THE MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

OF NEW YORK.

RICHARD A. MCCURDY, President.

Statement for the year ending December 31st, 1894.

Income.

Received for Premiums,	836,123,163 82 11,897,708 12 843,020,839 94
Disburseme	
To Policy-Holders for Claims by Death	811,929,794 94
" " Endowments, Dividen	ds, &c 9,159,462 14
For all other accounts,	9,789,634 18
	830,878,891 26
Assets.	
United States Bonds and other Securities,	883,970,690 67
First lien Loans on Bond and Mortgage,	
Loans on Stocks and Bonds,	11,385,100 00
Real Estate,	
Cash in Banks and Trust Companies,	· 9,655,198 91
Accrued Interest, Deferred Premiums, &c., .	6,615,645 07
	8204,638,783 96
Reserve for Policies and other Liabilities, Com	pany's Standard.
American 4 per cent	
Surplus,	. \$22,529,327 82
Insurance and Annuities assumed and renewe	 ed, 8750,290,677 97
Insurance and Annuities in force Dec. 31, 189	
Increase in Total Income	86,087,724 28
Increase in Premium Income	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Increase in Assets	17,981,103 82
Increase in Surplus	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •
Increase of Insurance and Annuities in Force	
THORE OF ADJULATED AND MUMAINED IN FOICE	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •

I have carefully examined the foregoing Statement, and find the same to be correct. CHAS. A. PRELLER, Auditor.

From the Surplus a dividend will be apportioned as usual,

BOARD OF TRUSTERS:

SAMUEL D. B-BCOCK GEORGE S. COR RICHARD A. MCCURDY JAMES C. HOLDEN HERMANN C. VON POST ALEXANUER H. RICE LEWIS MAY OLIVER HAREMAN HENRY W. SMITH ROBERT OLYPHIANT GEGRGE F. BANER DEDLEY OLGUTT FREDERIC CRONWELL JULIEN T. DAVIES ROBERT SAUEL S. VAN RENSELAER CRUGER CHARLES R. HENDERSON GEORGE BLISS

RUPUS W. PLCKHAM I. HOBART HERRICK WA, P. DINON ROBERT A. GRANNISS HENRY H. RUERRS JSO. W. ACCHINELOSS THEODORE MORPORD WILLIAN BARDOCK STUVESANT FISH

AUGUSTUS D. JUILLIARD CHARLES F. MILLER WALTER R. GILLETTE H. WALTER WED GEORGE G. HAYEN ADRIAN ISELIN, JR. GEORGE S. DOWIOIN THEO. A. HAVENEVER. ς.

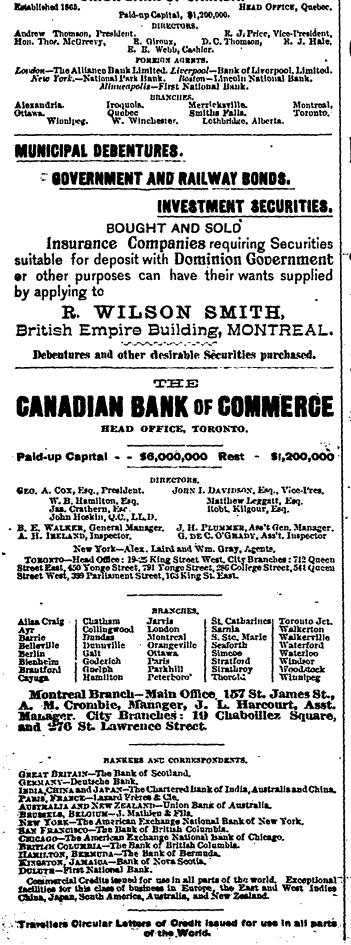
ROBERT A. CRANNISS, Vice-President.

WALTER "R. GILLETTE, General Manager, ISAAC F. LLOYD, 2d Vice-President. HENRY E. DUNCAN, Jr., Cor. Secretary, WILLIAM J. EASTON, Secretary. ALBERT KLAMROTH, Assistant Secretary. FREDERIC CRONWELL, Treasurer. JAMES TIMPSON, 2d Assistant Treasurer. JOHN A. FONDA, Assistant Treasurer. WILLIAM P. SANDS, Cashier. EDWARD P. HOLDEN, Assistant Cashier, EMORY MCCLINTOCK, LL.D., F.I.A., Actuary. JOHN TATLOCH, Jr., Assistant Actuary. WILLIAM W. RICHARDS, Computoller. HENRY S. BROWN, Assistant Comperoller. CHARLES A. PRELLER, Auditor. EDWARD LYMAN SHORT, General Solicitor. MEDICAL DIRECTORS: ELIAS J. MARSH, M.D. GRANVILLE M. WHITE, M.D. GUSTAVUS S. WINSTON, M.D.

FAYETTE BROWN, General Manager,

MONTREAL.

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UNION BANK OF CANADA.

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CANADA LIFE Assurance Company

THE

Head Office, - Hamilton, Ont.

Established 1847

CAPITAL and FUNDS over \$14,300,000 ANNUAL INCOME \$2,500,000

Sum Assured over \$62,700,000

President, A. G. Ramsay. Secretary, R. Hills. Superintendent, W. T. Ramsay.

79th DIVIDEND

THE BHAREHOLDERS OF

Are Hereby Notified that a Dividend of

FOUR PER CENT.

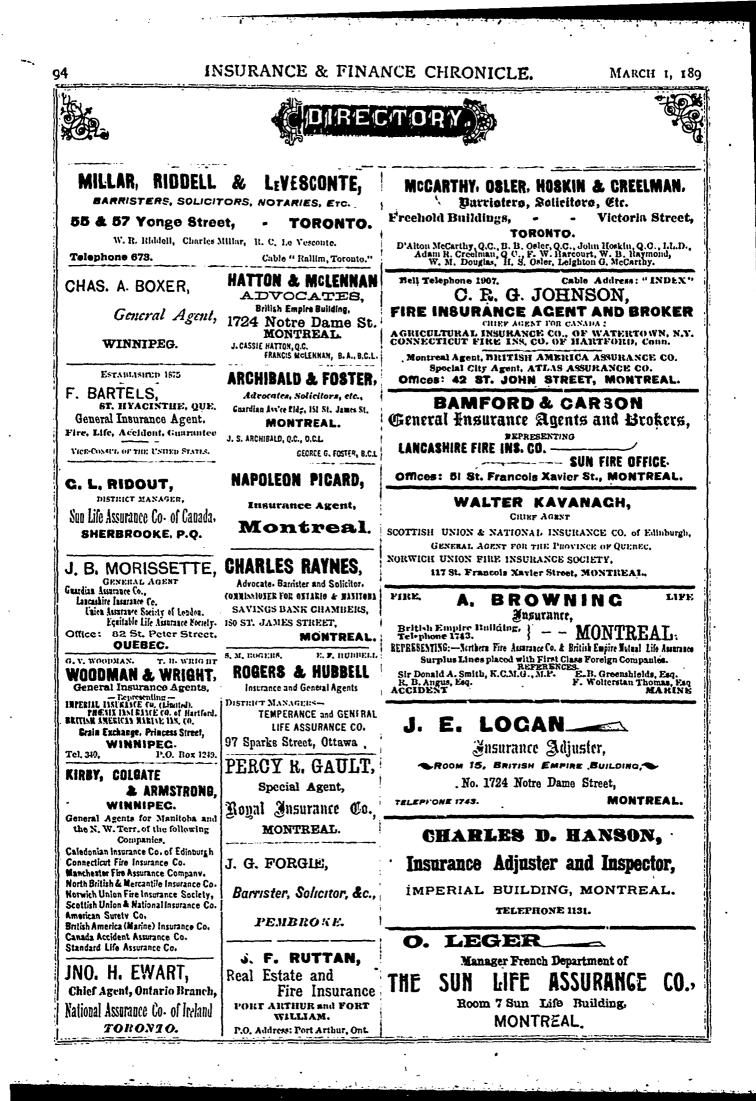
upon the capital stock has been declared for the Current Half Vegr, and that the same will be parable at the office of the Hank, in Montreal, and at the branches, on and after tho

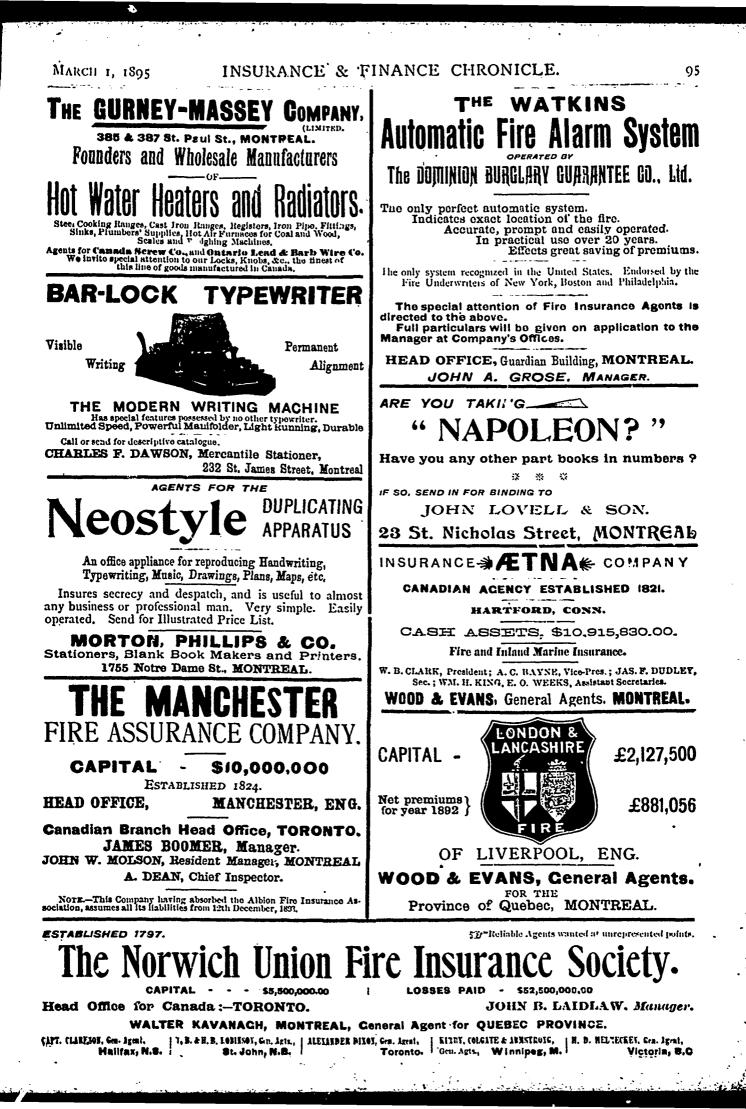
• FIRST DAY OF APRIL NEXT.

The Transfer Books will be closed from the 25th to the 30th MARCH, both days inclusive. By order of the Board

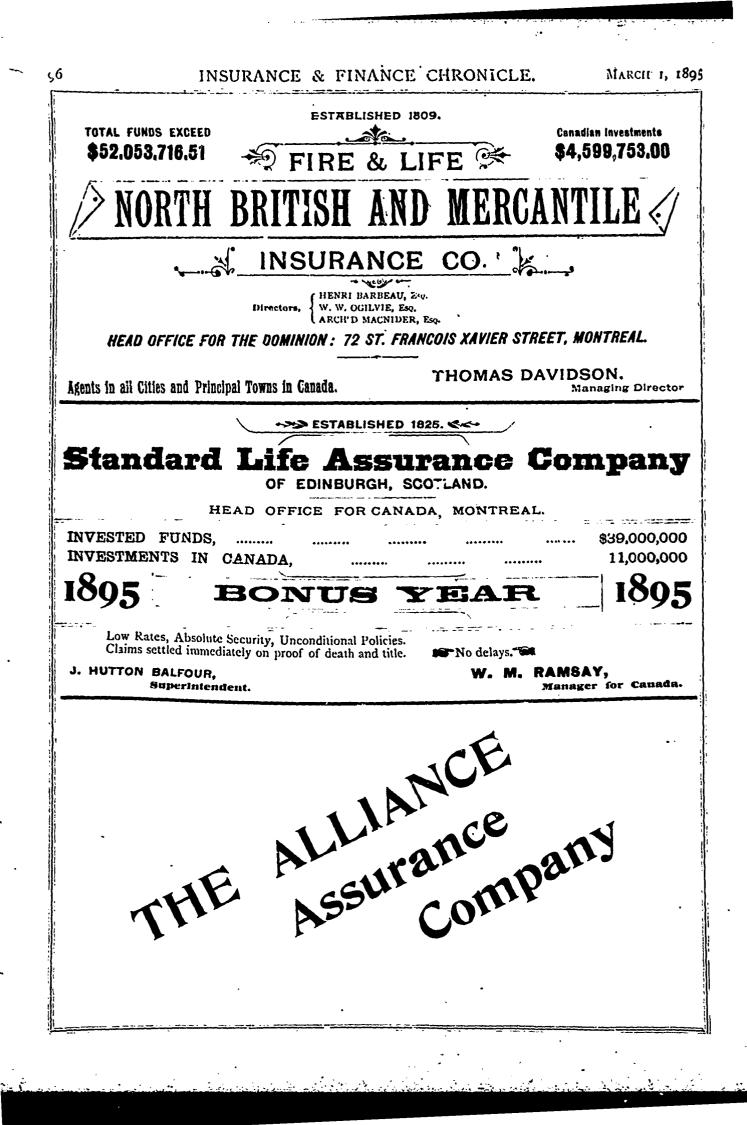
F. WOLFENSTAN THOMAS, General Manager, MONTREAL, 26th February, 1855.







Lunder.





THE Insunance and Hinance Chunnicle. Published on the 1st and 15th of each month. At 1724 Nothe Dame St., Montheal.

R. WILSON SMITH, Editor and Proprietor.

Appual Subscription (in Advance) - - \$2.00 Prices for Advertisements on application.

All Communications intended for THE CHRONICLE must be in hand not later than the zoth and asth of the month to secure insertion.

Newfoundland Curtency. THE currency of Newfoundland has hitherto been so mixed as to be a source of serious trouble, disputes and

loss, especially to small traders and wage earners. The premium on a life assurance policy was paid some little time ago by 11 different coins issued by 6 foreign governments, the current value of each of which is quite uncertain. The receivers of such money are often compelled to take them at a figure which they cannot realize in making payments, so each coin is subject to a discount that varies, not by any fixed standard, but the arbitrary will of the payer, or payee. We gladly record the passing of an Act by the Island government, which will put the currency on the same basis as that of Canada. Accounts will not be collectable unless rendered in dollars and cents. The British sovereign is to be a legal tender for \$4.863/3, and British silver coins proportionately. All foreign gold coins shall have their value as currency fixed by Proclamation from time to time. The American gold eagle is to pass for \$10, and other United States gold coins for proportionate amounts. All coins minted for circulation in Newfoundland shall be legal tenders for their face value. Silver coins so minted shall only be a legal tender to extent of \$50, and copper ones for only 25 cents. No other coins except those specified shall be a legal tender in Newfoundland. This Act puts all the obligations and securities of the Colony upon a gold basis. It will put an end to the constant "dickering" between traders and customers, employers and employes as to the value of the money they tender in payment for goods or wages. We regard this Act as likely to have a most wholesome effect on the monetary affairs of Newfoundland, as indeed the initial step towards a restoration of its credit.

