The Chronicle

Banking, Insurance and Finance

ESTABLISHED JANUARY, 1881

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY

Vol. XXXVII. No. 11.

MONTREAL, MARCH 16, 1917.

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OUR LOAN FOR VICTORY.

The third War Loan has made an excellent start. But there is another week to run before the closing of the lists and the good work has to be kept up until the last minute if the loan is to be made not merely a success but the greatest possible success. What is wanted are thousands of small and moderately-sized subscriptions, and these are perhaps more difficult to obtain than the big ones running into six and seven figures. Those responsible for the large subscriptions know a good thing when they see it and act accordingly. But among the rank and file of possible subscribers, there is still an enormous amount of misconception regarding the scope of the loan, its attractiveness as an investment and the personal duty of subscription where the means, however modest, exist. Those who as a result of professional attainments or otherwise, are in a position to explain clearly and simply the purpose, scope, and circumstances of the War Loan, and the imperative personal duty of subscription to it where circumstances permit, can perform no more valuable service to their country at the present time than explanation to their neighbours of the circumstances of the Loan, in such terms that he who is unskilled in finance, may realise his duty and act accordingly.

The actual terms are generous enough in all conscience. A yield of 5.40 per cent., including the bonus of interest in the first half-year, on a security of the Canadian Government, presents an opportunity that is rarely afforded. In the statement which he issued on the publication of the prospectus, Sir Thomas White hinted that the present loan may be the last chance that investors will have for securing such favorable terms. Certain it is that from now on the financial authorities, not only in Canada but in all the Allied countries, will be on the *qui-vive* in regard to the matter of the duration of the war, in order that their financing may be arranged as economically as possible. They will endeavor to reduce the *post*-

bellum burden of taxation by relying upon shortterm or temporary financing, and only in the event of the war being long protracted, will further longterm loans be issued. Otherwise the various Governments will endeavor to postpone their long-dated borrowings until after the war, in the reasonable anticipation that they will not then be compelled to offer as favorable terms to investors as while the war is still going on. The moral is obvious. Moreover, while the fancy calculations of an 8 per cent. yield on the present issue deal with possibilities, not certainties, its considerable appreciation when interest rates become more normal in the period succeeding the termination of the war, is of course practically assured.

What is wanted is not merely the full subscription of the loan, but its full subscription without the direct subscriptions of the banks, in order to avoid duplication of credit and the evils that follow it. While investment in the loan is undoubtedly good business, its strongest appeal is that of patriotism. Here is a chance of which a large proportion of our population are in a position easily to avail themselves to make an important contribution to the cause of liberty and civilisation. Well-filled cheques, Mr. Lloyd George told an English audience a short time ago, are of greater importance even than 12-inch shells. The ability to undertake such an important duty in the war as that of helping to supply necessary funds is a high privilege. We in Canada have lately been thrilled by the tremendous achievement of Great Britain's financial power. A triumphant success of the present issue will in turn thrill Great Britain. It will be an evidence to each of our Allies of Canada's unswerving determination to continue to do her utmost for the cause of decency and righteousness, and to the mud-stained men in Picardy and Flanders-our sons and brothers-it will bring knowledge that those they have left behind in the broad Dominion are prepared to back them to the limit.

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THE CHRONICLE

MONTREAL, MARCH 16, 1917

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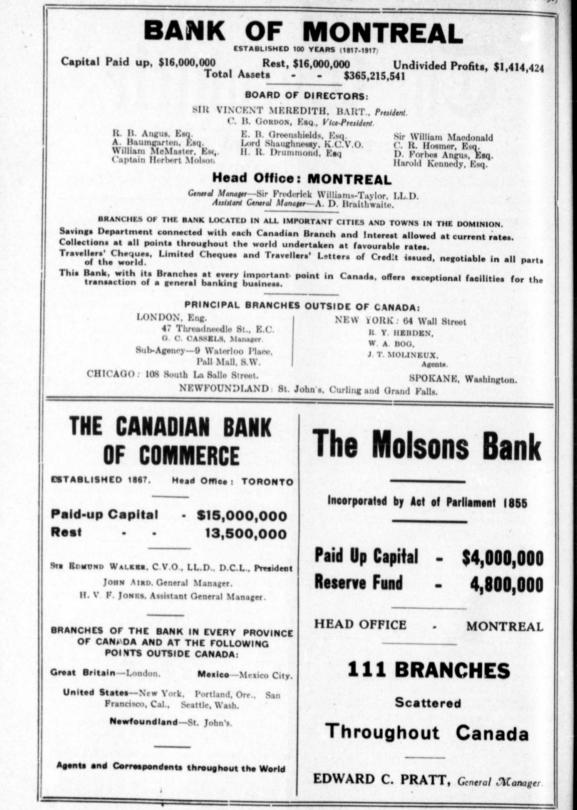
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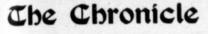
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MONTREAL, MARCH 16, 1917

THE CHRONICLE



Banking, Insurance and Finance

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

Office:

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MONTREAL, FRIDAY, MARCH 16, 1917

PROVINCIAL EXPERIMENTS IN FINANCING.

Legislation has lately been introduced in both Manitoba and Alberta providing for the issue of provincial securities in a form which it is anticipated will induce the people of the provinces to take them up. Manitoba proposes to offer bonds of \$100 or more at 5 per cent. and there is also a suggestion of \$100 deposit certificates payable at sight, bearing 4 per cent. interest. The latter proposal would appear to have dangerous possibilities. In the quite conceivable event of a financial crisis, with a lot of conceivable event of a financial crisis, with a for of these outstanding, <u>b</u> Manitoba Government might easily find itself in an awkward predicament. Alberta also proposes certificates of deposits or securities which will be payable on demand. The securities will bear interest at the rate of 5 per cent., compounded half-yearly, and may be issued in an aggregate amount not greater than the outstanding deferred revenues of the Province as they appear at the end of the preceding fiscal year, the arrears of revenue as they come in from time to time being allocated to a special account to be applied for the retirement of the certificates. It is extremely doubtful whether the proposal to pay as high a rate as 5 per cent. for money due on demand can be justified as sound. Judging by his recent remarks in the Legislature, Premier Norris of Manitoba looks forward to the people of the province controlling their provincial debts at no distant date. This sounds very nice on a political platform, but is in fact extremely doubtful of realization. Western citizens may be contented to loan surplus funds to their provincial govern-ment while the demand for capital in the prairie provinces is comparatively restricted. But with a recrudescence of demand, the provincial treasurers will probably find it difficult enough to replenish their cash-boxes in this way. There are strong probabilities that after the war, a very considerable proportion of the domestic War Loans issued in Canada will find a home abroad, their proceeds being utilised in new commercial and industrial developments. The experience of the Western provinces with these home-financing experiments is likely to be very similar. The prairie provinces have a very long economic way to go yet before they achieve the position of normally owning the greater part of the public debt at home. When enterprising Westerners can obtain 8 or 9 per cent. on farm

mortgages; 15 to 20 per cent. in an ordinary commercial venture; and much larger returns as the result of enterprise and constructiveness, they are not likely to be contert with 5 per cent. upon Provincial Government bonds. It will be a long time, too, before accumulated Western wealth catches up with Western energy and enterprisé.

THE LATE MR. GEORGE P. SCHOLFIELD.

The tragically sudden death from heart failure, while on a business trip in New York, of Mr. George P. Scholfield, general manager of the Standard Bank of Canada, removes from the sphere of Canadian banking, one whose great professional ability was markedly united with those personal characteristics which make for esteem by, and popularity among, colleagues and confreres. Mr. Scholfield's banking career was an unusually brilliant one. At the time of his death he had only reached his 49th birthday, yet for twelve years he had been the chief executive officer of the institution whose service he entered as a lad of sixteen. The great progress which has been made by the Standard Bank under his management is well known, while his weighty counsel was constantly in demand in matters of common interest by fellow-bankers. Mr. Scholfield, who was a native of Chatham, Ont., and prior to his appointment as general manager, occupied for two years the post of manager at Toronto, was also in his younger days an athlete of the first rank, and possibly the greatest lacrosse player ever seen in Canada. His business interests outside the Bank included a directorship of the Manufacturers Life. Church and philanthropic affairs always claimed his attention, while since war broke out his energetic public spirit had led him to take up onerous duties in connection with recruiting organization. His premature death, while still in the prime of life, is greatly to be deplored.

DETAILS OF CANADA'S THIRD WAR LOAN.

