The Chronicle



Banking, Insurance and Finance

ESTABLISHED JANUARY, 1881

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY

Vol. XXXVII. No. 18

MONTREAL, MAY 11, 1917.

Single Copy 10c. Annual Subscription \$3.00

THE RAILWAY PROBLEM.

The newly-published majority and minority reports of the Royal Commission appointed last year to investigate the Canadian railway situation, will doubtless evoke lively controversy before the Government decides upon a policy and proceeds to carry it into effect. The whole country is sick and tired of the existing state of affairs—the neverceasing demands for public money to maintain private corporations over which the Government has practically no control. But the new reports will crystallize sharp differences of opinion between those who favor a new and immense experiment in public ownership, and those who prefer the less adventurous meth d of reorganized private enterprise. It can be said for the majority report by Sir Henry Drayton and Mr. W. M. Acworth that it contains probably the lest solution of the problem on Government-ownership lines that could well have been devised. The Commissioners have evidently had under grave consideration the questions which must necessarily arise in connection with any public-ownership proposals in Canada-the difficulties resulting from political interference and consequently second-rate management-and to the best of their ability they have endeavored to overcome them. What they propose is the taking over of the Grand Trunk, Grand Trunk Pacific and Canadian Northern, and the amalgamation of these with the National Transcontinental and Intercolonial into one system, to be operated by a company, the whole of the stock of which would be owned by the Dominion Government. Operation of the system would be carried on by a board of five trustees, three being expert railway men giving their whole time and energy to this work, the fourth a man of business and financial experience, and the fifth, one who specially possesses the confidence of the railway employees. This board, the Commissioners suggest, should be originally appointed by Parliament, but must be non-political, permanent and self-perpetuating. The tenure of office of its members should be substantially the same as that of Judges of the Supreme Court. The trustees would be appointed for a fixed period of seven years, and vacancies would be filled, in the case of a railway member, by the Governor-General in Council on the nomination of a majority of the remaining trustees. Should the Government refuse to approve a nomination, it would devolve upon the trustees to submit a new name. Parliamentary control would be continued sufficiently by a continuous public audit of the Dominion railway accounts under the direction and control of the Finance Minister.

Mr. A. H. Smith, president of the New York Central, the commissioner who contributes a minority report, is sceptical in regard to the feasibility of eliminating political interference in the management of a Government-owned and operated system. In this attitude of scepticism, Mr. Smith is certainly justified by the Dominion's past practical experience of Government control. Mr. Smith believes that the best results can be achieved by continuing private enterprise, with the re-organization and better co-ordination of the work of the various lines. He recommends, in brief, the taking over of the Grand Trunk Pacific with its branch lines in the West by the Canadian Northern, leaving the latter company free to operate in the western part of Canada, while the Grand Trunk should lease the eastern lines of the Canadian Northern from North Bay east, and confine its operations to eastern Canada. With regard to the Intercolonial and National Transcontinental, he believes that they should be left as at present as a continuous system from seaboard to the grain-distributing centres. While the Commissioners thus differ radically in their main recommendations, they are unanimous in regard to the urgency of the situation, that present conditions are economically bad, that there is a wasteful duplication of lines, lack of coordinated transportation economy, and heavy deficits to be met on behalf of the railways by the people of Canada for years to come, unless some scheme of radical reorganisation is promptly carried

In reference to this situation, one thing is certain, that the bulk of public opinion is entirely opposed to the wild proposals put forward by certain enthusiasts for the complete nationalisation of all the Canadian railways, including the Canadian Pacific. Under such circumstances, we should have the railway employees in a short time the political bosses of Canada. Canadians have seen too much of the way in which Government-owned public utilities have been run in political interests, to be enthusiastic about the idea of public ownership, and before assenting to the proposals contained in the majority report, will have to be convinced that there is no other feasible way by which this matter can be settled on broad and statesmanlike lines.

BANK OF MONTREAL

ESTABLISHED 100 YEARS (1817-1917)

Capital Paid up, \$16,000,000

Rest, \$16,000,000

Undivided Profits, \$1,414,424

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Incorporated by Act of Parliament 1855

Paid Up Capital - \$4,000,000 Reserve Fund - 4,800,000

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The Chronicle

Banking, Insurance and Finance

ESTABLISHED 1881. F. WILSON-SMITH, Proprietor. PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY.

ARTHUR H. ROWLAND, Editor.

Office:

406-408 LAKE OF THE WOODS BUILDING, 10 St. John Street, Montreal.

Annual Subscription, \$3.00. Single Copy, 10 cents.

MONTREAL, FRIDAY, MAY 11, 1917

TRADE AND CAPITAL.

Those who are still a little nervous regarding the possibilities of British capital coming to Canada after the war will find considerable material for re-assurance in the discussions which are at present taking place in Great Britain. Those discussions are by no means academic in character and they are already being crystallized ir o action. It was announced a few weeks that active steps are now being undertaken for the establishment with the support of the

ir'o action. It was announced a few weeks that active steps are now being undertaken tor the establishment, with the support of the British Government, of a British Trade Corporation, whose object will be to facilitate and establish a large credit bank or banks for developing British trade abroad, thereby occupying a field which the existing British banking institutions are unable to cover. That this proposal is of very practical and direct interest to Canada may be seen in the following comment of the London Economist upon the announcement:—"We believe that there is great work for such an institution, especially in the creation of an issuing machinery for industrial, ventures, such as have hitherto been left to sometimes questionable company promoters, as being outside the horizon of the great issuing houses, which have largely confined their efforts to Government and municipal securities. War has brought into being a great body of investors who never before knew what an investment was. We want to keep them busy when the war is over; but we cannot do so when Government securities are no longer on offer, if the supply of industrial investments is to be left in the wrong hands. We want an institution whose fathering of a prospectus will be a guarantee that the project put before the public has been properly examined and is clean and not over-capitalised.

A point which is clear from the present discussions is that, whether there is a continuation of Treasury control of new capital issues in London after the war or not, the export of British capital will be to some extent systematised, and it will not proceed on the higgledy-piggledy lines in favour before the war. The proposed establishment of the British Trade Corporation indicates this, and the recent report of the Dominions Royal Commission, which it is found favour in many quarters as a basis for Government action, proposes as one of the functions of an Imperial Development Board, which it is proposed should be created, the direction of Empire capital towards the development of Empire resources. If this idea of the systematis-

ing of British export of capital matures, evidently the days will have gone by in Canada when it was possible to climb by leaps and bounds from a Canadian parsonage to the British peerage, by the simple process of turning on the hose. It means that Canadian industrial flotations, asking for the support of British capital, will need to be clean, not over-generously capitalised and giving a fair promise of making some real addition to the resources and wealth of the Dominion. Given these essentials, there seems good reason to anticipate a flow of British capital into Canadian industrial flotations, as well as a revival of British investment through the well-known channels of the mortgage companies, etc.

This pre-supposes, of course, the availability in fairly large amounts of British capital for export. As to the outlook for this, the Economist may be again quoted:—"If the war has taught us to increase our output and reduce our consumption, our home supply of capital, which is simply the available margin between consumption and output, will be greater than it ever was. All these great economic problems that lie before us are, to a great extent, psychological and moral questions, depending for their solution on the amount of courage, intelligence and sense of national duty that individual citizens, guided by their leaders and rulers, put into facing them."

NATIONAL ECONOMY.

The Canadian Bank of Commerce continues to preach economy in its monthly commercial letters. "In overcoming the enemy," says the Bank, "it is just as important to practice economy as to send men to the trenches or to supply them with explosives and devices to use such explosives effectively. One of the problems confronting Imperial leaders is that of procuring food and an infinite variety of other necessaries with which to carry on the war. On their ability to buy these things their hopes of victory depend. Canada's duty is to supply not only as many of these necessaries as possible but also the 'silver bullets' to enable the Allies to purchase what they require. If out of the profits thus derived one dollar is wasted, the enemy is strengthened by just that amount. Every man and woman can help in stopping this frittering away of the national strength by purchasing only simple and essential things and by placing at the disposal of the country the savings thus effected.