The U. S.Bond Issue. "NOTHING succeeds like success" The new bond issue made by the United States has proved a phenom-

enal success. On the 20th ult., the subscription books were opened at the office of Messrs. J. P. Morgan & Co., New York, for 602,500,000 bonds at 4 per cent., 30 years to run, at 1121/4. In twenty minutes the books were closed, as over six times the needed amount was subscribed for. The rush was so great, that had further time been given, ten times this great total would have been subscribed. In London, the portion allotted to that market was covered fifteen times over.

It is gratifying to us to record such striking evidence of the confidence placed in the United States. Immediately the books were closed, sales of the bonds commenced, which instantly realized a premium of 6 per cent. This figure has been exceeded. On the same day as the subscription the syndicate dealing with the bonds deposited one-half the amount, \$31,150,000 in gold in the Treasury. Since then other sums have been paid in, so that ere this number is issued, or shortly after, the Treasury will have had the sum of \$75,000,000 deposited in gold. As we have intimated, the bond issue has had a remarkable effect on the political press. It has split the two parties as we anticipated, so that already there are rumors of a third party being organized drawing its members from both Republicans and Democrats. The issue has called forth the most violent denunciation of some leading papers, papers having the largest circulation, who accuse the President and his advisers of having sacrificed the difference between what the bonds were subscribed for, 1121/4, and the amount for which some portion of them have been re-sold. This view of bond issues is plausible only to those who have no practical knowledge of financial affairs. In negotiating an issue of so large an amount it is an absolute necessity to conduct negotiations with responsible persons. The idea of those who attack the administration seems to be that a store should have been opened and the bonds peddled out like peanuts of a corner stall, or, after the fashion of Cheap Jack at a country fair. The bankers of London and New York, and the great financial organs approved of the plan adopted by the United States government to place the issue in the hands of a syndicate equal to the task of floating it, and equal also to the task of

INSURANCE & FINANCE CHRONICLE.

finding the gold for the enormous sum of \$62,500,000. It was the reputation of the Syndicate, of which the Rothschilds were members, which gave the bonds that prestige which sent them up to a premium. The incident has had very bracing effect on American securi ties all over the field. It has toned up confidence in business circles, so that, though the bond issue has been costly, it has had ample compensations, in which

Another Life Assurance Story.

the whole country benefits.

WE have a communication sent us from Kent County, New Brunswick, to the effect that an old lady, " a par-

ish charge," recently died at Richibucto, aged 85. It seems she had several sons and daughters living in the States, and one of them has been sending claim papers down for proof of death, etc., from which it appears an insurance had been placed on the old lady's life for \$2,000 some two years ago. The strange part of the story is, that the doctor written to for certificate of cause of death was asked to be obliging and state the old lady's age as being 69 at death, in place of 85.

This looking suspicious, the overseer of the poor has taken the case in hand, having the name of the Life Company, which is said to be an American one.

There are far too many of these episodes in life assurance cropping up, to be pleasant.

It is with much pleasure we copy The New Maasger from the Insurance Observer of Lonof the Scottish don, England, the following kindly [Amicable, notice regarding the appointment of Mr. Gunn to the managership of the Scottish Amicable. We can only add our warm congratulations on his well deserved appointment, and wish him every success in his new position. At a meeting of the general committee of management of the Scottish Amicable Life Assurance Society, held in Glasgow on the 7th February, Mr.Neil Ballingal Gunn, F.F.A., F.I.A., secretary of the Standard Lite Assurance Co., Edinburgh, was appointed manager of the Society in succession to Mr. Robert Blyth. Mr. Gunn gained his first insurance experience in the service of the Scottish Widows, Fund Assurance Society, which he entered in 1865, remaining there nine years, at the end of which period he removed to Lie office of the Scottish Provident Institution. He continued in this office for ten years, from 1874 to 1884, in which latter year he was appointed assistant actuary to the Standard Life, being subsequently promoted to be colonial and foreign secretary in 1890. Mr. Gunn is a well known man in the actuarial world, having been elected Associate of the Faculty of Actuaries in Scotland after examination in 1869, and Fellow of the same in 1871. In 1886 he was elected Fellow of the Institute of Actuaries, and in 1889 he was appointed valuer under the Friendly Societies' Acts. We are glad to find that the Directors of the Scottish Amicable have not found it necessary to go outside the domain of assurance to find a successor to Mr. Blyth. Under Mr. Gunn's management the Scottish Amicable may be expected not only to maintain its position, but to do much more,

With a varied experience in the best Scottish offices, Mr. Gunn can plead ignorance of nothing, while his late years as colonial and foreign secretary at the Standard eminently fit him for the carrying out of a progressive policy, should that be deemed advisable. The Scottish Amicable is a Life Assurance company, first class in every respect, but little known. We have every confidence that Mr. Gunn will do much to increase the popularity of the Society, while at the same time adding to its stability.

THERE is no more offensive proceeding In it Possible ?

than the gratuitous interference of a third party between a principal and one of his

staff. Nor is there one more impertinent, or inexcusable, than the offering of unsolicited advice to experts in any calling, by some officious person who has had no experience in such business, nor practical knowledge to any extent. Further, when such interference and such advice-giving, is open to grave suspicion as being inspired by some selfish motive, some effort to secure by these means what cannot legitimately be obtained, such conduct becomes as grave an offence against honor, as it is of propriety.

It is stated that a newspaper proprietor in this city has written to the head offices of insurance companies represented in this city, offering to give them" pointers" upon their business in this country, and going so far as to offer to give such advice personally at the Home offices. This person is wholly unacquainted with the business he is so ready to advise upon. He never offered to give what he supposes to be "pointers," to the local officials, but, unknown to them, he steps in between them and their principals, with offers of advice which are a serious reflection upon the reputation of such local Such a proceeding is an insinuation that officer s. something is seriously wrong in local management; it is libellous in fact, if not in law. But these reports may be unfounded. For the honor of journalism we trust it is so; for such conduct is a dishonor to the Press of Cauada, it is open to suspicion as being inspired by a motive we forbear from giving a name

A Medical Examiner's Duty.

A PAPER on "Life Assurance" was lately read before the Nova

Scotia Branch of the British Medical Association, and in course of the general discussion that followed, we are informed several of the doctors present expressed as their opinion that a medical examiner was not under an obligation to give the company employing him any particulars of diseases, such as "syphilis" for instance, for which he might have treated the proposer as his family doctor, unless the latter referred to or mentioned it himself. We should be sorry to think that the medical examiners of our Life companies, as a body, entertained this view. Unquestionably the companies expect that the confidential reports they receive from their medical officers regarding applicants for assurance are always full and complete in each and every particular, and certainly do

not look in them for reticence, or concealment of any fact, in the personal or family history of the subject, within the knowledge of the examiner. The seal of an honorable confidence in these matters as among the parties (the company, its medical adviser, and the applicant) is always held most sacred, but among the three, everything should be clear and above board. Whilst it is evidently in the interest of the company to be made acquainted with all facts regarding the proposed life, it is also in the interest of the insured that he be not granted a policy based on imperfect information, thus leaving the possibility of future trouble for his heirs, when the policy becomes a claim. We, of course, can well-understand the delicacy a medical adviser feels about imparting details he has come into possession of through professional intimacy with his patient, especially if his patient is silent in his application regarding the matter. Nevertheless, we think it would be his manifest duty to impart all he knows to the company, or else decline to act for it or accept a fee for services which he feels he cannot faithfully render.

Where the Money goes. Where the Money goes. OVER a year ago an eminent London banker stated his conviction to be that the annual account of Europe against America which had to be liquidated was about \$325,000,000. The sum was objected to as too large, out no one corrected it by analysis. A prominent member of a New York foreign banking firm, whose position enables him to speak with authority, has given it as his judgment that this indebtedness is 350 millions,—that is, the States have to send to Europe that sum yearly to pay its debts. The statement is made up as follows:

For money spent abroad by Americans	\$100,000,000
For freights in foreign ships	100,000,000
For interest on American securities	75,000,000
For profits of foreign corporations doing business in	
U.S., and incomes due to non-residents	75,000,000

\$350,000,000

Clearly, this vast sum must ever be an overwhelming factor in American finance. It very far exceeds the exports over imports; the gold shipments have been of no appreciable account in settling this huge bill. The course has been for years to ship securities to Europe, which acts on the balance of trade, or debt, precisely in the same way as the shipment of goods. With the above figures in mind, and the usual course of their liquidation in view, we can see how any check upon this outflow of securities would produce serious financial trouble, and how a panic must ensue if the stream commences to flow backwards. America is at last realizing the dream of Columbus, it is pouring out an - auriferous stream for the enrichment of the old world, more vast than ever before was sent from one continent to another. It is impossible for such a yearly drain to go on without peril. The States will have to export more goods, or import less ; she will have to develop her ocean marine; she will have to reduce the volume of securities held abroad, and rely more on native capital for native enterprises. Unless these reforms are accomplished, the financial condition of the States will remain unstable. ^{M7}hether there is statesmanship in America equal to the task of doing what is needed, is one of the greatest problems of the day

THE PROPOSED MUNICIPAL FIRE INSURANCE SCHEME.

The full text of the Bill relating to municipal fire insurance, which is to be submitted to the Ontario Legislature, will be found in this issue. We have criticized this scheme several times. So far as we understand it, the object sought to be secured is cheap fire insurance. We are satisfied this end will not be gained, and will involve far more objectionable conditions than high rates. A city that insures itself violates the scientific basis upon which the business of insurance is based. Fire insurance is a question of averages, and the companies owe their ability to meet large losses t. the fact that their risks are distributed over a very wide area In the larger fire offices, this is v .ld wide. Premiums received from the many provide funds to pay the excessive losses of the few. The accumulations of years with average losses all over the field are liable to be swept away by some local disaster or a succession of fires in many locations. Municipal insurance can only provide for periods when no large, extraordinary fires occur, the risk of conflagration is not provided for.

It is proposed by the City of Toronto to issue a million dollars of debentures for fire risks; but as a recent experience shows, one single fire might absorb the whole of that sum and more for claims. The Bill provides for one or more municipalities joining in the scheme so as to distribute the losses. But we regard this as chimerical. It cannot b' carried into practical operation for obvious reasons. The very proposal to bring in other municipalities evidences distrust in the whole scheme. If it be wise to broaden the busis by taking in a number of adjacent places, surely it is wise to place the business on the broadest possible basis. This is just what the companies do. Suppose Torontc junction were wiped out by a fire, how would the citizens of Toronto like to be called upon to restore that place or pay the insurance claims ?

In the case low of a fire, the settlement is a matter between the insured person and the company. But if the city were the underwriters, every claim would be a matter of public interest, and di putes would arise in which the citizens at large would take part. The companies are most averse to legal disputes, but a city would be compelled to resist claims so constantly that a fire would come to mean also a law-suit. There would not, and could not in the nature of things, be the prompt payments of claims such as now prevail. The financial confusion that such a system would entail world be a reril to banks, loan companies, private money lenders, and estate proprietors. They would be compelled to take special precautions to protect their interests which would entail heavy costs upon borrowers. At present a fire insurance policy in any reputable company is relied upon absolutely as proand the state of the

tection in case of fire for its amount, but a municipal policy could never be so confidently relied upon.

It is proposed to compel all buildings to be insured up to two-thirds of their assessed value. This is the cream of fire insurance, which this scheme professes to skim off, and leave the skim milk, that is, the contents of buildings, to insurance companies. The companies would naturally retaliate on such injustice by raising the rates on all goods, furniture and other contents of buildings, or else let them go practically unprotected, and where would the trade of that city or town be then !

No evidence exists at present to demonstrate that the profits of fire insurance are excessive, and it must not be lost sight of that the business is conducted on a scientific basis, the result of centuries of experience under the supervision of officials specially trained to its intricacies, and yet the average loss and expense ratio for a number of years has been 94 per cent., leaving a margin of only 6 per cent. wherewith to pay a dividend and provide a reserve fund for large fires and conflagrations. But probably a few tyros under aldermanic administration, and transacting the business on an unscientific basis within a limited area, could by some magic change the present state of affairs. Surely Aldermenasa general rule conduct civic affairs on such sound business principles and at the lowest possible cost that they can be relied upon to revolutionize the fire insurance business. They know all about it ; the fire underwriters are mere tyros. Give the Aldermen a chance by all means to display to the world their underwriting ability, and let the Queen city have the honor and glory of being the first municipality on the face of the globe to inaugurate a civic insurance scheme! What a glorious prospect for the citizens of Toronto ! But we are deviating somewhat. Let us try to imagine that the promoters are serious, which for a moment we doubted.

The following arc a few unanswerable objections to a municipal fire insurance scheme :

(1) Any municipality adopting it will seriously lower its credit. It introduces an element of financial risk hitherto unknown. Who would purchase the securities of a city or town unprotected by fire insurance backed up by millions of dollars of capital?

(2) Conflagrations do occur periodically. Look at Chicago, Boston, St. John, N.B., Quebec, St. John's, Newfoundland. In what position would those cities be today only for the millions received from the fire insurance companies?

(3) Who will give credit to the merchants and storekeepers of a city or town unprotected by fire insurance, *i.e.*, outside fire insurance capital ?

(4) The door will be opened for municipal jobbery of one description and another.

(5) The proposed plan is only a partial scheme. It does not deal with the whole insurance of a city or town, and this is an inherent weakness to commence with.

(6) A limit of \$10,000 on any single risk is mentioned, and no reference made to risks in rows; we pre-Director, J. J. Kenny.

sume three or more risks in rows may be taken. This would imply re-insurance. Now, who would re-insure the insurers?

We might go on enumerating objections, but we have already devoted too much space to this unique scheme, which no community in either Great Britain, the United States or elsewhere, that we know of, has had the hardihood to propose, and in all seriousness we would advise the good people of Ontario to let some other fellow test the practicability of the scheme before attempting to start it.

THE WESTERN ASSURANCE COMPANY.

We always, with much interest, scan the Report of the popular, pushing Western Assurance Company, as it comes before us year after year. It has long been looked upon as the leading Canadian Fire insurance company, having manifested such energy and aggressiveness, coupled with other qualities,—notably, liberality, and the prompt settlement of losses, as from its inception, in 1851, have enabled it to take a foremost position in public estimation. We understand the same commendable features account for much of its popularity in the United States where the Western has a large and growing business.

The Report presented to the annual meeting held in Toronto on the 14th February shows the total income for 1894 to have been \$2,193,873.05. and the total expenditure, including an appropriation for reported but not adjusted losses to 31st Dec., \$2,082,419.58, the excess of income over expenditure being \$111.453-47. As compared with the previous year (1893), the revenue has fallen off \$331,934.98, but the losses for 1894 having been much less, this falling off has been more than counterbalanced by the reduced expenditure. The stockholders having received two half-yearly dividends at the rate of 10 per cent., and \$10 000 being carried to the Reserve Fund, which now amounts to \$1,000,000, the management may fairly be congratulated on these results.