The full prospectus of Canada's third war loan appears upon another page. Essential details are as follows:-The issue is of \$150,000,000 5 per cent. 20-year bonds, maturing 1st March, 1937, exempt from all Dominion taxation; issue price, 96, yielding almost 5.40 per cent., principal and interest payable in gold at the Canadian centres and New York; interest payable 1st March and 1st September, with a full half-year's interest next 1st September. Denominations of bonds, \$100 to \$5,000; ten per cent. su'scription money payable on application; 30 per cent. on 16th April and 15th May respectively and 26 per cent on 15th June. Instalments may be paid in full on 16th April and 15th May under discount at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum. Dominion 5 per cent. debenture stock (1919) and War Loan of 1915 will be accepted as the equivalent of cash subscriptions to this loan.

News of the death of Mr. William Chubb, superintendent of insurance for the province of Quebec, has been received with regret by insurance officers resident in the province, by whom the late official was much respected. Prior to his entrance upon his supervising duties at Quebec, Mr. Chubb was for many years chief clerk in the actuarial department of the Sun Life of Canada.



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MONTREAL, MARCH 16, 1917

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WESTERN ASSURANCE COMPANY.

For the second year in succession, the old-established Western Assurance Company, of Toronto, publishes a brilliantly satisfactory financial state-ment. In 1916, as in 1915, the Western enjoyed an experience, both in its fire and marine branches, which can only be considered highly favorable. The feature of last year's operations is the increase, in the profit yielded by the fire department; the not . unsatisfactory result of 1915 being improved upon by about 75 per cent. in 1916. There was again an immense increase in the volume of marine business transacted, and while profits do not show a proportionate gain, they yet achieve a very handsome total. As a result of these satisfactory transactions in both departments, the total credit on the year's operations is the largest in the Company's history, and the Western's resources are again most substantially increased-results upon which all concerned can be heartily congratulated. They are the more notable through having been obtained at a time when, in the words of the President, "nearly all of our brightest young men of military age have left to serve their King and country," the Western being handicapped in this connection to a much greater extent than any purely Canadian insurance company, through the importance of its London office and the extent of its British and other European connections.

AN IMPROVED FIRE EXPERIENCE.

Net premiums in the fire department last year at \$2,338,452 show an expansion of \$275,000 over those of the previous year. This growth is due, it is explained in the annual report, to the taking-over during the year, of the business of three small Canadian fire companies, which business is running off satisfactorily. Net losses for the year are \$1,242,530. While actually \$70,000 larger than in 1915, the increased premium income results in a lower loss ratio than in the preceding year, the 1916 figure of 53.1 per cent., a quite satisfactory ratio, comparing with 56.7 per cent. in 1915. After payment of expenses and taxes, the latter, of course, further increased through the imposition of special war taxes, there remains a balance of \$148,546 to be carried to profit and loss account from this department compared with \$85,366 in 1915. It is noted that the business outside of North America was again more profitable than that written on this continent-a fact not surprising to those who have any acquaintance with fire insurance conditions in Europe.

FURTHER INCREASE IN MARINE BUSINESS.

Following a rise of some \$740,000 in 1915, marine premiums increased during, 1916 a further \$786,000 to $$_{2,5}8_{3,7}2_{5}$. More business was in fact flered the Company than could be handled, owing to the urgent demand in connection with war risks and the rise in values of tonnage. After payment of losses of \$1,824,220 and expenses, this department yielded a profit for the year of \$305,922, an increase of practically \$25,000 upon the 1915 figures.

Total profits for the year amount to \$573,411, which, as already noted, is the largest amount shown by the Company in any one year, and compare with \$462,222 in 1915. From this, the fo'lowing amounts have been written off:—\$2,208 for bad debts and writing down insurance maps; \$13,209 for depreciation in securities and \$30,000 added to

the special reserve (making it \$50,000) to cover income taxes and to meet doubtful debts arising as a result of the war. Assets, which have been written down to market value as at December 31st last, amount to \$5,056,593, an increase of over \$600,000 upon 1915. Unearned premium liability on the Canadian Government standard is \$2,011,086, the surplus to policyholders being \$1,920,877, a growth for the year of \$100,000.

The rapid progress made by the Western during these last two years must be particularly gratifying to Mr. W. B. Meikle, the vice-president and general manager to whose business statesmanship the fact that the Western has been able to take successful advantage of enlarged opportunities is due. The results of the regime of conservatism and economy enforced by Mr. Meikle are being realised, and while naturally progress cannot continue indefinitely at the present rate-the marine business will doubtless show a decline in volume at the conclusion of the war -there is every indication that the Western will continue going steadily forward. Whatever the ups and downs- of its business, the Western has always steadily maintained as its primary duty the prompt and fair settlement of policyholders claims. That since its establishment the Company has paid over \$66,000,000 in claims is some indication of its faithfulness in the pursuit of this duty.

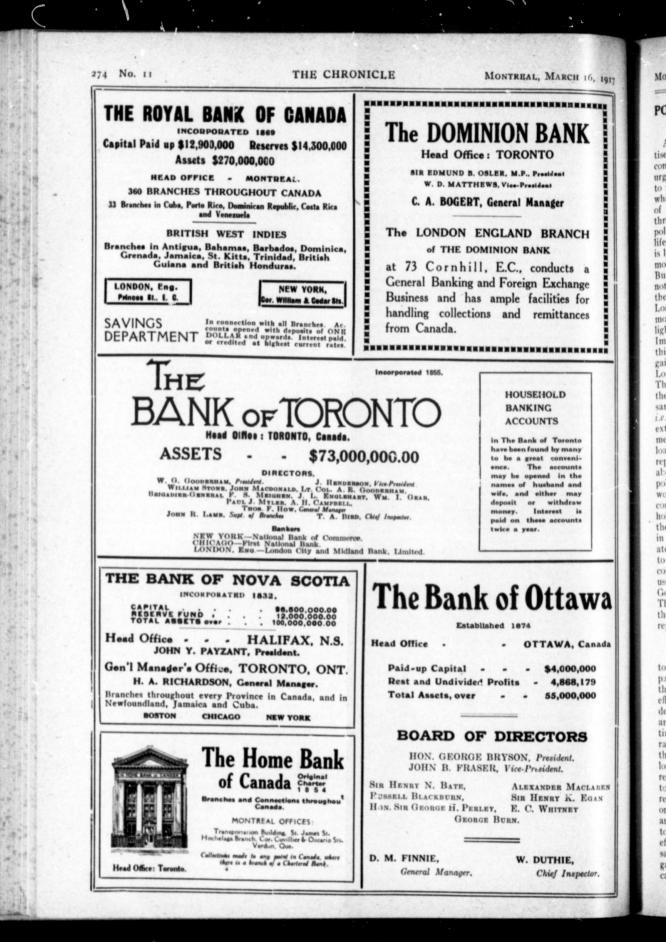
AMERICAN LIFE COMPANIES' BOND HOLDINGS.

Some interesting facts in regard to the bond holdings of the American life companies are disclosed in a report to the Association of Life Insurance Presidents. At the end of 1914, the life companies held 10.86 per cent. of the total railroad bonds issued in the United States, and 3.81 per cent. of the railroad stocks. Compared with ten years previously, the close of 1904, the proportion of railroad bonds is about the same, but stock holdings show a great falling-off, the proportion held at the close of 1904 being 7.21 per cent. While in the ten years holdings of railroad bonds increased half a billion dollars, railroad stock holdings in the same period actually decreased \$12,500,000. 'The companies' holdings of municipal bonds show an enormous increase during the period, having advanced from \$163,000,000 in 1904 to \$534,600,000 in 1914, a growth of 2271/2 per cent. Life companies took more than one-fifth of the total increase in these bonds during the decade. Holdings of public utility bonds during the same period increased \$75,000,000, but did not hold their own in proportion to growth in assets.

BUYING WAR LOANS THROUGH INSURANCE.

On the flotation of the recent British War Loan, several of the life companies got out special schemes whereby it was possible to take up amounts of the War Loan by means of life insurance. A typical scheme in this connection is an offer to advance the full amount required to purchase War Loan Stock if a non-profit life policy for five, ten or fifteen years were effected to cover the repayment of the advance. On the policy maturing at the end of the selected term or at previous death, the proceeds release the stock.

Mr. George Wegenast, managing director of the Mutual Life of Canada, is at present in California.



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HIE, Inspector. MONTREAL MARCH 16, 1917

POLICY LOANS FOR WAR LOAN SUB-SCRIPTIONS.

