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R. WILSON-SMITH, Proprietor

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THE LIFTING WITH a good crop in the West this year, it is safe OF DEPRESSION. to predict that the last will be

heard of depression in Canada. This opinion-expressed in Montreal the other day by Mr. Byron E. Walker, president of the Canadian Bank of Commerce-meets with agreement from competent judges of business conditions, cast and west. To the general public, the prediction is the more convincing, in that this same prophet's cautioning note as to trade reaction during 1907 was clearly sounded a full year in advance. At a time when the generality of United States financiers were still speaking comfortable words of peace, our leading Canadian bankers were giving timely warning of what Robert Louis Stevenson used to call "a period of multiplied and intense experiences."

People must not expect too much, nor too largely anticipate the harvest outcome of next autumn, Mr. Walker now adds in warning. The measuring up of crops yet ungrown is apt to make too imaginative a use of prosaic arithmetic.

Still, there is good basis for the marked, but gradual, business improvement now observable throughout Canada. Clearing house returns, railroad earnings, building statistics and customs revenue during April not only showed large increases over the figures of a year ago, but in some instances over even the records of 1907.

CANADA'S

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COMMENTING upon the present reserve strength of COMMAND OVER the Canadian banks, the New OTHERS' GOLD. York Journal of Commerce es-

timates that they have a command of \$200,000,000 over ready funds in London and New York. About three-quarters of this amount is definitely shown by the March bank statement; the remaining \$50,000,000 is arrived at in consideration of the fact that over \$80,000,000 of securities are held by the Canadian banks, a large proportion of which would be instantly marketable or instantly available as security for exchange drawings in Lon-

Referring to call loans placed in New York, the Journal of Commerce reminds Wall Street that this large foreign fund, owned principally by ten or twelve of the Montreal and Toronto banks, has been

accumulated because of the lack of demand for mercantile credits in the Dominion. "With these Canadian bankers their home mercantile customers have absolutely the first consideration" it points out, "and it is quite certain that as soon as it becomes possible to employ a considerable part of the funds at home there will be a withdrawal of resources from here." In this connection the point is noted that mercantile loans in Canada increased over \$12,000,000 in March, and that this increase is likely to be followed by others in the spring and summer months.

The caution is given that Canadian withdrawals from New York will most likely be accompanied by calls or demands for funds from the interior of the United States-originating from the same cause-and it might easily develop that the millionaire operators in the New York stock market will one day wake up and find that the lendable capital available for their purposes is somewhat less than they have been calculating upon.

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THE Dominion customs re-FOREIGN TRADE venue for April bears out DEVELOPMENTS, the forecast made by Hon. Mr.

Fielding in his budget speech that the revenues of the country would show a substantial increase this year. The customs receipts for April totalled \$3,961,678, an increase of \$511,730 over April last year. This with last month's revenue shows a betterment of over three-quarters of a million, compared with March and April last year.

Foreign trade figures are not yet available for April. Those for March show imports to have totalled \$33,863,362, an increase of \$3,811,130 over last year. Exports totalled \$18,397,974, an increase of \$454.487.

During the fiscal year ending with March, total imports amounted to \$298,123,792, a decrease of \$60,249,793 as compared with the preceding year; total exports of domestic products amounted to \$259,922,366, a decrease of \$3,446,586.

It is to be noted that, during the year, coin and bullion to the value of \$9,988,442 was imported, as compared with \$6,548,661 during 1907-08. The value of coin and bullion exported was only \$1,580,-793, as compared with \$16,637,654 during the preceding year. The total of Canadian trade was \$559,-635,951, as compared with \$638,380,291 for 1907-8.

The Peace Congress.

The National Peace Congress now in session at Chicago will have the sympathy of every

man of good-will, so far as its aims are concerned. That it can accomplish much in the way of practical results at a time when several of the greatest powers are waiting for a favourable opportunity to spring at each others' throats, meanwhile impoverishing their life-blood by their preparations for strife, is doubtful. Some form of international arbitration is the only remedy in sight for the war evil, but arbitration can only be a permanent success between nations that are willing to have international law administered on principles of international justice and such nations are in little danger of going to war.

We do not say this in disparagement or discouragement of the work of the Peace Congress. The financial situation, the whole world over, is too serious to permit of any influences that may make for peace being despised. Senator Hale is quoted as saying that two-thirds of all the revenues of the United States are used to defrav the expenses of past or future wars. The conditions in England, Germany, Russia and Japan are notorious. There are some minor victories to the credit of arbitration, and there are infinite possibilities in the Hague Tribunal.

The French Strikes. government

The present attitude of the employees in France on the labour question.

is an exceedingly suggestive indication of the result of socialism carried to its legitimate end; and incidentally a warning against the public ownership of public utilities. Among the strikers the national feeling is evidently dead and replaced by a feeling of class interest. If this kind of tendency is not nipped in the bud, it will grow, and spread into every department of public service. Imagine the army infected with the strike fever! No thoughtful man can see such tendencies without anxiety, and there are similar tendencies even in conservative old England. Whatever else socialism may mean, it evidently involves the death of patriotism.

Lord Grey.

An English paper says that the best piece of personal news received from the outer Empire for a long time is

the decision of Earl Grey to remain Governor General of Canada for the full period of his appointment, that is until December, 1910. The general rule is for the governors who are appointed for six years to remain only five; the only exceptions being Lord Dufferin and Lord Minto. Nowhere will Lord Grey's decision give more general satisfaction than in Canada.

Canada's Naval Ontlook.

Not a few Canadians favoured presenting Great Britain with a Dreadnought or two - instanter. simple, out-of-hand 'Twas a

undertaken might be proceeding, such as any morning before breakfast-at once simpler, and infinitely more spectacular, than the plan As it is, the Dominnow entered upon. ion is taking the commonplace course of consulting with the Imperial authorities before deciding upon its naval policy. And, already, most of us are beginning to think that the commonplace in this case is characterized by common sense.

In this connection it is noteworthy that, in the British House of Commons this week, Premier Asquith announced that the Government had taken steps to ascertain the views of the oversea governments respecting an early conference in the defence of the Empire. The coming summer is suggested for the meeting.

British press comments upon the Dominion Parliament's stand are warmly appreciative. Considerable attention, too, is being given to the published essay on Canada's naval policy which recently won the prize offered by the Navy League of Canada. Incidentally, the fact that first honours went to a woman-Mrs. W. H. Oliphant, of Toronto-may be deemed a better argument for female suffrage than some of the points advanced last week from the London platform of the International Woman Suffrage Convention.

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The maddest budget ever The British Budget. introduced, is Sir Frederick Banbury's characterization of

the budget just introduced at Westminister by Mr. Lloyd-George. It is the natural, the inevitable sequence of a policy of heavy expenditure. Old age pensions are the children of the Asquith Government; and as the London General Omnibus Company so persistently and conspicuously proclaims-"Children must be paid for."

The Princess of Orange.

Every nation on earth (with one possible exception) will echo the cry of the Dutch royal heralds, "Long live the Queen! Long live the

Princess of Orange!" The birth of Queen Wilhelmina's daughter may preserve the peace of all Europe for many years. The extinction of the dynasty of the Netherlands would precipitate an international crisis. It would involve either the election of a Protestant sovereign, from the limited number of Protestant royal families, with antagonistic interests; or the creation of another republic; and there are enough republics already in the world.

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CANADA'S CONCERN IN THE ORIENT'S USE OF SILVER.

Other than Cobalt interests are rejoicing that an improved demand for silver has now brought the price per ounce up to nearly 25d. in London and 54 cents in New York—six cents or so above the low level of December last. For one thing, the advance is indicative of increasing trade activity in the Orient—a condition by the way, which scarcely bears out the theory that depreciation of silver had in itself been the chief cause of lessening demands for western manufactures.

It is one thing to be aware of acute symptoms, another to diagnose them--and still another to prescribe a specific cure. Mr. Moreton Frewin (whose address before the Montreal Canadian Club was briefly noted a month ago) has acquainted himself exhaustively with fluctuations in the oriental exchanges and with apparent trade tendencies East and West. It is not so certain, however, that his diagnosis is always discriminating. He entirely blamed the depreciation of silver for the Orient's decrease in imports from the Occident, and for the former's increasing competition in manufacturing activities; though Japan, the West's most formidable rival, has a gold and not a silver monetary standard. But even were his diagnosis correct, it is more than doubtful if Mr. Frewin's proposed treatment would work the cure he seeks -his contention being that artificial international action could so raise the bullion value of silver as to ward off the dire day when "the yellow man with the white money will cut the throat of the white man with the yellow money." And, at best, the outlined plan promises respite for only fifteen or twenty years; for the longer future there is only the vaguely expressed belief that "by that time a generation will have grown up which will see the foolishness of paying no attention to the currency conditions of more than half the human race."

Canada, Mr. Frewin asserts, has a two-fold

interest in the readjustment of the eastern exchanges First, there is the matter of future growth in export trade to Asia-and, second, the more immediate effect that an enhanced bullion price for silver would have upon the value of the mining output of Cobalt and other silver mines. Therefore, he thinks there should be no difficulty in persuading the Finance Minister of the Dominion to co-operate with Great Britain, the United States, Germany and other western nations in "rehabilitating silver." To those directly interested in silver mining in Canada, the prospect of doubling the bullion value of the white metal is a glittering one indeed. But it is difficult to find economic logic in Mr. Frewin's plan for making the present fiftycent glitter of an ounce of bar silver worth that of a gold dollar.

If Mr. Frewin's diagnosis of trade conditions with the Orient were to be accepted, any disproof of his remedy's efficacy would make the outlook gloomy indeed. But closer analysis tends to show that he confuses effect with cause when he attributes the falling-off in eastern imports entirely to a depreciation in silver. The gold value of silver money in the East has changed widely during the past sixteen years. But that the trend has not shown the steady depreciation upon which Mr. Frewin's arguments seem based, is evident from the following statement of the yearly average values in cents since 1893, of the Haikwan Tael (the custom-house tael of China).

1893					.97	cents.	1901								.72	cent :
1894	••	•			.78		1902					1			63	
1895						"	1903		2			1		Ĵ	64	**
1896					.81	"	1904			1	•	1	•	•	66	
1897					.74	**	1905		•	1	•		•	•	79	
1898							1906									
1899					.73	**	1907									
1900							1908.									

From the foregoing, it appears that the two most pronounced drops in the value of the tael came at times of general trade recession, following the United States crises of 1893 and 1907. And in this connection it is interesting to note that recovery in the tael value from 63 cents in 1902 to 80 cents in 1906-7 was concomitant with general trade expansion throughout the world. Unless one accepts Mr. Frewin's "tail-wagging-the-dog" theory-namely, that silver has caused both of the foregoing worldwide disturbances-the conclusion seems plain that trade decline is more likely to have been a cause than an effect of lowered eastern exchanges. During 1908, Canadian exports of cottons to China fell off completely. That this was due to general trade conditions-rather than to exchange quotations-seems evident from their being now renewed, though exchange has recovered but slightly. The real reasons for temporary trade cessation were (1) lessened oriental purchasing-power and (2) drastic

price-cutting by cotton manufacturers in the United States.

And now as to Mr. Frewin's contention that the Orient's manufacturing activities are being so fostered by the present low value of silver that they endanger Caucasian trade supremacy. There is no doubting that the awakening East will more and more enter into active industrial competition with the West. But there is this to be noted : thus far the Asiatic competition which has made the most material impression on European trade has been that of Japan, whose currency is now established on a gold basis and where the prevalent rate of wages, if still low, keeps steadily growing. That certain readjustments in cost of production must come as a result of the East's entrance into industrial activity cannot be overlooked. And, in the working out of the change, the likelihood is that some branches of industry will be shifted more and more to the East. But the development will be gradual, and the West must adapt itself to the change, making new gains to balance what it surrenders. As in all industrial transitions, there must be some losses and hardships entailed, but the final outcome will be for world-wide economic gain. A higher standard of living for the Oriental, rather than a lowed one for the Occidental, seems the likely trend. After all, there is not any very radical difference between our fright at the "yellow peril" of cheap oriental labour, and the old-time weavers' panic at the introduction of the power loom. And it is as futile to attempt to stem the tide of economic change by raising the silver prices of the East, as it was useless for the frantic Lancashire weavers to raze the cotton factories which they looked upon as involving their industrial doom.