BANK LOANS FOR ONTARIO FARMERS.

It is announced that arrangements have been completed between the Canadian Bankers' Association and Hon. T. W. McGarry, provincial treasurer of Ontario, for a loan of \$200 to every Ontario farmer who needs seed and has not the means to purchase it. These loans will be repayable on November ist with interest at the rate of 6 per cent. The non-payment of the loan through crop failure will be made good by the Ontario Government.

The annual meeting of the Actuarial Society of America is to be held next Thursday and Friday, May 17th and 18th, at the Hotel Astor, New York City.

The Bank of British North America

Established in 1836

Incorporated by Royal Charter in 1840

Paid-up Capital, \$4,866,666.66 Reserve Fund, - 3,017,333.33

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A GENERAL BANKING BUSINESS TRANSACTED

220 BRANCHES AND AGENCIES IN CANADA Extending from the Atlantic to the Pacific SAVINGS DEPARTMENT AT ALL BRANCHES

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FORTY-EIGHT YEARS' FIRE UNDER-WRITING IN CANADA.

Complete statistics regarding the underwriting experience in Canada of Dominion-licensed fire insurance companies are now available over a period of 48 years. The outstanding fact which study of these statistics discloses is the relatively unprofitable character of the business regarded as a whole, over a long duration of time. In the fortyeight years, 1869-1916 inclusive, the companies operating under Dominion licenses in Canada received in premiums a sum of \$450,669,016. They paid in losses an aggregate of \$272,250,777, a proportion of 60.4 per cent. of the premiums re-ceived. With an all-over allowance of, say, 35 per cent. for expenses, which, be it remembered, include heavy taxation (in 1915, about 23/4 per cent. of premium income), much expenditure on purely preventive work, and an allowance for the increased premium reserve, it is apparent that the average remuneration obtained by the companies has been exceedingly meagre.

EFFECT OF CONFLAGATIONS.

To some extent, of course, the existing high figure of average losses paid to premiums received is a legacy from the gigantic losses proportionately to premiums, which marked some of the earlier years of the half-century. That fact, however, serves to indicate graphically the long-continued effect of enormous conflagrations upon the loss ratio of the fire insurance business. About 1908, the Canadian fire insurance business as a whole had no more than made ends meet on its operations subsequent to Confederation. Previously, the balance had been on the wrong side. Since then the balance on the right side has slowly increased. The percentage of losses paid to premiums received since Confederation which, in 1908, was 65.0, by 1912 had decreased to 62.2, in 1915 to 60.8 and in 1916 to 60.4. That this steady downward movement in recent years is likely to be checked at any time is only too obvious when it is remembered that while improvements in construction and the introduction of sprinklers, have done a great deal to reduce the conflagration hazard, there is a greater congestion of values now than at any previous period, and industrial activity and scientific progress are constantly resulting in the development of new hazards.

RECENT GROWTH OF THE BUSINESS.

On page 471 appear complete statistics showing in detail the loss experience of the Dominion-licensed fire-companies, either since confederation or their subsequent establishment in the Canadian field. A summary of this tabulation is as follows:—

Canadian Companies British Companies U. S. and French Cos	Premiums	Losses	Per-
	Received.	Paid.	centage.
	\$ 95,966,646	\$ 59,780,750	62.3
	267,317,523	163,375,561	61.1
	87,384,847	49,094,466	56.2

\$450,669,016 \$272,250,777 60.4

Indicating the great extension of the business in recent years, it may be mentioned that the total of premiums received during the last ten years is only ten millions less than the total premiums of the preceding 38 years. In the last ten years, the amount at risk has much more than doubled, while net premiums have barely doubled, owing to the reduction in the average rate of premium consequent upon improvements in construction. At the end of 1906, the Dominion-licensed companies

had at risk \$1,443,902,244, their net premiums that year being \$14,687,963. In 1916 their net amount at risk had increased to \$3,714,888,865, their net premiums being \$27,713,308.

THE AMERICAN COMPANIES.

It may be again explained that the lower loss ratio of the American companies is probably due to the fact that the majority of the American companies are comparative newcomers to the Canadian field. On the other hand, the majority of the British companies have been long established here, and have borne the brunt of great conflagrations entailing enormous insurance losses. American companies have possibly found conditions a little more favorable for fire underwriting at a profit than in earlier days. Also American companies have tenefitted until recently through their maintenance of only skeleton organisations in the Dominion, which tended to keep down the Canadian expense ratio. But a recent order of the Dominion Insurance Superintendent has made this no longer possible.

Of the 49 Canadian companies included in the tabulation on page 471 only 25 survive. In one or two cases companies which have disappeared have been perpetuated in existing organisations, or the business was profitably sold outright to newcomers who did not continue the separate organisation. But the disappearances are mainly the result of financial failures. Of the 25 surviving Canadian companies, also, ten are subsidiaries of large British organisations.

The whole record emphasizes the impossibility of judging the business of fire insurance from the results shown within a limited time and in a limited area.

ESTABLISHED 1873.

Standard Bank

of CANADA

Statement of Affairs, Condensed from Government Statement 31st January, 1917

RESOURCES	
Cash on Hand	\$10,762,524,47
Due by Banks	2,574,239,34
Government and Other Bonds	7.244.943.58
Loans on Call and Short Date	1,656,956.71
Time Loans and Discounts	36,064,884.76
Deposit with Govt. for Circulation -	150,000,00
Bank Premises (freehold)	1.229.935.38
Acceptances under Letters of Credit	
per Contra	58,645.84
Other Assets	108,144 91
	\$59,850,274.99
LIAB!LITIES	
Capital Stock	\$ 3,333,242.14
Reserve Fund and Undivided Profits -	4,486,835.77
Notes in Circulation	4,546,513,00
D	16 303 564 53

LIAB:LITTES	
Capital Stock	\$ 3,333,242.14
Reserve Fund and Undivided Profits -	4,486,835.77
Notes in Circulation	4,546,513.00
Deposits	46,292,564.57
Due to Other Banks	1,026,074.06
Dividend Payable 1st February, 1917	106,399.61
Acceptances per Contra	58.645.84
	*** *** *** ***

THE ROYAL BANK OF CANADA

INCORPORATED 1869

Capital Paid up \$12,900,000 Reserves \$14,300,000 Assets \$270,000,000

HEAD OFFICE - MONTREAL.

360 BRANCHES THROUGHOUT CANADA

33 Branches in Cuba, Porto Rico, Dominican Republic, Costa Rica and Venezuela

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THE BANK OF TORONTO **DIVIDEND No. 143**

NOTICE is hereby given that a DIVIDEND of Two and Three-quarters per cent. for the current quarter, being at the rate of Eleven per cent. per annum, upon the paid-up capital stock of the Bank, has this day been declared, and that the same will be payable at the Bank and its Branches on and after the 1st day of June next, to Shareholders of record at the close of Business on the 14th day of May next.

By Order of the Board,

THOS. F. HOW.

General Manager.

THE BANK OF TORONTO, TORONTO, April 25th, 1017.

THE BANK OF NOVA SCOTIA

INCORPORATED 1832.

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Branches throughout every Province in Canada, and in Newfoundland, Jamaica and Cuba.

BOSTON

CHICAGO

NEW YORK

NOTICE OF QUARTERLY DIVIDEND. NOTICE is hereby given that a Dividend at the rate of Five PER CENT (5 P.C.) PER ANNUM upon the paid up Capital Stock of this Bank has been declared for the THREE MONTHS ending the 31st May, 1917, and that the same will be payable at the Head Office and Branches on and after Thursday, the 1st of June, 1917. The Transfer Books will be closed from the 17th to the 31st of May 1917, both days inclusive. By Order of the Board, J. COOPER MASON.

Toronto, 24th April, 1917.

Acting General Mana

The Bank of Ottawa

34 Branches in Canada

Capital Paid Up \$4,000,000 Rest \$4,750,000

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PREMIUMS AND LOSSES OF FIRE COMPANIES IN CANADA, 1869-1916.