Among the unconventional and effective advertisements used by the Imperial Government in connection with the recent War Loan was one urging borrowing on life policies in order to subscribe to the Loan. At first sight, it is perhaps not clear what good purpose could be served by an appeal of this description. Surely, it may be said, through borrowing by individual policyholders on policies nothing is gained, since the ability of the life companies themselves to subscribe to the Loan is lessened to the extent to which they have to loan money to their policyholders for the same purpose. But this particular appeal had associated with it a notice concerning the arrangements made by which the British banks would lend to subscribers to the Loan, who desired to anticipate income by six months or a year in their subscription. In the light of this association, it can be seen what the Imperial authorities were driving at in making this appeal, and also that there could be a real gain in the amount subscribed to the War Loan through individual borrowing on policies. The intention of the British Government was that these loans on policies should be regarded in the same light as a banker's loan for the same purpose, i.e., as a debt to be repaid as quickly as possible. The extent of the gain to the State through this arrangement depends upon the celerity with which the loan is repaid. OLviously, if no effort is made to repay the loan, there is no gain to the State; as above indicated, what happens is merely that the policyholder lends the State what the life company would otherwise lend. But if, having outrun the constal le in his War Loan subscription, the policyholder proceeds to make up for it by postponing, say, the purchase of a new suit and cutting other expenses in half, there is a real gain to the State proportionate to the effort made, since wealth is diverted to the use of the State which would, under other conditions, not have been made available for its use. In this way, the appeal of the British Government to borrow on policies is justified. The efficacy of the appeal depends entirely upon the earnestness and zeal with which the loans are repaid.

RIGHT AND WRONG OF POLICY LOANS.

The Canadian life companies are hardly likely to be overwhelmed with applications for loans from patriotic policyholders who desire to subscribe to the present Canadian War Loan, and are willing to effect real economies and practise a little real selfdenial in order to repay the loan as quickly as possible and thus give the Dominion some real help at this time. But the English circumstances illustrate rather aptly the fact that the difference between the right and wrong of a policy loan lies not in the loan itself but in its application and the way it is regarded. To borrow on one's policy to subscribe to a War Loan and then work like a nigger to repay the loan, is admirable patriotism; to borrow on one's policy for a conservative business venture and steadily save to repay is certainly permissible; to borrow for whatever object without making any effort to repay is merely foolish; to borrow for the sake of indulging in some foolish whim or extravagance is downright stupidity, if not worse in many cases where there are dependents.

Incidentally, also, the English circumstances illustrate what kind of subscriptions are the best to make to War Loans in the interests of the economic and financial welfare of the whole Empire. They are the subscriptions which involve a real saving or diversion of real wealth or scrvices—sacrifice if you will. So far as subscriptions are anything less than this, then they do not represent the best possible effort that can be made—however large they may be. But ihat is really another story not concerned with life insurance at all.

A £25,000,000 SUBSCRIPTION.

The Prudential Assurance Company, the great English industrial insurance organisation, increased its previously noted $\pounds 20,000,000$ subscription to the recent British War Loan, to $\pounds 25,000,000$, of which $\pounds 20,000,000$ was new money. This must constitute something like a world's record.

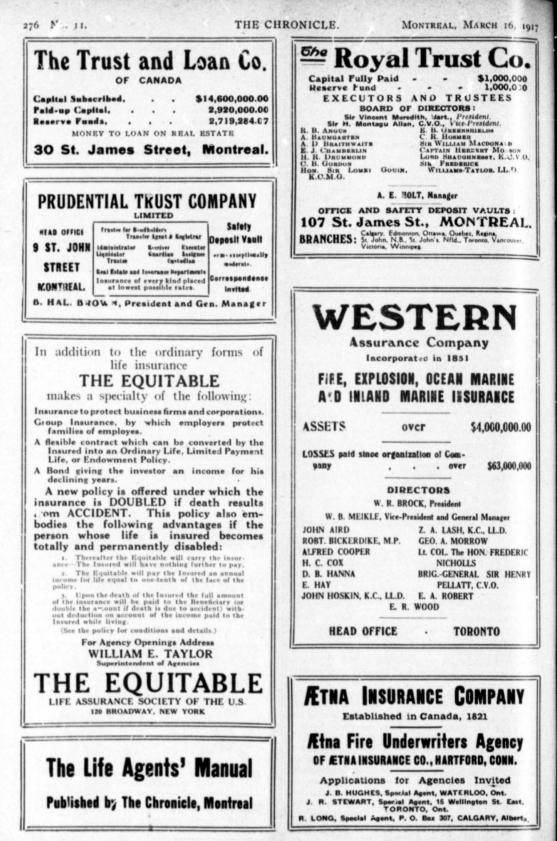
Mr. F. D. Williams, of the London Mutual Fire Insurance Company, has been given a commission in the Royal Flying Corps.

A new concern called the Western Accident & Guarantee Insurance Company of Winnipeg, is asking at Ottawa for an extension of time in which it may obtain a license.

Mr. Denis Murphy, whose death took place at Ottawa last Saturday, was a director of the Bank of Ottawa, and formerly president of the Canadian Railway Accident Insurance Company, now the Globe Indemnity Company of Canada.



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RCH 16, 1917



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O, Ont. ARY, Alberta MONTREAL, MARCH 16, 1917

BRITISH AMERICA ASSURANCE

COMPANY.

The British America Assurance Company belongs

to that select group of Canadian organisations

which while their names are household words

throughout the Dominion, at the same time enjoy

a high prestige outside its boundaries. Established

so far back as 1833 and therefore taking rank as the

oldest Canadian insurance organisation now in exist-

ence, the British America has had its full share of the

ups and downs incident to a fire insurance company's

career. But ever since its establishment, the Company

has consistently maintained a high standard, both

in the practical conduct of its business and in its

relations with policyholders. Its reliability has

been put to the severest possible tests, such tests as many other companies, less sturdy, have failed to survive, and its hold upon the public confidence

THE EXPERIENCE OF 1915.

It is perhaps unfortunate that the most profitable

year in the whole history of the British America, as

was 1915, should have been followed by a compar-atively leau year. The fact, however, testifies to the uncertain character of the fire insurance business

and indicates the impossibility of arriving at any

approximately accurate conclusions regarding it

except by taking into consideration the results

shown over a long period of years.' In the British

America's accounts, fire and hail business are linked

together. The net premiums in these two depart-

ments totalled, for 1916, \$2,074,293, an increase of some \$86,000 upon 1915. With this moderate

enlargement in premium income, there was a loss

experience less favorable than in the previous year, losses absorbing \$1,353,551, an increase of

noted in the report that the most unfavorable fire

experience was in the United States, Canadian

business having given fair results and the operations

in foreign countries, conducted both from the head

office and the London office, again been very profitable. The Company's losses in the hail

business in the North-West, where the season, as is

well known, was the worst on record, are stated as

moderate in comparison with the losses of other

organisations. As a result of this experience, there has been a substantial increase in rates for hail

MARINE BUSINESS.

the preceding year, losses absorbing \$319,521. After payment of expenses, there was a profit on this business for the year of \$43,000.

The credit balance on the year's operations, after allowing for increase in market value of secur-

ities and debiting \$1,969 for accounts written off,

amounts to \$18,582. Assets, which are written

down to market value at December last, total \$2,752,846, an increase of about \$225,000 upon last

Mr. W. B. Meikle is vice-president and general

manager of the British America and he has able

lieutenants in Messrs. John Sime, assistant general

manager, and E. F. Garrow, secretary.

The Company's recently revived marine branch transacted a largely increased business during 1916. Premiums totalled \$431,719 against \$211,704 in

business.

year.

\$300,000 upon the experience of 1915.

was never greater than at the present time.

It is

CANADIAN FIRE RECORD Specially compiled by The Chronicle.

FIRE AT WINNIPEG.

By the fire which occurred on the 11th instant on the Northern Elevator Company's premises at Winnipeg, Man., the following companies are interested:

On Building-Firemen's of Newark, \$5,000; National Union, \$6,000; Aetna, \$2,500; American Central, \$2,500; Palatine, \$2,500; Mercantile F. & M., \$2,500; Imperial Underwriters, \$5,500; British America, \$1,000; Continental of Winnipeg, \$1,000; North Union, \$1,500; Caledonian, \$5,000; Commercial Union, \$1,500; Union of Paris, \$2,500; British Colonial, \$2,500; General of Paris, \$2,500; Stuyvesant, \$1,000; Providence-Washington, \$1,000; German-American, \$1,000; St. Lawrence Underwriters, \$1,500; Guardian, \$2,500; St. Paul, \$2,500; North Empire, \$2,000; American Underwriters, \$1,000; General of Perth, \$1,000; Delaware Underwriters, \$2,500; Liverpool-Manitoba, \$3,500; Connecticut, \$1,500; British Empire Underwriters, \$1,000; Ocean, \$1,000; Liverpool & London & Globe, \$1,000; Equitable F. & M., \$500; State of Pennsylvania,

\$1,500; total, \$70,000. Loss total. On Grain—Firemen's of Newark, \$2,500; Amer-ican Central, \$10,000; Palatine, \$10,000; Imperial Underwriters, \$5,000; British America, \$9,000; Caledonian, \$2,500; General of Paris, \$2,500; American Underwriters, \$2,500; General of Perth, \$2,500; Delaware Underwriters, \$2,500; Liverpool-Manitoba, \$5,000; Connecticut, \$3,500; British Empire Underwriters, \$2,500; Ocean, \$5,000; Equitable Fire & Marine, \$2,500; State of Pennsylvania, \$2,500; Dominion, \$2,500; Phenix of Hartford, \$5,000; British Crown, \$5,000; Minnesota, \$7,500; Industrial of Ohio, \$10,000; total, \$100,000. Loss total

FIRE AT SUDBURY, ONT.