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MONTREAL CITY & DISTRICT SAVINGS BANK.

It speaks well for the thrift of the constituency served by the Montreal City & District Savings Bank, that its number of open accounts increased from 94,309 to 98,318 during 1908. That the average amount per depositer decreased by less than \$3.50 during a year exceedingly trying to wage-earners, is another gratifying feature of the report. Deposits in all amounted to \$20,490,941 at 31st December last, as compared with \$19,913,-915 a year before.

The net profits for the year were \$152,244.18, and the balance brought forward from the preceding year's profit and loss account was \$65,667.42, making a total of \$217,011.60. From this amount have been paid two dividends to shareholders and \$100,000 has been added to the reserve fund, increasing the amount at credit of this account to \$1,000,000-leaving a balance at credit of profit and loss of \$17,011.60 to be carried forward to the

current year. It is to be noted that the reserve fund steadily approaches to being double the paidup capital of \$600,000.

The assets of the bank, totalling \$22,486,843, are of the highest class throughout. Regarding these, the auditors remark that they continue to be impressed by the excellent nature of the securities held by the bank, or held as financial security for loans, both of which were considered to be an abundant guarantee for the depositors, not only in their intrinsic value, but in the readiness with which they could be converted into money.

At the 62nd annual meeting, held this week, General Manager Lesperance was congratulated by the shareholders upon the successful outcome of the year's business. With the remodelling of the head office, increased accommodation and better facilities are now afforded; the marked increase in the number of the bank's clients indicates that these changes are appreciated by the public.

The retiring directors were re-elected as follows: Hon. J. Ald. Ouimet, Michael Burke, Hon. Robert Mackay, H. Markland Molson, Richard Bolton, G. N. Moncel, Robert Archer, Hon. R. Dandurand, Hon. C. J. Doherty, Albert Hebert.

At the subsequent meeting of the newly-elected directors, Hon. J. A. Ouimet was re-elected president, and Mr. Michael Burke was re-elected vicepresident.

THE GENERAL FINANCIAL SITUATION.

In the large financial centres nothing has occurred during the week to disturb the existing order of conditions. The Bank of England rate remains unchanged. Rates in the open market at London are: call money $\frac{12}{5}$ to $\frac{34}{5}$, short bills $1\frac{14}{5}$, three months bills 1 5-16 to $1\frac{36}{5}$. These are about the same as last week's figures in all cases.

At the continental centres also conditions are unchanged. The Bank of France's official rate remains at 3 p.c., while the Paris market went down a fraction—the quotation for the latter being now 1 3-16. The official rate of the Imperial Bank of Germany is also stationary at 3½; and the market rate in Berlin is now at 2.

Call loans in Montreal and Toronto are again unchanged at 4 to 4½ p.c.

In New York call money is 2 p.c.; 60 days $2\frac{1}{4}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$; 90 days $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3; and six months 3 to $3\frac{1}{4}$. Last Saturday's statement of the New York Clearing House Banks showed an expansion of \$5,500,000 in loans, a loss of \$1,600,000 in cash, an increase of \$4,100,000 in deposits, and a decrease of \$2,600,000 in surplus. The last mentioned item now stands at \$7,859,475. When it is considered that about this time of year there is normally something of a movement of currency

from New York to the interior districts it seems likely that a moderate rise in New York rates will be in order if the campaign of the bulls in the stock market is vigorously continued. It is understood, of course, that the associated banks have at their command large latent resources. For example they doubtless could transfer an important amount in loans to the trust companies and other outside bankers and institutions. But before such transfers would take place on a really important scale the rate of interest would have to rise to a point considered favourable by the outside lenders. On their funds now lying as deposits these latter are now getting rates ranging from 11/2 to 2 p.c. A call loan rate of 3 p.c. or better would probably be required to induce them to throw the bulk of their available funds into loans.

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THE TREND OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE.

With respect to one important party of outside lenders in New York who are frequently counted upon to take over loans from the Clearing House banks when the latter find their surplus reserve disappearing-the Canadian banks-it is to be observed that they already, in the past six months, transferred a large part of their available funds from bank balances to loans. The net credit balances in foreign banks carried by our banks reached the highest point on 30th September last, when they stood at \$56,500,000. At the same time their foreign call loans were \$62,764,972. Up to the end of March, 1909, the bank balances had been drawn down to \$27,300,000, while the call loans abroad had increased to \$117,800,000. In case of need, or if high call rates made it desirable to transfer further sums into the call loans account, the banks could doubtless spare say \$20,000,000 from the balances.

Another point worthy of remembrance is the reported co-operative dealing in or manipulation of, foreign exchange by a combination of powerful international bankers in New York, London and Paris. It is asserted that this important combination has been working in the London and New York exchange markets for some months with the object of controlling exchange rates and also of influencing interest rates. The various members are supposed to have accumulated a considerable line of sterling exchange, partly as an investment and partly as a means of bringing to pass the results referred to. If the supposition is correct their operations would have a strong tendency to cause exchange quotations to rise at New York, and to force the export of gold. But, of course, they could stop the gold export movement any time they chose by merely throwing on the market part or all of their accumulated holdings of exchange.

It is interesting for Canadians to reflect that if a combination of influential exchange bankers exists it would necessarily have to include our Canadian bank agencies to make its operations and campaign effective. No one who has closely watched the course of recent developments in financial London, and financial New York can have failed to see that the Canadian banks have been steadily and rapidly increasing their power over the two big international markets. At the present time their command of cash resources, available for lending at call and dealing in exchange, is so extensive that no combination aiming to control the market could safely leave them out.

There is, however, another factor that has been at work in the neighbouring republic tending to bring about the expulsion of gold. It is the unseasonable and uncalled for expansion of the national bank note circulation that has been going on in the last few months. Trade across the line is slack, and no increase whatever has taken place in the need for currency. As a matter of fact the need for circulating medium is much less now than it was in November when the crop movement was on. A properly constituted currency system would contract under these circumstances. Our own bank note circulation contracted about \$15,000,000 or about 18 p.c. But it happened in the States that the Washington Treasury withdrew a large amount of deposits it had been carrying in the national banks. On their surrendering the deposits the national banks were left with many millions of government and other bonds that the Treasury had held as security. These bonds could be sold only at a loss. The law, however, permitted the banks to deposit them as security for new note circulation. So they took out new circulation and injected it into the currency system of the country when no need for it existed. One effect has been to expel gold from the country-this week's export to France affording a current instance.

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ATTEMPTS AT SELF-REFORM BY ASSESSMENT SOCIETIES.

Assessment insurance comes in for scant recognition from the Insurance Bill now in sub-committee at Ottawa. There is only one really new paragraph regarding fraternal orders. It is brief and exceedingly to the point, to wit :--

"After this Act goes into effect no company which carries on business of the nature described in the last preceding section hereinafter referred to as assessment companies, shall be licensed or registered to carry on business thereunder, but licenses to such companies in force when this Act goes into effect may nevertheless be from time to time renewed."

Direct enough evidence this, that the principle of assessmentism in life insurance is now pretty thoroughly discredited. Ten years ago the bringing forward of such a prohibition would have been met with protestations from an army of those holding to the shibboleth of "pocket reserves." But late years have brought rapid changes tending to shake the faith even of the most sanguine.

In dealing with this matter the Government was confronted with no small difficulty. Drastic provisions relating to existing fraternals with their thousands of members had to be avoided, and an effort made to "make the best of a bad job" in the carrying out of obligations already entered into. The first proposal was that provision should be made for adequate actuarial rates and reserves on all new business undertaken by existing societies-earlier members, hard as it might seem to them, being allowed to work out their own dubious salvation. This plan recognized that, while it was right that the interests of old members should be conserved so far as possible, it was inequitable that growing deficiencies should be made up from funds belong to those newly joining.

It will be remembered, however, that these original provisions for reorganization of fraternal orders were dropped by the Government, as a result of urgent requests that the societies be first allowed to deal with the matter of rate revision themselves. Little objection was raised to this concession being temporarily granted; those who believed the matter must eventually demand radical legislative changes felt that it might better be considered in a separate bill. And, in the meantime, opportunity would be given to those so disposed, to set their houses in order. Even on the part of the regular life companies, there was apparent a desire to aid rather than retard steps that would make for the best welfare of the fraternals-a disposition evidenced by the disinterested advice given in more than one instance by leading Canadian actuaries.

In pursuance of the understanding with the Government, Supreme Chief Ranger Stevenson, of the Independent Order of Foresters, urged radical rate revision upon the Supreme Court of that society a year ago. With commendable frankness he pointed out that the order had in hand funds of only some ten million dollars, where an actuarial valuation called for sixty. He made clear also that the current contributions of the members who joined prior to the increasing of rates in 1899, no longer sufficed to pay their death and disability claims, but had to be supplemented by an accelerated drawing upon the reserve standing to their credit. And the conclusion he emphasized was, that as the death rate among the old members increased and their contributions decreased, it would be only a comparatively short time before their accumulations would be exhausted, neces-

sitating an appropriating of funds rightfully belonging to entrants of a later date than 1899 eventually leaving a large deficiency to be made up by members paying the higher rates.

While Mr. Stevenson's detailed plan leaned away from cold actuarial justice to the extent of providing certain special privileges for old members, its adoption would have been a great step towards the stability of the order. But, as is well known, his proposals were voted down, a half-way measure being adopted that could do no more than temporarily defer the facing of a most serious problem. The calling of the adopted plan a "combination of permanency and expediency" clearly enough indicated its inadequacy—though the phrase, until analyzed, sounded reassuring.

To illustrate the effect of the adopted changes, there may be cited the case of a man who entered the order at age 25, prior to 1899. He then paid, and had since paid, 67 cents per month; as against 94 cents per month paid by members who had joined at age 25, since 1890. According to the National Fraternal Congress table, each of these members should have paid over \$1.00 per month, from the time of entering the order. The S. C. R's proposal was to raise the old member's rate from 67 cents to somewhere between \$1.05 and \$1.22 according to date of original entry; but the order decided that it would require only \$1.05 in any case. It was further provided that old members who could not pay the increased rates might instead have their certificates correspondingly reduced, or might borrow the monthly increase in their payments from the order at 4 p.c. interest, the loans to remain as liens upon their insurance contracts.

In brief, the plan called for an average of \$8 per year additional from the 112,076 members who had joined the order before 1800. The \$900,000 additional thus looked for annually was counted upon to change the yearly deficit of \$616,000 to an annual surplus of \$275,000. But these high hopes took little or no account of "adverse selection" through lapsing of healthier lives, nor of the fact that increasing average age must, as time went by, inevitably turn surplus into deficit again.

There has lately come to hand from the Bulletin Publishing Company, of Toronto, its annual Assessment Life Insurance Chart, giving the position at the close of 1908, of fraternals doing business in Canada. It shows how increasing lapses and decreasing new business are already upsetting the calculations upon which rate readjustment was based. During the year, the total amount of "insurance" covered by certificates of the Foresters decreased from \$265,000,000 to \$246,000,000. Terminations during the year amounted to \$34,-000,000, as against less than \$23,000,000 in 1907 -death claims in each year being around \$2,300,000. Perhaps the logic of the assessment system should lead the order's officers to rejoice in increased lapses; a chief reliance of fraternals has been the revenue derived for those who, after payment of considerable entrance fees, remain only a short time as members. But there is evidently trouble in obtaining "new blood" when there is so great an outflowing of old. New business obtained in 1908 totalled only about \$15,000,000 on 18,600 lives, as against \$31,000,000 in 1907 on 36,800 lives. And it may not be easy in 1909 to get even 18,000 new entrants to a society from which double that number broke away during the preceding twelvemonth.

All in all it scarcely looks (despite newspaper reports of a recent Foresters' demonstration in Toronto), as though "the transition from the old scale of rates to the new has been successfully made" much less that the "crisis is past." To have taken really adequate steps a year ago could scarcely have disrupted the order more—and there would now be the present advantage of being able to attract new members to a much sounder organization. The experience thus far of allowing fraternal orders to take their own way of strengthening their position scarcely obviates the necessity for revised legislation dealing with their transaction of business in Canada.

