct it is the attitude of the people at large in condoning and excusing crime that makes it so difficult for prosecutors to convict those guilty of infractions of the law, particularly arson.

#### TRAFFIC RETURNS

#### Canadian Pacific Railway

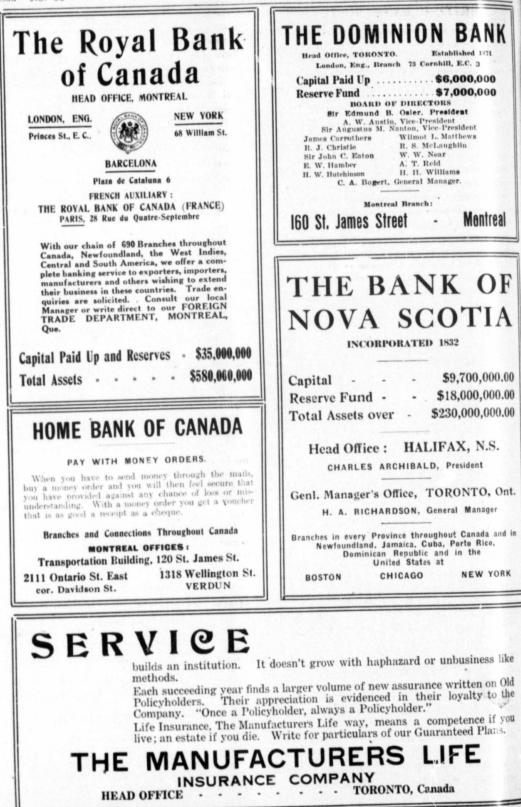
Year June	to d	late	. \$	1918 570,213,000 \$	1919 74,867,000	1920 \$90,050,000	Increase \$15,193,000
Week	end	ing		1918 \$2,787,000	1919	1920 \$3,373,000	Increase
July July					3,325,000	3,854,000	
July				2,644,000	3.202,000	3,648,000	446,000

Year to date June 30	1918	1919 \$33,464,248	1920	Increase \$3,587,047
Week ending	1918	1919	1920	Increase
July 7 July 14 July 21	. 1,330,800	) 1,688,850	2.138,945	400,095 588,098

#### Canadian National Railways

Year			1	\$35,445,231	<b>1919</b> \$41,495,872	1920 \$45,674,824	Increase \$4,178,952
Week				1918 \$1,424,684	1919 \$1.713,404	1920 \$1,932,961	Increase \$219,557
July July July	14 21	• •	• •	1,506,147	1,659,083	2,000,993	341,910- 476,211

THE CHRONICLE



# BRITISH BANKING POLICY

Plans for the amalgamation of various New York banks are now under way and the indications favor important changes in the United States general banking policy. Many factors are likely to lead in the not far distant future to a reconsideration and probably a revision of the terms upon which banking institutions are permitted to open and do basiness in that country.

Discussing this subject, the *Journal of Commerce*, New York says :— "Among the issues thus likely to present themselves is that of the status of foreign banks or branches of such banks. In this connection the deciding factor will undoubtedly be the question whether the United States is, as so often asserted within the past year or two, a world market for capital or not. Great Britain, which has long held that position in an undisputed way, has a definite policy with respect to foreign banking, which has lately been briefly stated by an informed correspondent of the *Journal of Commerce* as follows :

There are no restrictions to which a foreign institution opening in London is subjected. They have not to keep any reserve, or deposit securities with the Government, and are only subject to the usual income tax on profits. They may conduct any sort of banking business they please. The only regulations they have to comply with are technical, as, under the Joint Stock Companies act, they would have to deposit their articles of association and send a copy of their balance sheet to the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies once a year -but these things are trivial details, the main thing being that, broadly speaking, foreign banks may open branches in London on at least as good terms as are granted to home institutions.

The Journal of Commerce continues:—"These, as is well known, are not the terms upon which some of the British colonies have chosen to permit the conduct of banking, but the question that must present itself to Americans with most force is whether the policy of the parent country or that of the colonial dominions is best worthy of consideration.