By the fire which occurred on the 6th instant on the premises of Prestons, Limited, dry goods, etc.,

the following companies are interested:-On Stock-L'Union, \$2,000; Guardian, \$1,500; Northern, \$3,000; Caledonian, \$1,500; Law Union & Rock, \$2,000; Atlas, \$2,000; Century, \$2,500; Liverpool, \$2,500; Mercantile, \$2,000; Palatine, \$5,000; General, \$7,000; Niagara, \$2,000; Hudson Bay, \$2,000; Manitoba, \$2,500; Com. Union, \$2,500; North Empire, \$2,500; London Guarantee & Acci-dent, \$2,000; Mt. Royal, \$1,500; Canadian Fire, \$2,000; total, \$48,000. Loss about 80 per cent.

On Building-L'Union, \$5,000; Rochester Ger-man, \$2,000; Caledonian, \$1,000; Atlas, \$1,000; Guardian, \$10,000; Northern, \$2,500; Fidelity, \$2,500; Hartford, \$5,000; Commercial Union, \$2,500; Glens Falls, \$2,500; Pacific Coast, \$2,500; London Underwriters, \$2,000; Yorkshire, \$2,500; total, \$41,000. Loss about 60 per cent.

On Fixtures-Fireman's Fund, \$1,500; Palatine, \$2,000; Home, \$1,500; Fidelity Phænix, \$1,000; total, \$6,000.

MONTREAL .- House of J. Charest, 1289 St. Denis

Street, gutted, March 13. Origin, wardrobe. Mr. Gosselin's tenement, 3 Des Carrieres Street, gutted, March 13. Origin, wardrobe.

J. Chalifoux's shed, stored with furniture, in rear 2935 Dubuque Street, damaged, March 13. Origin, crossing of wires through collapse of shed. (Continued on p. 289).

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THE CHRONICLE.

MONTREAL, MARCH 16, 1917

CANADA PERMANENT MORTGAGE CORPORATION QUARTERLY DIVIDEND

NOTICE is hereby given that a Dividend of TWO and ONE HALF PER CENT, for the current quarter, being at the rate of

TEN PER CENT PER ANNUM

on the paid-up capital Stock of the Corporation, has been declared, and that the same will be payable on and after MONDAY, THE SECOND DAY OF APRIL next, to Shareholders of record at the close of business on the Fifteenth day of March.

By order of the Board,

Toronto, February 28th, 1917.

GEO. H. SMITH, Secretary.

Representing

THE MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW YORK

You will make money.

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

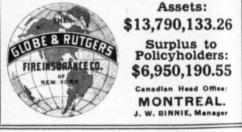
FOR TERMS TO PRODUCING AGENTS, ADDRESS:

George T. Dexter

34 Nassau Street New York, N.Y.

London Assurance CORPORATION OF ENGLAND. INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER A.D. 1720 CAPITAL PAID UP TOTAL CASH ASSETS Elead Office for Canada, MONTREAL W. KENNEDY, W. B. COLLEY, John Managers.

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THE LIFE AGENTS' MANUAL Published by The Chronicle, Montreal



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WESTERN ASSURANCE COMPANY

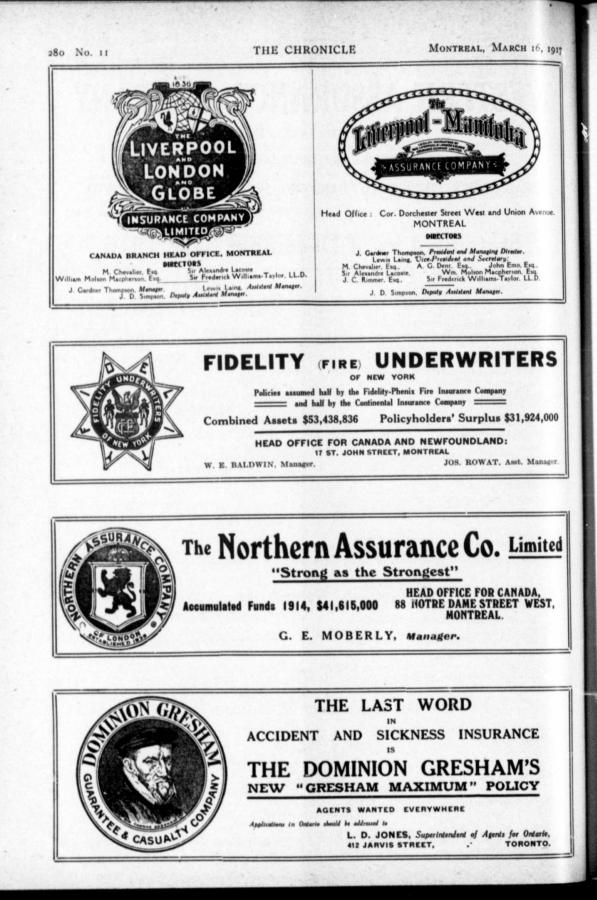
Incorporated A.D. 1851

(Fire, Marine and Explosion Insurance)

HEAD OFFICE, CORNER SCOTT AND WELLINGTON STREETS, TORONTO

Statement as of December 31st, 1916

Marine Premiums for 1916	·····	\$2,338,452.12 2,583,725.57	\$4.922,177.69
Interest and Rents			118,942.78
			\$5,041,120.47
Fire Losses	\$1,242,529.97		
Agents' Commissions	481,508.07		
Taxes			
General Expenses	386,437.77	\$2,189,905.77	
Marine Losses.	\$1,824,219.92	42 ,107,700111	
Agents' Commissions	313,894.40		
Taxes			
General Expenses.		00 077 002 00	
		\$2,277,803.98	\$4,467,709.75
PROFIT FOR	THE YEAR		\$573,410.72
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	BOARD OF DIRECTOR	s	
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for Ontario, TORONTO. MONTREAL, MARCH 16, 1917

The record published on page 283 of the exceptionally large fires which have taken place in the Dominion since 1845 illustrates effectively alike the inevitability of the event, and the uncertainty of the time of the event, as regards the conflagration hazard. For instance, the years 1908-13 inclusive were each marked by one, and in some cases by more than one fire of conflagration pro-But during 1914 and 1915, no single portions. outbreak reached the \$750,000 limit necessary for inclusion in the present list, although 1914, as the result of a long sequence of moderately heavy losses, gave the insurance companies their highest Canadian loss ratio since 1910. Last year, however, there were three outbreaks of conflagration proportions, the Parliament Buildings fire at Ottawa, the Northern Ontario fires in July and August, and the Quaker Oats plant loss at Peterborough, Ont. These three between them involved property losses of at least \$6,300,000. Possibly the inclusion of the damage to standing timber involved in the Northern Ontario conflagration would raise these figures by 30 per cent., but no very definite estimates appear to have been made in this connection by competent authorities. In the Parliament Buildings fire, the insurance companies escaped loss, but the Northern Ontario and Peterborough fires involved insurers in losses, respectively, of \$1,050,000 and approximately \$1,100,000. These losses make a substantial addition to the companies' loss ratio for 1916, which as is generally known, is not a light one.

CONFLAGRATIONS DUE TO NEW HAZARDS.

The present record covers 29 fires, resulting in a property loss of practically \$80,000,000. The progress of building construction and the developments in fire fighting apparatus and methods have by no means resulted in neutralisation of the conflagration hazard. While exact information is lacking, the immense losses involved in some of the earlier fires appear to have been largely due to poor construction over large areas, plus considerably less effective means than are in use at the present day, of fighting fires. But coincidently with improvements in these directions, new hazards have developed as the result of modern processes, particularly in industry and commerce. As a result, the intensity of the conflagration hazard has been by no means diminished in comparison with former years, when structural and manufacturing arrangements were cruder and simpler. The Quaker Oats plant at Peterborough was fully sprinklered, partly fireproof and a sectional risk, yet an explosion, apparently following a small fire, was sufficient to wreck the place and give the insurers a 90 per cent. loss. This winter has been notable for a number of exceedingly heavy losses on sprinklered risks in the United States, three involving an aggregate loss of \$5,000,000 having occured within a month. Clearly, the progress of scientific invention and practise in industry is not only bringing new and serious hazards into the business of fire insurance, but is having a serious effect upon the conflagration hazard.