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PHOENIX ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

For over a century and a quarter the Phœnix Assurance Company, of London, has been an important factor in British underwriting activity. During recent years some highly important rearrangements and extensions have been instituted by the management, notable among such being the absorption of the Pelican and British Empire Life Office. Fully equipped as the Phœnix now is for transacting fire, life, accident and general business, it is not surprising to find that steady progress is being manifested in all branches. The outlook is undoubtedly a bright one.

In this country the company transacts a large and increasingly important fire insurance business, the Canadian management being in the capable hands of Paterson & Son, of Montreal.

From its operations at home and abroad the company received fire premiums during 1008 amounting to \$7,194,610, after deducting re-insurance. Losses paid and outstanding totalled \$3,858,935 or 53.6 per cent. of the premiums. The expenses and commission together amounted to \$2,642,980, being 36.7 per cent. of the premiums. The combined loss and expense ratio was thus 90.3 per cent. of the premiums, leaving a balance of \$692,900 or 9.7 per cent. The strong financial position of the company is indicated by the circumstance that interest earnings contribute \$334,-620 to the \$1,027,520 carried to profit and loss account. During the year the sum of \$320,800 has been added to the fire reserve, thereby increasing it to \$3,500,000. This, with the strong reserve of \$3,250,000 for unexpired risks, gives a total fire fund of \$6,750,000-or not far from the year's total premiums.

The various funds of the company now aggre-

gate a total of \$36,662,360. Adding to these the uncalled capital of \$12,009,600, aggregate resources amount to well nigh \$49,000,000, made up as follows:

Capital paid up..... \$ 1,701,550 Fire Funds.

Accident Fund Profit and Loss Account	\$ 6,750,000 200,000 1,252,560
Life Assurance Funds	\$ 9,904,110 26,758,250
Total Funds Uncalled Capital	\$36,662,360 12,099,600
Total Resources	\$48,761,960

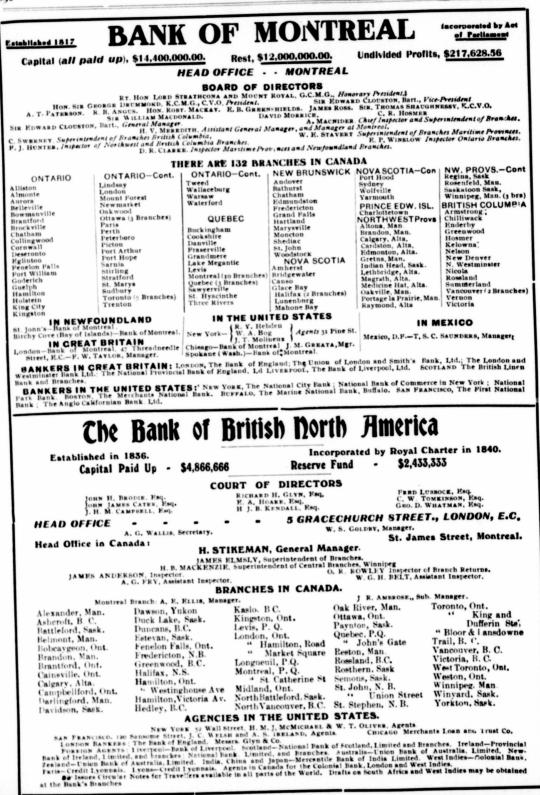
NEW TRIAL ORDERED IN INLAND MARINE CASE.

An appeal allowed by the Supreme Court this week, in an inland marine insurance case, has attracted considerable attention both in Canada and Great Britain. The appellants, Sedgwick, et al., of London Lloyds, through their Montreal representatives insured a cargo of cement owned by the respondents, the Montreal Light, Heat & Power Company. The insurance was against total loss of the cement "by total loss of the vessel and general average only." The cargo was laden in the barge Maria, which while being towed in the Richelieu River, had a hole stove in her bow, and sank to the bottom of the river in about 14 feet of water. The cargo was a total loss, but it was contended that the barge was not actually or constructively a total loss, and that the insurers were therefore not liable under the terms of the policy. (A tender of abandonment proffered by the owners to the insurers of the hull was not allowed and settlement for partial loss was subsequently made on the vessel itself

The Superior Court at Montreal, upon the answers of the jury, held that the cargo insurers were liable, and this decision was affirmed on an appeal to the Court of Review by the judgment appealed from. The action was for \$2,700, and objection was made by the respondents to the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of Canada to entertain the appeal on the grounds (1) That the amount in controversy was less than \$5,000, the amount limited for appeals *de plano* to the Privy Council by an act passed last year by the Quebec Legislature, which limitation governs appeals from the Court of Review to the Supreme Court, and (2) that no notice of the appeal had been given as required by section 70 of the Supreme Court Act.

Appellants contended that this case being already before the courts when legislation was passed, appeal was allowable. By the Supreme Court, this question as to jurisdiction was reserved and the hearing proceeded with on the merits of the appeal. The appellants contended that the answers and verdict of the jury and the judgment entered on their findings should be set aside, a judgment *non obstante veredicto* entered, or a new trial ordered, on grounds that the court below misconstrued the contract, that the facts as found by the jury would entitle the appellants to a dismissal

MAY 7, 1909



of the action, that the questions submitted as to facts were insufficient and defective, that there was misdirection in the judge's charge, and that there was obvious error in the verdict and judgments appealed from. Appeal was this week allowed and new trial ordered on one issue.

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THE CALEDONIA INSURANCE COMPANY.

On the eve of the 104th annual meeting held yesterday in Edinburgh, a few shareholders took it upon themselves to issue a circular with a view of trying to bring about an amalgamation of Scotland's oldest insurance company with another leading office there. Happily their efforts were non-availing. A cable to Mr. Lansing Lewis, Canadian manager of the company, reached Montreal yesterday stating that the policy of the directors had been triumphantly sustained by an overwhelming majority of the shareholders. The plot was undoubtedly started by speculators who hoped to realize a profit on shares bought by them after the San Francisco conflagration. The cry by which they hoped to influence a number of other shareholders related to the inevitable depletion of the company's reserves after it had successfully passed through the San Francisco ordeal. Against this contention the directors have been able to point out that, ever since the conflagration, very satisfactory underwriting results have been attained, so that the reserves are now fully adequate for the protection of policyholders without fear of drain upon the uncalled capital of shareholders.

The company's reports for the past three years show a profit of \$1,004,000 (not far short of half of the amount of the San Francisco loss) out of which over \$700,000 has been carried to reserve.

When it is further considered that half of the present substantial dividend is provided by interest earnings, it is evident how well conditioned the company is to continue its career of honourable and sturdy independense. Current underwriting results and accumulated resources alike supply good reasons why the majority shareholders routed the malcontents this week.

As indicating the attitude of conservative underwriting opinion upon this subject in Great Britain the following may be quoted from The Post Magazine of London:

"Incidentally, it may be remarked that attacks of the kind here deprecated represent a serious danger to insurance institutions. If successful, there is hardly a company, however sound, but might be at the mercy of a clique; and for this reason, if for no other, it is to be hoped that shareholders will support the board which has hitherto served them so faithfully and well."

That the shareholders have so done, will be welcome news in Canada as well as in the old land -the company's business dealings in the Dominion having brought it into deserved favour here.

A REPORT FROM OTTAWA states that the subcommittee may conclude its labours this week on the Insurance Bill. Even if that be so, there will be reconsideration by the Banking and Commerce Committee before the bill is reported, so that its passage this session looks doubtful, indeed.

Our London Letter.

MARKET'S VIEW OF TURKISH SITUATION.

British Railway Matters-Grand Trunk Affairs-Ten Shilling Notes-Insurable Interest Case-Special Correspondence of THE CHRONICLE.

Recently a good deal of uncertainty was felt on the Stock Exchange regarding the immediate future owing to the developments in Turkey, but the subsequent course of events demonstrated that misgivings were not justified. Although irregularity developed in some sections, and business was not more than moderately good, the general tone and sentiment remained satisfactory. Consols weakened sympathetically on the announcement of a new railway loan by the Indian Government, and the home railway market was little affected by the news of the withdrawal of the Parliamentary bill promoted by three of the companies for their amalgamation. Market men, however, are inclined to take this announcement philosophically, arguing that the companies concerned with a little goodwill towards each other will be able to effect substantial economies without having recourse to the legislature. This is, no doubt, true, but it would have been more satisfactory had the original scheme been carried out. Having, however, once come together, the directors of the companies concerned can hardly allow things to drift back into their old condition of laisser faire, foolish competition and waste. The British railway shareholder is a peaceable and long suffering individual who has a truly touching confidence in his directors, but even he, his imagination once touched, as it has been by the talk during recent months concerning economy and combination, will scarcely allow that.

Canadians' Good Tone.

The tone of the Canadian market has been conspicuously good of late. Quite a sensational rise has been registered by Hudson's Bay shares which have touched 06, a rise of eight points on the price ruling at the time of the publication of the results of the land sales a week or two ago. According to the information of one of the financial dailies, two big London houses and a leading firm in New York have made arrangements to acquire a large block of shares jointly and take them off the market. Apparently they have been bidding freely for the shares this week up to of, but have only been able to acquire small lots. Recent events in the wheat market have induced optimistic views of the future of Canadian railways by far seeing observers, who suggest that an acceleration of Canada's agricultural development is imminent and that eventually your country will take the position not only of the granary of the Empire, but of "the granary of the world." Hence the continued rise in Canadian Pacifics.

The Grand Trunk Meeting.

Expectations regarding a noisy Grand Trunk meeting have been duly gratified. On the whole the speech of Sir Charles Rivers-Wilson, with its under-current of optimism regarding the future, was satisfactory to the markets, although operators would have been better pleased had fuller informa-

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tion been given regarding the Grand Trunk's liabilities under its guarantees to the Pacific Company. In the absence of this information it is impossible to gauge the outlook for the junior preference issues. It cannot be said that the demands of the dissatisfied shareholders meet with a great amount of sympathy here. At this critical stage of the company's history, it is considered such a sweeping change in the directorate as that proposed would have been analogous to the classic operation of swapping horses while crossing a stream, and might have suggested to the Dominion Government the advisability of holding its hand regarding the $\pounds_{2,000,000}$ loan to the Grand Trunk Pacific until the re-organization of the directorate had been completed. Sir Charles would doubtless have resigned had the opposition been successful in carrying its points. Moreover, it is suggested that the appointment of directors resident in Canada would from the point of view of English shareholders, mean, to some extent, a parting with control. The Chairman's explanations regarding the much-discussed equipment suspense account were satisfactory, and on the whole it appears that, with the exception of the details regarding the guarantees to the Pacific road, we are in possession of a very clear idea of the Grand Trunk's position and its possibilities and prospects.

The Ten Shilling Note.

Ten shilling notes seem to be very much in the air just now. A few weeks ago they were advocated as a means of strengthening our gold reserves by the committee of the Association of Chambers of Commerce; now the suggestion appears in a Ministerial journal that, utilized for the purpose of paying old age pension claims instead of the wasteful half sovereign-a coin which has a relatively large wearing surface-they might solve Mr. Lloyd-George's difficulties with the Budget. The idea is that they should be based upon silver and as ten shillings of coinage represents only a fraction of that in intrinsic value, the "hen-roost" which might be raided in this fashion would be an exceedingly valuable one. It is a little difficult to imagine, however, that many of our old age pensioners would be satisfied to receive a piece of paper in lieu of metallic coin; the probabilities are all in favour of a harassing time for those who paid it over.

The Insurance World.