As to that point, the teaching of experience is the most valuable. Great Britain's policy with respect to encouraging foreign banking within her boundaries had resulted before the war in developing London as the chief market for capital in the world and had thus given Great Britain the use of much cheap capital which was of the utmost value to her. Capital flows where there is the best opportunity of using it and the best prospect of

getting returns. London bankers know this fact well—so well, that they have not only paid enormous rates of interest for "foreign money" during the war but that they had in the past thrown open the British banking field upon equal terms to those who chose to enter it. A similar policy will have to be pursued by all countries which aspire to become independent financial markets. Only those which are either voluntarily dependent upon other nations or which are thus kept in dependence can afford to follow any plan that will handicap the free movement of capital and specie into and out of their territory.

## AMERICA'S TIMBER PROBLEM

The amount of timber cut each year from the forests of the United States is about three times the annual growth, it is declared by the National Bank of Commerce in New York in a review of the American lumber industry published in the August number of its magazine, Commerce Monthly. Lack of an adequate national forestry policy, together with speculation in privately owned timber lands and the absence of cooperation within the industry itself, have all combined rapidly to reduce the country's timber resources. Provisions for reforestation up to the present have been entirely inadequate and the oncoming growth is ordinarily of inferior species and grade.

The United States is the largest wood-using country in the world. The great majority of dwellings and of farm buildings in that country is made of wood. Of its total domestic consumption, more than half is accounted for by use for construction timber and lumber, and in the form of planing mill products, i. e., sash, doors, flooring, general mill work, etc.

The United States is both an importer and exporter of lumber. More than 80 per cent. of its lumber imports, however, come from Canada, and most of the remainder from Mexico.

# SUMMARY OF THE TRADE OF CANADA

	Twelve 19:8 \$	Months endi 1919 \$	ng June 1920 \$
Imports for Consum Dutiable goods Free goods	ption. 526,012,577 296,169,034	521,394,108 348,109,248	791,027,768 419,176,555
Total imports, mdse.	922.181.611	869,733,416	1,210,204,623
Duty collected	157,531,535	154,696,691	204,801,866
Experts. Canadian. Foreign	$\substack{1.468.212.741\\43,041,534}$	1.201,867,125 57,701,852	$1,232,632,099 \\ 43,679,443$
Total exports mdse.	1,511,254,275	1,259,568,977	1,276,311,542

THE CHRONICLE



Fifty-Seventh Annual Statement of the The London and Scottish Assurance Corporation, indicates a year of such active development, and prosperity that it may well be considered the best in the long history of the Corporation. This is particularly gratifying, as the report is the first issued under the altered title of the Company, from that of the old London & Lancashire Life. The London and Scettish Assurance Corporation has now become familiarly known throughout the world wherever it transacts business, under its new title, and on the whole the Corporation stands to gain by the change that has been made. During the year under review the corporation decided to increase its capital (subscribed) to \$3,000,000. This has been successfully carried out, the new issue being promptly over-subscribed.

Since it was resolved no longer to remain a purely life office some ten years ago, events have marched rapidly with the London and Scottish, and considerable development has taken place in the various branches of insurance which the Company The old-established life department operates. with which the corporation was originally solely concerned is still a predominant factor in the Company's operations, and the volume of business written in 1919 exceed anything previously done in its history. During the year 2,753 policies were issued for sume assured, amounting to \$7,501,450, as against \$4,780,830 in 1918. The new premium income was \$378,583, as compared with \$283,743 in the preceding year. The total net income of the life department (after deduction of Income Tax) and including interest, etc., was \$3,220,177, a growth of \$250,955. The claims by death with bonus additions, amounted to \$1,157,949. Additional to death claims, endowment policies, with bonus additions totalled \$742,079. After payment of all outgoings, and providing for depreciation in securities, the Life and Annuity Fund was increased from \$20,513,184 to \$21,152,012.-a substantial increase of \$638,828. The Corporation has increased its holdings in British Government Securities from \$5,293,380 to \$7,486,965.

The combined net premium income of the other departments, including fire, accident, Marine, etc., . amounted to \$3,144,431, indicating a substantial increase with satisfactory results in each department. The total funds, and assets of the corporation, have been increased during the year by \$3,371,860, to \$28,855,210.