EFFECT OF CONFLAGRATIONS ON PROFITS.

While furnishing a reminder of the continued activity of the conflagration hazard, in circumstances differing widely from those of earlier periods, the record also constitutes a rebuke to the foolishNo 11. 281

ness of those who are wont to judge the profitearning character of the fire insurance business from a year or two's figures. It should be obvious from this record that the only reliable index to fire insurance earnings in a particular field, such as Canada, is the experience over a long period of years. It may be recalled that in 1904, when the wholesale warehouse district at Toronto was swept away, the companies' incurred Canadian losses in a proportion of 107.76 per cent. proportion to premiums received; in 1900, the year of the Hull-Ottawa disaster, the proportion was 97.00 per cent. Further back, in 1877, the year of the St. John, N.B., fire, the companies paid out in losses a sum equal to 225.58 per cent. of the premiums they received. It requires considerable time to get back from such experiences as these to a basis of a small average The fact that in the 47 years to the end of 1915, the companies holding Dominion licenses paid out in losses 60.8 per cent. of the premiums they received during the same period furnishes convincing evidence of the serious financial effect of the heavy conflagrations which occur from time to time, particularly when added to a constant ratio of small and moderately large losses that in Canada is by no means low.

FEBRUARY FIRES.

The losses of fire in the United States and Canada during the month of February, as compiled from the records of the New York Journal of Commerce, reach the excessive sum of \$29,587,660, or at the rate of over a million dollars a day in fire losses during the month. This is an increase of nearly five million dollars over the figures for February last year, which were \$24,770,770 and over sixteen millions over the figures of February, 1915. The fire losses for the first two months of this year have been abnormal, reaching a total of \$66,019,430, as compared with \$46,194,120 for the same months of last year and \$33,141,850 in 1915. The following table affords a comparison of the losses for February of this year with those of the preceding year and gives the monthly fire loss record for the balance of 1916. 1917.

1916. January	1916. \$21,423,350	\$36,431,770 29,587,660
February	24,770,770	29,081,000
Total, 2 months	\$46,194,120	\$66,019,430
March.	00,000,400	
March	12,681,050	
April	15 072 500	
May	10 947 500	
June	00 010 000	
July	20,010,000	
August	TOUL TOLOGO	
August	12,244,625	*******
September	17,701,375	
October	10 000 450	
November		
December	22,063,325	

reached or exceeded 50,000 in team of 1917 is so bad, remarks the Journal of Commerce, that even if the losses for the balance of the year should prove lighter than usual, 1917 must be an unprofitable year for many of the fire insurance companies and may put some of them out of business. Sprinklered risks have cost the fire underwriters large sums of money of late and in many instance have been written at ridiculously inadequate rates.

COMMERCIAL UNION	PALATINE INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED
of LONDON, England	of LONDON. England
The largest general insurance Company in the world	(As at 31st December 1915)
(As at 51st December 1915) Capital Fully Subscribed \$14,750,000	Capital Fully Paid . \$1,000,0 Fire Premiums 1915, Net . \$2,500,50
Capital Paid Up 1,475,000	Interest, Net
Life Fund, and Special Trust	Total Income \$2,640.72
Funds,	Funds \$4,738,52
Total Annual Income exceeds47,250,000Total Assets exceed142,000,000	Deposit with Dominion Gov'nt \$250,50
Total Assets exceed	
Deposit with Dominion Govern- ment 1,225,467	N.B.—In addition to the above there is the further guarantee of the Commercial Union Assurance Company Limited, whose Assets exceed \$142,000,000
Applications for Agencies Solic	
	NADIAN BRANCH
COMMERCIAL UNION BUILDING.	and the second second Manhard
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COMMENCED DUCINECS 1441	
COMMENCED BUSINESS 1901 RECEIVED DOMINION CHARTER 17th JUNE 1908 Gapital Stock Subscribed Gapital Stock Paid up \$500,000.00 \$174,762.70	ESTABLISHED 1809 Ta'al Funds Exceed Canadian Investments (\$109,798,258.00 \$9,090,000. FIRE AND LIFE
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MONTREAL, MARCH 16, 1917

SOME OF CANADA'S BIG FIRES SINCE 1845.

DISASTERS WHERE PROPERTY LOSSES INVOLVED \$750,000 AND OVER.

(From The Chronicle's Records.)

	DATE.		PLACE.	DESCRIPTION.	Property Loss,
845	May	28	Quebec	Over 100 houses burnt and 20 lives lost	\$ 1,000,000
	June	28	Quebec	1,200 houses burnt and 40 lives lost	1,500,000
	July	8	Montroal	Nearly 1,200 houses burnt and 15,000 people rendered homeless	5,000,000
	October	16	Quebec	2,500 houses, 17 convents and churches in St. Roch and St. Sauveur destroyed and 18,000 people rendered homeless	3,000,000
		30		700 dwellings destroyed in St. Louis Ward and 5,000 persons rendered homeless	800,000
		18	St. John's, Que.	Business section of the city (Richelien and Champlain Streets) de- stroyed. 80 stores, 3 banks, and 500 other buildings destroyed.	2,500,000 1,250,000
		20	St. Hyacinthe, Que. St. John, N.B.	Entire business section of the City, extending over an area of 600	13,500,00
881	June	8	Quebee	acres, destroyed. 800 houses burned and over 1,200 families rendered homeless, St. John's Ward.	2,000,00
895	January	6	Toronto	Globe Newspaper and other large buildings destroyed	750,00
895	January	10	Toronto	Large number of buildings destroyed.	750,00
897	October	17	Windsor, N.S.	Greater portion of the Town destroyed, including a large number of dwellings Business section of the Town entirely destroyed	1,000,00
			New Westminster, B.C.		2,000,00
898	December		Montreal	Greenshields' wholesale warehouse, Victoria Square, entirely de- stroyed; McIntyre's wholesale warehouse and other adjoining buildings badly damaged	800,00
900	April	26	Ottawa—Hull, Que.	buildings badly damaged. Fire broke out in Hull, destroying two-thirds of the Town, jumped across the river to Ottawa, destroying most of the property in the Chaudiere Lumber District. 1,000 houses were burned be- sides mills and factories and many million feet of lumber. Seven	
901	January	23	Montreal	lives were lost and 15,000 people rendered homeless. Board of Trade Building, erected at a cost of \$600,000, and a number	7,500,00
1904	April 19	-20	Toronto	of wholesale stores on St. Paul and St. Peter Streets destroyed. Wholesale Warehouse district destroyed, extending from Wellington Street south to Front Street.	13,500,00
	June August	22 1-3	Three Rivers, Que. Fernie, B.C., and surrounding dis- triet	Conflagration in business and older residential section Forest fire devastated Elk River Valley district for an area extending 30 miles in length by two to ten in width. Town of Fernie practi- cally wined out, and serious damage done to other towns and to	2,000,00
	October July	16 11		Fire started in lumber yard and sparks were carried over the	4,000,00 750,00
1910	October	26	Victoria, B.C.	town by a gale of wind. Insurance loss, \$1,420,000 Fire which originated in store of David Spencer, Ltd., destroyed en- tire block between Government, Fort and Broad Streets and	3,000,0
1911	July 10	-13	Northern Ontario	Trounce Avenue. Insurance loss, \$450,000.	1,000,0
	February	8		mining plants, etc. Number of lives lost. Acadia Sugar Refining Company's plant destroyed. Insurance loss	1,000,0
1912	June	24	Chicoutimi, Que.	\$800,000. Fire originating in hotel destroyed over 200 buildings, including	1,000,0
1019	Inner		Colores Alte	Cathedral, seminary, leading hotels and many residences. Insur- ance, loss, \$500,000. P. Burns & Co's, packing plant destroyed	1,000,0
	January February	12	Calgary, Alta. Ottawa	Parliament buildings partly destroyed and several lives lost. Origin of fire, undetermined. Fire spread rapidly through interior structure being mass of wood work. No insurance	
1916	July-Aug	ist	Northern Ontario	Forest fires, originating from settlers' burnings, swept 800,000 acres, destroying Coehrane and other towns, many mining plants and isolated settlements; 262 lives lost. Insurance loss, \$1,045,585. Property loss, exclusive of standing timber (Ontario fire mar-	
1916	Decembér	1	Peterborough, Ont	shal's figures) Quaker Oats milling plant destroyed, and several lives lost. Prob- able origin, explosion following small fire. Risk was fully sprink- lered, partly fireproof and a sectional risk. Largest sprinklered	2,134,0
				loss in Canada to date. Insurance loss, 90 p.e. of \$1,230,000	1,200,0

CANADIAN SURETY COMPANY.