An insurance case of importance has figured in the British Courts lately. The company concerned is the United Provident Assurance, a Manchester concern dating only from 1900, and an action was brought against it by a daughter to recover £1,000 under two policies of insurance upon the life of her father. The company alleged that the daughter had no insurable interest in the life of the father and, alternatively, that the assured's life was accepted owing to mis-statements made by the plaintiff. The daughter, it appeared, had effected the insurances after lending money to her father in order that she should not be the loser by his death and in the case of one of the halfdozen policies in question she received assurances that the money would be paid to her after that event. But upon the claim being presented the

company refused to pay. The jury found for the daughter, and the case has excited much interest, coming as it does after recent revelations regarding the tactics of some British insurance companies, not in the front rank, who accept business of this kind from poor people, take the premiums, and when a claim is made repudiate it. Apparently the only method by which people can be warned of companies of this kind is by means of the publicity attaching to cases in the courts. The whole subject is creating a great stir. It is said, indeed, that instances are on record of respectable insurance companies knowing of circumstances which bar a claim under a particular policy, but who for many years have continued to receive the premiums on that policy without giving notice of the cir-cumstances to the assured. They are doubtless strictly within their rights, but the man in the street is not given to looking at these matters with a legal eve

The increasing keenness of the Board of Trade in all matters that concern the supervision of insurance companies is apparent from the evidences of their activity which have been previously mentioned in these letters. The new Welsh Insurance Company has just received somewhat disconcerting evidence of that keenness. They propose to issue policies guaranteeing to pay the sum assured in the event of death by accident, and the Board of Trade has demanded from them accordingly, a deposit of £20,000, as it considers these accident policies to come within the definition of assurance upon human life. This is the first occasion on which the Life Assurance Companies Act of 1870 has been so construed. No doubt, the new reading of the Act is a right one, but it seems curious that it should only have been hit upon after a lapse of nearly forty years; and it is certainly "hard lines" on the new Welsh Company that it should so unexpectedly have to plank down £20,000 in order to satisfy official requirements. METRO.

London, April 26, 1909.

EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY ASSURANCE CORPORATION, LIMITED.

The annual statement for the year 1908 of the Employers' Liability Assurance Corporation, Limited, appears on another page. The operations of the corporation extend over a wide sphere in Great Britain, the Colonies, and in foreign countries. It is a well-governed institution, and deservedly popular for its honourable dealings with the public.

The net premium income for the year amounts to \$4,635,893 while the total revenue is shown to be \$4,910,324. The losses paid and outstanding were \$2,574,737.

The balance of the account is 4,017,648—the highest balance ever recorded since the establishment of the company. The dividend declared was at the rate of 22½ per cent. which is 2½ per cent. more than the shareholders ever received before. The Chairman (Lord Claud Hamilton) pointed out, in making this announcement, that dividends, as has been the case with all dividends for a period of 15 years or so, have been derived solely from interest on investments and rents and not from the trading profits of the year. This is a most satis-

trading profits of the year. This is a most satisfactory position for any company to be in, denoting a strong financial position.

The investments which are of the highest class, stand at \$7,670,699 as against \$7,164,410 in 1907.

Notwithstanding commercial depression which existed during the past year and other adverse circumstances, the premium income was practically unaffected, and the year ended with increased prosperity for the company. The management has built up a business of great magnitude, due care being taken in the selection of risks. Policyholders of the corporation can rest assured that their contracts will be fulfilled to the letter, by an institution that has always upheld the finest traditions of the business.

In Canada, the business of the company is energetically managed by Messrs. Griffin and Woodland, both of whom have been associated with the Employers' Liability for many years. Throughout the Dominion, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, the Corporation is represented by a strong organization. The following figures indicate the energy displayed on behalf of the company, by the Canadian management:

1002	premium	income		 	5196,091	
1003		do	• • •	 	285,715	
1004		do				
1005		do		 	322,062	
1006	do	do		 	363,359	
1006	do	do		 	438,170	
1908	do	do		 	521,098	

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THE "COMMODITIES CLAUSE" of the Hepburn Railroad Rate Law was this week interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States as allowing railroads to carry the coal of any company which they do not own outright. Through holding companies, however, they could control the mine and the transportation of the output as though no law on the subject existed.

THE HEARING OF THE APPLICATION of the Ontario Bank liquidator to settle the list of contributories was opened by Official Rerefee George Kappele this week in Toronto. Two witnesses were called, Mr. F. H. Pope, former acting chief accountant of the Ontario Bank, and Mr. A. D. Braithwaite, interim general manager of the bank, and the burden of their evidence was that there would be a deficit of \$576,000 when the assets of the Ontario Bank taken over by the Bank of Montreal are realized.



DEBENTURES FOR SALE.

Tenders will be received by the undersigned for the purchase of Debentures of the Province of Manitoba to the amount of seven hundred and sixty-two thousand dollars (\$762,000.00) for the following purposes:—

 Telephone Construction
 \$500,000.00

 New Court House, Eastern Judicial District
 200,000.00

 Judicial Buildings, Western Judicial District,
 50,000.00

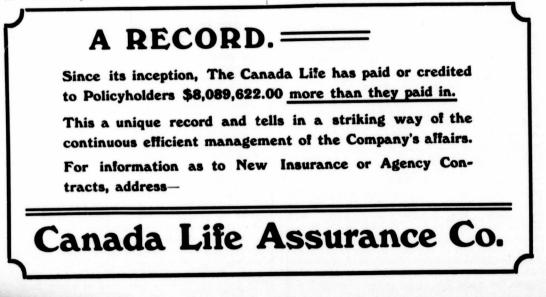
 Judicial Buildings, Northern Judicial District,
 12,000.00

These Debentures will be in denominations of not less than five hundred dollars (\$500.00) each, in sterling or Canadian currency and payable in London, Montreal or Winnipeg, to suit purchaser, will be dated July 1st, 1909. payable in forty years from date and will bear interest at the rate of four per cent. (4 p.c.) per annum, half yearly.

All offers must be addressed to the undersigned and must reach this office not later than the fifteenth day of May next. The highest or any tender not accepted unless satisfactory.

HUGH ARMSTRONG, Provincial Treasurer.

Provincial Treasurer's Office, Winnipeg, April 20th, 1909.



THE LONDON ASSURANCE CORPORATION.

Notable, even among leading British insurance offices, for its care and skill in underwriting operations, is the London Assurance Corporation. During its long career it has passed triumphantly through numerous conflagrations, and the San Francisco disaster furnished a further proof of its strength. Heavy as payments then were-amounting to nearly \$5,000,000-the process of re-cuperation was promptly and steadily entered upon; and the London Assurance Corporation has again been actively building up those strong reserves which have enabled the company to successfully withstand so many and so various demands upon its resources.

During the year 1008, net fire premiums amounted to \$3,201,590; while the losses, inclusive of all claims up to the 31st of December, amounted to \$1,580,385. The underwriting surplus, over losses and expenses amounting together to 87 per cent. of premiums, was \$418,375. The balance at the credit of the fire fund, after transferring \$320,575 to profit and loss, amounted at the year-end to \$2,250,000.

At the close of the year, the amount standing to the credit of profit and loss was \$730,070. Total assets of the company aggregated \$21,-092,630.

In the realm of fire underwriting, age in itself is apt to be a sign of progress and strength; the survival of the fittest holds notably in the insurance world. But the London Assurance has more to its credit than a history of nearly two hundred years -its present reputation, resources and business transactions give it unquestioned rank among leading British offices.

In Canada the business of the corporation is firmly established, under the joint-management of Messrs. Kennedy & Colley, of Montreal, whose reputation as efficient and conservative underwriters is recognized throughout the Dominion.

FIRE AT MONTREAL.

On the 30th ult., a fire occurred 257 Notre Dame St., West, on the premises occupied by Farrell, & Belisle, wholesale milliners. The following companies are interested :

Commercial Union \$ North America. Northern Phenix of Brooklyn Queen North British Equity National General	1,000 5,000 1,000 7,500 6,500 2,500 5,000	General Hearts of Oak Sterling La Fonciere Calgary Mississquoi Lloyd's	2,000 1,000 1,500 3,500
Western Canada	2,000		\$62,500

Loss, 51 per cent.

The building was damaged to the extent of \$6,000.

MESSRS. EVANS & JOHNSON, insurance brokers, have removed the firm's offices, from corner of Notre Dame and St. Francois Xavier Streets, to the building leased by them, 26 St. Sacrament Street.

MR. G. H. RYAN, general manager of the Phœnix Assurance Company, Limited, of London, is expected to arrive in Montreal in a few days.

Prominent Topics.

The Lieutenant Governor of Quebec Arbour Day appointed Thursday, May 6th, as Arbour Day for the Western part of

the Province, and Thursday, May 13th for the East-ern part. We greatly fear that Arbour Day will never amount to much until it is associated with some patriotic or religious occasion which appeals strongly to popular sentiment. The idea is a splendid one and a practical one, but it does not in spinned one and a practical one, but it does not in slang phraseology "catch on." Few of our people are lovers of trees, and few even realize their economic value to the country. "Small profits and quick returns" is the motto of the age. Tree-planting promises big profits, but the returns are too slow for a generation that wants to spend money a little faster than it earns it.

The Shah of Persia has dismissed The Persian his Prime Minister and his Minister Situation. of War, and has appointed his uncle, Naib Es Saltaveh, to both positions. The Shah shows a confidence in his relatives which is not characteristic of oriental potentates; but as the royal uncle is said to be of re-actionary disposition it cannot be said that His Royal Highness manifests any particular talent for reading the signs of the times. Possibly he has not yet been informed that Abdul Hamid has retired into private life.

The Grand Trunk Pacific Loan Grand Trunk Pacific Bill has passed through its final stage in the House of Commons and its ratification

by the Senate is a foregone conclusion. There is ne question about the wisdom of Parliament doing whatever is necessary to bring to a successful completion a huge national undertaking to which the country is committed by two general elections, by considerable expenditure already incurred and by every consideration of national interest from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

Wireless Telegraphy on Land.

Wireless telegraphy has been accomplished between New York and Chicago, the first dispatch being sent from the

New York Times to the Chicago Tribune. The practical value of the service may not be great at present, but the feat demonstrates the practicability of long distance wireless telegraphy on land. The era of poles and wires may be nearing its end and the era of conduits has hardly commenced.

Civic Royal. Commission.

The investigation into Montreal civic affairs now in progress, is the only real investigation ever held into that

subject. Like the Nasmyth hammer, it will deliver a smashing blow, crack a nut, or break a watch glass without hurting the watch, with equal facility. This is the first time that civic affairs in Montreal, have been enquired into, by a really independent tribunal. There have been many investigations by aldermanic committees, but no committee of alderman can properly discharge a duty of this kind.

Sir Edward Clouston's Roturn.

Sir Edward Clouston, who has just returned from Europe, reports that in Great Britain, there is great interest in affairs Canadian just now

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Founded 1805—The O	dest Scottish Fire Office.
	URANCE COMPANY
Extracts from the One-hund	red and fourth Annual Report.
	PARTMENT \$2,212,175
Net Premiums for 1908 Interest on Fire Funds	24,085 \$2,236,260
Deduct-Losses (56.53 per cent.) Commission, Expenses and Taxes (36.29 per cent.)	\$1,250,525
Surplus on year's trading carried to Profit and Loss Ac	IDEND
Out of the balance at the credit of Profit and Loss J the rate of \$5 per Share (being an increase of \$1.25 per Sh by equal half-yearly instalments of \$2.50 per Share on leaving a balance of \$520,055 to be carried forward.	Account the Directors recommend that a Dividend be declared at hare, over that declared last year) to be paid free of Income Tax 15th May and 11th November next. This will absorb \$107,500,
FIRE REVENUE	E ACCOUNT (1908)
Fire Funds at 31st December, 1907- Reserve for Unexpired Risks, 331 on 1907 Premiums	Fire Claims (after deducting sums reinsured) \$1,250,525 Commission
Less Reinsurance 507,710 Interest and Rents from Fire Funds (less Income Tax)	75 Carried to Profit and Loss Account
(rest fileome ray)	Sheet— Reserve for Unexpired Risk, 33.574 per cent. of 1908 Premiums
\$2,978,9	\$2,978,98
PROFIT AND L	OSS ACCOUNT (1908)
Balance from 1907 \$ 382,	770 Dividend paid in 1908 \$ 50,52 Dividend paid in 1908 20,01
	Bad and doubtful debts 2.9
Investment Reserve Account, sum provided from the profits of 1907, for depreciation existing at the close of that year, not now	000
Transferred from Fire Account	\$732.00
\$732,0	960 (
	FUNDS. 537,500
Fire Insurance Fund.	742,720
Annuities, Certain and	12,000
Employers' Liability I	fund 14,005
Personal Accident and	Burglary Fund 2,915
Balance Profit and Los Life and Annuity Fur	ad
Total Funds, 31st Dec	., 1908
HEAD OFFICE : 10 George Street, Edinburgh.	LONDON OFFICE : 82 King William Street, E.C. AGER-Robert Chapman.
CANADIAN	BRANCH OFFICE :
112 ST. JAMES STREET, cor. Place d'Arm	JOHN G. BORTHWICK, Secretary.
LANSING LEWIS, Manager.	dunn u. Duninwich, Selicialy.

the British budget imposing heavy burdens on investors will divert much capital to Canada; hence it is important to preserve the high character of Canadian investments. In this connection, he thought that the coming to Canada of so many enterprising and wealthy old-country observers could not but result in large additional British holdings in the various enterprises of the country.