	Total Premiums received 1869- 1916.	Total Losses paid 1869- 1916.	Percentage, Losses to Premiums		Total Premiums received 1869- 1916.	Total Losses paid 1869- 1916.	Percent age, Los ses to Pr miums.
Canadian Companies.	. 8	. 8	100	British Companies—			
cadia (1905)	1,336,873	767,616	57.4	London Guarantee &	\$	\$	
nglo-American (1900)	3,541,359	2,332,843	110	Accdt. (1915)	55,732	11,956	21.4
eaver (1913)	88,115 13,908,256	10,645 8,194,528	11.9 58.9	London & Lancashire London Assurance	10,663,143 5,789,736	5,851,011 3,256,166	54.9 56.2
ritish Colonial (1912)	397,149	193,363	48.7	Manchester	2,500,314	1,914,238	00.2
ritish Northwestern	001,110	100,000	4.5.4	National of Ireland	2,607,586	1,706,837	
(1912)	235,406	121,903	51.8	North Eritish & Mercan-	2,007,000	-11.00,001	
anada Accident (1916).	5,546	5,133	92.6	tile	22,473,308	14,535,675	64.7
anada Agricultural	454,896	299,101		Northern	13,230,551	8,606,924	64.1
anada Fire	881,333	698,133		Norwich Union	12,567,824	7,208,441	57.3
anada National (1911).	826,765	360,872	43.6	Ocean (1915)	186,005	75,606	40.0
anadian Fire	4,107,979	1,826,472	44.5	Palatine (1912) Phœnix of London	1,024,323 21,414,880	547,534 11,412,501	54.4
(1915)	3,962	None		Provincial (1910)	200,735	103,576	51.6
(1915)	0,002	None		Queen	4,354,694	3,325,321	01.0
(1907)	269,368	197,414		Royal Exchange (1910).	2,189,074	905,467	41.
itizens	2,856,961	2,287,870		Royal	34,600,984	21,047,380	60.9
Dominion	190,242	148,255		Scottish Commercial	343,421	177,329	
Dominion Fire (1907)	2,091,747	1,277,492	61.1	Scottish Imperial	672,855	483,408	
om. of Can. Guar. &				Scottish Union & Na-		0.055.0)-	10 M
Acedt. (1915)	30,948	6,492	21.0	tional	7,336,894	3,950,819	53.
astern	894,194	632,961		Sun	7,314,322	4,402,524	60.
astern Canada Mnfrs.	70 149	E1 070		Union	7,350,120	4,316,735	58.
(1907)	72,143 2,276,842	51,873	* ****	Vnited Yorkshire (1907)	718,477 2,766,688	549,440 1,513,902	54.
quityactories (1910)	1,087,437	1,525,726 712,906		10/KSHITE (1907)	CONTRACTOR OF THE PROPERTY OF		warming more than all the same of the same
amilton (1916)	41,186	22,588	54.8		267,317,523	163,375,561	61.
udson Bay (1910)	769,434	437,737	56.9	American and French			
mperial Underwriters		201,101	00.0	Companies.	8	8	7-78-5
(1913)	307,064	152,535	49.6	Aetna	8,553.580	5,352,748	62.
iverpool-Manitoba				Agricultural of Water-			
(1912)	1,676,071	967,116	57.7	town	1,309,100	857,278	12.2
ondon Mutual	10,407,391	6,692,224	64.3	American Central (1912)	601,911	313,359	52.
fanitoba (1905)	1,294,513	648,754	1000	American Fire	72,325	66,980	0.
Mercantile	3,548,811	2,075,369	58.5	American Ins. (1912)	247,130 96,983	86,849	35.
fount-Royal (1912)	2,224,025 1,615,526	1,508,304 714,284	44.2	American Lloyds (1910),	31,431	21,711 5,668	22.
Vational Fire (1904)	284,626	287,732	11.2	Andes California (1912)	154,747	64,879	41.
orth Empire (1909)	568,431	339,132	59.7	Connecticut	2,351,340	1,306,308	55.
orth-West (1912)	590,737	339,464	57.5	Continental (1910)	1,641,873	914,735	55.
lova Scotia (1904)	617,139	377,777	61.2	Equitable F.& M.(1913).	130,524	63,234	48.
Decidental (1909)	941,735	445,090	47.3	Fidelity-Phenix (1910)	2,486,769	1,369,667	55.
ntario (1907)	1,274,246	851,105		Fireman's Fund (1912).	474,121	206,616	43.
ttawa	1,198,769	866,253		Firemen's (1912)	366,310	124,673	34.
tfawa Agricultural	194,861	108,164	1414	General of Paris (1912)	331,448	220,081	66.
acific Coast (1908)	607,771 1,434,350	250,017 957,146	41.1	Germania (1912)	3,414,697 180,044	1,831,798 145,118	53.
uebec	5,337,083	3,565,538	66.8	Glens Falls (1913)	426,910	208,535	48.
ichmond & Drummond		0,000,000	00.0	Globe & Rutgers (1914).	815,023	365,235	44.
(1906)	307,855	256,393		Hartford	14,298,739	7,611,090	53.
imouski (1907)	1.943,429	1,363,199	1111	Home of New Haven		60,691	
loyal Canadian	3,538,023	2,988,940		Home of N. Y. (1902)	6,741,240	3,522,738	52.
overeign	1,055,404	736,216		Home of N. Y. (1902) Ins. Co. of N. A Ins. Co., State of Pa.	6,202,537	3,567,150	57.
overeign Fire (1906)	472,135	315,189		Ins. Co., State of Pa.	mon 010	950 005	***
tadacona	490,488	773,695	7	(1912)	722,916	379,307	53.
jetoria-Montreel	79,327	59,878	57.1	Lumber (1906)	951,963 56,426	728,437 19,834	95
estern	17,589,295	10,038,313		Millers National (1915). National - Ben Franklin	30,420	19,004	35.
	95,966,646	59,780,750	62.3	(1914)	326,877	126,747	38.
British Companies.				National of Hartford	020,011	120,111	00.
lbion	\$ 1,468,310	1.016,766		(1908)	3,317,927	2,021,316	60.
lliance	4,477,345	3,165,539	70.7	National Union (1911)	1,046,658	614,691	58.
tlas	8,226,645	5,185,614	63.3	National of Paris (1914).	404,129	165,055	40
ritish Dominions Gen-				Niagara (1912)	717,574	338,474	47
eral (1915)	186,733	120,327	64.4	North-Western National	440 450	004.000	
aledonian	7,919,656	4,954,978	62.5	(1912)	446,152	224,628	50
ity of London	1,588,254	977,455	1	Phenix of Brooklyn	3,765,091	2,154,363	90
ommercial Union	20,695,043	12,464,365	60.2	Phenix of Paris (1915) Phenix of Hartford	90,835 5,794,884	35,404 3,343,639	38.
mployers' Liability	1.000 704	000 000	10.0	Providence - Washington		0,040,039	57
(1910)	1,966,794	980,888	49.9	(1912)	846,485	496,412	58
legger & London		1,105,642	49.7	Queen	11,704,936	6,812,810	58
lasgow & London	1,619,733	1,167,345	040	Rochester-Ger. (1905)	365,253	193,689	00
mperial	16,054,776 6,085,796	10,327,222 4,181,342	64.3	Springfield (1908)	2,543,119	1,391,837	54
ancashire	6,210,844	4,181,342	****	St. Paul F. & M. (1907)	1,755,689	875,569	49
aw Union & Rock	2,659,973	4,492,270 1,417,981	53.3	Stuyvesant (1916)	40,497	39,388	97
everpool & London &		1,117,001	00.0	Union of Paris (1911)	894,223	497,526	55
Globe	25,568,814	15,915,037	62.2	Westchester (1912)	663,803	348,199	52
4		in Toloni			87,384,847	49,094,466	56

Note:—The dates following the names of companies indicate the year they received a Dominion license, panies undated have been either transacting business throughout the whole period or entered prior to 1900.

SEASONED SECURITIES

This Corporation was established in 1855, and for more than sixty years has been steadily growing in strength and in the confidence of the depositing and investing public. In that long period there have been "hard times" as well as seasons of prosperity, but the moneys entrusted to our keeping have always been ready when called for.