The capital stock of the Company is \$2,000,000, with \$1,000,000 paid up. After providing \$726,536.37 for a reinsurance reserve, the net surplus is \$377,247.59.

The Report makes reference to the increased supervision of risks, rendered more than ever necessary in these days of depreciated values. It was incidentally mentioned that the Company's net loss, in the two large fires in Toronto in 1895, amounted only to \$37,200. The recent purchase by the Western of the Canadian business of the United Fire Ins. Co., while increasing the volume of premium revenue, is reasonably expected to yield a profit. The report concludes with a reference to the loss sustained in the death of the late President, A. M. Smith.

We note Mr. J. K. Osborne of Toronto has been elected to the directorate of the Western.

We wish the Western continued success under President Cox, and its popular Vice-President and Managing Director, J. J. Kenny.

U. S. RAILWAY FINANCES, 1894.

MARCH 1, 1895.

The Interstate Commerce Commission has issued a Report on the income account of United States railways for year ending June 30, 1894, which has been looked forward to with much interest, as doubtless the collapse of so many railways has been one of the chief causes of the disturbed financial condition which has prevailed since the panic of 1893.

On the 30th June last there were 156 American railways in the hands of receivers. These roads covered 38,869 miles. The total capitalization of the companies operating then was \$2,500 000,000, which is about 25 per cent. of the total for the whole country. Even in prosperous times, the bulk of these roads were so laden down with obligations that they were struggling to make both ends meet. For the last 14 years, only 18 out of 156 roads paid any dividend, and these were not among the large organizations. The plain truth is that the roads were carrying more " water " than was needed to provide steam, the process of watering railway stocks having been carried on to such an extent as to entail financial disasters, not to the roads only, but to those who had the misfortune to have stocks unloaded on to them by wily and unscrupulous operators. The Report gives a comparative statement of the carnings per mile of the United States railways for a number of years, from which we have compiled the following table, putting the details in a condensed form :

	Receipts per mil			
1	assengers.	Freight.		
	\$	Ś		
1890	1,978	4,747		
1891	2,065			
1892	2,104			
1893	2,120	5,070		
1594	, 2,067	4,283		

The operating expenses, of course, were not proportionately reduced, so that the net income for 1894 was \$272 per mile less than the average of previous 4 years. The number of miles reported for that year is 149.559, so we find that the decrease in net income for that year was \$40,679,74S. As the average income for four previous years was \$347,126,439, we can at once judge how a falling off to extent of over 40 millions would affect the financial condition of roads which even in those years were not earning any dividend. The decline in receipts from freight from 1892 to 1894 was \$\$14 per mile, and of operating expenses, \$507 per mile. In these two items we get results, one of which reveals the enormous depression caused by the panic, which cut down freight receipts by \$122,100,000, and in the other we have one of the factors which aggravated the distress caused by the panic, as the cutting down of operating expenses by \$77,550,000 involved the throwing out of work and out of income a very large number of men, and the restriction of purchases of the multifarious goods needed by railways. As a natural result of these disastrous conditions, the securities of the railways were seriously depreciated, and European holders rushed them for sale, and drew the proceeds in gold, which led to the depletion of the Treasury reserve.

To meet this drain of gold, government bonds have

been issued to extent of \$165,000,000, the annual charges upon which for many years will be a serious item. We would now ask attention to a point which illustrates how the cutting down of prices below the limit of a reasonable profit is no benefit in the long run to the public. There has been for a length of time a cutting down of rates for passenger and freight service on all the railways; this is very plainly shown by the following table:

5	Average Receipts.			
per	passenger	per	ton per mile.	
	per mile.			
	cents.		cents.	
1SSS	2,3,9	••	1,001	
1889	2,165	••	922	
1890	2,167		941 895	
1891	2,142	••	\$95	
1892	2,126	••	SyS	
1893	2,10S	••	\$7\$	
1894	1,976	••	S66	

Now, when the rates of 1888 prevailed, there was only a small percentage of the roads earning a dividend. Who can wonder then that in 1893-94, when the traffic declined so enormously and at the same time, rates were down all along the line, there were 156 roads insolvent? Against the savings to passengers and shippers caused by lower rates, if we put the enormous losses brought about by these roads being thrown into bankruptey, and add to the total the cost to the whole people for a generation of the financial operations their collapse occasioned, we submit, it is a very reasonable conclusion, that, if the railways had not been forced by competition to cut rates below the level of profit, the benefit would have been very great to the whole body of the people.

THE MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY. OF NEW YORK.

Yet another year of great progress has been added to the history of the Mutual Life; a year also in which, owing to the prevailing commercial and financial depression, to be successful, was all the more meritorious.

The fifty-second annual statement of this old company sets forth that its assets have now reached the magnificent total of \$204,638,783. This means it has increased its funds by \$17,931,103 in the past year. During the last five years the increase has been no less than \$6\$,237,455, and the table we give below shows the actual yearly growth all along the line for the past ten years. The amount of insurance in force compared with last year shows an increase of \$51,923,039,-the premium income \$2,528,825, and the increase from all sources, \$6,067,724. Payments for death claims in 1894 were \$11,929,795, and for endowments, annuities, dividends and other payments to living members \$9,159,462, the total thus paid to policyholders for the year being \$21,089,257.

The Reserve Fund, which is to guarantee the future payment of all claims, now stands as \$182,109,456, including the addition made to it of \$13,354,384-in 1894-so that results to date indicate increased security and permanent benefits to every member of this large company. The foregoing figures emphatically

. . .

demonstrate the public confidence reposed in the Mutual Life, also the ever-increasing popularity that life assurance is developing, greatly owing to the sense of security people feel, that institutions such as the Mutual Life are abundantly able to meet all their obligations as they mature, and to fitly act as the conservators of these trust funds for the widow and orphan. We should have mentioned that the surplus fund of the Mutual Life at present amounts to \$22,529,327.82.

The following is the table referred to, showing yearly growth during past ten years:-

Year.	Insurance in force.	Total income.	Total Assets.	Total Surplus.
1885	368,981,441	20,214,954	105,905,967	5,012,634
1886	393,809,203	21,137,177	114,151,963	5.643,568
1887	427, 628, 933	23,119,922	118,806,852	6,294,442
ISSS	482,125,184	26,215,932	126,082,154	7,940,063
1889	565,949,934	31,119,020	136,401,328	o,657,248
1890	638,226,865	34,975,779	147,152,961	9,981,233
1891	695,753,461	37,634,735	159,507,139	12,030,967
1S92	745,780,083	40,238,865	175,054,157	15,168,234
1893	503,254,639	41,9 3,145	186,707.680	17,952,609
1894	\$55,207,778	48,020,869	204,638,783	22,529,327

The larger items of the invested assets (\$204,638,-783) are, we note, as follows :--

United States bonds and other securities, \$83,970,-690.67; first lien loans on bond mortgage, \$71,339,-415.92; loans on stocks and bonds, \$11,366,100.00; real estate, \$21,691,733.39.

President McCurdy and his able official staff are worthy of all praise for the excellent and efficient management that made possible, or compelled, the above results. Mr. Fayette Brown, the general agent at Montreal, is so popular in all his relations with his sub-agents and the public, that to his credit may be placed much of the success in this district of the Mutual Life.

THE TORONTO BOARD OF FIRE UNDERWRITERS.

The annual meeting of the Toronto Board was held on the 13th and 14th February. All the Companies were represented, with one exception. The President, Mr. I. G. Thompson (Lancashire), being in the chair, read his annual address, which was listened to with much interest. Reference was made to the different actions taken by the Toronto Board during the past year, in conjunction with a committee nominated by the Board of Trade, to induce the City Council of 1894 to procure steam fire engines and other necessary fire appliances, to which, if heed had been given, it is possible the losses by fires in Toronto in January of this year would not have been so disastrous. Attention was drawn to the fact that much public discontent was expressed at the maintenance of the recent increased ratings. The Board of Trade had appointed a committee to wait on the Toronto Board, asking that the old rates be restored. that some of the members of the Toronto Board were anxious to secure some modifications of present rates; the competition from licensed mutuals also was increasing ; that all these, being facts, could not be ignored. The President with regard to Civic Insurance said : It is almost inconceivable that save men, pretending to the possession of sound judgment, and entrusted by the people to legislate in the public interests, should | taking industry will do it.

for a moment entertain such a monstrous and absurd proposition." The meeting consented to a change in the late increased ratings as follows:—All retail stores having an area over 10,000 feet may be specially rated by the secretary; but in no case to fall below the minimum .ate for 10,000 feet as under clause 4.

The proposition to introduce the "compact system" was referred to next annual meeting.

The proposed change in classification of buildings and in dwelling house rates was not considered.

It was resolved on motion that the C. F. U. A. communicate with the Inspector of Insurance for Ontario, with the object of procuring that all Fire insurance agents in Ontario be registered, as are now the Life and Accident agents. We presume this would mean the payment of annual fees for registration which many agents may object to. The proposed specific rating of mercantile risks in Toronto was laid over until such time as the city placed the fire appliances in a condition satisfactory to the Board.

Mr. P. H. Sims, secretary of the British America Assurance Company, was elected president for the ensuing year, and Mr. Alfred Wright, of the London and Laucashire, vice-president.

THE BRITISH AMERICA ASSURANCE COMPANY.

The British America has justified our predictions of last year with regard to its progress under the new management inaugurated in 1893, as may be seen on reference to its sixty-first annual report to the shareholders. Of course 1894 was a somewhat better year for the fire insurance companies than the previous one, but the financial and commercial depression prevailing had its effect on the business of this company as on others.

The loss ratio of the British for 1894 was 61 as against 66 per cent. the average or general loss ratio of all the companies doing business in Canada. The total cash income was \$1,464,654.\$4. The total expenditure, including an appropriation for losses under adjustment was \$1,366964.00, which left a balance to credit of \$97,690.\$4. During the year two half-yearly dividends at the rate of 7 per cent. were paid to shareholders. The surplus or reserve fund as increased now shows \$517,424. The total assets of the company are \$1,467,-4\$2.15 and the total liabilities \$200,357.16, thus showing a surplus to policyholders of \$1,267,124.99.

The losses of the company by the late large fires in Toronto were stated by the President to be only \$33,400, thanks to the judicious distribution of the risks held. With Mr. George A. Cox, president, and Mr. J. J. Kenny, vice-president, to supervise the large financial and general interests of the British America, public confidence in the company has been re-established. As to its future progress, well, we feel certain that the persistent, patient endeavor of so practical, and otherwise well qualified, an underwriter, such as Mr. P. H. Sims, the secretary is, will ensure that, if efficient and painstaking industry will do it.

ONE WAY TO PREVENT LAPSES.

That an abnormal amount of lapses in life insurance is a prominent feature of the American business is a notorious fact. We have at different times and in different ways referred to and demonstrated this fact, and have ppinted out one of the causes operating to produce the condition referred to. The lapse ratio, however, is much larger with the Canadian companies and with some of the British companies than it ought to be, and than the managers at the home offices wish it to be. It has for some time been the perplexing problem confronting most of the life companies, as to how most effectually to apply a corrective. We need scarcely remark that lapses in the main are produced by two causes, viz., lack of means or fancied lack of means to carry permanently the full amount of the insurance assured, or dissatisfaction arising with regard to either the company selected or with the kind of policy carried.

In order to bring more freshly before the reader the magnitude of the lapse evil, so far as the American companies are concerned, we may briefly state that, taking the last year for which we have full official reports, 1893, the record of the New York insurance department shows that out of a total of terminated insurance from all causes, amounting to \$526,\$40,951 (" not taken " policies being left out of the account), \$290,939.614 was from lapses pure and simple. This shows over 55 per cent. of the total terminations from this cause. Of course a portion of the "surrendered" insurance goes off the books from the same causes which produce lapses. At the low estimate that onefifth at least of this surrendered insurance is preventable, we may add to the above lapses \$22,270,276 of the \$111,351,382 surrendered, making a total of \$313,209,-S90 practically chargeable to the lapse habit. What may be called normal and legitimate terminations in 1893 from matured claims, from changes, and from unavoidable surrenders, amounted to only \$213.631,061, or about a hundred million less than the above lapses and unnecessary surrenders. This is a record so significant as to call for a remedy if life insurance is to have either permanence or a profitable outcome. This vast amount of over three hundred and thirteen millions of dollars cost a good deal of money to procure, and under modern methods of giving paid-up insurance and surrender values cannot be said to leave a margin of profit to persevering policyholders, such as in former years may have been the case under forfeiture practices.

Of cou se hot-house methods of producing new insurance are largely to blame for the annual landslide in the business, as we have more than once pointed out, and a long stride will have been made toward reducing the excessive lapse ratio when the companies return to rational methods and diligently set about the removal of the rebate evil. Inducing men to insure for sums beyond their means to continuously carry, by giving them outright from a half to two-thirds of the first premium, is to fill up a company with deadheads, who will invariably take some other insurance train when they can no longer ride free. Insurants who get in so easily get out quite as easily, and repeat the rebated premium act with one company after another until they have made the rounds. These "rounders" make up a large percentage of the army of lapsers. They can scarcely be blamed for their itinerant practices, for the companies, indirectly if not directly, encourage the "twisting" of recruits from rival companies by their star business-getters, on the theory that everything goes if it only counts in the "round up" at the end of the year when volume reigns supreme.

Assuming that at no distant day the companies will radically reform their high-pressure methods and give more attention to the quality than to the quantity of their risks, there still remains what we conceive to be a much needed change in selecting and in dealing with their agents. Gradually, as belonging to the system of bending every energy for the acquisition of volume, there has grown up, among American companies at least, the general, though, we are glad to say, not universal, practice of getting business on the brokerage plan, i.c., a flat commission, and a very large one, on the first year's premium. Contracts, even with general agents covering large fields, stipulating for a liberal renewal interest for a long term of years, h: ve in late years been quite generally discouraged, and inasmuch as tempting first commissions and big bonuses for new business are offered, it is not strange that a majority of the contracts with field workers have come to be either without renewal interests, or with these so small as to afford little incentive to the agent to spend time and influence to keep the old policyholders. It seems to pay better to employ the time and energy needed to induce a dissatisfied policyholder to keep up his policy in getting a new recruit. We think that view of the case the natural one from the agent's standpoint; but so far as the interests of the company are concerned, such a policy is very shortsighted, not to say suicidal.