Inquest.

The coroner's jury in the Hamilton The Kinrade murder case has returned a verdict of wilful murder against some person

or persons unknown, and urging the Crown to continue its investigation "owing to the unreliability of evidence produced." The jury very sensibly and thoughtfully complimented the Coroner and the learned counsel for the Crown upon their conduct of the investigation, which has come in for much thoughtless criticism. They had a painful duty to perform; but Canada cannot afford to be lax in the administration of the law protecting human life, and such duties must be performed regardless of sentiment or sympathy.

Cobalt Jottings.

TOO MUCH MANIPULATION

Situation at Mines Encouraging-Bar Silver Price Advancing-Cobalt's Waterworks-Special Correspondence of THE CHRONICLE.

A slight improvement of public interest was noticeable in Cobalt stocks this week, but pro-fessional trading is still dominent. This seems particularly apparent in Beaver and Peterson Lake As stated in last letter we are inclined to be cautious about buying the former.

The majority of traders seem inclined to scalp the market and consequently much of the buying in reality counts for little. Temiskaming has been quiet in comparison with its movements heretofore The news of a rich strike in their number four vein at the 250 foot level stimulated some buying but after this was completed the price began to sag The situation at the mine is very encouraging and the stock should do better.

The advance in the price of bar silver to about 54 cents in New York augurs well for the camp, and means many thousands of dollars to those companies who are shipping the white metal.

Notwithstanding the adverse weather conditions prospecting has commenced in earnest and results have already been obtained.

The strike on the 100 foot level of the Green Meehan will prove good news to its shareholders. The stock advanced from 13 to 29 in two days, but after the buying orders were filled reacted to 20.

The Great Northern Silver Mines have been listed on the Standard Stock Exchange, Toronto, and promises to be an active issue. The total capitalization of the Great Northern is \$1,500,000 and the shares are selling at 13c. to 14c.

A temporary water system is being installed by the Town of Cobalt which is a long-felt want. The roads are being improved and many new buildings are in course of erection. This summer promises great things for the silver camps of Northern Ontario. L'ARGENT.

Cobalt, May 6, 1000.

Financial and Insurance Items.

DISCUSSION UPON THE CANADA BILL at Ottawa will probably be resumed to-day. In reference to the Ontario Government communication asking for delay in its consideration until next session, Sir Wilfrid Laurier stated that the Province had no right to dictate what should be done in the matter. The incident illustrates, however, general possibility of future disputes as to Dominion and Provincial jurisdiction in insurance matters.

MAY IS STARTING BADLY for Canadian fire insurance business. Serious fires at Halifax, N. S., in the East and at Westly, B. C., in the West occurred on Wednesday of this week. In each case rough estimates place the property loss at between \$50,000 and \$100,000. Earlier in the week. North Bay was visited by a fire with losses also running over the \$50,000 mark, and yesterday there occurred a very serious mill fire at Barnet, B.C.

IF THE EAST does not become enthusiastic regarding Winnipeg's proposed Selkirk Centennial Exposition in 1912, it will not be the fault of the delegation of threescore western business men now visiting Ontario and Quebec. The Toronto and Montreal Boards of Trade have endorsed the scheme.

A CANADIAN ASSOCIATED PRESS cable from London says: "The £450,000 loan of the Province of New Brunswick at 4 per cent., subscriptions for which were solicited by the Bank of Montreal, was closed ahead of time this week, the offers for the loan exceeding the amount offered.

MAY DAY LABOUR troubles in Canada were fortunately few. Aside from coal mining difficulties east and west, the strike of the Dominion Textile employees at Magog is about the only serious dispute at present, and the prospects for early settlement there are fair.

THE RIGHTS OF MERCANTILE AGENCIES as debt collectors are considerably limited by the bill considered at Quebec this week, though all that was asked on behalf of the Montreal Bar was not granted.

TORONTO HAS JUST ANNEXED West Toronto, with a population of 12,567, an area of 1,600 acres, and a total assessment of \$6,400,000, as against \$5,898,398 in 1908. We congratulate both Toronto and West Toronto upon the happy event.

WHEAT TOOK ANOTHER UPWARD bound this week at Chicago, May delivery on two days' selling up to \$1.29 1-2, a new high record for the season. Patten is said to be again "in the ring."



On the 6th instant, a fire occurred on the premises of Geo. W. Ecclestone, hardware store, Bracebridge. The following companies are interested:

	ON ST	OCK.	
Commercial Union \$	1,000	Snn	1.000
Caledonian	1.000	Western	1,500
North British & Mer	2,000	British America	1,500
Union	2,500		
Alliance	2.000	5	14,000
Northern	1,500		
	about 1	75 per cent.	
0	N BUI	LDING.	
Northern	2.500		

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Phænix Assurance Company, Limited, WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED

Pelican and British Empire Life Office

Report of the Directors for the 127th Year-ending 31st December, 1908.

HE Directors have the pleasure of submitting their Report on the business of the Company for year ending 31st December, 1908, the 127th year of the Company's existence.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The Fire Premiums received, after deducting re-insurances, amounted to \$7,194,610, and the Losses paid and outstanding to \$3,858,935 or 53.6 per cent. of the premiums. The expenses and commission together amounted to \$2,642,980, being 367 per cent. of the premiums. A profit is shown in this Department of \$692,900, which with the receipts for interest of \$334,620 makes a total of \$1,027,520 to be carried to Profit and Loss.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

After payment of the dividends in 1908 and of a closing item of \$36,170 in connection with the expenses of the amalgamation, the amount standing to the credit of Profit and Loss, including \$1,027,520 transferred from the Fire Account, was \$1,655,340. From this sum the Directors have set aside \$320,890 as an addition to the Fire General Reserve, increasing that Reserve to \$3,500,000, and have credited the Accident and General Fund as before stated with \$81,890, making that Fund up to \$200,000. These operations leave an available balance in Profit and Loss of \$1,252,560, out of which the Directors recommend the payment of a final dividend for the year 1908 of \$4.50 per share, free of income-tax, upon the 68,062 Shares now forming the Capital of the Company, which will absorb \$300,250. This dividend, with the interim dividend of \$3 per share paid on the 31st October last, makes a total of \$7.50 per share for the year, free of tax. total of \$7.50 per share for the year, free of tax.

RESOURCES OF THE COMPANY.

	a state of the state December 1908, were constituted a	s follows :
The	Resources of the Company on the 31st December, 1908, were constituted a Capital paid up	1.701.550
		3,250,000
	Fire Funds Reserve for outstanding risks	
	General Reserve	3,500,000
	General Reserve Internet	200,000
	Accident Fund	1,252,560
	Profit and Loss Account	
	Life Assurance Funds.	26,758,250
	Total Funds	36,662,360

Uncalled Capital 12,099,600

Total Resources..... 48,761,960

BALANCE SHEET ON THE 31st DECEMBER, 1908.

LIABILITIES.	ASSETS.
Capital-\$13.801.150	5 1,701,550 Mortgages on Property within the United King- Mortgages on Property out of the United King-
Fire Fund : Reserved for unexpired Risks General Reserve	3,250,000 dom 2,395,300 3,500,000 Loans on Reversions and on Life Interests 4,025,300
Accident and General Fund Balance of Profit and Loss Account Life Assurance Fund	200,000 Loans on the Company's Policies and
Leesehold Redemption Fund Investment Reserve Fund Total Funds	397,200 INVESTMENTS— 693,280 36,662,360 Indian Government Securities 693,125
Outstanding Fire Losses Life Claims	649,300 Colonial Government Securities 1,606,120 649,300 Municipal Securities 23,01,655 396,710 Foreign Government and State Securities 1,564,840 24,785 Bailway and other Debentures and Debenture 1,564,840
Accounts and Commission Dividends	24,785 Railway and other Debentures and Debenture 112,020 Stock 245 Railway and other Stock (Preference and Or- 2,000 dinary)
Bills Payable	House Property and Land 3,140,870 Salvage Corps Premises (Company's Share) 101,955 Ground Rents 555,115
	Ground Active 1,466,395 Reversions
	Outstanding Premiums (payable in January) 331,395 Outstanding Interest 90,730 Accrued Interest 251,360
(\$5 taken as equivalent to \$1 sterling.)	Bills Receivable 63,475 CASH—On Deposit 330,955 On Current Account and in Hand 672,785
(m	\$37,847,420 \$37,847,420
G. H. RYAN, General Manager.	24th March, 1909. GEORGE HAMILTON, Chairman.
Head Office for Canada : 10	DO ST. FRANCOIS XAVIER STREET, MONTREAL.

CHIEF AGENTS. . PATERSON & SON

Montreal, May 6th, 1909.

The market continues to broaden and quotations show an almost general advance, the gains running as high as 4 1-2 points for the week, while in the mining stocks Crown Reserve gained 16 cents, closing with 33 bid. C. P. R. was the most active stock and 7,728 shares changed hands, the price advancing to over 180. Montreal Power was active and sold ex-dividend at the equivalent of 119, the highest price in its history. Dominion Textile Common was also prominent and on active trading advanced two full points. Dominion Iron Common on transactions involving 2,472 shares closed unchanged with 32 7-8 bid. The general trading was active and although there was some slackening up to-day, the undertone was firm. Securities of the Canadian Consolidattone was firm. Securities of the Canadian Consolidatthe unlisted department within the last few days and the bonds and preferred stock are also firm at the higher level. Oglivie Common and Lake of the Woods Common continue strong and both show gains in price. There was no change in the Bank of England rate.

Call money in Montreal	49
Call money in New York	2%
and money in them a black the transferrer to the transferrer	4%
Call money in London	3%
Bank of England rate	21%
Consols	854%
Demand Sterling	95%
Bixty days' sight Sterling	91%
The quotations at continental points were as follows :-	_
Market.	Rank.

Paris	1 3-16	Bank.	
Berlin	2	34	
Amsterdam	24	3	
Brussels	31	4	
V 100118	1 13.16		

SUMMARY OF WEEE'S SALES AND QUOTATIONS.

Security.	Sales.	Closing bid. April 29th.	Closing bid. to-day.		et
Canadian Pacific		177	180	+	3
"Soo" Common	880	1354	136	÷	1
Detroit United	728	581	58	_	ĩ
Halifax Tram	102	113		_	•
Illinois Preferred	1,847	96	954	_	ï
Montreal Street	225	208	209	+	1
Quebec Railway:	1,245	514	524	1	3
Toledo Railways	139	114		-	•
Toronto Railway	407	123	1231	-	ï
Twin City	177	103	1024 DX	+	1
Richelien & Ontario	309	834	831	<u> </u>	· 1
British Can. Asbestos	25	91	91	_	•
Dom. Coal Com		671	671	-	
Dom. Iron Common		321	321	<u> </u>	
Dom. Iron Preferred	. 1,661	1141 X		+	24
Dom. Iron Bonde	117,000	891	90	Ι	-1
Lake of the Woods Com	1,504	107	108	Ι	1
Mackay Common		771	781	Ι	î
Mackay Preferred	290	731	731	_	•
Mexican Power	435	744	754	-	ii
Montreal Power	3,622	117	117 XD	Τ	11
Nova Scotia Steel Com	701	601	624	Ι	21
Ogilvie Com	772	119	1194	Τ	-1
Rio Light and Power	450	102	1017	<u> </u>	1
Shawinigan		94	96	++++	2
Can. Colored Cotton		49	491	T	~ 1
Can. Convertors		391	41	T	111
Dom. Textile Com		651	671	T	2
Dom. Textile Preferred	1.016	981	1023	T	ãi l
Montreal Cotton	200	1184	123	T	11
Penmans Common	934	494	50% XD	T	24
Crown Reserve		284	300	‡	16

MONTREAL BANK CLEARINGS for week ending May 6th, 1909, were \$35,937,444. For the corresponding weeks of 1908 and 1907 they were \$30,554,693 and \$36,036,048 respectively.