The Canadian Surety Company, which formerly transacted the business of Guarantee Insurance exclusively, having decided to take up other classes of insurance, has been granted a license by the

Dominion Department of Insurance to transact in Canada the business of Burglary and Plate Glass Insurance, in addition to Guarantee Insurance.

The Company will secure at once the necessary qualifications to write these lines in the several Provinces of the Dominion.

RCH 16, 1917

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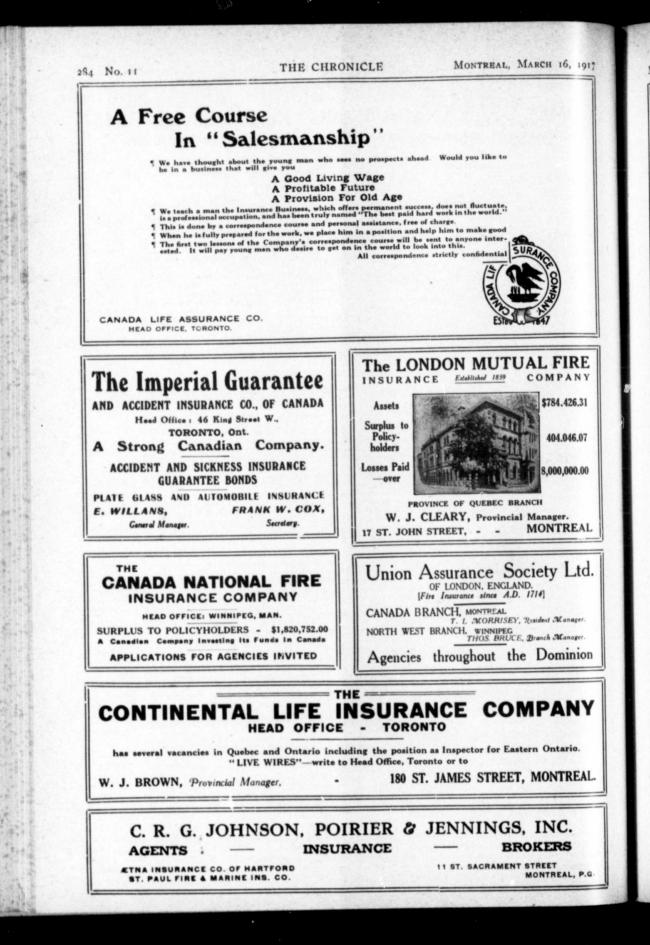
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Funds 800,605 ,038,380 ,575,410 ,185,405 ,186,090

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MONTREAL, MARCH 16, 1917 THE CHRONICLE

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No. 11. 285

British America Assurance Company

Incorporated A.D. 1833

(FIRE, HAIL AND MARINE INSURANCE)

Statement as of 31st December, 1916

Assets	\$2,752,845.77	
Reinsurance Reserve upon Canadian Government Standard \$1,425,177.79 Sundry Liabilities including Outstanding Losses	1,975,324.57	
Surplus to Policyholders	\$ 777,521.20	
Increase in Assets during 1916	\$222,419.70	
Losses paid since organization (A.D. 1833) over	\$40,000,000.00	

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

W. R. BROCK, President

W. B. MEIKLE, Vice-President
 JOHN AIRD
 D. B. HANNA
 GEORGE A. MORROW

 ROBERT BICKERDIKI?, M.P. (Montreal)
 E. HAY
 Lt.-Col. the Hon. FREDERIC NICHOLLS

 ALFRED COOPER (London, Eng.)
 Z. A. LASH, K.C., LL.D.
 Brig.-Gen. Sir HENRY PELLATT, C.V.O.

 E. A. KOSH, K.C., LL.D.
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 JOHN HOSKIN, K.C., LL.D.
 Brig.-Gen. Sir HENRY PELLATT, C.V.O.
 GEORGE A. MORROW E. R. WOOD.

BOARD AT LONDON, ENGLAND

RT. HON. SIR JOHN H. KENNAWAY, BART., C.B., Chairman ALFRED COOPER COL. SIR CHARLES JOHNSTON, Bart. SIR ERNEST CABLE

OFFICERS

W. B. MEIKLE,

H. C. COX

JOHN SIME, General Manager Assistant General Manager

E. F. GARROW,

Secretary

HEAD OFFICE

BRITISH AMERICA ASSURANCE BUILDINGS Corner Front and Scott Streets, Toronto



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MONTREAL, MARCH 16, 1917

INSURANCE SUBSCRIPTIONS TO BRITISH WAR LOAN.

Following is a revised list of subscriptions by British insurance companies operating in the Canadian field, to the recent British war loan. The figures given are those stated by London contemporaries. The total amount subscribed by insurance organizations to this loan does not appear, but the fact that incomplete returns showed a total of $\pounds_{112,000,000}$ indicates the great importance of insurance subscriptions in the success of the loan.

- Alliance, £5,000,000, including conversions.
 - Atlas, £1,000,000.
 - British Dominions General, £1,250,000.
- British Dominions & Eagle, £4,000,000.
- Caledonian, £820,000, £690,000 being new money, making Company's holdings of war stocks, £880,000. Commercial Union, £5,000,000.
- Employers' Liability, £406,000, £122,000 being new.
- General Accident Fire and Life, £250,000, £45,000 new.
- Gresham Life, £850,000; £542,000 being new.
- Guardian, £1,500,000; of which £600,000 is new money.
- Law Union & Rock, £2,000,000.
- Liverpool & London & Globe, £2,000,000, £1,500-000 being new money.
- London Assurance, £1,335,000, £700,000 being new.
- London & Lancashire Fire, £800,000.
- London & Lancashire Life & General, £850,000, £639,000 new.
- North British & Mercantile, £5,000,000, £1,000,-000 being new money.
- Northern, £2,000,000, £1,500,000 being new money.
- Norwich Union Fire, new, £700,000.
 - Ocean Accident & Guarantee, £1,000,000.
 - Phænix, £3,000,000, including conversions.
- Provincial, £40,000.
- Royal, £3,020,000, of which £1,620,000 is new money.
- Scottish Union & National, £3,000,000, £1,000,000 being new money.
- Standard Life, £4,000,000, including £3,250,000 new money.
 - Sun Insurance Office, £1,000,000.
- Sun Life of Canada, £500,000, £287,000 being new money.
 - Union Assurance Society, new, £300,000.
 - Yorkshire, £1,250,000.

In addition to the above-mentioned subscription, the directors of the Royal Insurance Company took up a further £20,000 to cover applications on behalf of the staff, repayable by instalments. Similar facilities were granted to the staff on the occasion of the issue of the $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. loan, when upwards of £17,000 was thus subscribed. The Norwich Union Fire's staff also took up £10,000 (new) under a scheme of advances by the Society, free of interest and repayable by monthly instalments.

Both the London County & Westminster and the London City & Midland banks propose opening branches in several important towns in Spain. It is expected that at the end of the war, if not before, branches of English banks will be established not only in France, Russia and Spain but also in Belgium, Italy and the Balkans.

HINTS ON FIRE INSURANCE INSPECTION.

(II)

In the course of the valuable paper on the in spection of fire insurance risks, recently read at Vancouver, before the Insurance Club of British Columbia, by Mr. Harry Howes, special agent of the Continental, Fidelity-Phenix & Fidelity Underwriters to which reference was made in last week's issue), Mr. Howes discussed the question of spontaneous combustion. In this connection, Mr. Howes pointed out, there are three principal classes of substances. Those rich in oxygen which they are eager to give up. Nitrates are good examples of this class. Then there are substances which have a strong affinity for oxygen which may be absorbed from the atmosphere or from other substances. Prominent in this class are the vegetable and animal oils. Iron filings, wet powdered charcoal, oiled clothing in piles, clover and alfalfa hay put away green, roasted coffee are only a few of well-known substances which have an element of danger from spontaneous combustion. "The danger from oils is not in bulk, but when distributed over finely divided or fibrous substances like sawdust and rags and especially so when covered up so as to confine the heat produced by the chemical reaction.

THE EXPLOSION HAZARD.