The Corporation's bonds are, therefore, a "seasoned security," They are issued in accordance with the restrictive provisions of the Corporation's Charter and also those with which the Legislature circumscribes the investment of Trust Funds. More than Eleven Million Dollars of Shareholders' Money are a further pledge of their security.

These bonds may be had in sums of One Hundred Dollars and upwards.

Canada Permanent Mortgage Corporation

TORONTO STREET, TORONTO.

Representing

THE MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW YORK

You wi!! make money.

The great strength, big dividends and incomparable benefits of the "oldest Company in America" mean certain success for you.

FOR TERMS TO PRODUCING AGENTS, ADDRESS:

George T. Dexter

2nd VICE PRESIDENT

34 Nassau Street

New York, N.Y.

Atlas Assurance Co., Limited of LONDON, ENGLAND

The Company commenced business in the REIGN OF GEORGE III and the following figures show its record-

At the Accession of	Income	Funda
KING GEORGE IV.	\$ 387,065	\$ 800,605
KING WILLIAM IV.	657,115	3,038,380
QUEEN VICTORIA	789,865	4,575,410
KING EDWARD VII.	3,500,670	11,185,405
KING GEORGE V.	6,846,895	15,186,090

31st DECEMBER, 1915 7,757,140 19,953,150 In addition the Company has a Subscribed Capital of Eleven Million Dollars (of which \$1,320,000 is paid up).

I gents wanted in unrepresented districts. Head Office for Canada

260 St. James St., MONTREAL MATTHEW C. HINSHAW, Branch Manager



Assets: \$13,790,133.26

Surplus to Policyholders: \$6,950,190.55

Canadian Head Office: MONTREAL. J. W. BINNIE, Manage

CANADIAN BANKING PRACTICE

THIRD EDITION.

(HANDSOMELY BOUND IN CLOTH, \$4 PER COPY)

QUESTIONS ON CUSTOM AND USAGE AND LAW. Published under the Auspices of the =Canadian Bankers' Association (Compiled by John T. P. Knight).=

ON SALE AT THE CHRONICLE OFFICE,

10 ST. JOHN STREET, MONTREAL

THE EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY ASSURANCE CORPORATION, LIMITED-

Incorporated thirty-six years ago as a direct result of the passing of the first employers' liability legislation in Great Britain, the Employers' Liability Assurance Corporation, Limited, has throughout its career been directed with great energy and professional skill. With the broadening of the field of casualty insurance, the rise into prominence of lines which comparatively, a few years ago were meagre premium-producers, the Employers' Liability has steadily expanded and developed its connections and interests on both sides of the Atlantic. As opportunity has offered, new lines of activity have been undertaken. The business of fire insurance has been transacted for many years, and at the recent annual meeting, the necessary steps were taken to secure authority for the transaction of marine business, although no immediate commencement of operations in this sphere is contemplated. With a world-wide and rapidly increasing business, a very fine financial position and the highest reputation among its policyholders, the Employers' Liability will undoubtedly maintain during the coming years the brilliance of a career which has been hitherto one of the most notable among the younger British insurance institutions.

LAST YEAR'S RECORD.

The business record of the Corporation for 1916 is a remarkably fine one. Following a slight decline in premium income during the preceding year, there is reported for 1916 the largest increase of premiums that has ever taken place in the Corporation's history. This increase, it is interesting to note, came from practically every field in which operations are carried on throughout the world. The total premiums reached \$12,281,020 compared with \$9,403,262 in 1915. As recently as 1909, the Corporation's premium income was only just over \$5,000,000. The year's claims absorbed \$5,965,081, giving the very low ratio to premium income of 48.6 per cent., compared with 55.6 per cent. in 1915. After payment of commissions, expenses of management, etc., which were kept within reasonable limits, as a result of the year's operations, the insurance fund was increased from \$6,675,748, at which figure it stood on January 1st, 1916, to \$9,441,820. Of this fund \$4,912,410 is reserve for unexpired risks, calculated at 40 per cent. of the premiums, and \$4,529,410 is for total estimated liability in respect of outstanding losses.

Total reserves and surplus, exclusive of the investment reserve of \$531,853, aggregate \$13,755.057, a proportion of 112 per cent. to last year's premium income. Details of the balance sheet given on another page show the cash position to be a particularly strong one, while investments in the highest classes of securities total over \$13,000,000. Total assets are \$16,961,100, an increase for the year approaching \$2,800,000, and giving a net surplus over all liabilities including paid-up capital, of \$4,313,236. The Corporation thus holds a position of great financial strength, which cannot but both inspire and retain confidence on the part of policyholders.

THE CORPORATION IN CANADA.

In the Canadian field, where business has been transacted since 1895, a large organisation in the various casualty lines has been built up by the

Employers' Liability, which in recent years also has transacted a well-selected and steadily-increasing fire business in the Dominion, under the able direction of Mr. John Jenkins, of Montreal, as fire manager. Last year the Corporation received in fire premiums in Canada, \$429,933, net losses incurred being \$201,668, a proportion of 46.91 per cent., following a proportion of 47.18 per cent. in the preceding year. While the workmen's compensation business of the Corporation in Canada received in 1915 a severe set-back, owing to the establishment of the Ontario Government's monopoly in this business, resulting in a loss of about \$300,000 premiums, it is a notable fact that the total premium income of the Corporation in Canada is again rapidly picking up towards the level attained prior to this event. This constitutes an interesting tribute to the resiliency and latent powers of the Corporation's Canadian organisation. The total Canadian premium income, which was in 1914, \$1,314,301, was in 1915, with the advent of the Ontario scheme, diminished to \$1,018,606. But last year it was increased to \$1,211,862, practically to within \$100,000 of its 1914 level, and there can be no doubt that the level of the earlier year will shortly be surpassed. Last year's Canadian income from casualty lines of \$781,929, showed a growth of \$109,000 over 1915, when the income was \$672,601, and the fire premium income of \$429,933, a growth of \$85,000 over the \$346,005 reported for the preceding year. Mr. C. W. I. Woodland, of Toronto, general manager of the Corporation for Canada and Newfoundland for over twenty years, is a most energetic and able underwriter. The Corporation is now licensed to transact in Canada a full range of automobile insurance.

THE ROYAL ARCANUM'S PERFORMANCE.

The New York Insurance Press prints a list of death claims paid during February, 1917, by the Royal Arcanum. The heirs of one memter who paid \$2,060 in assessments received \$500; those of another who paid \$2,206, \$586; those of a third who paid \$1,218, \$500. Altogether, eighteen claims are shown where the amount of the certificate was anything between 25 and 75 per cent. of the amount paid in assessments. Commenting upon these paid in assessments. Commenting upon the facts the Insurance Press very aptly says "The story of the payment of those assessments would doubtless disclose many a pathetic tragedy. All of the above listed deceased members had lived far beyond the insurable age. Their only alternative was to accept whatever assessment or whatever reduction was imposed. Either that-or drop out, and lose their sole insurance protection in their old age. The struggle, the pinch and the pitiable sacrifice on the part of these old men, gone far beyond their earning days of life, in an effort to retain some sort of insurance protection for maybe an age-stricken wife or an invalid child, were made all the more bitter by self-reproach over their own folly. Had these unfortunate, misguided victims, for whom every heart has a genuine sympathy, taken regular insurance with a level premium, their policies in their declining years would have been a comfort instead of a burden. The tragic lessons from the Royal Arcanum should be a solemn warning to present supporters of fraternal insurance, who count only the 'low cost' of to-day, heedless of the bitter cost of to-morrow.'

The Trust and Loan Co.

OF CANADA

Capital Subscribed. \$14,600,000.00 Paid-up Capital, 2,920,000.00 Reserve Funds, 2,719,284.07

MONEY TO LOAN ON REAL ESTATE

30 St. James Street, Montreal.

PRUDENTIAL TRUST COMPANY

HEAD OFFICE

9 ST. JOHN

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Transfer Agent & Registrar

Administrator Receiver Executor Liquidator Guardian Assignce Trustee Cuctedian Real Estate and Insurance Benartments

moderate. Insurance of every kind placed at lowest possible rates.