TORONTO CLEARINGS for week ending May 6th, 1909, were \$29,977,727. For the corresponding weeks of 1908 and 1907, they were \$23,340,227 and \$24,798,185 respectively.

OTTAWA BANK CLEARINGS for the week ending May 6th, 1909, were \$3,672,990, and for corresponding week last year, they were \$3,662,532.

THE BANK OF EXGLAND statement this week shows reserve to have decreased by £1,260,000 to £27,696,000. The ratio decreased from 50.31 p.c. to 49.55 p.c.

Traffic Earnings.

The gross traffic earnings of the Grand Trunk Canadian Pacific, Canadian Northern, Duluth South Shore & Atlantic railways, and the Montreal, Toronto, Halifax, Twin City, Detroit United and Havana street railways, up to the most recent date obtainable, compared with the corresponding period for 1907 and 1908 were as follows:

GRAND TRUNK RAILWAT

v	an to date	GRAND T	RUNK RAIL	WAT	
Ma	rch 31	1907.	1908	19/9	Increase
1	Veek ending.	1907.	\$8,142,470	\$8,337,338 1969	\$194.868 Increase
Ap	ril 7	823,466	664,823	718,663	53,840
		889,001	685,281	744,283	59,02
	21	868,876	682,775	724 631	41,856
	30	1,166,617	902,112	955,171	53,059
Ye	ar to date	CANADIAN 1907.	PACIFIC RA	1909.	Increase
Ma	reh 31\$1	4,49','00 \$	13,848,000	\$15,971,000	Increa*e \$2,123,000
	week ending.	1907.	1909.	1909.	Increase
Ap	ril 7	1,469,000	1,316,000	1.555,000	239,000
		1,479,000	1,305,000	1,490,000 1,401 000	185,000
"	30	1,993,000	1,463,000	1,814,000	95,000 351,00J
		CANADIAN N	ORTHERN R	AILWAY.	,
M	e .r to date.	1907.	1908	1909.	Increase
MAI	Week ending	1,173,400	\$1,689,100 1908.	\$1,767,500	\$78,400
Apr	ril 7	101,700	167.600	1909.	Increase 12.900
••	14	101,700 129,300 126,200	165,200	177,800	12,600
•••	21	126.200	181,100	189,300	8,200
	30	212,700	172,200	193,600	21,400
	DU	LUTH, SOUTH		ATLANTIC.	
Apr	Week ending.	1907.	1908.	1909.	Increase
	14	56,339 55,837	48,261 49,022	50,424 48,474	2,163
**	21	61,833	49,665	52,957	Dec. 548 3,292
		MONTREAL	STREET RA		0,202
Y	ear to date.	1907.	1908	1909.	Increase
Mar	ch 31	\$772.618	\$828,392	\$868,666	\$40,274
	Week ending	. 1907	1908.	1909	Increase
~p	il 7 14	62,356 61,815	63,828 63,564	66,535	2,707
**	21	63,033	63,901	67,412 67,991	3,848 4,090
**	30	83,336	85,708	87,778	2,403
		TORONTO S	STREET RAIL	LWAY.	
Y	ear to date.	1907.	19/8.	1909	Increase
Mar	ch 31	\$752,977	\$ 802,567	\$860,569	\$58,002
Anri	il 7	61,790	1908.	1909. 69,911	Increase
**	14	59,923	62,118	72.151	7,481 10,033
	21	59,890	66,002	68,221	2,219
**	30	80,006	82,379	87,575	5,196
	Twn			COMPANY.	
Y	ear to date.	1907.	1908.	1909.	Increase
W	eek ending.	\$1,345,915 1907.	\$1,396,464 1908	\$1,536,460	
Apri	17	109.389	111,503	1909 124,823	Increase 13,320
"	14	107,639	110,873	126,393	15,520
	21	108,061	116,732	121,632	4,900
			NITED RAIL	WAY.	
	eek ending.	1907.	1908.	1969	In crease
Apri	1 7	113,493 115.790	113,022 118,658	130,087	17,065
	21	118,652	126,570	137,194 134,688	18,536 8,118
	HALIF		C TRAMWAY	Co. LTD.	.,
		Railw	ay Receipts.		
W	eek ending.	1907.	1908.	1909:	Increase
Apri	17	3,088	3,050	3,134	84
	14	2,915 3,001	2,978 3,421	3,552	574 Dec 105
**	30	3,878	3,853	3,316 4,494	Dec. 105 641
		VANA ELEC			
W	eek ending.	190		1909.	Increase
May	2	34,4		38,237	3,810

MONTREAL BANK CLEARINGS for April, 1909, were \$135,180,233. For the corresponding month in 1908 and 1903, they were \$111,092,623 and \$117,054,598 respectively.

TORONTO BANK CLEARINGS for April 1999, were \$111,289,680. For the corresponding month in 1908 and 1907, they were \$86,829,124 and \$101,544,017 respectively.

MAY 7, 1909

тне **MONTREAL CITY & DISTRICT** SAVINGS BANK.

SIXTY-SECOND ANNUAL REPORT.

MONTREAL, May 4th, 1909.

To the Shareholders,

Gentlemen :

Your Directors have pleasure in presenting the Sixty-second Annual Report of the affairs of the Bank, and the result of its operations for the year ending December 31st, 1908.

The net profits for the year were \$152,244.18, and the balance brought forward from last year's Profit and Loss Account was \$65,667.42, making a total of \$217,911.60. From this amount have been paid two Dividends to our Shareholders and \$100,000.00 has been added to the Reserve Fund, increasing the amount at credit of this account to \$1,000,000.00, leaving a balance at credit of Profit and Loss of \$17,911.60 to be carried forward to next year.

The number of open accounts on December 31st last was 98,318 and the average amount due each depositor was \$207.73.

The work of remodelling the Banking room of your Head Office has now been completed and the increased accommodation and better facilities afforded are much appreciated by our clients.

It is with a sincere feeling of regret that your Directors record the death of the late Mr. M. Nolan deLisle, a member of the Board since 1906, whose services were much appreciated. His seat on the Board has been filled by the election of Mr. Albert Hébert.

As usual a frequent and thorough inspection of the Books and Assets of the Bank has been made during the year.

The report of the Auditors and the Balance Sheet are herewith submitted.

J. ALD. OUIMET,

President.

STATEMENT of the affairs of The Montreal City and District Savings Bank, on the 31st December, 1908.

ASSETS	s.			LIABILI	TIES.			
Cash on hand and in chartered			TO THE PUBLIC :					
Banks	2,263,372.75		Amount due D	epositors \$	20,490,941.33			
Dominion of Canada Govern- ment Stock and accrued Interest Provincial Government Bonds City of Montreal, and other Municipal and School Bonds and Debentures Other Bonds and Debentures	2,547,845.83 380,144.93 8,774,911.37 937,664.08		" R " C	ceriver General harity Donation Fund pen Accounts .	93,341.86 180,000.00 104,648.66	\$20,868,931.85		
Sundry Securities Call and short Loans, secured	291,586.47							
by collaterals Charity Donation Fund, in- vested in Municipal Secur- ities approved by the Do- minion Government	6,626,761.74	PD2 000 007 17	Capital Stock scribed \$2,	SHAREHOLDE (amount sub- 000,000) paid up	SERS : \$600,000 00 1,000,000 00			
Bank premises (Head Office and ten Branches)	\$475,000.00 9,556.28	\$22,002,287.17 484,556.28	Profit and Los	s Account	17,911.60	1,617,911.60		
	\$22.	486,843,45			\$22	486,843.45		
Andited and found correct.			Depositor	\$207.73	P. LESPÉR.	ANCE,		

JAS. TASKER, A. CINQ-MARS, Auditors.

THE CHRONICLE.

List of Leading Stocks and Bonds REPORTED FOR THE CHRONICLE BY R. WILSON-SMITH & CO., 160 ST. JAMES STREET, MONTREAL. CORRECTED TO THURSDAY, MAY 6th, 1909,