## The Canadian Branch

The London & Scottish has been operating in Canada for past 57 years, and is therefore one of the best known insurance offices in the Dominion, in addition to which the Canadian branch has the distinction of being the most important branch operated by the Company in any part of the world. Life policies new and taken up in Canada last year were \$2,073,307, an increase of \$667,576, as compared with 1918. A pleasing feature in connection with the Canadian business is the new high record attained in net premium income (life) which in 1,319 amounted to \$536,342. The Company's Assets in Canada were increased during the year to \$7,-621,40

The Scottish Metropolitan Assurance Co. Ltd, transacting both fire and casualty insurance is now well established in Canada. This institution is well organized and equipped to carry on successfully in both branches. Mr. Alex. Bissett is manager for Canada of both the London & Scottish, and the Scottish Metropolitan. He entered the service of the former Company some 36 years 130, and in point of service, may be considered one of its oldest officials.

#### Adverse Experience in Automobile Underwriting

As showing the trend of antomobile insurance in other countries outside of Canada, the annual statement of the Motor Union Insurance Company, Ltd. of London, England, recently issued, furnishes some interesting information. It is well known that this Company has been one of the most successful in the business of automobile insurance, and its affairs in this connection are under very able management.

E For the year 1919 premiums had increased by over one hundred per cent. to \$2,334,000 as compared with \$1,139,390 in 1918 (\$5 = £1, stg.). It was stated by the chairman at the annual meeting, that this very large increase was due to the fact that motoring had again become general directly the armistice was signed, but instead of a profit to transfer to the profit and loss account, there was a loss of approximately \$240,000. The chairman said, that the loss had been fully anticipated by the directors, because it was quite obvious that prewar premiums were absolutely inadequate to meet the additional cost of repairs and the general additional expenses of post-war conditions. Since January 1 the premiums had been raised by 20 per cent. and in April they were raised by a further 30 per cent., and on this latter basis it was hoped that the accounts next year would show a fair and reasonable profit on that business.

THE CHRONICLE

#### **Commercial Union Assurance Company Limited** of London, England as at 31st Dec., 1919. Total Annual Income exceeds. \$75,000,000 \$14,750,000 Capital Fully Subscribed. . . 99.147.565 Life Fund, Etc. . . . . . . 7,375,000 Capital Paid Up. . . . . . 209.000.000 Total Funds exceed. . . . . 1.416.333 Deposit with Dominion Gov't. Palatine Insurance Company Limited of London, England as at 31st Dec., 1919. \$4,145,585 Total Income . . . . . . . \$1,000,000 Capital Fully Paid . . . . 6,826,795 Funds. . . . . . . . . . . . . 3,957,650 Fire Premiums 1919. . . . . Deposit with Dominion Gov't. 365,567 187,935 Interest Net . . . . . . N.B.--In addition to the above there is the further guarantee of the Commercial Union Assurance Company Limited, whose Funds exceed \$209 000,000. Applications for Agencies Solicited in Unrepresented Districts Head Office: CANADIAN BRANCH COMMERCIAL UNION BUILDING, 232-236 ST. JAMES STREET, MONTREAL W. S. JOPLING, Manager ACCIDENT @ FIRE CANA ASSURANCE COMPANY MONTREAL Head Office, -H. F. RODEN, Manager, Casualty Department T. H. HUDSON, Manager, Fire Department. Local General Agents, (Fire) G. U. PRICE & CO., LIMITED Policies Guaranteed by Commercial Union Assurance Bank of Toronto Bldg., Montreal Company Limited ASSETS EXCEED MARINE - HAIL FIRE -\$93,000,000 AUTOMOBILE STAR AND EAGLE DOMINIONS BRITISH LIMITED INSURANCE COMPANY E. C. G. JOHNSON, Assistant Manager OF LONDON, ENGLAND J. H. RIDDEL, Manager for Canada HEAD OFFICE FOR CANADA - TORONTO DALE & COMPANY, LIMITED - GENERAL AGENTS - MONTREAL AND TORONTO THE FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF CANADA MONTREAL Authorized Capital, \$1,000,000 Subscribed Capital, \$500,000 Paid Up Capital, \$200,000 GENERAL FIRE INSURANCE BUSINESS TRANSACTED Vice-President and Managing Director : J. E. CLEMENT President : Hon. R. DANDURAND

#### "SITUATED" IN ONTARIO

The crise of re Lunness, decided by the Appellate Division of the Ontario Supreme Court, involved an interesting point on the construction of a will.

In this case a resident of the Province of Ontario, possessed of an estate of about \$300,000, consisting of real estate in Ontario, and C. P. R. stock, and by his will be devised and beque bed all bis real and personal estate to his execut is, and authorized them to sell "all my property situated in the Province of Ontario," and to divide the proceeds equally among the three daughters named in the will.