Deposit Vault

Terms exceptionally

B. HAL. BROWN, President and Gen. Manager

Participating Life Policies Pay

If they are MUTUAL POLICIES

The Never-Ending Discussion—"Which is the More Economical?—Life Insurance with or without Prefits," may be summed up in a word—It depends on the Profit-Earning Power of the Company issuing them? Policies may be purchased in the Mutual Life of Canada either on the participating or the non-participating plan. The latter is cheaper at the outset, but we have found by long experience that the participating policy turns out in the end to be the cheaper. If the dividends are used to reduce the premiums in a few years the premiums become less than those payable on non-participating contracts.

The Mutual Life Assurance Co. of Canada

WATERLOO, ONTARIO.

Assurances \$109,645,581 : Assets \$29,361,963 : Surplus \$4,595,151

"THE OLDEST SCOTTISH FIRE OFFICE"

CALEDONIAN

INSURANCE CO. OF EDINBURGH.

Founded 1805.

Head Office for Canada, DOMINION EXPRESS BUILDING Montreal

JOHN G. BORTHWICK,

THE LIFE AGENTS' MANUAL

Published by The Chronicle, Montreal

Royal Trust Co

Capital Fully Paid - -\$1,000,000 Reserve Fund

EXECUTORS AND TRUSTEES

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Sir Vincent Meredith, Bart., President.
Sir H. Montagu Allan, C.V.O., Vice-President.
HON. Sir Lomer Gouin,
K.C.M.G.
UMGARTEN
BEATTY, K.C.
BEATTY, K.C.
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A. E. HOLT, Manager

OFFICE AND SAFETY DEPOSIT VAULTS: 107 St. James St., MONTREAL.

BRANCHES: Calgary, Edmonton, Ottawa, Quebec, Regina, St. John, N.B., St. John's, Nfld., Toronto, Vancouver, Victoria, Winnipez.

WESTERN

Assurance Company Incorporated in 1851

FIRE, EXPLOSION, OCEAN MARINE AND INLAND MARINE INSURANCE

ASSETS

over

\$5,000,000.00

LOSSES paid since organization of Company

. . . over

\$66,000,000

DIRECTORS

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W. B. MEIKLE, Vice-President and General Manager

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HEAD OFFICE

TORONTO

ÆTNA INSURANCE COMPANY

Established in Canada, 1821

Ætna Fire Underwriters Agency OF ÆTNA INSURANCE CO., HARTFORD, CONN.

Applications for Agencies Invited

J. B. HUGHES, Special Agent, WATERLOO, Ont. J. R. ⁵ TEWART, Special Agent, 15 Wellington St. East, TORONTO, Ont. R. LONG, Special Agent, P. O. Box 307, CALGARY, Alberta

THE EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY ASSURANCE CORPORATION, Limited

LONDON, ENGLAND

EXTRACTS FROM THE DIRECTORS' REPORT

The Directors submit to the Shareholders their Thirty-sixth Annual Report, together with the Audited Accounts to 31st December, 1916.

The premiums for the year are \$12,281,020, against \$9,219,080 for the year 1915.

	nuary, 1916, to 31st December, 1916	
JANUARY 18T— AMOUNT OF INSURANCE FUND AT THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR:— Reserve for Unexpired Risks \$ 3,727,635.00 Total Estimated Liability in respect of Outstanding Losses. 3,131,010.27 \$ 6,858,645.27 DECEMBER 31ST— Premiums	gades	\$9,553,854.93
\$19,173,585.63		\$19,173,585.83
Dr. BALANCE SHEE	T, 31st December, 1916	Cr.
CAPITAL CAPI	By Mortgages on Property within the United Kingdom "INVESTMENTS— British Government Securities. Bank of Yagland Stock. Indian and Colonial Governm't Securities Indian and Colonial Provincial Securities	\$ 25,500.00 1,412,888.19 57,721.83 502,647.27

FINDIETTIES	
Shareholders' Capital— 100,000 Shares, \$50 each, \$5,000,000.00.	
To Capital—100,000 Shares, \$10 paid	\$1,000,000.00
" Amounts due to other	
Companies and Agents. \$443,949.71	
" Unclaimed Dividends 2,559.75	
" Outstanding Commission. 732,555.25	
" Outstanding Expenses 218,858.64	
" Loss Deposit Accounts 1,268.67	
	1,399,190.02
" Provision in Profit and Loss Account for Final	
Dividend, 1916	275,000.00
" Reserves-	
For Unexpired Risks \$4,912,410.00	
" Outstanding Losses 4,529,410.00	
Investment Reserve 531,853.00	9,973,673.77
NET SURPLUS	4,313,236.00

\$16,961,099.79

By Mortgages on Property within the United Kingdom	\$ 25,500.00
" Investments— British Government Securities	1,412,888.19
Bank of Fagland Stock	57,721.83
Indian and Colonial Governm't Securities	502,647.27
Indian and Colonial Provincial Securtities	174,729.06
Indian and Colonial Municipal Securities	365,456.54
Foreign Government Securities	1,327,087.38
Foreign Provincial Securities	153,941.83
Foreign Municipal Securities	3,515,376.54
Railway and other Debentures and De- benture Stock—Home and Foreign Railway and other Preference and Guar-	4,997,440.69
anteed Stocks	94,285.84
Railway and other Ordinary Stocks	83,854.08
House Property	342,683.50
	\$13,053,612.75
" Branch and Agency Balances	3,049,487.58
" Interest and Rents accrued	160,740.37
" Cash-In hand and on Current Account	386,350.44
" Amounts due from other Companies	310,908.65

\$16,961,099.79

CANADA BRANCH OFFICES: MONTREAL AND TORONTO

C. W. I. WOODLAND, General Manager JOHN JENKINS, Fire Manager

for Canada and Newfoundland



CANADA BRANCH HEAD OFFICE, MONTREAL

M. Chevalier, Esq. William Molson Macpherson, Esq.

DIRECTORS
Sir Alexandre Lacoste
Sir Frederick Williams-Taylor, LL.D.

J. Gardner Thompson, Manager,
Lewis Laing, Assistant Manager,
J. D. Simpson, Deputy Assistant Manager.



Head Office: Cor. Dorchester Street West and Union Avenue. MONTREAL

J. Gardner Thompson. President and Managing Director.
Lewis Laing. Vice-President and Secretary.

M. Chevalier, Esq., A. G. Dent. Esq., John Em., Esq.,
Sir Alexandre Lacoste. W. Molson Macopherson, Esq.,
J. C. Rimmer, Esq., Sir Frederick Williams-Taylor, LL.D.

J. D. Simpson, Deputy Assistant Manager



THE FIDELITY-PHENIX

FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW YORK

"THE OLD PHENIX"

Assets Exceed \$19,300,000

Head Office for Canada and Newfoundland,

W. E. BALDWIN, Man. 17 St. John St., MONTREAL JOS. ROWAT, Asst. Man.



The Northern Assurance Co. Limited

"Strong as the Strongest"

HEAD OFFICE FOR CANADA. Accumulated Funds 1914, \$41,615,000 88 NOTRE DAME STREET WEST,

G. E. MOBERLY, Manager.



THE LAST WORD

ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE

THE DOMINION GRESHAM'S NEW "GRESHAM MAXIMUM" POLICY

AGENTS WANTED EVERYWHERE

L. D. JONES, Superintendent of Agents for Ontario, 412 JARVIS STREET, TORONTO.

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POLICY LOANS OF THE CANADIAN LIFE COMPANIES.

The policy loan record of the Canadian life companies in 1916 is a more satisfactory account than has been seen in this connection for several years. The net advance in the companies' policy loans during last year was only \$2,007,896, a smaller growth than in any previous year since 1910, and comparing with \$3,099,256 in 1915, \$5,329,108 in 1914, and \$4,995,446 in 1913. Moreover, the increase in the proportion of these loans to the companies' net reserves, which had been steadily and in recent years even rapidly going on ever since 1902, received a definite check in 1916. The proportion of these loans to reserves at December 31st last was 16.7 per cent. against 17.3 per cent. at the close of 1915 and 17.0 per cent. at the close of 1914. It is to be noted also that this decrease in growth of policy loans last year did not coincide with any increase in surrenders, the amount paid out by the companies in this connection during 1916 being apparently somewhat less than in 1915, even when allowance is made for the fact that in the earlier year the total was swelled by surrenders of bonuses for cash at the quinquennial distribution by one of the large companies.