In our opinion, no agency system in life insurance is on a sound basis which does not make permanence of relationship its corner stone. To do good work which will endure, the agent must feel that not only are his interests identical with those of the company, but that he has entered into a life partnership with it. It should not be a question with him whether it will pay, as reckoued simply in this year's income, to spend time and money to prevent lapses in his field. If he is so related to his company that a generous renewal commission is at stake when one of his policyholders threatens to draw out, he has a sufficient incentive to use every exertion to keep him in. It often happens that some misconception on the part of the policyholder with regard to his treatment by the company in the matter of dividends, for example, arises, and all that is required to correct the misapprehension and satisfy his mind is a little patient, personal explanation. Misstatements by rival agents about the condition or practices of the company are common, and the policyholder naturally looks to the agent who sufficiently won his confidence to induce him to insure for an explanation. The latter should be so bound to the company by permanent interest that it is worth his while to satisfy the dissatisfied as a means of holding his own renewal in-

come. No agent in the absence of a substantial incentive can be reasonably expected to save to the company a policyholder the going or the staying of whom, to him, is a matter of little or no pecuniary interest. We have in mind a veteran general agent of a good, solid company, who for thirty years has represented it in the same field, under a contract securing a permanent renewal interest, and whose renewal income is a small fortune. His lapses have not exceeded an average ot ten per cent. of the total terminations in his field. It is easy to see that a company having an army of such representatives will hold its business and be known as emphatically a policyholders' company. No wonder that, under the prevailing brokerage system, agents are changing companies every year or two, and that the policyholders follow the example. We repeat, that what is needed to help put life insurance on the basis of a permanent and satisfied membership is the adoption of a permanent and satisfied agency system. Examples are not wanting which demonstrate the wisdom on the part of companies of such a course. It is a good example to follow just now.

THE ACTUARIAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA.

We have pleasure in acknowledging the receipt of Papers and Transactions of the Actuarial Society of America, being No. 12, with an abstract from the minutes of the fall meeting, held in the Mutual Life Insurance Company's offices, New York, on October the 11th and 12th, 1894.

The proceedings of this Society are always interesting to all actuaries, and also to managers of Life Assurance companies and all connected with Life Assurance generally. The Actuarial Society of America includes Canada under its title, and it is pleasing to note that eight leading representatives of Canadian Life Assurance are members of the Society. We refer to A. G. Ramsay, president of the Canada Life Co.; W. C. Macdonald, actuary Confederation Life; T. B. Macaulay, actuary, Sun Life; J. G. Richter, actuary London Life; Wm. McCabe, managing director, and Thomas Bradshaw, assistant actuary, of the North American Life; Wm. Hendry, manager, and Geo. Wegenast, assistant actuary, of the Ontario Mutual Life. We observe, amongst others, a paper on

ENTENDED TERM INSURANCE

(on Lapsed Life Policies) was prepared and read by Mr. Wm. Hendry of the Ontario Mutual Life, from which we make the following extracts: Mr. Hendry said: "I am led to believe that there exists a very great difference of opinion among our members, in respect to the safety or advisability of granting extended term insurance for the full face of lapsed policies, in lieu of eash or paid up surrender values, and especially during the early years of policies, before actual surrender values have been accumulated.** Some companies are unfavorable to the plan, while, again, several other companies have adopted and voluntarily offer it on very liberal lines to their members, and at least one company re ports favorably as to the result after a wide experience of fifteen years.*** We have here opposite conclusions.

The level annual premiums of our companies are calculated on a mathematical basis sufficient to carry the risk from the age of the applicant at entry to the age of 96 or even 100. It is evident, therefore, that owing to the increasing risk with the age of the assured, and especially when advanced age has been reached, the level or equal annual premium must be much higher than would be required to cover the risk, during the early years of a policy, so as to supplement that prem-ium when and after it has become insufficient to cover the increased and annually increasing risk; this extra annual over-premium of early years is represented by and constitutes the reserves of our Life Assurance companies, and is held in detail as a fixed reserve to the credit of each policy, according to its age, amount and plan. If, after several annual premiums have been paid, a member fails, for any cause, to pay his renewal premium, and his policy lapses in consequence, it is clear that its re: rve cannot be used for the purpose it was contributed by the member, and held by the company; therefore its equitable disposal becomes the subject of our consideration.

"It has been practically ascertained that a company cannot safely pay out in cash the full amount of such reserve, but a fairly legitimate surrender charge must be held by the company, the balance may then be paid in cash as the surrender value, or such an amount of paid up insurance granted, as the cash surrender value would purchase, at the 'single premium' rates of the Company. The procedure thus far would probably not be objected to by many of our life companies. This brings us to the subject we set out to investigate, viz., the granting of extended insurance for the full face of the policy during such term as the reserve, at the time of lapse, will carry it as a single premium, instead of the surrender values just mentioned. "I think the question of granting such insurance

" I think the question of granting such insurance admits of either an affirmative or negative reply according to varied conditions.

"Suppose a policy applied for on the 'life' plan," * the applicant proving ineligible on that plan but acceptable at a higher rate and during a shorter term, and a 20 year endowment granted. If the extended insurance be applied to this policy, the member may, on payment of five or six premiums, refuse to pay any more, compel the company to carry the insurance through the full remainder of the term, and thereby defeat the only conditions on which the policy in this case would have been issued; it therefore appears clear that extension should not be granted to such a policy. So also, in the case of an applicant for an endowment policy, who may be fairly acceptable on the plan applied for, but not for a longer term or at a lower rate. Again, insurance limited to endowments, owing to occupations, requiring extra risk to be paid, are a large class, to which no extension can be fairly granted.

"On the other side of the case it appears to me that, restricting the number of full premiums to be paid to not less than three, loading the term rates sufficiently to cover incidental risks almost inseparable from this form of insurance, and the applicant good for a 'life' policy at time of acceptance, the extension, in my opinion, may fairly be granted: but if these or similar conditions and restrictions be admitted, as the necessary elements of safety, it is clear that the extension clause cannot be attached indiscriminately to all policies, but must be limited to applicants who are in every way acceptable on the 'life' plan, but not restricted to 'life' policies.'

"Extended insurance under proper guards, in my opinion, is as safe and proper as any other form, and in many cases to be preferred to cash surrender values, or even paid up insurance; but legislation, which compels companies to grant it to all members and under all

forms of policies indiscriminately, places the companies under abnormal obligations, or compels them to accept only such risks as would be entitled to 'life' policies, either of which course would work great injustice to the public and to the companies."***

During the session the President, Mr. H. W. St. John, introduced

MR. GERALD H. RVAN, F.I.A.,

and editor of the Journal of the Institute of Actuaries. England. It is recorded that Mr. Ryan was warmly welcomed and applauded. In the course of a short address to the Society, he said, speaking of his own Institute : " If we consider what the Institute of Actuaries has been able to achieve in the past two generations, I think everyone must admit, that if your new society can do as much in the next fifty years, it will have justified its foundation in every respect.*** It is natural that there should be many points at which we feel that we touch common ground, and I should like to mention one impression which my recent visit in Canada made upon my mind. In going through Canada, I was delighted to find that the recent system of examinations which the Institute of Actuaries has established in Canada has called forth some sort of enthusiasm, if we can apply the word enthusiasm at all to life insurance subjects which I think some people doubt. There were evidences throughout insurance circles that people were looking to this extension of our examination system with a great deal of interest as affording the rising generation an encouragement to acquire knowledge and opportunities for advancement, which hitherto they had not possessed. And, I think, sir, that is a movement that is fraught with the high-est promise for the cause of life insurance business. One other point which struck me in Canada was this, that in the insurance department in Ottawa there are no fewer than three of the members of the Institute of Actuaries on the staff. There is Mr. Fitzgerald's

assistant, who is a fellow of the Institute by examination; a second assistant has passed two examinations, and another gentleman has passed one. Now, nothing could be more satisfactory, I think, in the interest of the Institute of Actuaries, or, in fact. in the interests of actuarial societies in general, than to find a government department recognizing its position and encouraging its clerks to become members of its body. Unfortunately, if you, gentlemen, were to come over to the Old Country, and go to our Board of Trade, which year by year prepares, in condensed form, the accounts of British life insurance companies, and has charge of the administration of the Life Assurance Companies Act, I think you might search high and low, from the president of the Board to the janitor, but you would not find a member of the Institute of Actuaries on the regular staff, though I ought to add they have as consulting adviser an actuary of great eminence. (Laughter) Well, sir, I think, that is one point where Ottawa scores and London does not." (Applause). Mr. Ryan in concluding spoke in kindly terms of the various publications of the A. S. of A. and the great interest taken in the Old Country in many of the subjects treated of in them.

Limited space prevents us at this time making further reference to the other valuable papers, and reviews of papers, all useful and instructive to the life insurance student, as contained in the "Transactions" from which we have quoted.

The business of insurance is not commerce. The contract of insurance is not an instrumentality of commerce. The making of such a contract is a mere incident of commercial intercourse, and in this respect there is no difference whatever between insurance against fire and insurance against "the perils of the sea"—Mr. Justice Field in U. S. Supreme Court.

STATISTICAL	ABSTRACT C	OF	THE	CHARTERED	BANKS IN	CANADA.
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Comparison of Principal Items.

Assels.	31st Jan., 1895.	31st Dec., 1894.	31st Jan., 1894.	Increase Decrease mon	for D	ncrease and ecrease for year.
					1	-
	\$24,045,461	\$23,227,581	21,318,653		S17,5So Inc	
Notes of and Cheques on other Banks	6,935,631	5,614.221			678,590 Inc	
Due from American Banks and Agencies	23,949,166	25,299,980	17,570,405	Dec. I,	350,820 Inc	. 6,378,758
Due from British Banks and Branches	3,452,532	3,097,628	3,356,703	Juc. 3	51,904 Inc	. 95,829
Canadian Municipal Securities and Brit., Prov. or }					<u> </u>	_
Foreign or Colonial, other than Dominion	9,629,580	9,919,071	10,457,093		289,491 Dec	
Railway Securities	S,605,427	\$,433,572	6,882,477	Inc.	174,855[Inc	
Loans on Stocks and Bonds on Call	15.086.905	17, 01,638	14,013,729	linc. :	295,267 Inc.	. 4,073,176
Current Loans to the Public	193,754,865	195,836,141	198,037,104	Dec. 2,0	S1,276 Dec	:. 4,282,239
Overdue Debts	3,406,345	3,425,752	3,167,026	Dec.	19,4011Inc	239,322
Total Assets	310,742,757	313,911,995	299,557,507	'Dec. 3,1	60,23S Inc	. 11,185,250
Liabiiilics.						•
The standard in Oliver Justice	300 010 006			Dec		1651000
Bank notes in Circulation	25,917,276	32,375,620	30,571,375	Dec. Si	458,3441Dec 513,078/Inc	1,654,059
Due to Dominion Government	4.927,247	5,440,325	2,000,077	Dec.	51 3,07 5 1110	2,327,170
Due to Provincial Governments	3,575,681	2,243,823	4,221,439	fine. I.	331,858 De	645,758
Deposits made by the public	150,570,551	1\$2,050,669	169,119,004	.UCC. 1,	209,65S Inc	11,751,977
Do payable on demand or after notice between Bks	3,384.740	2,534.463	2,361,656		\$50,277/Inc	
Due to American Banks and Agencies	153,708	166,115	188,480		12,407 Dec	
Due to British Banks and Branches	3,627,031	3,531,682	4,174,864	linc.	95,349/De	c. 547,833
Total Lizbilitics	225,945,606	228,905,558	213,804,414	Dec. 2,	959,952 Inc	. 12,14 1,192
Capilal.		}	•			
Capital Stock paid up	61,685,329	61,683,719	62, 103,027		1,610 De	c. 417,69S
Reserve Fund.	27,545,341	27,470,020	20,550,282		75,315 Inc	. 965,059
Directors' Liabilities	7,731,021	\$,034,039	S. 245,956	Dec.	500,01S De	c. 511,935

Deposits with Dominion Government for security of note circulation, being 5 p.c. on average maximum circulation for year ending 30th June, 1894, \$1,810,736. The seeming reduction of capital during the year is owing to the Commercial Bank of Manitobs, in liquidation, being struck off the list.

Iteductions in

THE JANUARY BANK STATEMENT.

No one familiar with trade conditions in Canada would go to the January bank returns for evidence of activity. For three months the extensive business done in connection with the shipping interests of this, as well as other ports, have been almost suspended; expenditure for labor on farms has been reduced to its lowest point; railways have had their receipts for passenger and freight traffic cut down to a minimum; and after the Christmas season, retail stores are having a rest. All along the line the end of January is the low water mark of manufacturing and other mercantile industries, whose operations affect the bank returns. Undue prominence has been given to the large decline in the note circulation from December to January last. The figure \$3.458,344 is no doubt large, but is not so unusual as to excite surprise. In one of the months in 1872, when the circulation was 15 per cent. less than at present, there was a drop in one month of \$3,130,000. The following gives the falling off in the note issues in the January months of a number of years.

- \$	\$
18842,247,000	1\$93
1880	1804
18922,928,000	1895

While it is true the decline last January was relatively larger than has occurred before, it must be remembered that three influences have been at work which tend to restrict circulation. In the first place, the decrease in gross value of products calls for a proportionately less volume of note issues to conduct business; then, the very wise conservative policy pursued by the banks when financial matters were unsettled in the States put a restraint on business operations; and, owing to these two causes, there has been a universal movement of economy which has kept in the banks a large amount of notes which otherwise would have been in the hands of the public. The loan companies generally report their interest and instalments to have been paid better than when times were more prosperous. We are disposed to attribute some portion of the large falling off in the January circulation to this, as, to an extent, only those would believe who have had much to do with farmers; there is a storage by this class of notes quite enough when released to meet payments to mortgagors, to affect the circulation return. We have seen mortgages paid off, or reduced, by "wads" of notes which farmers had been steadily adding to for years. Since our banks have so extended their branches, this hoarding has become less customary, but it still prevails to a regrettable degree.

The decrease in current loans in January by \$2,081,-276 cannot either be regarded as having significance as a proof of depression, as equally large declines have occurred in more prosperous years. It is, however, significant of the Circulation being affected by other causes than Discounts, that in some years, in 1874. 1885, 1889 and others, for instance, the former fell offin January, when Current Leans increased.

The disproportion between reductions in circulation and discounts in January is very marked in the records

of that month. In 1872 and 1885 for instance, discounts increased, while note issues declined. In the last four years the comparisons stand as follows:

	Discounts.	Circulation
	\$	\$
1892	2,555,609	2,928,729
1893	1,275,475	3,362,276
1894	2,360,394	3,847.561
1895	2,081,276	3.458,344

The above quotations from the bank returns demonstrate that, the reduction in Current Loans last January was less than the average of previous three years, therefore it cannot be regarded as so unusual as to be discouraging, and the reduction in the circulation also was not abnormal, as it only exceeded the average of past three years by the trifling sum of \$80,000; indeed, if the change in one bank in a distant Province were taken out, the Circulation in January would show above the average for 1892, 1893 and 1894.

We have gone more fully into these aspects of the bank statement, as we regret to notice an effort being made to exaggerate the changes in January as proofs of depression, which can only be increased by such disquieting comments.

The decline in demand deposits simply followed the In prosperous times the order of previous years. credit balances of current accounts are heavily drawn upon in January, so that item has no significance. The deposits payable after notice rose \$1,106,000, which is about a normal increase, and is another evidence of matters not being so bad as some represent. The falling off in Current Loans by \$2,0\$1,276 barely exceeded the average decline for some years past. Ten years ago the banks had Discounts for only \$122,395,000, this January the item stood \$193,754,000, an increase of \$71.359,000, or 58.30 per cent. After so large an increase, fluctuations of one or two millions need excite no surprise, and certainly are no ground for gloomy forebodings or croaking. A more hopeful spirit of confidence is prevailing, the depression cloud is showing signs of clearing off; and we are disposed to think when it has gone Canada will have passed through the time of anxiety more frightened than hurt.