The certificates for the Canadian Pacific Railway stock had been placed in a safe deposit vault in Toronto, and were at the time of his death, and in a suit to settle the meaning of the will the daughters contended that the words "all property" which the executors were authorized to sell, included the Canadian Pacific Railway Stock.

The other heirs, on the other hand, contended that the words "all property situated in the province of Ontario" excluded the daughters from taking any share of the C. P. R. stock, on the ground that the head office of the C. P. R. Company being in the Province of Quebec, the stock could not be "situated" in the Province of Ontario.

The Court held that the only property which could be situated in the Province of Ontario was the real estate, that the C. P. R. stock was not covered by the words "all my property situated in the Province of Ontario," notwithstanding the fact that the certificates representing the stock were actually in the Province of Ontario at and preceding the time of the testator's death.

"Underlying the argument made on behalf of the daughters is, 1 think, the fallacious assumption that incorporeal property must be deemed to have a situs," said the Court. "That argument was based almost entirely upon the maxim 'mobilia sequentur personam.' That maxim is used as a convenient statement of the rule of private international law with reference to the descent of personal property. The law of the domicile, the personal law, is to apply to those who take upon the death of the testator. In the same connection a situs is attributed to things that cannot have any real situs. Here the testator, when used the word 'situated,' intended to use that word in the sense in which it is used and understood by ordinary people. equivalent to 'located' or 'placed with regard to its surroundings.' The idea of a situs attributable to an incorporeal thing probably never crossed his mind, and it is as fallacious to me to suggest that he thought that the Canadian Pacific Railway Company stock was situated in Ontario, because perchance the script was in his strong box

in Toronto, as to suggest that he regarded this stock as having a situation in the Province of Quebec, because the head office of the railway company was there."

#### London & Provincial Marine & General Insurance Co., Ltd.

The London & Provincial Marine & General Insurance Co. Ltd. of London, Eng. has completed the necessary arrangements for its entry to the United States for the transaction of fire insurance under the management of Frank & Du Bois. The Company—is controlled by the Yorkshire Insurance Company, and only writes Marine business in England. It was organized sixty years ago, and has a subscribed capital of \$5,000,000, with assets in excess of \$25,000,000.

#### Dale & Co., Limited, Establish Branch Office in St. John's, Newfoundland

Dale & Company Limited are announcing the opening of a new Branch Office in St. John's, New-foundland.

For many years past, Mr. C. W. G. Tessier of that City has been acting as Marine Agent for this Company, which has now taken over his Insurance business, as from the 1st of August. Mr. Tessier becomes Manager of the Branch, jointly with Mr. O. P. Jones, who has been in the Head Office at Montreal during the past few years, prior to which time he was with the Toronto branch.

This makes the fourth Branch Office of the Company, while an associate office, Dale & Oliver Limited, maintains their interests in the City of Ouebec,

The firm of Dale & Co. Limited, Montreal is known throughout Canada, as one of the largest, and most important firms of insurance Underwriters in the Dominion.

#### VICTIMS OF TOBACCO

Dr. Brady sets down as being "directly produced" by tobacco: Chronic rhinitis or catarrh, chronic bronchitis, chronic gastritis, hyperacidity of the stomach, angina pectoris, chronic Bright's disease and cerebral hyperemia. Where the women (who have these diseases) get them from he doesn't say, but not one woman in a thousand smokes, so it is probable that some other doctor whose red flag is cosmetics or corsets can trace these diseases in women "directly to ka'somining and corsetting."

Dr. Brady finds also that the use of tobacco by boys is much more ruinous than by men. There are few men smokers who did not begin in boyhood.

THE CHRONICLE



MONTREAL, AUGUST 6, 1920

# London and Scottish Elssurance Corporation Limited

London and Lancasbire Life and General Hesuranc: Hesociation, Limited of London, England

Extracts from the Report of the Directors presented at the Fifty-Seventh Annual Meeting held in London, England, 1920 (For the year ended 31st December, 1919)

# LIFE DEPARTMENT

New Business :- During the year 2,753 policies were issued for sums assured amounting to \$',501,450 producing a new annual Premeum income of \$307,011, and Single premiums of \$71,572; making a total NEW PREMIUM INCOME of \$378,583. Re-assurances were effected for \$266,000.