SIXTEEN YEARS' FIGURES.

The following figures show the loans and premium obligations upon policies of the Canadian life companies (including two fraternal organizations) since 1901 and the proportion such loans and obligations bear to the companies' net reserves:

		Amount. Dec. 31.	Year's Increase.	Proportion to Reserves Dec. 31.
1901	*********	\$ 6,437,682		10.9
1902		7.044.111	\$ 606,429	10.7
1903		7,942,580	898,469	10.9
1904		8,812,029	869,449	10.9
1905	*********	9,679,244	867,215	10.6
1906		11,091,446	1,412,202	11.0
1907		14,057,512	2,966,066	12.7
1908		16,750,846	2,693,334	13.8
1909		18,409,651	1,658,805	13.8
1910		20,409,223	1,999,572	13.9
1911		22,960,040	2,550,817	14.2
1912		25,879,863	2,919,823	14.4
1913		30,875,309	4,995,446	15.7
1914		36,204,417	5,329,108	17.0
1915		39,303,673	3,099,256	17.3
1916		41,311,569	2,007,896	16.7

THE POLICY LOAN OUTLOOK.

The probabilities suggest that policy loans will continue to be comparatively restricted during the continuance of the present period of industrial activity and lack of speculative interest. With a continued rise in the cost of common necessities, however, possibly a good many policyholders of the salaried classes, whose incomes have not kept pace with the rise in the cost of living, will find borrowing upon policies, even if only for the purpose of paying the premium, a necessity. This influence, however, is in any event not likely to have a very marked effect upon the companies' policy loan accounts. In regard to the further future, prophecy is dangerous. It may, however, be anticipated that any future period of speculative activity and development, as well as any time of notable financial strain, will see a large increase in the policy loans of the life companies, in spite of the deprecatory policy adopted by many of the companies towards these loans. With the business community now l thoroughly alive to the possibilities contained in borrowing on life policies easily and cheaply, it is not to be expected that there will be in the near future any reversal to the conditions of ten or fifteen years ago, when policy loans were in much lower proportion to the companies' net reserves than at the present day.

A BAD HAIL EXPERIENCE.

Statistics have previously been published in THE CHRONICLE of the experience of the companies transacting hail insurance in the prairie provinces last year. In Saskatchewan, the companies had a gross loss ratio of 132 per cent. on gross premiums of \$1,417,853, and in the other provinces losses were also exceedingly heavy. The appended table of the experience of the Dominion-licensed companies is interesting in this connection. The 1916 experience, it will be seen, is uniformly bad. It may be noted that the amounts of premiums reported by the Dominion-licensed companies last year was nearly double the amount reported for 1915. Several additional companies received Dominion licenses for this business, and those previously engaged in it increased their premiums. This indicates that the advantages of hail insurance are coming to be increasingly appreciated by the Western farmer. It suggests also that the schemes of municipal mutual hail insurance which have been established in several of the Western provinces are not likely to have a prejudicial effect upon the companies' business. The mere fact that whatever their experience the companies pay their losses promptlyand in full, while the municipal mutual schemes are incapable of paying more than a fraction of their last year's losses, will weigh more with the western farmer than endless theoretical arguments regarding the advantages of the municipal mutuals.

The following table shows the hail experience in 1916 of the Dominion-licensed companies:—

	Net Premiums Received.	Net Losses Incurred.	Per cent. Losses to Prem's.
Acadia	8 8.024	\$ 16,907	210.7
American Central	8,909	24,973	280.3
British America	99.879	113,862	114.0
Canada Hail	108,584	107,407	98.9
Canada Weather	78,349	49,402	63.1
Connecticut	55,471	49,628	89.5
Dominion Fire	24,598	18,938	77.0
German-American	53,498	60,442	112.9
Glens Falls	77,577	75,647	97.5
Hartford	168,940	198,622	111.6
Home	417,385	480,802	115.2
Hudson Bay	185	1.003	542.1
N. W. National	169,307	172,418	101.8
St. Paul F. & M	58,246	87,503	150.2
Westchester	90,166	84,582	93.8
	\$1,419,118	\$1,542,136	108.7

The Prudential of England has now paid out £2,026,669 in war claims on the lives of 96,313 combatant policyholders.

United States Fire underwriters are getting restive over the increasing cost of the business. "In the wave of economy which will doubtless sweep the country shortly," remarks one of them, "why should not the companies fall in line and discontinue supplying blotters, calendars, cuff buttons, manicure sets and other similar 'supplies?'"

COMMERCIAL UNION

ASSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED of LONDON, England

The largest general insurance Company in the world

We at pist December 191	3)
Capital Fully Subscribed	\$14,750,000
Capital Paid Up	1,475,000
Life Fund, and Special Trust	
Funds,	74,591,540
Total Annual Income exceeds	47,250,000
Total Assets exceed	142,000,000
Total Fire Losses Paid	183,366,690
Deposit with Dominion Govern-	
ment . ,	1,225,467

INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED of LONDON, England

	-	
(As at 31st	December	1915)

Capital Fully Paid .		\$1,000,000
Fire Premiums 1915, Net		\$2,500,505
Interest, Net		140,220
Total Income	. [\$2,640,725
Funds		\$4,738,520
Deposit with Dominion Gov'n		\$250.567

N.B.—In addition to the above there is the further guarantee of the Commercial Union Assurance Company Limited, whose Assets exceed \$142,000,000

Applications for Agencies Solicited in Unrepresented Districts.

Head Office: CANADIAN BRANCH

UNION BUILDING, 232-236 ST. JAMES STREET, Montreal.

J. McGREGOR, Manager.

W. S. JOPLING. Assistant Manager.

COMMENCED BUSINESS 1901
RECEIVED DOMINION CHARTER 17th JUNE 1908

Capital Stock Subscribed \$500,000.00

Camital Stock Paid up \$174,762.70

INSURANCE COMPANY Under the control of the North British & Mercantile Insurance Company

> RANDALL DAVIDSON, President C. A. RICHARDSON, Vice-President and Secretary DIRECTORS

S. R. RICHARDS

W. A. T. SWBATMAN

N. T. HILLARY

Head Office

- - WINNIPEG, MAN.

INSURANCE

OFFICE

Agents Required at Unrepresented Points

\$109,798,258,00 \$9,000,000.00 FIRE AND LIFE

North British and Mercantile

INSURANCE COMPANY

DIRECTORS
G. N. MONCEL, Esq.
E. L. Prass, Esq.

Head Office for the Dominion: 80 St. Francois Xavier Street - MONTREAL. Agents in all the principal Towns in Canada.

RANDALL DAVIDSON, Manager. HENRY N. BOYD, Manager, Life Dept.

. . THE . .

London Assurance CORPORATION

OF ENGLAND.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER A.D. 1720

CAPITAL PAID UP **TOTAL CASH ASSETS**

22,457,415

ficad Office for Canada, . MONTREAL W. KENNEDY, W. B. GOLLEY, Joint Managers.

THE OLDEST INSURANCE OFFICE IN THE WORLD.

FOUNDED A.D. 1710

Head Office:

Threadneedle Street, LONDON, ENGLAND

Canadian Branch: 15 Wellington Street East, Toronto, Ont. LYMAN ROOT.

Manager

The LONDON MUTUAL FIRE

INSURANCE Established 1859

COMPANY

Assets Surplus to Policyholders Losses Paid, Over

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC BRANCH

W. J. CLEARY, Provincial Manager MONTREAL 17 ST. JOHN STREET. - -

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THRIFT IN FOREST FIRES.