BANK STOCKS.	prie	eing ces or t sale.	Par value of one share.	Revenue per cent. on investment at present prices.	Capital subscribed	Capital paid up	Rest Fund	Per cent'ge of Rest to paid up Capital	Rate of Annual Divident	When dividend
British North America Canadian Bank of Commerce Dominion Eastern Townships	:::	. 174)	\$ 243 100 50 100	Per Cent. 4 59 5.00	\$ 4,866,666 10,000,000 3,983,700	\$ 4,866,666 10,000,00 3,983,60	0 6.000,000 4,981,961	\$ 50,00 60.00 125,06	Per cent 7 8 12	April October
Farmers		:	100 100		3,000,000 1,000,000 2,500,000	3,000,00 559.33 2,500,00	8 2.500.000	66,66	8 4 10	March. June, Sept., Dec. Jan., April, July, Octobe Jan., April, July, Octobe
Hochelaga Home Bank of Canada Imperial			100 100 100	5 35	2,500,000 1,014,400 5,000,000	2,500,00 942,42 5,000,00	0 2,150.000 9 297,705 0 5,000,000	86.00 31.60	8 6 11	March, June, Sept., De March, June, Sept., Dec. March, June, Sept. Dec. Feb., May, August, Nor
La Banque Nationale Nerobants Bank of Canada Metropolitan Bank Molsons Montreal			30 100 100 100	4 87	1,954,470 6,000,000 1,000,000 3,500,000	1,938,35 6,000,00 1,000,00 3,500,00	0 4,000,000 D 1,000 000 0 3,500,000	66.66 100.00	7 8 8 10	Feb, May, Aug., Nov. March, June, Sept., De Jan., April, July, Octobe Jan., April, July, Octobe March, June, Sept., De
New Brunswick Northern Crown Bank	281	• ••••	100 100 100	4 22	14,400,000 750,000 2,207,500 3,000,000	14,400,00 750,00 2,201,88 3,000,00	1,312,500	83.33 175.00	10 13 6	Jan., April. July, Octobe January, July.
Ditawa Provincial Bank of Canada uebec	125		100 100 190	5 58	3,000,000 1,000,075 2,500,000	3,000 000 1,000,000 2,500,000	3,000,000	100.00 30.00	12 10 5	Jan., April, July, October March, June, Sept. Dec. Jan. April, July, October
tandard t. Stephens		224	100 50 100	4 46	4,877,900 1,917,200 200,000	2.500,000 4,611,570 1,829,976 200,000	5,311,574	50.00 115.18 116.40 26.25	7 10 12 5	March, June, Sept., Dec. Jan., April. July. Octobe Feb. May, Aug. Novembe
it. Hyacinthe iterling aronto 'raders	225		100 100 100	4 44	504,600 866,200 4,000,000 4,367,500	356,965 813,286 4,000,000 4,853,771	75.000	21.01 22.59 112.50	5 10	March, September. Feb., May, Aug., Nov. March, June, Sept., Dec Jan., Apl., July, Oct.
Juion Bank of Halifar Juion Bank of Canada Juited Empire Bank	136;	135)	50 100 100	5 13	1,500,000 3,207,200 635,600	1,500,000 8,201,590 502,182	1,200,000 1,800,000	45.95 \$0.00 56.22	7	Feb., May, Aug., Nov. March, June, Sept., Dec.
MISCELLANEOUS STOCKS.			1	C					•	
de "B" prof de "B" prof do Com	150	147 911 911	100 100 100	5 33 7 67 7 67	12,500,000 1,270,000	12,500,000 1,270,000			;	Jan, April. July, Oct. Cumulative.
	55	491	100	7 97	1,511,400 2,700,000	1,511 400 2,700,000			7	Do,
anada General Electric Com			100		4,700.000	4,700,000			*	March, June, Sept., Dec.
anadian Converters	1804 43 584	180 - 94 55	100 100 100	3 88 9 30	1,452,385 121,680,000 1,733,500 12,500,000	1,452,385 121,680,000 1,783,500 12,500,000			1	Jan., April, July, Oct. April, Oct. April, October. Feb, May, Aug., Nov.
do Common tominion Textile Co. Com do Pfd	110 671 671	674	100	6 36 5 90	8.000.000	3,000,000			I	February, Angust. Jany., April, July, Oct.
	103) 33	103 321	100 100 100	7 45 6 77	5,000,000 1,858,088 20,000,000	5,000.000 1,858,088 20,000,000			Ŧ	Jan., April, July, October
uluth S. S. & Atlantic	117}	117	100	::::	5,000,000	5.000.000				
uluth S. S. & Atlantic	115		100 100 100	5 21	10,000,000 1,350,000 7,500,000	12,000,000 10,000,000 1,350,000				Jan . April, July, October
do PreferredXD linois Trac. Pfd.		951	100	ė 25	5,000,000	5,000,000				Initial Div. Jan., April, July, October
ake of the Woods Mill Co. Com	108	1141	100 100 100	6 11 5 70	1,600,000 1,200,000 2,000,000	1,000,000 1,200,000 2,000,000			7 1	Jan., April, July. October February, August. January. Apl., July, Oct April, October.
do do Pfd ackay Gompanies Com do Pfd exican Light & Power Co inn. St. Paul & S.S.M. Com	79 74	781	100 109 106	5 06 5 40	1,500,000 43,437,200 50,000,000	1,500,000 43,437,200 50,000,000				March. June, Sept., Dec. Jan., April, July, October Jan., April, July, October
	76 1361	130	100	4 39	13,585,000	13,585.000				Jan., April, July, October April, October.
do Pfd ontreal Cotton Co ontreal Light, Ht. & Pwr. Co ontreal Steel Work, Com do do Pfd	1171	123 117	100 100 100	5 69 5 11	7,000,000 3,000,000 17,000,000	7,000,000				April, October. March, June, Sept., Dec. Feb., May August, Nov. Jan. April, July, Oct. Jan. April, July, Oct.
do do Pfd	80	70	100 100	8 75	700,000	700,000			7	Feb., May August, Nov. Jan. April, July, Oct.
ontreal Street Railway	2111		100	4 73	9,000,000	9.000.000			10	Jan., April, July, Oct. Feb., May. August, Nov. Jan., April. July, October
Scotia Steel & Coal Co. Com	62)	251	100 5 100	8 00	7,938,900 294,073	294.073				Jan., April, July, October March, June, Sept., Dec
do Pf1		117	100	6 83	5,000,000	4,987,600				
chelien & Ont, Nav. Co	126 844	119 120 831	100 100 100	5 85 5 55 5 92	2,500,000 2,900,000 3,132,000	2,500,000			7	Jan., April, July, October March, September, March, June, Sept., Dec.
o. Paulo		101; 152	100	5 92	21,993,900 8 500,000	21,993,900				March, June, Sept., Dec.
awinghan Water & Power Co John Street Railway. ledo Ry & Light Co. ronto Street Railway.	961	96	100 100 100	4 14	6,590,000 800,000	6,500,000 800,000			9 .	Jan., April, July, October Jan. April, July, Oct. June, December.
nidad Electric Pr	124	1231	100	5 64	8,000,000	8,000,000			7	Jan., April, July, October
my	90	891	100	6 66	1,164,000 9,000,000 2,600,000	9,000,000				Ian., April, July, October
do Preferred XD		102	100	4 84 7 69	20,100,000	20,190,000 3,000,000			6 .1 5 F 7 J	an., April. July, Oct. eb., May, August. Nov an., April. July. Oct.
nnines Mastels Dellaster to the		65 103 167 (100 100 10 C	9 70 5 96	800,000 1,000,000 6,000 00	800.00* 1.000,000 6.000 000			5 J	an. April, July, Oct. lay, November.

MAY 7, 1909

THE EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY ASSURANCE CORPORATION LIMITED, LONDON, ENGLAND.

DIRECTORS' REPORT, 1909.

The Directors submit to the Shareholders their Twenty-eighth Annual Report, together with the Audited Accounts

The Directors deeply regret to announce the death of their colleague, Mr. Henry Chapman, C.E., who as a member of the Board from the commencement, and as Deputy-Chairman for sixteen years, displayed untiring energy and ability in

the conduct of the business of the Corporation. The premiums for the year are \$4,635,889.33 against \$4,687,845.86 for the year 1907. The Employers' Liability Companies' Act (1907) imposes new regulations in connection with Employers' Liability

Insurance.

The most important are: -(1) Changes in the statement of Expenses and Commission arising out of transfers from one account to the other, but no material alteration occurs in the total of these two accounts, which this year is \$1.681,666.92, against \$1.670,858.06 in 1907.
(2) The creation of an Employers' Liability Insurance Fund as security for payments under the Employers' Liability Policies of the Corporation.

Liability Policies of the Corporation. The balance of this year's account is \$4,917,649.87. Out of this the Directors have already paid an interim dividend of 49c, per Share, and now recommend a further dividend of \$1.70 per Share (free of Income Tax), making together a dividend of 221 per cent. for the year on the Paid-up Capital. This will absorb \$219,000, leaving \$4,635,649.87 to be carried forward. The Directors have elected Mr. Joseph Orrell, cf 19 Holland Park, London, Barrister at Law, to fill up the vacancy occurring in the General Board in London, and in accordance with the Articles of Association, Mr. J. Urrell, Sir Wm. B. Forwood and Mr. L. Salomons, retire, and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election. In accordance with the resolution of the Shareholders, Mesr. Welton, Jones & Co. have audited the Accounts now submitted and offer themselves for re-election for the ensuing year.

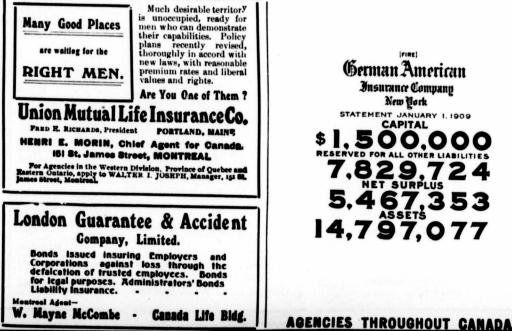
now submitted and offer themselves for re-election for the ensuing year. By order of the Board, S. STANLEY BROWN, General Manager.

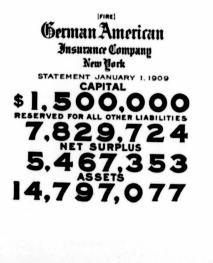
17th February, 1909. 1 st JANUARY, 1908, to 31st DECEMBER, 1908. REVENUE ACCOUNT. CHARGES AGAINST REVENUE OF THE YEAR-BALANCE 1907 ACCOUNT \$4,580,892.80 Expenses of Management...... \$451,487.75 Commissions, including Colonial Less Dividend 194,666.65 and Foreign Agencies 1,143,872.05 86,307.95 Taxes - \$4,264,451.75 1,681,667.75 REVENUE OF THE YEAR-Premiums, less Bonus and Returns to the Assured and Keassurance \$4,635,892.60 253,655.06 4,257,127.49 Interest and Rents 181.30 Transfer Fees..... Profit on Exchange 14,767.66 4,904,496.56 4,582.29 Realized Profits on Investments. Hamilton House Redemption Fund-Interest..... 1.245-05 BALANCE OF THIS ACCOUNT 4,917,648.16 4,910,323.90 \$9,174,775.65 \$9,174,775.65 BALANCE SHEET. Cr. 31st DECEMBER, 1908. By INVESTMENTS-at or below Cost-British and Colonial Government Securities \$ Dr. SHAREHOLDERS' CAPITAL-312,917.20 1,145,968.85 1,115,163.09 100,000 Shares, \$48.67 each \$4.866,666.67 Foreign Government Securities Foreign and Colonial Municipal Securities. To Capital-100,000 Shares \$9.73 paid \$973,333.33 Railway and other Debentures and Deben-Amounts due to other Companies and 3,410,185.55 73,919.74 165,919.17 224,308.98 RESERVES-Outstanding Losses \$1,530,155 70 358,280.07 Revenue Balance 4,917,648.16 21,432.60 36,500.00 Freehold Premises Less Interim Div. 48,666.66 Loan and Securities 4,868,981.50 6.399.137.20 \$6,566,366.53 783,827.61 29,870.50 Branch and Agency Balances Amounts due from other Companies.... Outstanding Premiums Interest and Rents Accrued 56,153.79 86,840.71 Cash at Bankers \$147,442.55 In hand 147,640.11 \$7,670,699.25 \$7.670,699.25 Managers : GRIFFIN & WOODLAND. Canadian Branch : Offices : MONTREAL-TORONTO.

THE CHRONICLE.

STOCK AND BOND LIST Continued

BONDS.	Closin Quotati		rest	Amount	When Interest	Where Interest payable	Date of Matarity.	REMARKS
	Asted	Bid.	AD- BUB.					
Bell Telephone Co		104	5	\$3,363,000	lst Oct. 1st Apl.	Bk. of Montreal, Mtl	April 1st, 1925	
Can. Colored Cotton Co			6	2,000,000	2nd Apl. 2nd Oct.		April 2nd, 1912	
Dominion Coal Co		94	5	5,000,000	lst May 1st Nov.	• •	April 1st, 1940	Redeemable at 105 an
Dominion Iron & Steel Co		894	5	7,674,000	lst Jan. 1st July.	Bk. of Montreal, Mtl	July 1st, 1929	Int. after May 1st, 191
" 2nd Mortg. Bds Dom. Tex. Sers. "A"		913	6	1,968,000 758,5 00	lst Apl. 1st Oct. 1 March 1 Sept.	Bk. of Montreal, Mtl. Royal Trust Co., Mtl	March 1st, 1925	\$250,000 Redeemabl Redeemable at 110 an
" "B"	93	92	6	1,162,000	"		"	Interest. Redeemable at par af
·· "C"		913	6	1,000,000			"	ter 5 years. Redeemable at 105 an
" "D"				450,000	"		••	Interest.
Havana Electric Railway. Halifax Tram		100	5	8,311,561	let Feb. 1st Aug.	52 Broadway, N. Y Bk. of Montreal, Mtl.	Feby. 1st, 1952 Jany. 1st, 1916	Redeemable at 105
Keewatin Mill Co	105		6	750,000	1st Mch. 1st Sept	Royal Trust, Mtl	Sept. 1st, 1916	Redeemable at 119
Lake of the Woods Mill Co		107	6	1,000,000	lst June 1st Dec,	Merchants Bank of		
Laurentide Paper Co			6	1,036,000	2 Jan. 2 July.	Canada, Montreal Bk. of Montreal, Mtl	June 1st, 1923 Jany. 2nd, 1920	
Magdalen Island Mexican Electric L. Co			6	267.000	30 June 30 Dec.			
Mex. L't & Power Co.		878	5	6,000,000	1 Jan. 1 July. 1 Feb. 1 Aug.		July 1st, 1935 Feby. 1st, 1933	
Montreal L. & Pow. Co		981	41	5,476,000	1 Jan. 1 July		Jany. 1st, 1932	Redeemable at 105 an
Montreal Street Ry. Co N. S. Steel & Coal Co	::	108	44	1,500,000 2,282,000	1 Jan. 1 July.)	U.B. of Halifax or B.	May 1st, 1922 July 1st, 1931	Int. after 1912. Redeemable at 110an
N.S.Steel Consolidated		104	6	1,470,000	Jan. 1 July.	of N.S.Mtl.or Toronto.	July 1st, 1931	Interest. Redeemable at 115 an-
Ogilvie Milling Co			6	1,000,000	1 June 1 Dec.	Bk. of Montreal, Mt!		Int. after 1912. Redeemable at 105 and
Price Bros		105	6	1,000,000	1 June 1 Dec.		June 1st, 1925	Interest.
Rich. & Untario		943	5	323,146				
A CONTRACT OF	95	544	•	23,284,000	1 Jan. 1 July.	C. B. of C., London	Jany. 1st, 1935.	
Sao Paulo			5	6,000,000 (1.000,000	1 June 1 Dec.	Nat. Trust Co., Tor. Bk. of Montreal, Mtl	June let, 1929	
Winnipeg Electric	1064		5	3,000,000	2 July 2 Jan.	do.	Jany. 1st, 1927 Jany. 1st, 1935	





MAY 7, 1900

THE LONDON ASSURANCE

Report for Year 1908.