The sum of \$17,615 was received for the purchase of Annuities.

The TOTAL LIFE PREMIUM INCOME after Deduction of premiums paid for Reassurances amounted to \$2,289,720.

The INCOME from INTEREST and DIVIDENDS on the Life and Annuity Funds was \$)10.797 after deduction of Income Tax.

The Total INCOME of the Life Department was \$3,220,177.

The CLAIMS by death with bonus additions, amounted to \$1,157,949.

ENDOWMENT POLICIES matured during the year, representing Sums Assured of

\$742,079 including bonus additions.

After payment of all outgoings and providing for depreciation in scentrities, the LIFE and ANNUITY FUND amounted to \$21,152,012.

SINKING FUND, CAPITAL REDEMPTION AND ANNUITIES CERTAIN ACCOUNT.

The Fund at the end of the year amounted to \$221.832.

# FIRE DEPARTMENT

The premiums, after deduction of Re-insurances, amounted to \$703,172 and the losses paid and outstanding to \$365,510. After payment of all outgoings and providing for outstanding losses full provision was made for unexpired risks. An amount of \$281,269 has been carried forward into next year's Fund.

# MARINE ACCOUNT

The Premiums, after deduction of Re-insurances amounted to \$1,713,773 and the settlements to \$262,297. An amount of \$1,467,115 has-been carried forward into next year's Fund.

# ACCIDENT, EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY & GENERAL LEPARTMENTS

The Premiums, after deduction of Re-insurances amounted to \$727,486 and the Claims paid and outstanding to \$319,919. After payment of all outgoings, and providing for outstanding claims, full provision was made for unexpired risks. An amount of \$406,715 has been carried forward into next year's Funds.

# FUNDS OF THE COMPANY

The Total Funds and Assets of the Company, excluding uncalled Capital, amounted at 31st Dec., 1919 to \$28,858,210.

The London and Scottish Assurance Corporation, Limited owns and operates the Scottish Metropolitan As-surance Company, Limited which latter Company has been licensed in Canala to transact classes of Insurance

The Company therefore, through its subsidiary the Scottish Metropolitan, is able to offer by means of its other than Life Assurance. agency connections every opportunity and facility for the transaction of practically all clastes of insurance busi-ness, including Fire, Marine, Accident, Sickness, Automobile, Guarantee, Burglary and Liability. Applications made to any of the Company's branches or agencies will meet with constrous and prompt attention.

attention.

ALEX. BISSET, Manager for Canada

#### W. AENEAS MACKAY, General Manager



The announcement is made, that a provisional agreement is made, subject to shareholders sanction whereby the Employers Liability Assurance Corporation will absorb the Clerical Medical and General Life Assurance Society of London, Eng.

The latter was established nearly 100 years ago and has assets of nearly \$40,000,000. The Employers Liability now becomes a composite office, covering all classes of insurance. The Corporation has been gradually increasing its sphere of usefulness, and the latest move, is one of the most important insurance events chronicled for some time.

# UNIONZATION OF FIREMEN

There can never be a union fire department in Memphis again. Not because unionism is wrong, but because it has no place in a city government. This was clearly demonstrated by the action of the former firemen in resigning in a body and leaving the city of Memphis without fire protection.

The question of pay is a just one in so far as the amount is concerned and the city administration is willing to concede that the firemen were inadequately paid, but we had gone to the limit permitted by the city charter and we made every suggestion that we could to appease the men by suggesting that we purchase their equipment. This was declined and the men resigned.

It appears that after a long period of wrangling over wages the firemen resigned in a body. Fortunitely it was possible to organize an efficient volunteer department and fires up to last reports were promptly extinguished.

After the strike had been in effect three or four days the editors of three daily newspapers volunteered to act as mediators and try to bring it to an end. They recommended that the firemen return to work, without prejudice, and that they accept such relief as could be given lawfully by the city, depending upon the Legislature for more adequate measures. This recommendation was submitted to executive committee of the Trades and Labor Council, representatives of the railroad brotherhoods and to the firemen. The firemen accepted the plans. They were then submitted to the Mayor and Commissioner of Fire and Police aand rejected by these officials for the reasons set forth in the above statement in which it was set out that the city "cannot acknowledge the claimed right of any set of men charged with the duty of protecting life and property, to combine for any purpose other than the performance of their duty."