There are estimated to be 10,000 forest fires in Canada every year of all sizes and descriptions. Nine tenths are set by human hands, and the damage runs from four to ten millions of dollars, not counting damage to soil, to the value of watershed

areas, and many other factors.
"Thrift in forest fires" is a new movement which the Canadian Forestry Association has started amongst the guides, and campers and sportsmen of Canada with a view to cutting down the country's timber losses in 1917. As is well known, the presentday causes of forest fires are not the railways as much as the settlers, campers, hunters and fishermen. Thoughtlessness in respect to camp fires, the throwing away of lighted tobacco, matches, etc., has caused some of the worst conflagrations in history. Not only is Canada's exhaustible supply of timber seriously reduced in a time when it should be protected and improved by every possible means, but hundreds of miles of once excellent fishing and hunting and camping grounds are turned into blackened ruins.

No camp fire should be left this year until it is "dead out." A few extra pails of water or spades of sand will make this point certain. No fire should be set except among rocks or gravel, never in a bog or in leaves or needles. Throwing lighted tobacco or matches into the forest is conduct that is charge-

able only to the amateur.

INSURANCE AGENTS' LICENSE LAW IN QUEBEC PROVINCE.

All insurance agents and companies operating in the Province of Quebec are reminded that the Act compelling agents (except salaried employees of any company who do not receive commissions, and notaries who are not regularly appointed agents of any company), to obtain a license, has been in force since the first of the present month. An agent acting without a license renders himself liable to a heavy penalty and we understand a company accepting business from an unlicensed agent also becomes liable to a penalty. Details of the Act were published in our issue of March 23rd last, page 303.

PERSONALS.

Mr. A. H. C. Carson, President of the London Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Toronto, was in Montreal on Saturday.

Mr. Arthur Barry, manager for Canada of the Royal Exchange Assurance, is at present on a business trip to the Coast. We understand he will visit agencies of his Company in important centres throughout the West before returning to Montreal.

Mr. Alfred J. Bell, Halifax, N.S., has returned from visiting the Head Office of the Insurance Company of North America at Philadelphia. Mr. Bell has represented this great institution in Nova Scotia for many years.

CANADIAN FIRE RECORD.

LAURA, SASK.-Hotel, poolroom and general store, destroyed, May 5.

MONTREAL. - Plant of Duchess Shoe Company, Beaudry and Craig Streets, heavily damaged, May 8. Loss placed at \$80,000.

AN OLD-FASHIONED HOLD-UP.

Pittsburgh Life and Trust Company, a The concern with assets of \$24,000,000, has been made the medium of as brazen-faced a hold-up as has been heard of for some time. A New York lawyer named Birdseye, made a proposition to get control of the stock, paying \$120,000 deposit, which \$120,000 he borrowed. Getting this proposal accepted, he immediately put in dummy directors who took action substituting lumber bonds of doubtful value for the Company's high-grade assets, the latter being realised upon, part of the proceeds going through dummies into Birdseye's bank account. Real estate was also transferred to dummies. Out of these proceeds, Birdseye paid for, to the extent of over a million dollars, the shares of the Company he had purchased from the old board of directors! The police are now looking for Birdseye, and action against the old directors is also under discussion.

LUMBERMEN'S INDEMNITY FINALLY PAYS.

The Forest Mills Company of British Columbia has, after nearly two years, received a final settlement of its loss from the Lumbermen's Indemnity Exchange of Seattle, a discount of 15 per cent. from a total loss being finally acceded to by the insured.

The corporate companies on this risk, carrying insurance to the amount of \$62,000, paid their losses promptly. The Lumbermen's Indemnity, which suffered a loss of about \$145,000, finally paid 50 per cent. down and the balance within three months. This is the case of which full details have previously been given in THE CHRONICLE, in which the defence of ultra vires was at one time set up against the lumber company's claim.

FIRE COMPANY APPOINTS OFFICIAL CHIMNEY SWEEPER.

The following notice in a Michigan paper has the old-world flavour of fire insurance ways two

centuries ago:

Mr. John Plipponen, of 404 Lake Linden avenue, Laurium, has been appointed chimney sweeper or cleaner in behalf of the Finnish Mutual Fire Insurance Company, and every member is requested to have their chimneys cleaned by him at their own expense.

"Finnish Mutual Fire Insurance Co.,
"Calumet, Mich."

An underwriter translates the appointee's name into English as "Pippin" and says that in 1916 the Finnish Mutual wrote \$55,000 in premiums, with \$6,000 in losses.

The Casualty Company of America has been placed in the hands of a receiver for the purpose of liquidation. The Company has had a checkered career, and this termination is not surprising to casualty managers. An examination of its financial condition as of September 30 last revealed an impairment of capital of \$654,112.43, and on December 6 it ceased writing all business, and reinsured its policies of all classes, except fidelity and surety, in solvent and responsible companies.



ONTARIO AND NORTH WEST BRANCH

8 Richmond Street, East, TORONTO

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC BRANCH

164 St. James St., Cor. St. John St., MONTREAL



PERSONAL ACCIDENT SICKNESS FIDELITY GUARANTEE PLATE GLASS AUTOMOBILE GENERAL LIABILITY

Head Office: TORONTO.

Montreal, 164 St. James Street. Quebec, 81 St. Peter Street.

THE YORKSHIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LI

YORK, ENGLAND

ASSETS EXCEED \$23,000,000

FIRE Every description of property insured. Large Limits.

LIVE STOCK...... The Yorkshire is the FIRST COMPANY, licensed by the FEDERAL GOVERN-MENT, to transact Live Stock Insurance in Canada.

ACCIDENT Personal Accident, Employers', Automobile, Teams, General Liability, and Plate Glass.

GANADIAN (Hon. C. J. Doberty DIRECTORS C. M. Bosworth, Esq. Hon. Alphonse Racine, Alex. L. MacLaurin, Esq.

APPLICATIONS FOR AGENCIES are invited from responsible persons-

Ganadian Manager, P. M. WICKHAM, Montreat

ROYAL EXCHANGE ASSURANCE

Founded A.D. 1720

Losses paid exceed \$235,000,000

Head Office for Canada Royal Exchange Building MONTREAL

Canadian Directors

E. P. Lachapelle Montreal
B. Mackenzie, Esq. Montreal
S. Hough, Esq., K.C. Winnipeg
A. Weston, Esq., Halifax, N.S.
Vincent Meredith, Bart.
Chairman Montreal

A. Jessup, Manager Casualty Dept. Arthur Barry, General Manage

Correspondence invited from respongentlemen in unrepresented is re fire and casualty agencies. Head Office: Boyal Ex



FOUNDED 1792. INSURANCE COMPANY OF NORTH AMERICA

PHILADELPHIA, PA.

\$4,000,000.00 SURPLUS TO POLICY HOLDERS . 11,030,378.43 23,389,465.34 LOSSES PAID EXCEED . 183,224,309.15

ROBERT HAMPSON & SON, LIMITED GENERAL AGENTS FOR CANADA. MONTREAL

The LIFE AGENTS MANUAL THE CHRONICLE - MONTREAL

PAID UP CAPITAL **TOTAL FUNDS** SURPLUS AND RESERVES 765,305,14

MOUNT ROYAL ASSURANCE COMPANY | The NATIONALE FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF PARIS, FRANCE.

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL \$2,000,000 TOTAL FUNDS

AGENTS WANTED IN UNREPRESENTED DISTRICTS.

HEAD OFFICE FOR CANADA

MONTREAL.

J. E. CLEMENT, General Manager.

H. H. YORK. Inspiretor for Ontario

L. C. JALLE, Inspector for Quetos

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Year to Meh. 31

Week e April 7 14

FRATERNALS SHOULD NOT BE RECKLESS.

Fraternal insurance organizations are informing their members that war service will make no difference in their contracts. Some promise to pay all death claims whether suffered in war or not, and others are agreeing to keep in force the certificates of the members who enlist and may be unable to keep up their assessments. This is very patriotic, but are not these fraternals taking liberties with the law of mortality in an even more aggravated way than usual? Many of them are running behind now because of inadequate rates, and if the war should become serious and unusual mortality develop, extra assessments would be multiplied, or the rates would have to be increased, and that would mean trouble. If, in addition, the fraternals undertake to pay out of the treasury the assessments of the members who enlist, the burdens would be further increased, and it is a question whether the German sympathizers among the members would not be able to enjoin any such use of their funds. Insurance Post.