WELLINGTON MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

The General Annual Meeting of the Wellington Mutual Fire Ins. Co. was held on the 12th February, at the Company's offices in Guelph. The annual statement presented to the meeting showed the cash income from all sources for the year, including balance of \$7,800.91from 1893, to have been \$64,084.39. The disbursements, including \$1.490 of losses of 1893, were \$58,431.32, leaving balance to credit of \$5,653 07. The assets at end of 1894 were \$151,539.co, and liabilities, (which include an allowance for reinsurance on cash system) \$14,339.76; including premium notes, balance of assets over liabilities, \$137,199.24. There was an increase in the number of policies in 1894, and an increase in the amount insured of \$359,938.44. Satisfaction was ex-

100

pressed with the progress of the Company. The report recommended that the Government should provide an efficient officer to inquire into all suspicious fires.

MARCH I, 1895

Mr. James Goldie is president, and Mr. Charles Davidson, secretary, of the Wellington.

THE DOMINION LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY

On another page we present a summary of the business of the Dominion Life of Waterloo. We are glad to note that notwithstanding the generally unfavorable season passed through, the Dominion was able to add something to its surplus fund. The shareholders received a dividend of 5 per cent. on the paid up capital, whilst the dividends to policyholders commenced last year were continued. The cash income was \$51,894.29, an increase of 18 per cent. over previous years. Insurance in force, \$1,742 \$45, also an increase of 18 per cent. The total assets are \$169,041; liabilities, \$159,859; net surplus, \$9,182. Only two policies for \$3,000 became claims during the year,-a low rate of mortality for a company in its 6th year. The Dominion divides its policyholders into three classes : Abstainers, General and Women's. We observe that the Abstainers give the largest proportion of loss, the General next, and the Women's the least during the last five years. The Dominion is conducted on conservative methods, and under the management of Mr Thomas Hilliard we look for its prosperity.

MUNICIPAL FIRE INSURANCE.

DRAFT OF BILL TO BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

Whereas it is desirable that power should be given to municipalities to enable them to establish and provide for municipal hureaus of fire insurance to insure the ratepayers of such muncipalities against loss by fire, and to provide for, regulate and govern such bureaus of fire insurance.

Therefore Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Ontario, enacts as follows:

 This Act may be cited as The Municipal Fire Insurance Act.
 The municipal council of every county, city or town desirous of adopting the provisions of this Act may submit a by law to the vote of the electors qualified to vote on money by-laws under the provisions of the Consolidated Municipal Act, 1892, and amending Acts in that be-half, adopting the provisions of this Act, and for the establishment of a bureau of fire insurance for such municipality.

3. The said bureau shall consist of three members to be called fire insurance commissioners, two to be appointed by the council of the municipality, and the third by the local Board of Trade.
4. Of the commissioners appointed as hereinbefore provided, one shall retire annually in rotation, and at the first meeting of the commissioners, or so soon thereafter as possible, it shall be determined by lot which of them shall hold office for one, two or three years respectrvely, and the determination shall be entered as of record as part of

the minutes of said meeting. 5. An appointment shall be made forthwith after the expiration of the term of office of any of the commissioners, and shall be so made that the said bureau shall always consist of three commissioners, two being the appointees of the municipal council, and one the appointee of the local Board of Trade as aforesaid. In case of the death or resignation of a commissioner, a successor shall in like manner be appointed for the balance of such commissioner's unexpired term.

6. Returng commissioners shall be eligible for re-appointment, and shall hold office until their successors are appointed.

7. Commissioners appointed in any municipality shall be a corporation with all the powers mentioned and set forth in sub-section 25 of section 8 of "The Interpretation Act of Ontatio," and their corporate name shall be The Municipal Bureau of Fire Insurance of (as the case

may be). 8. The said commissioners shall, at the commencement of each business year, and forthwith after the appointment of the incoming commissioner shall be made as aforesaid, elect a chairman from amongst themselves.

9. The commissioners may, from time to time, appoint a manager, secretary, treasurer, solicitor, inspectors and such other officers, agents and assistants as to them seem necessary; prescribe their duties; fix them are is comparisation, salary or allowance; take such security from them as is required by this Act for the faithful performance of their duties, and remove them and appoint others in their stead; the commissioners may hold their meetings weekly, or oftener if necessary, for transact-ing the business of the Bureau; and they shall keep a record of their proceedings.

The commissioners may from time to time make and prescribe such by-laws as to them appear needful and proper, respecting the funds and property of the said Bureau, the duty of the officers, servants and assistants thereof, the effectual carrying out of the objects contem-plated by this Act, and all other matters that appertain to the business of the bureau and are not contrary to law; and may from time to time alter and amend the said hy-laws.

11. The commissioners shall superintend and have the management of the funds and projects of the burea, and of all matters relating thereto, and not otherwise provided for.

12. All moneys received by the commissioners shall be forthwith deposited to the credit of the bureau in a chartered bank, and shall only be withdrawn therefrom on the authority of the commissioners and upon a cheque signed by the chairman or one of the commissioners acting as chairman, the treasurer and accountant of the bureau.

13. The commissioners may, in the name of the bureau, invest the noneys and funds of the bureau in any stock debentures or other secu-tities in which trustees may invest trust money.

14. No bureau shall contract with any commissioner or officer thereof for any loan, credit or borrowing of money; and every such attempted loan, credit or borrowing of money is hereby prohibited, and any contract in violation of this section shall be void. 15. Fach commissioner shall give security to the satisfaction of the treasurer of the municipality in a sum of not less than \$10,000 for the foildful discharge of his during and the requery at the latent and

faithful discharge of his duties, and the treasurer of the bureau and any other officers having charge of the moneys of the bureau shall give security to the satisfaction of the commissioners in a sum not less than \$4 000 for the faithful d scharge of their duties. 16. The commissioners may by by-law fix and allow the remuner-

ation to be paid to them, which remuneration for the chairman shall not, however, exceed the sum of \$5,000 per annum, and for the other commissioners the sum of \$3,000. 17. All buildings and erections within the limits of the municipality,

and shown on the assessment roll of the municipality, except as herein otherwise provided, shall be insured in the municipal bureau of fire

insurance to the amount of two-thirds of their assessed value, at such premium or rate as shall be fixed by the commissioners. (2) The commissioners may, by by-law, exclude from the operation of this Act and refuse to insure buildings and erections of a hazardous nature or character.

18. The commissioners may pass by laws regulating the storage of gunpowder, dynamite, oils and other dangerous or inflammable goods r materia s.

19. The commissioners shall pass by-laws --(1) Classifying all buildings shown on the assessment roll as to the probable risk in insuring the same, in which classification the use to shich the building is put, as will as its construction, surroundings and

locality, shall be considered. (2) Fixing the rate of percentage to be charged on the buildings, according to their classification.

(3) Assessing the amount to be paid on all buildings for the insurance thereof, according to the classification made and rate struck by the commissioners.

20. The owners of all new buildings in course of erection, and which have not at peated on the fire insurance roll of the municipality, and of all buildings which have been improved or enlarged since the making of the then fire insurance roll, may apply to the bureau for insurance on such new buildings and for increased insurance on such improvements or enlargements, and the commissioners shall forthwith ascertain the value of such tuildings or of such improvements or enlarge menus, and shall classify such new buildings or improvements according to the hy-laws of the bureau, charging the premum according to such classification for insuring such new buildings or improvements, which preniums shall be for the current term of the then fire insurance roll, and shall be forthwith paid by the insured, who shall be entitled to a receipt therefor.

21 The commissioners may insure on application business stock, merchandice, furniture and other contents of buildings, excepting, however, the atticles and effects mentioned in sub sections 6 and 7 of section 114 of the Ontario Insurance Act, in such sums and at such rates as the commissioners deem advisable. The premium for such insu ance shall be forthwith paid and the insured entitled to a receipt therefor; provided that no insurance effected under this section shall exceed the sum of \$10,000 on any one tisk.

22. The commissioners shall cause to be prepared a fire in urance roll, in which they shall set down :-

(1) The names and surnames in full, with the addresses of the owners of all property insurable hereunder, as shown by the current assessment roll of the municipality, and also the names and addresses

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of all parties to whom, by notice or assignment, losses are to be pa d.

(2) The description and extent or amount of insured property assessed against each, as shown by said assessment roll.

3) The classification and rating made by the commissioners of the property for fire insurance purposes.

(4) The amount of premium charged for insurance of the property

(4) The amount of premium charged for insurance of the property according to such classification and rating.
23. Such fire insurance roll shall be delivered to the clerk of the municipality on or before the 3 tst day of December in each year.
24. The council of the municipality shall levy and collect upon the insured property within the municipality, in the manner provided in the municipal and assessment Acts, the amounts or premiums charged the state of the state. able against said insured properties as shown by the said fire insurance TOIL.

5. The clerk of every municipality, in annually making out the collector's roll, shall place columns therein, so that under the head of fire insurance rate. the amounts charged for fire insurance may be distinguished from the general taxes, school and other rates, and the proceeds of any such fire insurance rate shall be kept distinguished by the collector, and accounted for accordingly. 26. The council of the municipality shall not allow any discounts on

the payment of such insurance rates, but the same shall be collected in full without rebate or deduction.

27. In case of insurance rates remaining unpaid after the day appointed for the payment of the taxes of the municipality, all additional percentages or charges made on the general taxes or other rates of the municipality shall be charged on such insurance rates.

28. All insurance rates shown on said fire insurance roll with any additional percentages or charges thereon leved and collected by the council of the municipality shall be paid by the municipal council to the bureau on the last day of every month, or in such instalments as the commissioners may desire.

29. On the institution of a bureau in any municipality, all owners of property, otherwise insurable under this Act, which may be under insurance in a fire insurance company, may furnish the bureau with a list of their properties showing the amount of insurance effected and the names of the corapanies carrying such insurance, with a request that such property be not then insured in the bureau.

(1) On receiving such list, accompanied with such information, the commissioners shall not insure such properties until the expiration of such existing insurance when the said properties shall forthwith become insurable hereunder; provided, however, that such list shall be given to the bureau within one month after the institution thereof, and that all properties whatever, notwithstanding anything in this section to the contrary, shall, on the expiration of two years after the

institution of the bureau, be insurable therein as in this Act provided. 30. The commissioners shall have power to summon and examine witnesses on oath on all matters connected with the effectual carrying out of the objects of this Act and all other matters appentaining to the business of the bureau and the administration of their duties, and they shall have the same power to enforce the attendance of such witnesses and to compel them to give evidence as is vessed in any court of law in civil cases. A notice to attend before the commissioners shall be sufficient, if signed by the chairman or any of the commissioners. 31. A majority of the commissioners shall constitute a quorum, and the acts of the majority shall be considered acts of the whole.

32. All meetings of the commissioners shall be open to the press and public, unless otherwise decided by them.

33. All by laws of the bureau shall be sufficiently authenticated by being signed by the chairman of the bureau which passes the same; and a copy of such by law written or printed and certified to be a true copy by any one of the commissioners shall be deemed authentic, and be received as prima facie evidence in any court of justice without proof of such signature.

34. In all cases where the commissioners are authorized to make by-laws, they shall have the power in and by such by-laws to attach penalties for the infraction thereof to be recovered and enforced by summary proceedings, before any police magistrate or justice of the peace having jurisdiction in the municipality for which the same are passed, in the manner and to the same extent that by-laws of the city councils may be enforced under the authority of the Consolidated Municipal Act, and the convictions in such proceedings may be in the forms in the said Act set forth.

35. All by-laws of the bureau relating to matters over which such bureau may have jurisdiction shall supersede all by-laws conflicting there with which may be passed by the council of the local municipality.

36. The members of the fire brigade of the nunicipality shall be appointed by and hold their offices at the pleasure of the commis-sioners, and be subject to their lawful regulations, and the commis-sioners shall have the control, ordering and management of the fire halls and fire brigade equipments.

37. The municipal council shall appropriate and pay such remuneration for and to the respective members of the fire brigade, as may be required by the commissioners, and shall provide and 1 ay for all such buildings, signal boxes, clothing, reels, engines, horses, equipments and other necessaries as the commissioners may from time to time deem requisite.

38. The commissioners shall apply in part payment of the costs of the maintenance and equipment of the fire inigade such an amount of

the premiums to be received by them as they may deem advisable. 39 The municipal council shall establish and maintain water hydrants on all streets, squares and public places at such places as the commissioners may by by-law require.

40. The commissioners shall from time to time advise and confer with the municipal council upon all matters relating to the erection of buildings and the establishments of fire limits.

41. The commissioners shall prepare, at the end of each year of the operation of the bureau, a statement of the condition and affairs of the buneau up to such time, exhibiting its assets, liabilities, receipts and expenditures, such statement to be deposited in the office of the clerk of the municipality, and be accompanied by the affidavits of the commissioners that they have each, individually, verified the correctness of the said statement, and that the same is a full and correct exhibit of all the assets and liabilities and of the income and expenditure of the said bureau and of the general condition and affairs of the said bureau for the year then ending. 42. The commissioners shall cause the books, vouchers and papers

auditors of the council, and shall do all in their power to facilitate such inspection, and the said auditors shall, at least once in each month, audit the books of such bureau, and report each audit to the council as soon as completed.

43. The commissioners and their officers shall have like protection in the exercise of their respective offices and the execution of their duties as justices of the peace now have under the laws of this Province, and the inspectors and other officers of the bureau, when in the discharge of their duties, shall be ex-officio possessed of all the powers and authority of constables.

44. Every action against the bureau for the partial or total loss of any insured property shall be brought within six months next after the loss occurs, or otherwise the claim therefor shall be absolutely barred.

Two or more municipalities may by concurrent by laws, which shall be submitted to the vote of the rate-payers, unite their respective municipalities into a district for fire insurance purposes, and any such municipality may withdraw from the district after a by law for such withdrawal has been adopted by the ratepayers of the municipality on application to the Lieutenant-Governor-in Council, and on such terms as shall on such application be imposed.

46. The members of the district municipal bureau of fire insurance shall consist of two commissioners for each several municipality, one to he appointed by the municipal council and one by the Board of Trade of each several municipality included in the district.

47. The commissioners appointed by each municipality shall pre-4.4. The commissioners appointed by each municipality shall pre-pare the yearly fire insurance roll for such municipality as herein be-fore provided, and have the conduct of all the business of the bureau relating to the municipality represented by them. Provided that all such actions and proceedings and business shall be submitted to the supervision of and endorsed by the commissioners for the whole dis-trict. All fire insurance rolls shall be submitted to the supervision of and endorsed by the commissioners for the whole district, who shall

equalize all classifications and ratings according to the respective insurable risk of the insured properties in the several municipalities. 48. All rates for insurance in each municipality shall be collected by the council of such municipality, in the manner hereinbefore provided.