INSURANCE COMPA	
ASSETS lovernment and Municipal Bonds \$ 790,488.00 failroad and Miscellaneous Bonds 563,890.00 Tash in Banks 175,145.60 Premiums in course of Collection and other Assets 267,431.48	LIABILITIES   Cash Capital \$ 400.000.0   Unearned Premium Reserve 390,134.3   Losses in precess of adjustment 105,426.8   All other claims 88,000.0   983,561.2 Surplus over all Liabilities
\$1,796,955.08	\$1,796,955.0
llead Office for Canada Montreal	R. MacD. Paterson J. B. Paterson AN & CO.



# FIRE INSURANCE IN CANADA, 1920

The experience of most fire companies operating in Canada during the present year, would in dicate a fairly substantial increase in premium in come, and while this satisfactory development has taken place, it is partially offset by an increasing loss ratio, of which there appears to be little if any diminution. The moral hazard, which is always to some extent, a factor in losses, is probably more pronounced this year, although there is no direct evidence, speaking generally that such is the case. The Fire Prevention Propaganda, is excellent in theory, and a good thing to preach, but results do not confirm its usefulness as much as might be expected, during the present year, and no doubt an examination of the causes of many fires, recently must show that the prevalence of carelessness is still one of the chief contributing causes of the loss ratio increase.

#### Fire Marshal Says Drop in Prices will Develop Moral Hazard

A warning to fire fighters to be on their guard against incendiary fires at the present time was issued by John G. Gamber, president of the Fire Marshals' Association of North America, speaking before the International Association of Fire Engineers at Toronto last week. "During the last year or two incendiary fires have been few," said Mr. Gamber. "Business has been too good, because of high price levels. I need hardly tell you, either, that there are hundreds, probably thousands, of firms and individuals who cannot stand a sharp break in prices. Their profits are built on inflation. Many merchants are said to be overstocked also.

FIRE

"If the break in prices should come suddenly we will have to be on guard. Fire instrance for a year past has been written on inflated valuation and the insurance companies are frankly disturbed. Let us, therefore, prepare now to meet this emergency. Some lines are showing a tendency to drop. Every suspicious fire should be scrutinized more carefully than ever before. Every chief should work in closest co-operation with the fire marshal of his State, and the best efforts of both should be brought to bear to see that prison doors await those deserving of them."

## CANADIAN FIRE RECORD

Fire at Glace Bay, N.S.-On the 3rd instant a fire destroyed the departmental store of the McArel Bros. Loss estimated at about \$200,000, partially covered.

Fire at St. Thomas, Ont .- On July 29th, a fire destroyed the store-room and pattern room of Canada Iron Foundries. Loss about \$150,000 Insurance stated to be in American non tariffs.

Fire at King City, Ont.-On the 1st instant a fire destroyed the home and store of C. Parnham, and damaged the home of E. Allen. Partially govered.

Fire at Quebec .-- On the 3rd instant a fire occurred in the P. T. Legaré garage on St. Valier St. Loss about \$10,000.

Fire at Winnipeg, Man .- On July 29th a fire occurred in the Argyle Block, Garry Street, several firemen were injured by the fire.

# FIGURE IT OUT FOR YOURSELF-

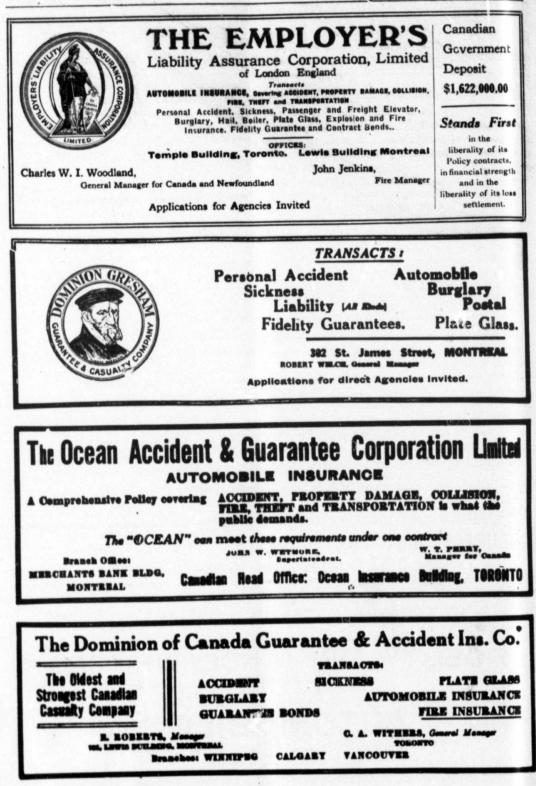
An insurance agent is in the business to make money. He is continually trying to place more business on his books. The companies he represents are generally instrumental in his success or failure to reach that end. Would it profit him to represent a company that kept him in touch with centres of influence in the insurance world, helped him solicit business, advertised him throughout the district? Figure it out for yourself and then WRITE US FOR FULL PARTICULARS OF OUR AGENCY.