The Court of Directors present to the Members of the Corporation the Report, Accounts and Balance Sheet for the year 1908.

Fire Department.

The Premium Income for the year, after deduction of Re-assurances and Returns, amounted to \$3,201,596, and the losses, inclusive of all claims to the 31st December, 1908, to \$1,580,335.

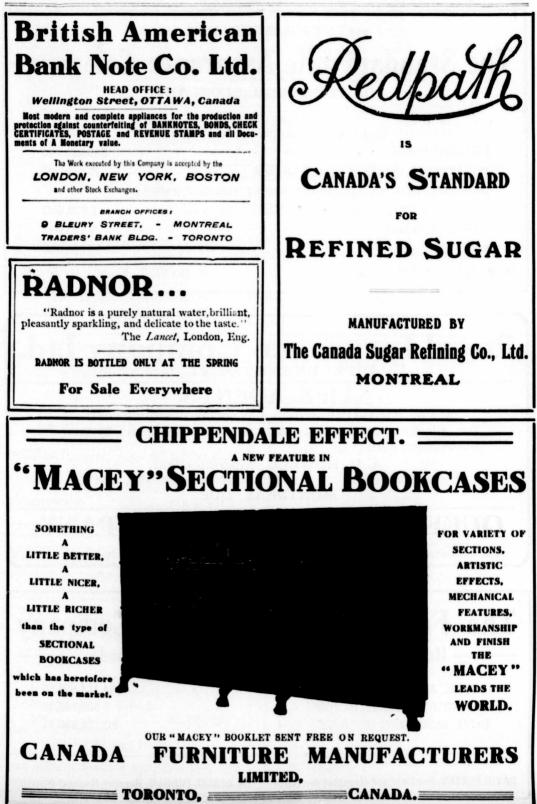
The balance at the credit of the Fund, after transferring \$320,575 to Profit and Loss Account, amounted on the 31st December, 1908, to \$2,250,000.

Profit and Loss.

The amount standing to the credit of this account on the 31st December, 1908, was \$730,070, out of which the Directors now recommend a dividend of 20 per cent., being \$12.50 per Share, payable as follows :-- \$6.25 on the 1st of April and \$6.25 on the 1st October, free of income tax.

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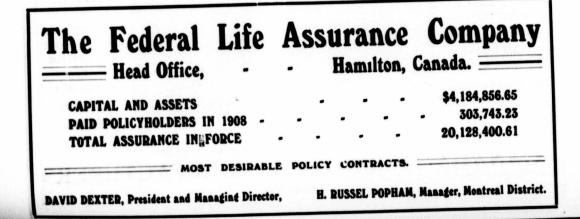
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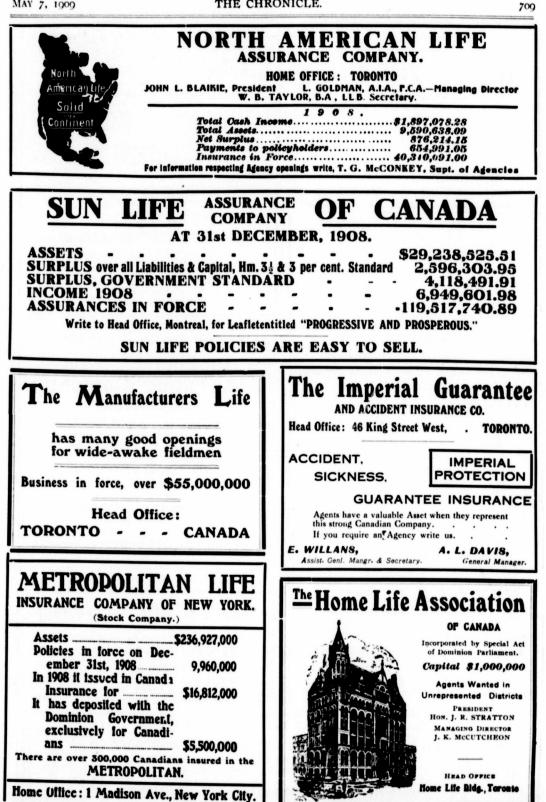
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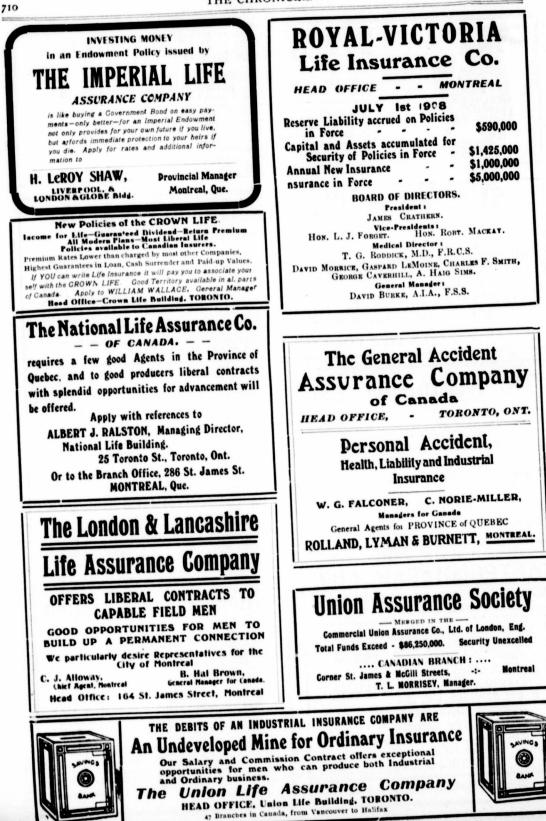
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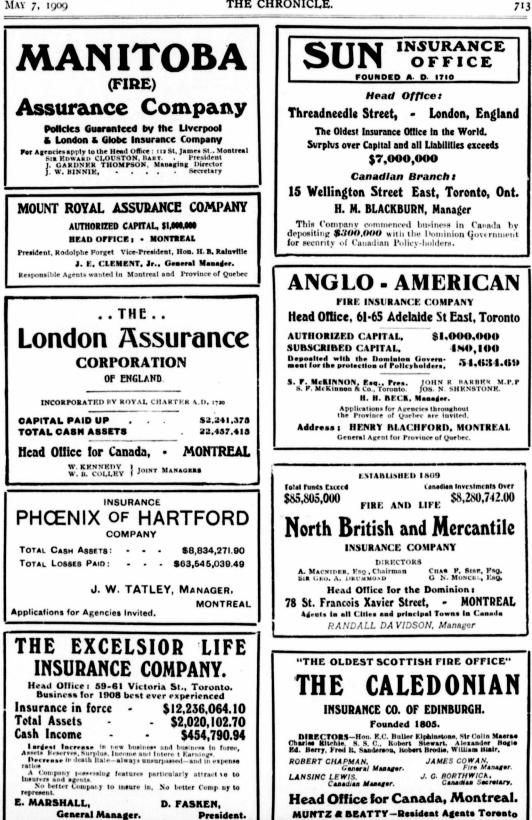
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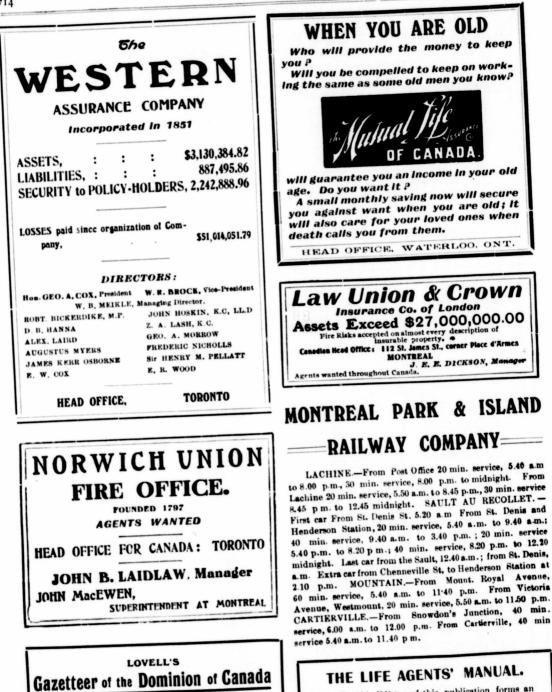
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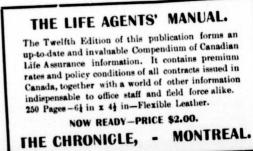
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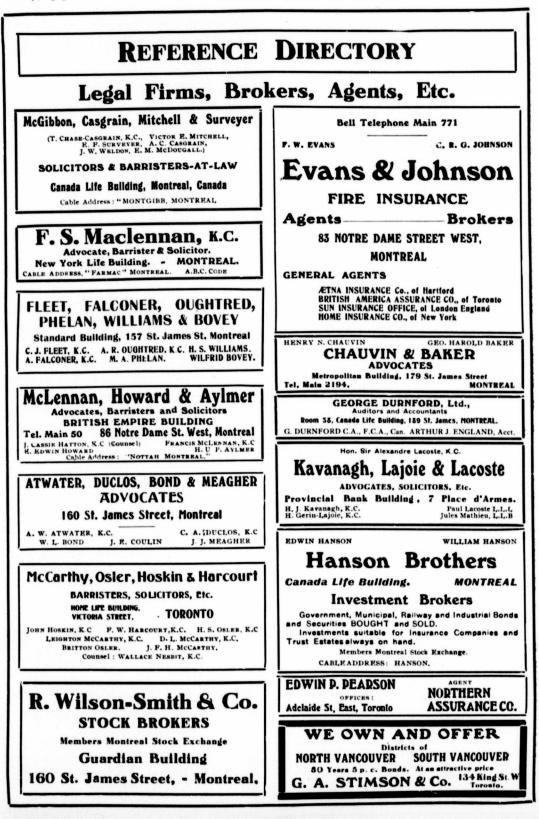


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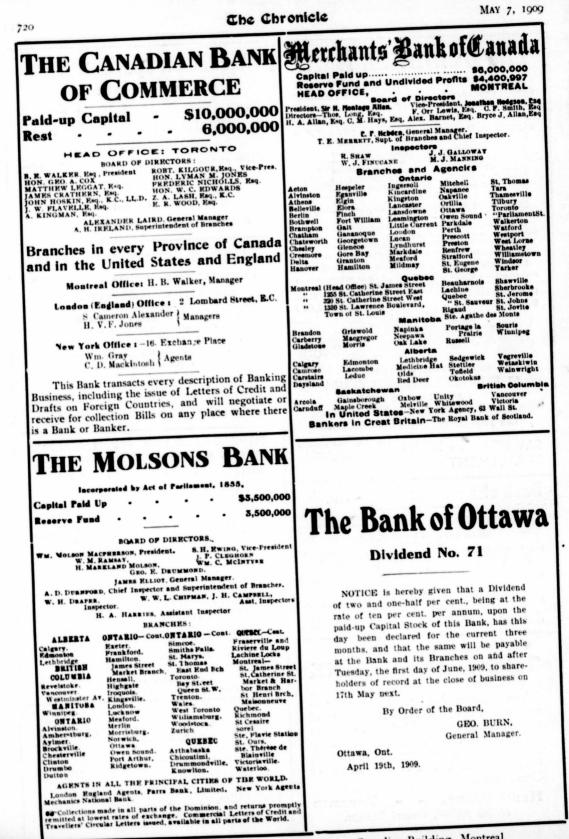


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