49. The sums received from the various municipalities of the district, whether for insurance rates or for the establishment and main-

tract, whether for insurance rates or for the establishment and main-tenance of the fire 'wigade and appliances, shall be kept separate and distinct, and shall be placed by the Said district commissioners to the credit of the municipality paying the same. 50. All fire losses, so soon as the same shall be adjusted, ascertained and accepted by the district commissioners, shall be paid as follows: Fifty per cent. of such loss to be paid out of the funds of the munici-pality in which the loss he accepted and the balance and of the tract pality in which the loss has occurred, and the balance out of the tunds of the other municipalities in the district, which balance shall be levied on such funds rateably according to the amount of insurance the last mentioned municipalities shall carry in the district bureau; or in such other manner as the district commissioners shall by by-law, to be approved of by the inspector of insurance, adopt. 51. Every district bureau shall have the same powers, be subject to

the same regulations and perform like duties as a local bureau, except as above provided.

52. In municipalities where there may be no Board of Trade, all commissioners shall be appointed by the municipal council. 53. The provisions of Section 114 of the Ontario Insurance Act,

except when inconsistent with this Act, shall apply to all insurance effected under this Act, and he binding on the insured.

54. Where a solicitor or counsel is employed by the bureau, whose remuneration is wholly or partly by salary, annual or otherwise, the bureau shall notwithstanding have the right to recover and collect lawful costs in all actions and proceedings, in the same manner as if the solicitor or counsel was not receiving a salary, when the costs are, by the terms of his employment, paya ble to the solicitor or coursel as part of his remuneration in addition to his salary.

55. In the event of a majority of the ratepayers voting in favor of the establishment of a municipal bureau of fire insurance, the municipal

council of the municipality shall issue debentures to an amount to be fixed by the inspector of insurance for Ontario; and in the case of cities having a population of over one hundred thousand, to the amount of \$1,000,000, and no by law for the issue of such debentures shall require to be submitted to a vote of the ratepayers before the final passing thereof, anything in the Consolidated Municipal Act and amendments thereto or any other Acts notwithstanding. All such debentures shall be transferred to the commissioners, and shall be utilized by them in forming a rest fund for the bureau.

56. The bureau shall be chargeable with and shall pay all interest on the said debentures.

FINANCIAL ITEMS.

An Indian loan on a gold basis can be floated at less than 3 per cent., but if based on the rupee, which is silver, one per cent. more has to be paid. If Dominion securities were not on a gold basis, we should have to pay from 34 to 1 per cent. m re interest on them.

The bonds of the last Quebec loan have been disposed by the Crédit Lyonnais at 85!., leaving a profit of \$467,000. It is likely they will be placed on the London market for a further advance.

. The Halifax banks report profits, dividends, and additions to reserve last year as follows :

Merchants Nova Scotia Union	11,41 10,19	8 6	iteserve \$ \$0,000 100,000 20,000 25,000 15,000
Halifax	8,06	7	25,000
Peoples	7:93	6	15,000

The failures of United States banks since 1st January last have been 23, and about the same number of new ones have been opened. "Familiarity," we know, "breeds contempt," or indifference, but surely familiarity with bank failures at this rate ought to excite an imperative, universal demand for a different system, for the effect on the credit of the country is most mischievous.

The increase in the manufacturing and mechanical industries of Canada since 1871 is stated by Mr. Johnson, Dominion statistician, to show the following comparisons :--

	1S91.	1871.
Capital invested	\$329,906,900	\$77,964,000
Yearly wages	03.612.000	40,851,000
Value of raw materials	242,373,500	124,908,000
Value of products	447,930,000	221,017,700

The number of hands employed he states in 1871 to have been 187,942, and in 1891, 345.355. These figures have been compiled from the Census returns of the two years named. Their accuracy has been disputed, but, after leaving a very wide margin for over-statement, there would be such an increase shown as must be regarded as evidence of steady development.

The increase in bank discounts since 1871 has been in much the same ratio as the above figures,—they have enlarged about 100 per cent.

The question being asked, we state that the legal tender notes in use in the States amount to \$346,681, or6, and Treasury notes \$151,140,586. These notes are not secured except to the extent of the gold reserve, and are simply a promise to pay on the part of the Government, and are redeemable upon demand. The Superintendent of the New York State banking department, in giving these figures, says: "If payment of these notes should be demanded, or one-half be demanded, the government could not pay," and this he regards as damaging to the credit of the U. S. Government.

The demand for gold had a marked effect on the output last year on this continent The value of the entire production is given by a leading authority as about 46 millions of dollars, the largest since 1877. On the other hand, the decline in price of silver has reduced the output of that metal by 9,771,000 below that of 1893, the 1894 production being \$28,720.000, but the decrease is partly owing to lower value.

Halifax has been warned against increasing its debt, by an ex-ma, \dots , who protests vigorously against the increased taxation of late years. He points out that the increase since 1836-7 has been from \$274.104 to \$352.173, making with water expenditure a total outlay of \$422 000 levied on a population of 40,000, this is \$10.50 per head. The funded debt he gives as \$2.800,000, which will be \$3,000,000 at close of 1895, or about 20 per cent. of the assessed valuation of the real estate within the city liable to taxation. The exmayor has done well to cry, Halt !

The Customs receipts continue to decline. The duty collected in January was \$1,416,243, which is \$274,448 less than same month 1893. The exports were \$4,684,416, an increase over January, 1893, of \$26,823. Except as regards the decrease of much needed revenue, we view lower imports with satisfaction, as a sign of prudent buying, the Finance Minister, however, must not feel uneasy to see his income declining. Increased exports do not look like diminished production. On the whole, buying less and selling more is a satisfactory course of business.

Notes and Items.

The Ontario succession duties yielded a revenue of \$150,000 in 1894.

The Honorable John E. Cross, of High Leigh, has joined the directorate at head office of the Manchester Fire Assr. Co.

"Twenty per cent. of the losses of companies, year by year, on mercantile risks are from exposures; onehalf of this would be five per cent. on the premiums."— *Ex.*

Statistics of accidents appear to favor the theory that about one in ten of the active members of any community meet with some accident each year. That is worth noting by the uninsured.

"Any system of rating which does not thoroughly investigate a building, and its various details of construction, occupancy and fire appliances is not a system of rating but a system of guessing."—Ex.

"A reduction of one dollar in the loss account is of more importance than an increase of two dollars in premium. The one is all of it net profit; the other a gross income, which includes a certain expense and a possible loss."— $\mathcal{E}x$.

The foolish American directs all his legislation, relating to fire underwriting in favor of the incendiary, and pays a dollar and upwards for the same amount of indemnity against fire loss that is purchased for ten cents by the Frenchman, who makes it exceedingly difficult for an unworthy person to obtain insurance, and places anyone sustaining a fire loss under severe surveillance until he satisfies the State that by no wrong act on his part the fire occurred.—Rough Notes

"The whole business of Fire Insurance revolves round the rate. The rate governs everything-income, the ratio of losses, the amount of profit or loss, and the various difficulties, quarrels and jealousies incidental to the conduct of the business ; all these depend, primarily and fundamentally upon the rate."-Post Magazine.

The South African gold mines had a total output in 1894 of 2,025,000 ounces. This is rapidly expanding that colony, which in recent years has built 200 miles of railway, 1300 miles of telegraphs, and its imports from Great Britain amount to \$75,000,000 yearly. Canada should try to get a foothold in so promising a market.

The insured is not bound by warranties which are false in an industrial application, where she (or he) cannot read or write, and the whole application was filled by the agent, according to the decision of the Common Pleas Court (New York city) a few weeks ago, in a case against the John Hancock Life Co.--Ins. Monitor.

Mr. F. C. Moore, President of the Continental Fire, said recently :-- " If more expense would reduce losses by paying agents for inspection and supervision services which they now cannot afford to render, it would benefit the public as well as the companies; it is better to pay for labor than for ashes, for men's work than for fire's work."

The very first principle of the acquirement of wealth lies in the ability to save. With this resolution taken, remember that life assurance is the one medium; which will enable you to successfully put this principle in practice. It is a system which cares for the earnings of the young man, and with the utmost fidelity honors his confidence.-Weckly Statement.

A Lady Doctor for Life Assurance.-Examination of ladies, proposing or proposed, for life assurance can now be conducted, if preferred, by a lady examiner attached to the staff of the Imperial Life Insurance Co., London, Eng. This is said to be the very first lady doctor so employed for any British Life company. It is expected the Imperial Life will find the venture a success. The doctor's name is Frances May Dickinson Berry. With the "Imperial" providing an examiner of their own sex for lady applicants, and the "Caledonian" offering them a scheme whereby medical examination is waived altogether, it is evident the assurance of female lives will be more frequent, especially if female solicitors are also employed.

Cheaper Postage wanted-Mr. Hugh Blain, in his recent address to the Toronto Board of Trade, on retiring from the presidency, said, regarding postage in Canada:-"I must again draw your attention to the injustice done our people by the maintenence of the present high rate of postage. It is time that a more enlightened policy should be adopted. The United States can afford to deliver letters to their people for two cents, and I believe we can afford to deliver them to our people for a like charge. As a medium of prac-tical education and as a social bond of union between our people, letter correspondence should be encouraged. I trust the Postmaster General will be able to see his way clear next session, to give us cheaper letter postage. Such a reduction would be a step towards penny postage throughout the Empire." Our insurance friends, we are sure, will quite readily endorse the above, well knowing that postage charges are always a very serious item, among what are called minor expenses in agents' and general accounts.

Manufacturers Life .- We have received from Managing Director John F. Ellis, a neat folder issued by the Manufacturers Life Insurance Company, Toronto, showing the record of the company for the past five years. We are glad to observe that the company has made satisfactory progress. The figures submitted speak for themselves :-

ASSETS.

Cash Bonds and morigages Other assets	228,473 21	1894. \$ 39,210 03 692,751 45 89,359 40
I.I.ABILITIE	\$293,592 53 :s.	\$821,320 88
Reserve, on account of policyholders Other liabilities Net surplus Income Expenditure, total Insurance in force	5,884 76 Nil. 157,354 97 147,158 37	\$ 642,248 68 1,282 48 50,469 72 306,715 63 153,493 37 9,555,300 00

Though 1894 was a year of depression, the money market in England has been singularly steady. The Bank of England standard rate of discount only altered twice last year, whereas in 1893 there were In August the stock of gold was twelve changes. \$39,886,000, and the reserve \$31,306,000, figures high beyond precedent. The rate of the Bank of France, the most conservative of banks, stood the year through unaltered. The Imperial Bank of Germany only changed its rate twice, so also the Netherlands Bank. Consols touched par in June, for the first time since their conversion, from 3 to 234 per cent., but after that they went up to 10312. In consequence of the plethora of money, all kinds of securities went up last year to very high figures.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

The Lancashire Insurance Company, Fire and Life, send us a very handsome framed show card, through their Montreal agents, Messrs. Bamford & Carson, No. 51 St. François Xavier Stieet.

Through the courtesy of Mr. James Cudhie, commissioner of insurance fo: the State of North Dakota, we are in receipt of the third biennial Report of that State for the years 1893-1894.

Insurance Superintendent Bradford K. Durfee, State of Illinois, has our thanks for a summary of the standing of the Fire ct Marine Insurance companies doing business in that State, up to 31st December last, compiled from statements supplied by the companies and not yet revised by the insurance department.

Willard Merrill, Esq., vice-president of the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Co., Milwaukee, has kindly sent us his company's statement for 1894-being the 37th Annual Report. We gather from the statement that this conservatively managed Life company has had a good year.

Keporls, Trade and Commerce of Canada and Inland Revenues, received.

Census of Canada, 1890-91, Volume III., received.

The supplementary number of the Commercial, containing a summary of the commercial progress of Western Canada from Lake Superior to the Pacific Coast, for 1894, with Annual Report of the Winnipeg Board of Trade and the Grain Exchange, has just reached us. It is replete with information and illustrations of principal business points in the district named.

We have received the Thirty-sixth Annual Report of the Superintendent of Insurance of the State of New York-Part 1, relating to Fire & Marine Companies.

INSURANCE & FINANCE CHRONICLE.

BARLOW & CO'S MONTREAL STOCK AND SHARE LIST.

From 16th to 26st February, 1895.

STOCKS.	Highest.	Lowest.	Closing
Canadian Dasifia			
Canadian Pacific do do Land Grant Bonds.	5014	42	43 109!4
Commercial Cable Co	109!4 148	J45	145,4
Duluth S.S. & Atlantic	3	3	-43/4
do do Pref	7	3 6½	Š
Montreal Telegraph	7 158 <u>1/</u> 2	157	1571/2
Dominion do		115	115
Richelieu & Ontario Nav. Co., ex.D.	97	94	9512
Montreal Street Ry	187	186	186,4
Montreal do do New Stock Bell Telephone Co		1831/2	184
do do Bonds	158	155	156
Royal Electric.	147	1.14	144
Montreal Gas Co	19314		1923
Bank of Montreal	220	219	21834
Ontario Bank	. qo	90	
Bank of British North America			
La Banque du Peuple, ex. D	• • • • • • • • • •	110	110
Molsons Bank	175	175	170
La Ranone Jacones Contien	*****	239/2	2391/2
Bank of Toronto La Banque Jacques Cartier Merchants Bank	1 16.4	164	16-1/
do do of Halifay	1 104	•04	16314
do do of Halifax Eastern Townships Bauk Quebec Bank La Banque Nationale	140	140	
Quebec Bank	۰,		
La Banque Nationale			
Union Bang			
Canadian Bank of Commerce	· 137¥	135	1341/2
Imperial		180	150
Dominion	271	270	270
Canadian Bank of Commerce Imperial Dominion Standard La Banque Ville-Marie Hochelaga Bank	1 101 %	101	161
Hochelaga Bank	1743	120	•••••
Commercial Bank of Manitoba			
Hamilton	154	154	153%
Hamilton Intercolonial Coal	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •		
do Preferred Stock	• • • • • • • • •		
do Preferred Stock Northwest Land British America Assurance Co Western Assurance Canada Life	• • • • • • • • •		
Britisu America Assurance Co	113	112	111
Canada Life	· 150	149	14834
Canada Central Bonds	1		
Canada Central Bonds Champlain & St. Lawrence Bonds.			
Confederation Life			
Cauada Paper			
Champlain & St. Lawrence Bonds Confederation Life Canada Paper Montreal Cotton do do Bonds Canadian Col. Cotton Mills Co do do do Bonds National Cordage Co Merchants Manufacturing	. 120	118	
do do Bonds	• • • • • • • •	• ••••	
Canadian Col. Cotton Mills Co	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	43	43.
National Cordage Co	. 98%	98%	98½
Merchants Manufacturing	•••••••		1
Dominion Cotton Mills Co			So
do do Bonds		.	1
New England Paper			
Loan & Mortgage Co		1	
Toronto Electric Light Co Incandescent Light Co	• [•••••••		
Incandescent Light Co	1103	110%	110½
General Elect. Co do do Preferred	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	• • • • • • • • • •	• • • • • • • • • •
do do Preferred Ottawa Electric Street Ry	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	•••••••	• • • • • • • • • •
Diamond Glass Co	1	. l	1
Diamond Glass Co Consolidated Laud & Investment.		1	1
Montreal Harbor Bonds	• · · · · · · · · ·		
Toronto Street Railway Co	. 1 743		72
Western Loan & Trust Co. (Ltd.)	. 96	96	96
	<u> </u>		<u> </u>

Our market for the last two weeks has been very dull and flat, with the exception of one or two spurts by the Bull crowd Cable has been the principal stock dealt in, it was run up to 148, but did not hold, and sold back again to $145\frac{1}{24}$; higher figures are talked of for this stock, but it is a very hard stock to put up, every time it goes up a point or two, there is always a lot of stock for sale, which checks the advance, but if the Company has done as well as reported, the stock is worth present prices. The rest of the miscellaneous list is very quiet but steady. Montreal Street Railway we think will see higher prices. Toronto Railway is dull and weak, but we look for

higher prices for this stock, also cotton stocks are very dulland weak, and practically unsaleable. In banks there is nothing doing the tone is firm and prices a little better; higher prices are talked of, for Bell Telephone stock.