# FIDELITY (FIRE) UNDERWRITERS

OF NEW YORK. HENRY EVANS, President.

Policies ascumed half by the Fidelity-Phenix Fire Insurance Co. and half by the Continental Insurance Co. of New York.

ONO PROFITS CANADIAN HEAD OFFICE: 17 ST. JOHN STREET, MONTREAL. W. E. BALDWIN, Manager



#### WANTED

Experienced Clerk wanted for Montreal department of old-established Fire Office. Poth languages. Must be quick worker. State experience and F. I. L., salary expected to Care The Chronicle, Montreal.

WANTED

Experienced Insurance Inspector seeks engagement with first class Tariff Office, 18 years experience, all branches, particularly inspection and rating, 5 years C. F. U. A. experience. Can handie any executive work. First class references. Address. W. J. R.,

Care The Chronicle, Montreal.

## WANTED

CASUALTY EXECUTIVE with extensive organizing experience, and first class training, desires to negociate with strong Company desiring reliable New York preferred. Address in confiofficial. Secretarial. dence,

Care The Chroniele, Montreal.

#### PERSONALS

Mr. Lewis Laing, assistant manager of the Liverpool & London & Globe Insurance Co. has returned to Montreal after spending a well bile accidents during 1919; in Cleveland, 136; in St. carned two months holiday in the old country. While at the other side Mr. Laing visited the Head Office of his Company.

Royal Exchange, has returned from London, England, where he attended the Bi-Centenary banquet, held by the Company at the Mansion" House in London; on 22nd June. Amongst the many notable guests present on the occasion, were almost exact ratio with the increase in automobiles. the Lord Mayor of London, and the Governor of --Bullesin of National Safety Council.'

the Bank of England. During his visit at the other side, Mr. Barry visited France, Belgium and Italy.

Among insurance men who have recently returned from England, are Mr. H. S. Angas, and Mr. O. P. Jones, fire manager, and assistant secretary, respectively, of Dale & Co., Montreal.

Mr. T. E. Keysell, assistant manager Employers Liability was in Montreal this week. Mr. Keysell has been on this side for some time, in connection with the Corporation's business.

#### The Aut mobile the Deadliest Machine in America

"The automobile-as much because of the carelessness of pedestrians as of drivers-is now the deadliest machine in America, and, unless quick and decisive action is taken, is destined to become even more deadly because of its rapidly increasing popularity.

The mortality report of the Census Bureau and statistics received daily by the National Safety Council indicate that during recent years automobile accidents have resulted in approximaately onehalf the number of deaths caused by industrial accidents of all sorts.

"In Chicago 420 persons were killed in automo-Louis, 97; in the Borough of Manhattan, New York, 191 children under fifteen years of age; in Greater New York, 677 persons were killed.

"In Rochester, N. Y., as many deaths were Mr. Arthur Barry, Canadian manager of the caused by automobile accidents as by street cars, railroads and industrial accidents combined.

"A comparison, year by year, of the number of automobile deaths and the number of automobiles in use indicates that the deaths are increasing in

Insure in one of Canada's Oldest and Strongest Fire Insurance Companies Organized in 1862

The Acadia Fire Insurance Company OF HALIFAX

LIABILITY UNDER ALL ACADIA POLICIES GUARANTEED BY PHOENIX ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED OF LONDON WHOSE ASSETS EXCEED \$98,000,000

MONTREAL AGENCIES, LIMITED GENERAL AGENTS MONTREAL TRUST BUILDING, MONTREAL

JAS. D. CHERRY, Manager

THE CHRONICLE