We know, continued Mr. Howes, that sawdust and linseed oil will ignite in a few hours. The rapid drying or oxidization of linseed oil is valuable in paints-a process safe enough in the open but a source of danger when confined. The properties of gasoline and kindred articles are too well known to need discussion. We know the danger of explosion of flour dust when properly mixed with air. Some years ago an explosion of dust in an oatmeal factory blew the roof of the building 125 feet. Such an explosion will wreck any sprinkler equipment and the resulting fire produces the most intense heat. We frequently meet up with statements like this, "Why, this substance is not dangerous; I can put a match to it and it won't burn." The danger of a substance cannot be so determined. You might say this of sodium nitrate, that you can put a match to it and it won't burn, but this substance is hygroscopic-the danger lies in its ability to absorb moisture which may cause a chemical reaction and produce enough heat to ignite the bags containing it. It would be interesting to know, remarked Mr. Howes, what substances are stored and how handled in the warehouses along Vancouver's waterfront, where a serious fire would threaten the city with a conflagration, especially as there is no fire boat. Sweepings may be especially dangerous. Oily rags should never be left out over night. Phosphorous should be kept under water. On the other hand, potassium in a bottle of water would decompose the water, giving off enough heat to ignite the hydrogen produced if confined. Bromine will boil at 60 degrees. Flourine, chlorine, bromine and iodine are unstable and unite readily with other With nitrogen, they form explosive substances. compounds.

DANGEROUS PROCESSES.

Japanning and lacquering processes produce a gas which is dangerous. The drying rooms in wood working need to be ventilated because a gas is given (Continued on page 289.)

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THE CHRONICLE.

MONTREAL, MARCH 16, 1917

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WAR LOAN

DOMINION OF CANADA

Issue of \$150,000.000 5% Bonds Maturing 1st March, 1937

Payable at par at Ottawa, Halifax, St. John, Charlottetown, Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg, Regina, Calgary. Victoria, and at the Agency of the Bank of Montreal, New York City.

INTEREST PAYABLE HALF-YEARLY, 1st MARCH, 1st SEPTEMBER.

PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST PAYABLE IN GOLD.

ISSUE PRICE 96.

A FULL HALF-YEAR'S INTEREST WILL BE PAID ON 1st SEPTEMBER, 1917. THE PROCEEDS OF THE LOAN WILL BE USED FOR WAR PURPOSES ONLY.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE offers herewith, on behalf of the Government, the above-named Ponds for Subscription at 96, payable as follows:

- 10 per cent. on application; 30 " 16th April, 1917; 30 " 15th May, 1917; 26 15th June, 1917.

The total allotment of bonds of this issue will be limited the total anoment of bonds of this issue will be imitted to one hundred and fifty million dollars, exclusive of the amount (if any) paid for by the surrender of bonds as the equivalent of cash under the terms of the War Loan prospectus of 22nd November, 1915.

The instalments may be paid in full on the 16th day of The instalments may be paid in full on the 16th day of April, 1917, or on any instalment due date thereafter, under discount at the rate of four per cent. per annum. All payments are to be made to a chartered bank for the credit of the Minister of Finance. Failure to pay any instalment when due will render previous payments liable to forfeiture and the allotment to cancellation.

Subscriptions, accompanied by a deposit of ten per cent. of the amount subscribed, must be forwarded through the medium of a chartered bank. Any branch in Canada of any chartered bank will receive subscriptions and issue provisional receipts

This loan is authorized under Act of the Parliament of Canada, and both principal and interest will be a charge upon the Consolidated Revenue Fund.

Forms of application may be obtained from any branch in Canada of any chartered bank and at the office of any Assistant Receiver General in Canada

Subscriptions must be for even hundreds of dollars

In case of partial allotments the surplus deposit will be applied towards payment of the amount due on the April instalment.

Serip certificates, non-negotiable or payable to bearer in accordance with the choice of the applicant for regis-tered or bearer bonds, will be issued, after allotment, in exchange for the provisional receipts.

When the scrip certificates have been paid in full and syment endorsed thereon by the bank receiving the payment money, they may be exchanged for bonds, when prepared with coupons attached, payable to bearer or registered as to principal, or for fully registered bonds, when prepared, without coupons, in accordance with the application.

Delivery of scrip certificates and of bonds will be made through the chartered banks.

The issue will be exempt from taxes-including any -imposed in pursuance of legislation enacted tax income by the Parliament of Canada.

The bonds with coupons will be issued in denominations of \$100, \$500, \$1,000. Fully registered bonds without coupons will be issued in denominations of \$1,000, \$5,000 or any authorized multiple of \$5,000.

The bonds will be paid at maturity at par at the office of the Minister of Finance and Receiver General at Ottawa, or at the office of the Assistant Receiver General at Halifax, St. John, Charlottetown, Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg, Regina, Calgary or Victoria, or at the Agency of the Bank of Montreal, New York City.

The interest on the fully registered bonds will be paid by cheque, which will be remitted by post. Interest on bonds with coupons will be paid on surrender of coupons. Both cheques and coupons, at the option of the holder, will be payable free of exchange at any branch in Canada of any chartered bank, or at the Agency of the Bank of Montreal, New York City.

Subject to the payment of twenty-five cents for each new bond issued, holders of fully registered bonds without coupons will have the right to convert into bonds of the denomination of \$1,000 with coupons, and holders of bonds with coupons will have the right to convert into fully registered bonds of authorized denominations without coupons at any time on application to the Minister of Finance.

The books of the loan will be kept at the Department of Finance, Ottawa.

Application will be made in due course for the listing of the issue on the Montreal and Toronto Stock Exchanges

Recognized bond and stock brokers having offices and Accognized bond and stock process and carrying on business in Canada will be allowed a commis-sion of three-eighths of one per cent, on allotments made in respect of applications bearing their stamp, provided, however, that no commission will be allowed in respect of the amount of any allotment paid for by the surrender of bonds issued under the War Loan prospectus of 22nd November, 1915, or in respect of the amount of any allotment paid for by the surrender of five per cent. de-benture stock maturing 1st October, 1919. No com-mission will be allowed in respect of applications on forms which have not been printed by the King's Printer.

SUBSCRIPTION LISTS WILL CLOSE ON OR BEFORE THE 23rd OF MARCH, 1917.

DELARTMENT OF FINANCE, OTTAWA, March 12th, 1917.

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MONTREAL, MARCH 16, 1917

CANADIAN FIRE RECORD

(Continued from page 277.)

FIRE AT CORDOVA, ONT. On the 13th inst., a fire took place at the Cordova Mines. Limited, Cordova, Ont. Insurance as follows: Continental, \$10,000; Dominion Fire, \$5,000; Atlas. \$10,000; Alliance, \$5,000; Imperial Underwriters. \$5,000; Sun, \$5,000; Northern, \$10,000; Commercial Union, \$5,000; Home, \$10,000; Royal Exchange, \$5,000; Aetna, \$5,000; Fireman's Fund, \$5,000; Mount Royal, \$5,500; Nationale, \$2,500; Glens Falls, \$2,000; Pacific Coast, \$5,000; total, \$95,000. Loss, \$63,800.

FIRE AT TORONTO.

On the 7th instant a fire destroyed Devins Boathouse. Humber River, Toronto. Insurance as follows:—Royal, \$1,500; Commercial Union, \$4,500; Protector Underwriters, \$1,500; North West, \$1,000; Hudson Bay, \$1,250; Aetna, \$2,500; Queen, \$2,500; Atlas, \$4,000; Norwich Union, \$2,500; Scottish Union, \$2,500; total, \$23,750. Loss total.

TORONTO.—Small fire in third story of Tip Top Tailors' building, 245 Yonge Street opened sprinklers, resulting in heavy water damage to stock throughout building.

ASHCROFT, B.C.—Frame building of P. Burns & Coy.'s meat market, owned by C. H. Gribson, destroyed, February 25. Building not insured; fixtures and equipment insured.

PARRY SOUND, ONT.—Crichton property, immediately west of Market Square and used as boarding house destroyed, March 12. Supposed origin, defective wiring.

MONTREAL.—Sheds in rear of 308, 310 and 310a Nicolet Street, a three-storey house, destroyed, and rear rooms of house damaged, February 24.

KITCHENER, ONT.—Gasoline storehouse of Dominion Tire Company, destroyed, February 22. Origin, spark from machinery.

Roof of Gies Foundry on Water Street destroyed, February 22. Loss about \$500.

MILFORD, N.B.—Buildings owned by John and Daniel Donohue damaged, February 21. Loss \$1,500. Origin, defective flue.

BATHURST, N.B.—Seminary of the Sacred Heart destroyed with contents, March 6. Property cost \$150,000; insurance \$40,000.

WINNIPEG, MAN. Great-West Saddlery Company's stock and building damaged, February 22. Loss placed at \$40,000.

BRANTFORD, ONT.—Reeve Doran's residence destroyed, March 2. Loss \$3,000, insured. Origin, overheated stove pipes.

BROCKVILLE, ONT.—Isolation hospital owned by town authorities, destroyed, February 22. Origin, incendiarism.

SWIFT CURRENT, SASK.—Central telephone exchange destroyed, February 25. Loss about \$12,000. CHARING CROSS, ONT.—Michigan Central R.R. depot destroyed, March 9. Origin, stove.