NEW SUPERINTENDENT OF 1. SURANCE FOR PROVINCE OF QUEBEC.

It is understood that an announcement will shortly be made respecting the appointment of a Superintendent of Insurance for the Province of Quebec to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Chubb, the late respected superintendent.

TRAFFIC RETURNS.

	CANADI	AN PACIFIC	RAILWAY.	
Year to date	1915	1916	1917	Increase
Meh. 31, \$20	,111,000	\$27,154,000	\$30,465,000	\$3,311,000
Week ending	1915	1916	1917	Increase
April 7, 1	,766,000	2,482,000	2,830,000	348,000
14, 1	,761,000	2,577,000	2,833,000	256,000
21, 1	,623,000	2,343,000	2,708,000	365,000
30, 2	,074,000	3,166,000	3,665,000	499,000
	GRAT	NO TRUNK R	AILWAY.	
Year to date	1915	1916	1917	Inc ease
Mch. 31, \$10	,750,053	\$12,799,374	\$13,532,631	\$733,257
Week ending	1915	1916	1917	Increase
April 7, 1,	008,320	1,155,486	1,215,768	60,282
14,	864,658	1,024,505	1,103,119	78,614
21,	869,772	1,059,661	1,085,031	25,370
30, 1,	263,028	1,445,853	1,481,293	35,440
	CANADIA	NORTHER	N RAILWAY	
Year to date	1915	1916	1917	Increase
Meh. 31, \$4,	940,100	\$6,783,000	\$8,464,400	1,681,400
Week ending	1915	1916	1917	Increase
April 7.	457,000	677,000	736,200	59,200
14,	463,700	668,900	881,600	. 212,700
21,	442,300	634,300	765,600	131,300
30,	585,900	844,100	932,100	88,000
Tw	IN CITY	RAPID TRAN	SIT COMPANY	
Year to date	1915	1916	1917	Increase
Mch. 31, \$2	,250,055	\$2,463,827	\$2,610,129	\$146,302
Week ending	1915	1916	1917	Increase

191,589

185,281

184,559

.....

April 7.

179,637

174,248

176,106

POOR OUTLOOK FOR GERMAN INSURANCE COMPANIES.

Speaking at the annual dinner of the Economic Club at the Hotel Astor in New York City, Mr. James W. Gerard, former U. S. ambassador at Berlin, expressed the opinion that the indebtedness of Germany is getting to a point where the country will be unable to pay the interest. In that case, he pointed out, the savings banks and the fire and life companies from whose funds the war loans have very largely been drawn, will be bankrupt.

The head office staff of the Canada Life have decided to embark on market gardening. A large plot of land has been secured for the purpose. Produce will be sold to the staff at cost.

WANTED

Fire Insurance Inspector for a Tariff Company, principally for Ontario Province with headquarters at Montreal; one having a good connection preferred. All applications treated in a confidential way. Apply at once, to INSPECTOR,

> c/o The Chronicle, MONTREAL.

Montreal Tramways Company SUBURBAN TIME TABLE, 1916-1917

Lachine

From Post Office—
10 min. service 5.40 a.m. to 8.00 a.m. | 10 min. service 4 p.m. to 7.10 p.m. to 12.00 mid. | 20 7.10 p.m. to 12.00 mid.

From Lachine-

min. service 5.30 a.m. to 5.50 a.m. 10 min. service 4 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. to 12.10 a.m. 20 8.00 p.m. to 12.10 a.m. Extra last car at 12.50 a.m.

Sault au Recollet and St. Vincent de Paul:

From St. Denis to St. Vincent de Paul
15 min.service 5.15 a.m. to 8.00 a.m. 30 min. service 8.00 p.m. to 11.30 p.m. 20 " 8.00 " 4.00 p.m. Car to Henderson only 12.00 mid. 15 " 4.00 " 7.00 p.m. Car to St. Vincent at 12.40 a.m. 20 " 7.00 " 8.00 p.m. From St. Vincent de Paul to St. Denis—

| From St. Vincent de Faut to St. Denis | | 15 min. service 5.45 a.m. to 8.30 min. service 8.30 p.m. to | | 20 " 8.30 " 4.30 p.m. | 12.00 mid. | | 12.00 mid. | 12.00 mid. | | 12.20 a.m. | 13.20 a.m. | 14.20 a.m. |

Cartierville:

 From Snowdon Junction—20 min. service 5.20 a.m. to 8.40 p.m. do 12.00 mid.

 40 "8.40 p.m. to 12.00 mid.

 From Cartierville—
 20 " 5.40 a.m. to 9.00 p.m. do 12.20 a.m.

 40 " 9.00 p.m. to 12.00 mid.

From Park Avegue and Mount Royal Ave.—
20 min. service from 5.40 a.m. to 12.20 a.m.
From Victoria Avenue—
20 min. service from 5.50 a.m. to 12.30 a.m.
From Victoria Avenue to Snowdon,—
10 minutes service 5.50 a.m. to 8.30 p.m.

Bout de l'Ile:
From Lasalle and Notre Dame—
60 min. service from 5.00 a.m. to 12.00 midnight.

Tetraultville:

15 min. service 5.00 a.m. to 3.00 a.m. | 30 min. service 3.30 p.m. to 7.00 p.m. | 30 min. service 9.00 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. | 30 min. service 7.00 p.m. to 12 mid.

Pointe aux Trembles via Notre Dame:
From Notre Dame and 1st Ave. Malsonneuve.
15 min service from 5.15 a.m. to 8.50 p.m.
20 " 8.50 p.m. to 12.30 a.m.
Extra last car for Biv4. Bernard at 1.30 a.m.

DISTRICT AGENT WANTED To take torritory in East DISTRICT AGENT WANTED—To take territory in East territory in East

Why Not Reply to This Ad?

(or inquire about other territory)

What You Need:

FIRST, an old, tried company, with abundant evidence of success; experienced in the business, and consistent in its record. Paying large dividends to policy-holders, and safely and sanely planning the future. Issuing new and saleable policy plans.

SECOND, a company which treats its representatives as business men, free from red tape, sympathetic, and in harmony with the aims of the field force. Unhampered in its regulations, and liberal in its interpretation of contracts. A company which it is a pleasure to work for and with which you can build up a permanent connection.

CANADA LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY

HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO

The Imperial Guarantee

AND ACCIDENT INSURANCE CO., OF CANADA Head Office : 46 King Street W., TORONTO, Ont.

A Strong Canadian Company.

ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE GUARANTEE BONDS

PLATE GLASS AND AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE FRANK W. COX, E. WILLANS.

General Manager.

Secretary.

The Manufacturers Life

A Splendid Canadian Old Line Life Insurance Company

Good for Agents. Attractive for Policyholders.

Assets exceed \$23,000,000 Insurance in Force exceeds \$90,000,000

Head Office: TORONTO - - -CANADA

CANADA NATIONAL FIRE **INSURANCE COMPANY**

HEAD OFFICE: WINNIPEG, MAN.

SURPLUS TO POLICYHOLDERS - \$1,820,752.00 Canadian Company Investing Its Funds in Canada

APPLICATIONS FOR AGENCIES INVITED

Union Assurance Society Ltd.

OF LONDON, ENGLAND. [Fire Insurance since A.D. 1714]

CANADA BRANCH, MONTREAL NORTH WEST BRANCH, WINNIPEG THOS BRUCE, Branch Manager. L MORRISEY, Resident Manager.

Agencies throughout the Dominion

CONTINENTAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

has several vacancies in Quebec and Ontario including the position as Inspector for Eastern Ontario. "LIVE WIRES"-write to Head Office, Toronto or to

W. J. BROWN, Provincial Manager,

180 ST. JAMES STREET, MONTREAL.

C. R. G. JOHNSON, POIRIER & JENNINGS, INC. INSURANCE BROKERS

ÆTNA INSURANCE CO. OF HARTFORD ST. PAUL FIRE & MARINE INS. CO.

11 ST. SACRAMENT STREET MONTREAL, P.Q.