PERSONAL MENTION.

MR. ISAAC VANDERPOOL has been appointed Deputy Insurance Superintendent of New York State, in place of Mr. Michael Shannon, deceased.

MR. JOHN F. ELLIS, managing director of the Manufacturers Insurance Company, Toronto, was in the city recently, and favored us with a pleasant call.

MR. R. H. MATSON, General Manager of the Provident Savings Life for Canada, favored us with a call on the 26th inst. Mr. Matson has just returned from a business trip to the Maritime Provinces.

MR GEO H. MERRITT, of London, Ont., general agent for Western Ontaric of the British Empire Life Assurance Co., has spent several days in Montreal recently, visiting the Head Office. Mr. Merritt is a reliable representative.

MR. W. J. FAIR INSPECTOR for Eastern Ontario for the North American Life Assurance was recently contrary to expectation convicted by a Magistrate at Renfrew for rebating. Feeling that justice had not been done him, Mr. Fair appealed. The case came on in Toronto before three judges in Toronto, with the result that the conviction was quashed, costs to be paid by the prosecutor, who was a rival agent.

THE DOMINION LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

The Sixth Annual Meeting of the Sharcholders of the Dominion Life Assurance Company was held in the Head Office, Waterloo, on Friday, Feb. 15th, 1895. The President, James Innes, M.P., was in the chair, and shareholders representing over 1500 shares of the stock were present.

The report submitted exhibited the following items :---

			Increased
	1893.	1894.	per ct.
Cash income		\$ 51,894.29	'18
Insurance in force	1,477,937.00	1,742,845.00	18
Assets	139,483.32	169,041.52	21
Liabilities	134,817.81	159,859.55	18
Surplus over all liabilities.	4,655.51	9,181.97	94

To lay by toward reserve and surplus the large proportion of \$29,558.20 out of a total cash income of \$51,894.29, or 57 per cent., speaks exceedingly well for the management, and is equalled by no other Canadian company, and probably excelled by none elsewhere. The character of our investments may be indicated by the fact that at the close of the year only \$192 of interest was overdue.

The Company's losses by death in 1894 were only two policies for \$3,000, being a mortality ratio of less than two per thousand, a loss ratio unequalled hitherto by a company in its sixth year.

The amounts of insurance exclusive of Benus Additions held in the three sections are \$810,616 in the Abstainers' Section, 5642,488 in the General, and \$288,301 in the Women's, and the losses from the beginning in 1889 are \$4,500 in Abstainers' section, \$4,000 in the General, and \$2,500 in the Women's. The insurances are \$1,355,105 as Endowment policies, \$218, co as Limited Pay Life, and \$188,000 as Straight Life policies. The average amount on each life issued is \$1,343, and the average premium per \$1,000 at risk is \$28.20.

. :

In moving the adoption of the reports, the President adverted to the financial depression which had made it difficult to secure a large increase of business, and had slightly increased the large ratio, but congratulated the shareholders and policy holders as well upon the healthy state of our finances which was seen in the doubling of the surplus, thus enabling the directors to declare a moderate dividend to the shareholders and to continue the handsome dividends to policy-

holders begun last year. After brief remarks expressing their satisfaction with the reports had been made by Messrs. McMullen and Cargill, M.P.'s, and others, the reports were unanimously adopted, and the election of directors was proceeded with, resulting in the unanimous re-election of the former Board.

Hearty votes of thanks were then tendered the agents, officers of the Company and the President, and responded to in suitable terms, all expressing the honest conviction that the Dominion Life is unsurpassed and unsurpassable, judged by the standard of doing the mo t for the policyholder in proportion to the money he pays in. The meeting then adjourned, and the Board met and re-elected James Innes, M.P., President, and Chr. Kumpf, Esq., Vice-President.

The following constitute the

BOARD OF DIRECTORS,

James Innes., M.P., President, Guclph; Chr. Kumpf, Esq., Vice Presideut, Wate rloo; Thos. Hilliard, Esq., Managing Director; Hon. S. Meruer, Senator, New Hamburg; Walter Wells, Esq., L.D.S., Waterloo; W. T. Parke, Esq, M.D., Listowel; Wm. Snider, Esq., miller, Waterloo; John Shuh, Esq., pres. Woollen Manufacturtng Company, Waterloo; Simon Snyder, Esq., druggist, Waterloo; P. H. Sims, Esq., secretary British America Fire Insurance Company, Toronto; W. Vandusen, Esq., banker, Tara; J. Conrad, Esq., hardware merchant, Waterloo; Henry Cargill, Esq., M.P., Cargill; Thos. Gowdy, Esq., Guelph; J. B. Hughes, Esq., inspector Ætna Fire Insurance Company, Waterloo; Jas. McMullen, Esq., M.P., Mt. Forest; Geo. D. Forbes, Esq., manufacturer, Hespeler.

WESTERN ASSURANCE COMPANY.

ANNUAL MEETING OF ITS SHAREHOLDERS.

The annual meeting of the shareholders of the Western Assurance Company was held at its offices in this city on Thursday, 14th February, Mr. George A. Cox, president, occupied the chair, and Mr. C. C. Foster, having been appointed to act as secretary to the meeting, read the following

FORTY-FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT.

The directors beg to present herewith their annual report, showing income and expenditure of the company for the year 1894, together with profit and loss account and statement of assets and liabilities at the close of the year.

The premium income, owing mainly to general business depression and depreciation in values, shows a falling off compared with that of the preceding year; but this was more than counterbalanced by reduced losses, and the revenue account shows an excess of \$111,453.47 of income over expenditure. Two half yearly dividends at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum have been declared; \$10,000 carried to reserve fund, which now amounts to \$1,100,000; and after providing an ample reinsurance reserve to meet liabilities on outstanding policies, the net surplus of the company has been increased to \$377,247.59.

Your directors feel assured that the shareholders will have learned with deep regret of the recent loss which the company has sustained in the death of its late president, Mr. A. M. Smith, who, as a director for the past twenty-nine years, and as president since 1583, had, by his wise counsel and the active personal interest he had always taken in its affairs, contributed largely to the success of the company.

The vacancies caused by Mr. Smith's death have been filled by the election of the vice-president, Mr. Geo. A. Cox, to the presidency, and of the managing director, Mr. J. J. Kenny, to the position of vice-president; the vacancy on the board being filled by the appointment: of Mr. J: K. Osborne as a director.

SUMMARY OF VINANCIAL STATEMENT.

Revenue Account-

Total income	
Total expenditure (including appropriation for all	
losses reported, to 31st December, 1894)	2,082,419 58
Cash capital	1,000,000 00
Reserve Fund	1,100,000 00
Total assets	2,373,604 02

The President, in moving the adoption of the report, said :-

I am sure that I express the sentiments of every shareholder of the company when I say that the absence from the chair of one who for so many years has presided over our annual gatherings, and maintained such a constant oversight of the affairs of the company, is a source of sincere regret. This feeling is painfully impressed upon us at this, the first shareholders' meeting for thirty years from which our l te president has been absent. You will, I am sure, agree with me that we are fortunate in having secured for our board-room so excellent a postrait as that before you of one who has so well earned a place of honor upon its walls, and whose kindly disposition, business integrity and blameless life have left upon the annals of our business community, and more partice arly upon the minds of those intimately associated with him, a record which must afford us pleasure, as well as profit, to contemplate. Although in failing health for some time past, Mr. Smith continued to take a deep interest in the business of the com pany, and to fulfiel the duties of his office until after the close of the year with which the report just read deals, and I feel, therefore, in presenting it, that I am rendering on his behalf, an account of the final year of his presidency, rather than submitting a report by virtue of the position to which the directors have recently done me the honor to elect me. In performing this duty, my task is a comparatively light one, for the statement of the accounts of the year, which has been in the hands of shareholders for some days, is one which appears to call for no lengthened explanations, and certainly requires no words of apology at my hands. From a shareholder's point of view, and taking into account the depressed condition of general business over the entire continent during the year, it must be regarded, I think, as an eminently satisfactory statement, showing, as it does, that after paying out of the profits of the year our usual dividend of 10 per cent. upon the capital, we have been able to add \$10,000 to.our reserve fund ; and that after providing an ample reserve for running off outstanding risks, we have made a sub-tantial addition to our net surplus. On the whole, therefore, I say that I think we may congratulate ourselves, as well as the officers and agents of the company, upon the result of the year's transactions, bearing evidence, as it does, of that careful selection of risks and judicious supervision which is so essential in times when depreciation in the value of all classes of property is hable to increase the hazard of fire underwriting. Although the report deals only with the business of 1894, I may be permitted to refer briefly to matters relating to the present year, and in this connection I may first allude to the unfortunate experience of our own city during the early part of January, when by two fires, occurring within a week of each other, property to the value of close upon one million and a half dollars, and endracing several of what were regarded as our best mercantile risks, was destroyed, involving a loss of nearly one million dollars to insurance companies. With the large interests which the "Western" has in Toronto, it is needless to say, that we could not hope to escape heavy losses in such disasters ; but I am pleased to be able to inform you that our lines were so well distributed, and on the larger risks reduced by re-insurance, that our net loss by these two fires was \$37,. 200, an amount not sufficient to seriously affect, with our present large income, the average of the year's losses. As a result of these fires, the improved fire protection which has long been urgently needed in Toron o seems likely to be afforded. It will be of interest also to shareholders to know, that a contract has been entered into, under which we have reinsured the Canadian business of the United Fire Insurance Company of Manchester, England, which company has ceased doing business in the Dominion, being, in fact, now in course of liquidation. This will naturally bring some increase in the volume of our Canadian fire business, from which we have in the past derived a fair profit, and from which we feel that we may reasonably look for satisfactory results in the future.

The vice-president seconded the adoption of the report, which was carried unanimously.

The election of directors for the ensuing year was then proceeded with, and resulted in the unanimous re-election of the old board, viz. :---Messrs. Geo. A. Cox, Hon. S. C. Wood, Robt. Beatty, G. R. R. Cockburn, M.P., Geo. McMurrich, H. N. Baird, W. R. Brock, J. K. Osborne and J. J. Kenny.

INSURANCE & FINANCE CHRONICLE

At a meeting of the Board of Directors, held subsequently, Mr. Geo-A. Cox was re elected president, and Mr. J. J. Kenny, vice president, for the ensuing year.

THE BRITISH AMERICA ASSURANCE CO.

SINTY-FIRST ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Shareholders of the British America Assurance Company was held in the Company's office, Toronto, 22nd February.

The President, Mr. George A. Cox, occupied the chair. Among the shareholders present were Messrs. S. F. McKinnon, Robt. Thompson, Robt. Beattie, J. K. Niven, John Hoskin, Q.C., George A. Cox, Augustus Myers, E. G. Fitzgerald, H. M. Pellatt, J. J. Kenny, J. Stewart, John Scott, James M. Hamilton, P. Jackes, ... E. Ames, Dr. Daniel Clark, Dr. J. C. Warbrick, James O'Hara, J. K. Osborne, Robert Bond (Guelph), H. D. Camble, W. H. Banks and H. O'Hara.

Mr. P. H. Sims, who was appointed to act as secretary, read the following :-

ANNUAL REPORT.

The directors have pleasure in submitting to the shareholders their report on the business of the Company for the year ending 31st December, 1894.

From the accompanying statements of account it will be seen that the Company has made satisfactory progress during the year. The total income amounted to \$1,464,654, and the balance of income over expenditure was \$97,650.84. Two halfyearly dividends at the rate of 7 per cent. per annum have been declared, the surplus of reserve fund has been increased to \$517,424, and after making ample provision for a re-insurance reserve to run off all existing risks, the net surplus of the Company has been increased by \$12,264.

Ine directors have to regret to have to record the death of Mr. A. M. Smith, who had been a valued member of the Board for the past two years. The vacancy thus caused has been filled by the election of the Hon. S. C. Wood as a director.

SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

Total cash income \$1,464,654 84 Total expenditure, including appropriation for

losses under adjustment	1,366,964 00
Balauce	\$ 97,690 84
Dividends declared	\$ 52,500 00
Total assets Total liabilities	
Surplus to policy holders	\$1,267,124 99

The President in moving the adoption of the report said :---I desire in the first place, to say on behalf of my fellow-directors, as well as for myself, that it affords us more than ordinary satisfaction to be able to meet the shoreholders with a statement of the business of the Company for the past year, and of its condition at the close of 1894, which I think we can say, without laying ourselves open to the charge of egotism, bears evidence to the realization of the expectations which we entertained when we assumed the responsibility of the direction of the affairs of the Company at the close of the year 1892. At the annual meeting in the February following, when the shareholders ratified the changes which had been made in the directorate, we expressed our confidence in the future of the Company-our belief that, notwithstanding the somewhat discouraging experience of some preceding years, the British America Assurance Company might be placed upon a footing, such as its old time standing among the financial institutions of this country and as one of the oldest insurance companies on the continent entitled it to occupy. I am free to confess that had we realized that at that time we were just entering upon a period of almost unprecedented financial stringency and business depression, bringing with it, as such conditions invariably do to fire insurance companies, an abnormal ratio of losses, we might have hesitated in assuming' this responsibility. Our task, however, has been rendered less difficult than we might have anticipated under these adverse circumstances: first, by the promptness with which shareholders accepted the \$250,000 new stock which at the outset we decided it would be well to strengthen the financial position of the Company by issuing, and secondly, by the hearty manner in which our representatives, both in Canada and the United States, have seconded our efforts to place the business upon a satisfactory basis. To the support and co-operation we have thus received, and to the great advantage of having in our vice president, who has fulfilled the duties of managing director, an able and experienced underwriter, I attribute mainly the progress we have made during 1894, and the profit we are able to show as the result of the transactions of a year which, generally speaking, has not been a favorable one in the business and financial world. We have, as the figures of our statement demonstrate, entered upon the present year stronger in every respect than we were a year ago, with a larger business on our books, an increased reserve fund, and after making provision for all losses which occurred up to the 31st of December, and for the increased liability under unexpired policies, a gain in net surplus. I think we may also claim that by prompt settlement of losses and by affording our agents every possible facility for conducting business, we have placed the Company upon a footing which will command for it a full share of the benefits which must accrue to fire insurance interests, in common with others, from a revival in trade and a return to more prosperous conditions throughout the country.