HALIFAX, N.S.—Basement of Bank of Montreal's down-town branch slightly damaged, March 1.

Oshawa, ONT.-Oshawa Interior Fittings Works destroyed, March 1. Loss about \$75,000.

HOPE, B.C.-Coanchalla Hotel, a frame building, destroyed, March 6. Six lives lost.

HINTS ON FIRE INSURANCE INSPECTION.

(Continued from page 287.)

off in the drying process. In arranging ventilators, it should always be remembered that the vapor from gasoline is heavier than oil. A few years ago, a fire occurred in a sash and door warehouse, causing the loss of seven lives. The fire started outside and spread to the room used for priming. The room containing the priming vat was ventilated—through the roof. Inspection would have prevented a serious fire and loss of life as the inspector would have known that this vapor from the priming vat teing heavier than air should have been ventilated downward.

In conclusion, Mr. Howes emphasized the importance not only of careful inspection but of reports to head office containing all necessary information.

WANTED

Prominent and old-established CASUALTY COMPANY desires active and experienced INSPECTOR. Applications will be treated confidentially. Apply, stating qualifications, to

L. E.,

c/o The Chronicle MONTREAL

THE MONTREAL CITY and DISTRICT SAVINGS BANK

NOTICE is hereby given that a ^{*}Dividend of Two Dollars per share on the Capital Stock of this institution has been declared and will be payable at its Head Office, in this City, on and after Monday, the 2nd of April next, to Shareholders of record at the close of business on the 15th of March next, at 3 o'clock p.m.

By order of the Board,

A. P. LESPERANCE, Manager.

Montreal, 24th February, 1917.

Liberal Dividends Make Low Life Premiums

A Low Expense Ratio: A High Interest Rate: Permanent Business: Safe Investments: Favorable Mortality: These are the features in the experience of a company that make for big dividends. No one factor alone will produce large profits but The Mutual Life of Canada has all the combined profit earning features enumerated above, so that there is no compensating loss. It follows that a prospective policy-holder who knows the Mutual of Canada will choose that Company and a prospective life insurance agent, if he is wise, will seek an engagement with the same Company.

The Mutual Life Assurance Co. of Canada WATERLOO, ONTARIO. Assurances \$109,645,581 : Assets \$29,361,963 : Surplus \$4,595,151



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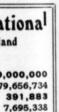
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TORONTO



I. U.S.A. Montreal Toronto Winnipeg MONTREAL, MARCH 16, 1917

BANK OF OTTAWA.

Mr. Gilbert C. Wainwright has been appointed Manager of the Bank of Ottawa at Winnipeg. Mr. Wainwright was born in Halifax, N.S., moved to Ottawa with his parents, and received his education in the latter city.

He entered the service of the Bank of Ottawa in 1889, filling different positions in a number of branches. He was appointed Manager at Mattawa in 1898, Hull 1899, Peterborough 1909, Montreal in 1914, and for the past few months has been attached to the General Manager's Office in Ottawa.

With its large interests in the West, Winnipeg is considered to be the Bank's best branch, and Mr. Wainwright's appointment is looked upon as a well-merited recognition of his long service and ability. Mr. Wainwright succeeds Mr. J. B. Monk, who has been the Bank's representative in Winnipeg for a great many years.

A deceased insurance manager had recently addressed to his late office a letter from a publisher of which the following is an excerpt: "You probably know much about the subject of insurance, treated in our book, else you would not be where you are to-day"! Just what conclusion are we to draw?

From a Toronto paper's column of reports of small fires ----"The firemen made a run to a vacant store at 182 Wallace avenue yesterday, where mischievous boys had started a fire in a grate. There was no damage outside of a few spanks handed out to the culprits.

TRAFFIC	C RETUR	RNS.
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	CANADIAN	PACIFIC	RAILWAY.	
	915 08,090 \$	1916 8,380,000	1917 \$9,941,000	Increase \$1,561,000
Week ending		1916	1917	Increase
Feb. 7, 1,4 14, 1,6 21, 1,6	46,000 34,000 14,000 15,000	$\begin{array}{c} 1,876,000\\ 1,912,000\\ 2,093,000\\ 2,665,000 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 1,890,000\\ 2,180,000\\ 2,225,000\\ 2,537,000 \end{array}$	14,000 268,000 132,000 Dec.128,000
	GRAND	TRPNK F	CAILWAY.	
Year to date Jan. 31, \$3,4	1915 10,813	1916 \$4,257,416	1917 \$4,677,388	Inc ease \$419,972
Week ending	1915	1916	1917	Decrease
$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	86,158 17,255 23,436 98,187	$\begin{array}{r} 937,937\\957,195\\963,484\\1,174,099\end{array}$	928,462 828,671 956,487 1,139,386	9,475 128,524 6,997 34,712
2	CANADIAN	NORTHER	RN RAILWAY	
Year to date	1915	1916	1917	Increase
Jan. 31, \$1,4	39,400	\$2,086,000	\$2,832,600	745,800
Week ending Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28,	1915 857,100 880,500 418,200	$\begin{array}{r} 1916 \\ 429,400 \\ 453,100 \\ 559,000 \\ 647,700 \end{array}$	1917 493,600 602,000 598,700 664,300	Increas 64,200 148,900 39,700 16,600
Tw	IN CITY I	RAPID TRA	NSIT COMPAN	
Year to date Jan. 31.	1915	1916 821,077	1917 887,907	Increase 66,830
Week ending Feb. 7, \$1 14,		1916 200,943 188,332 191,550 220,472	1917 203,096 206,748 202,734 *204,836	Increas 2,15 18,410 11,18 Dec. 15,660

*One day less.

LIEUTENANT W. E. NUTTER AWARDED MILI-TARY CROSS.

THE CHRONICLE

Among the list of decorations for gallantry gazetted in London this week is that of Lieutenant W. E. Nutter, who is awarded the Military Cross. During a raid he first reconnoitred a gap in the enemy's wire to which he laid a direction tape. He and another officer then led the raiding party over, entered the trench and took a prisoner.

Lieutenant Nutter is well known in insurance circles in Canada, having been, previous to the war, inspector for the Insurance Company of North America. He enlisted in the 43rd Cameron Highlanders.

INSURANCE COMPANY OF NORTH AMERICA CELEBRATES 125TH ANNIYERSARY.

Mr. Harold Hampson, of the firm of Robert Hampson & Son, Montreal, has returned from Philadelphia where he attended the dinner held to mark the 125th anniversary of the Insurance Company of North America. This dinner at the Union League Club was attended by 125 guests, Mr. Benjamin Rush, president of the Company, being in the chair.

Insurance Superintendent Phillips of New York expresses the opinion that stock life insurance companies transacting both a participating and a non-participating business should not be allowed to increase their capital without the sanction of the insurance commissioner of their own State.

Montreal Tramways Company SUBURBAN TIME TABLE, 1916-1917

Lachine 1 From Post Office-10 min. service 5.40 a.m. to 8.00 a.m. 10 min. service 4 p.m. to 7.10 p.m. 20 10 min. service 5.40 a.m. to 8.00 a.m. 20 7.10 p.m. to 12.00 mid.

Sault au Recollet and St. Vincent de Paul:

From St. Denis to St. Vincent de Paul-
 From St. Island to St. Vincent of Fault

 15 min.service 5.15 a.m. to 8.00 a.m. 30 min.service 8.00 p.m. to 11.30 p.m.

 20 " St.00 " 4.00 p.m. Car to Henderson only 12.00 mid.

 15 " 4.00 " 7.00 p.m. Car to St. Vincent at 12.40 a.m.

 20 " 7.00 " 8.00 p.m.

Cartierville

From Snowdon Junction	on-20 40	min.	service	5.20 8.40	a.m. p.m.	to 8.40 p.m. to 12.00 mid	
From Cartierville-	20		**			to 9.00 p.m	
	40	**	**	9.00	p.m.	to 12 20 a.m	6
Mountain :							
From Park Avecue at 20 min. servic	nd Mou	1nt F	a.m. to	ve 12.20	a.m.		
stintente America							

From Victoria Avenue-20 min. service from 5.50 a.m. to 12.30 a.m. From Victoria Avenue to Snowdon.-10 minutes service 5.50 a.m. to 8.30 p.m.

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

 Tetraultville:

 From Lasalle and Notre Dame—

 15 min. service 5.00 a.m. to 9.60 a.m. 15 min. service 3.30 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.

 30 min. service 9.00 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. 30 min. service 7.00 p.m. to 12 mid.

Pointe aux Trembles via Notr- Dame: From Notre Dame and 1st Ave. Malsonneuve. 15 min service from 5.15 a.m. to 8.50 p.m. 20 " " S.50 p.m. to 12.30 a.m. Extra last car for Blvd. Bernard at 1.30 a.m.