In relation to the business of the present year, it will be of interest to shareholders to know how we were affected by the two serious fires which occurred in this city last month; and I am pleased to be in a position to say, that for disasters of such magnitude, involving together a loss of nearly one and a half million dollars, the net losses sustained by this Company were mcderate, being some \$33.400 by both fires. These fires afforded a forcible illustration of the necessity of care on the part of companies in distributing their risks, even in the most substantially constructed sections of our cities, to avoid the chance of excessive loss in any one conflagration. They can scarcely have failed also to have had the effect of shaking the faith of the advocates of municipal insurance in the scheme, having this object in view which has been discussed in our City Council during the past year. There have been many practical demonstrations on this continent of the necessity of such protection as is afforded by the capital and resources of fire insurance companies, deriving their income in millions annually, from the extended and, in some cases, world-wide fields in which they have agencies established, and who are thus in a position to distribute the burden of fire losses and particularly that of serious conflagrations, so widely as not to materially effect any community or any individual by the contributions in the shape of the premiums which they require to enable them to afford protection against loss by such disasters. That we in Canada are not unduly taxed in this respect may be seen by reference to the Dominion Government insurance reports. These show that while during the past twenty-five years some companies have made a fair profit, others have paid out more than they have received, and that on the entire business the companies reporting to the Insurance Department at Ottawa are realizing so small a margin of profit upon the premiums they are receiving in this country, that they have to rely for their dividends to shareholders, as far as Cauadian business is concerned, largely upon the interest on their investments. I would not take up your time discussing this question, were it not that I observe a bill is about to be introduced in our local legislature to authorize municipalities to undertake the insurance of property within their corporate limits. I may say that,

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in common with many of you, I am much more largely interested as a property-owner than an insurance shareholder; and although I have little doubt as to the fate of the bill referred to, I feel it my duty to avail myself of this opportunity to point out some of the dangers which such an experiment would involve. It would, I feel confident, seriously affect the credit of any municipality which embarked in it, and depreciate the value of its bonds. The holders of debentures of such a city or tour would be placed in the position of shareholders in an insurance company which had assumed a liability for loss by fire in one locality many times in excess of its available assets. In case of a serious conflagration, a city relying upon its own resources for insurance would present a spectacle which might well be compared to that of a man endeavoring to lift himself out of the mire by his boot-straps. Does anyone for a moment suppose that Chicago, Boston, St. John, New Brunswick, or St. John's, Nfld., or, in fact, many of our Ontario towns which have suffered from severe fires, would have been rebuilt under any system of municipal insurance? It would, moreover, fail to afford such security as financial institutions which loan money upon mortgages require, and consequently it would involve the necessity of other insurance being procured by horrowers beyond that charged for by the municipality. But I need not enlarge upon the many objections to which this proposed system of so-called insurance would be open. The single fact that it would place any city undertaking it in daily danger of being rendered hopelessly bankrupt must condemn it in the judgment of all who give the matter serious consideration. I feel, as I have said, interested in this question chiefly as a citizen and as a tax-payer, and my reason for touching upon it here is that, having constantly before us in our business the dangers of conflagration hazard, it seems fitting that a word of warning (even though the possibility of the consummation of this project may be remote) should be given to those who would impose upon us a liability which might involve such disastrous consequences to us, both as individuals and as a community.

The vice-president seconded the adoption of the report, which was carried, and a vote of thanks passed to the president, vice-president, and directors for their services during the past year.

The following gentlemen are elected to serve as Directors for the ensuing year :- Geo. A. Cox, S. F. McKinnon, H. M. Pellatt, J. J. Kenny, Thos. Long, R. Jaffray, Hon. S. C. Wood, John Hoskin, Q.C., I.L.D., A. Myers.

At a meeting held subsequently, Mr. Geo. A. Cox was elected president and Mr. J. J. Kenny vice-president.

THE WELLINGTON MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

THE ANNUAL MEETING.

The general annual meeting of the Wellington Mutual Fire Insurance Company was held in the company's office, Guelph, on the 12th of February, 1895.

Jamas Goldie was appointed chairman, and Charles Davidson acting secretary.

The secretary read the directors' report with financial statement and auditors' report.

DIRECTORS REPORT.

The directors of the Wellington Matual Fue Insurance Company. in submitting their 55th general annual report for year ending the 31st December, 1894, feel a pleasure in being able to state that notwithstanding the excessive number of fires that has taken place notwithstanding the excessive number of three that has taken prace through the country during the past year, of which this company had its share, -97 in all--leading 1) more than in 1893, and nearly 50 per cent, more than 1892-(showing the effect of hard times) with losses amounting to \$330,23.50, which they are very glad to be able to state have all been satisfactorily settled with the exception of 3 small losses between subjected two of which sampaning to \$115 and \$250. not then adjusted (two of which, annuanting to \$115 and \$200, have since been paid), besides paying the sum of \$1,00 of 1893 year's losses.

The number of policies issued during the year was 2,152 being an increase of 448, making now a total of 4,905 in force, covering

.....\$5,283,626 25 property to the amount of..... is still making, while it is giving its members the very lowest rate of insurance, as it has always done in the past.

The manager reports the harmony and efficiency existing among the office staff-which the Board is highly gratified with and the general efficiency of the agents, on whom the board relies to still further advance the interests of the company as they did last year, by adding over a third of a million to the amount insured, which the board highly appreciates.

The finance statement, with the auditors' report, will now be submitted, which gives a clear account of the position of the company, showing as it does the amount of debentures, cash, agents' balance, etc., which are all good, and which, with the balance of premium netes, shows a sum of \$151,539 as security, which they trust will meet with the approval of the members.

Owing to the death of Fred. W. Stone, and the resignation of J. E. McElderry, Charles Davidson is the only director who this year retires and is eligible for re-election.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

for the year ending 31st December, 1894 :-

Income.

To halance from 1893	\$	7,500 91
Premiums on note system		-
Premiums on cash system 19,904 48		
Extra premiums and transfer fees 102 96		
Interest 998 62		
Agents' balances of 1893 1,310 48	;	
Lills receivable of 1893 459 74		
Rent)	
Re-insurance losses	~	

50,283 48

\$ 84,084 39

Disharsements.

By losses of 1894	\$35.023	56	
1.0sses of 1S93			
Re-insurance			
Rebate and abatements	2,284		
Office furniture			
Goad's plans			
Commission and bonus to agents		••	
Law costs	392		
Fuel and light	97	•	
Investigation and adjustment of claims :			
Statutory assessment-license fees			
Travelling and inspectors' expenses			
Rent and taxes	319		
Salaries, directors' and auditors' fees			
Printing, stationery and advertising	953		
Postage, telegrams, telephone and express.	\$\$2		
			4

5,431 32 5,630 07

\$64,084 39

Assets.

Debentures		
Current account, Eank of Commerce	5,426 51	
Cash at head office	2:6 36	
Instalments to collect	650 Š1	
Bills receivable	359 38	
Due by agents	1,104 20	
Office forniture	534 09	
Goad's plans	901 61	
Vault, huings, etc	500 00	
-		5 23,593 16
Premium notes, less payments thereon.		127,945 84

Halance

\$151.539 00

Liabilities.

Amount required to re-insure all current

Losses unadjusted 315 00

\$ 14,339 78

Balance of assets over liabilities ...

\$137,199.24

INSURANCE & FINANCE. CHRONICLE.

AUDITORS' REPORT.

GrELPH, Jan. Sib. 1895.

The auditors have completed their audit of the books, accounts and vouchers of the Wellington Mutual Insurance Company, for the year ending 31st December, 1594, and they have found everything con-nected therewith to be correct and in order, exhibiting the usual neatness and carefulness in the keeping of the books. The balance in the Bank of Commerce at the credit of the company on 3rd December, 1991, was \$5,126.51, and the cash on hand at that date was \$226.56. All of which is respectfully submitted.

(Signed)

THOS. W. SAUNDERS, { Auditors. ALEX. MACKENZIE.

It will be seen, as before stated, that the losses have very much It will be seen, as before stated, that the locks line tery increased during the past year, and the directors cannot but remark (15 they did last year), that a very large number are due to gross careless ness, and they fear even something worse, which ought to be thoroughly enquited into, but which is not the province of the companies to do, but in our opinion it is the province of the Government to appoint properly authorized persons to examine into all suspicious thes, which they believe would be a great saving to the country at large.

they believe would be a great saving to the country at large. The chairman having made a few remarks regarding the losses, etc., moved the adoption of the report, which was seconded by Mr. J. I. Hobson, and that the same be printed and circulated as heretofore. It was moved and seconded, that Messre, Harry Murton and Geo. Preston be scrutineers for the election of three directors. A ballot having bren taken, they reported that Charles Davidson, W. H. Storey and Thomas Gowdy were duity elected. It was moved by Mr. Randall, seconded by Mr. Wissler, that Thos. W Saunders and Alex. McKenzie beauditors for the year.—Catried. It was moved by Mr. Gowdy, seconded by Mr. Murton, that a vote of thanks be given to the directors of the old Beard, manager and staff of officers, as well as the agents, for their efficient services during the year.—Paseed.

and star of onneces, as were as the agency of the complement, lames Goldie, Esq., president, acknowledged the complement. It was moved by Mr. Sleeman, seconded by Mr. Hobson, that a vote of thanks be tendered to the scrutineers for their services, which was duly acknowledged by Mr. Preston.

Wanted-Position by experienced shorthand and typewriter, unemployed at present. Good references can be given. Address

Miss Steele, care of P.O Box 578, or Insurance & Finance Chronicle.

Wanted - the Agency of one or two strong English Fire Assurance Companies for the City of Winnipeg and Manitoba.

Correspondence strictly private. Address W, care of

Insurance & Finance Chronicle.

Wanted-For the Province of Quebec, MANAGER for a well established old line LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY. Liberal terms will be given to a live man who can write a good business. Address "X," care of

Insurance & Finance Chronicle. All communications will be treated as confidential.

Wanted-POSITION IN FIRE OFFICE. or as inspector, by young man who has had a large experience in Fire Insurance. Highest references given. Address "Howard," care of

Insurance & Finance Chronicle.

City of Winnipeg Debentures.

SEALED HENDLES marked "lender for Budge Debentures," addressed to the undersigned, will be received at the office of the City Comptroller, Cay Hall, Winnipeg, up to 12 o'clock noon on FRIDAY, THE 29th MARCH, next, for the purchase of Sq.,corr of City of Winnipeg De bentures, having 30 years to run, and bearing interest at the rate of Four per cent, per annum, payable half-yearly at the Bank of Montreal, Winnipeg. Delivery to be made here ex any accured interest. No tender necessarily accepted. Further information can be obtained from the City Comptroller. City Comptroller.

R. W. JAMESON,

Chairman Finance Committee.

Winnipeg, Manatoba, Sth February, 1845.

THE -WESTERN LOAN & TRUST CO. LIMITED.

94 St. Francois Xavier Street, Montreal, P.Q.

Assers over \$850.000.

President. Vice-President, ••

Manager.

J. S. BOUSQUE'P Cashier La Banque du l'eupte W. BARCLAY STEPHENS

HON. A. W. OGILVIE

The Company acts as agents for tinancial and commercial negotiations The Company acts as agents for the collection of rents, interest and disclorads. The Company acts as agents for the investment of maney in every class of scentifies, either in the name of the investor, or in the name of the Company at the risk of the investor, or guaranteed by the Company, both as to principal and interest. For particulars apply to the Manager.

Steam Boiler & Plate Glass Ins. Co.

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Our Stenin Boiler Policy orcers all loss or damage to the builers; also to property of every land on the premises, or clocabere, for which the assured would beliable in case of an exploring, and includes regular impectiona by an expert engineer during the time that the policy is in force.

Our Pinto Glass Policy oversall loss through lacakage by accident et Plate Glass Windows, Mirrors and Show Cases,

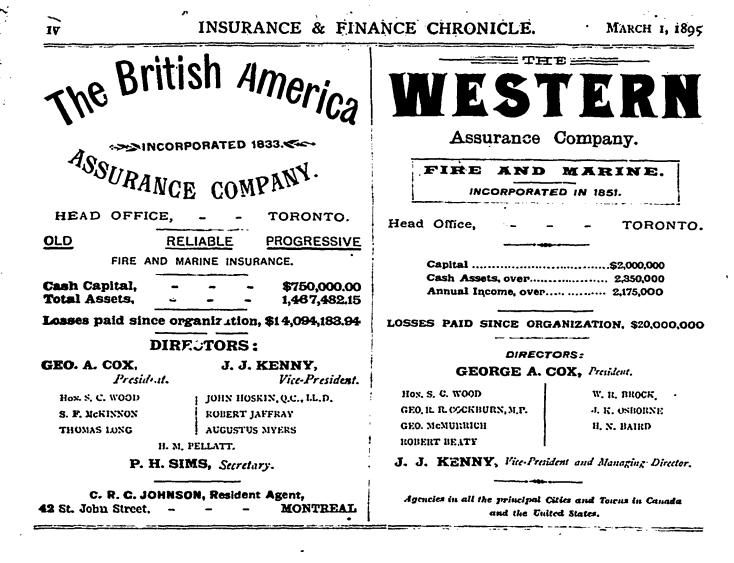


Assistant Sceretary, Actuary, Cashir, Medical Invator JAMES K. PLUM,

WM. T. STANDEN, AKTHUR C. PERKY, JOHN P. MUNN,

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New York Life Insurance Co'y

JOHN A. McCALL,

President.

STATEMENT OF BUSINESS FOR 1894.

	DEC. 31st, 1893.	DEC. 3ist, 1894.	Increase in 1854.
Premium Income,	\$27,488,657.44	\$29,411,386.32	\$1,922,728.88
Interest and Rents,	6,374,989.51	7.071,927.21	696,937.70
Total Income,	\$33,863,646.95	\$36.483,313.53	\$2,619,666.58
Death Claims,	\$8,440,093.46	\$8,228,608.51	*****
Endowments and Annuities	2,490,702.90	2,814,397.36	\$323,694.46
Dividends, Purchased Insurances, &c	4,107,653.91	4,621.997.19	514,343,28
Total to Policy-holders,	\$15,038,450.27	\$15.665,003.06	\$626.552.79
	\$148,700,781.21	\$162,011,770.93	\$13,310,989.72
Sarplus	17,025,630.18	20,249,307.73	3,223,677.55
Insurance in Force	779,136,678.00	813,294,160.00	34,137,482.00
New Premiums (Including Amuntics)	6,962,789.96	7,149,016.42	186,226.46
Policies in Force		277,600	23,724
Interest carned on average Invested Assets.	4.76 per cent.	4.88 per cent.	.12 per cent.

The Company's expense ratio decreased during the year 1.70%, which represents an actual saving to the policy-holders of

DAVID BURKE, GENERAL MANAGER.

Company's Building, - - - MONTRE.

MONTREAL, Canada,