The Chronicle

Banking, Insurance & Finance.

ESTABLISHED JANUARY, 1881

R. WILSON-SMITH, Proprietor

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MONTREAL, NOVEMBER 19, 1909.

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PROPOSITIONS. and the Mississipi Bubble, has

GET-RICH-QUICK NEVER since the days of the

the dear public lacked for getrich-quick offerings. The "new scheme to hook suckers," as a New York mining journal characterizes the recent Ely Central Copper campaign, is almost as old as the Nevada hills from which the company managed to scrape its shipment of ore.

"Always jump out of a mounted mine, unless you're at the bottom of it" is an old-time London dictum that most everyone remembers-after the bottom has fallen out. It is not apt to be heard, however, amid the din of the boomster's newspaper shoutings, and the "spieling" of his follow-up circulars. What could be more disinterested than the form letters that Eli Anybody was getting two or three weeks ago regarding Ely Central? Crop money well in hand, what more natural than to entrust some of it to the philanthropists who showed such concern in his fortunes? Wonderful people, these mail order promoters! As some one has said of this busy tribe, whose one aim in life is to make money for other people, it's amazing what lots of money they spend in postage stamps and printer's ink.

That Canada just now presents a tempting field to the alert promoter, is evident from the variety of stock offerings calculated to appeal to the "small investor." Some may be good, and others rather worse than indifferent.

A PORT FOR I is a thoroughly practical—and practicable—plan upon which the Montreal Harbour Commissioners A NATION. propose to expend \$1,500,000 a year for twelve years. Its benefits to Canada as a whole, rather than to Montreal, are the grounds upon which government backing is being asked.

As outlined by the president of the board, Major G. W. Stephens, the scheme approved by a committee of eight distinguished engineers includes the doubling of the port's present capacity; the lessening of St. Mary's current so that water porterage will take the place of land cartage; the creating of manufacturing and warehouse sites with unexcelled railway and water access; the securing of low-priced power

for the movement of harbour equipment and grain elevators; and a substantial reduction of handling charges on all freight.

"When completed," said Major Stephens, the other day before the Canadian Club, "Canada will possess a national port, created at a less capital cost than any of her rivals, and having advantages not to be found in any other port in North America."

MERGERS - MERGER after merger "of mergers or sin-AND MERGERS, ister" came with the expanding industrial prosperity of the Unit-

ed States a decade ago. Before long it looked as though but little would remain for further consolidation. But now it appears as though the work had been but half done; and mergers of mergers, with billion-dollar capitalization, are being planned in the year of recovery, 1909. Last week, it was a Copper Trust that aroused interest, this week a Telegraph and Telephone Merger of unexampled pro-

Consolidation does not in itself afford any guarantee of success. Mergers, like smaller corporations, are amenable to economic laws, and dependent upon efficiency of management. Some, like the International Harvester Company, were brought about by conservative promotions. In that case, the value of the economics of combination were apparent, and the majority of shareholders were content to retain their interest; the capitalization was moderate, and the underwriters' commissions were in marked contrast to the "rake-offs" obtained from certain other flota-Other mergers, like United States Steel, started with "too large a dram in the stomach" of speculative capitalization. This they have since been able to work off-but there were some gloomy enough "mornings after," following the set-back of 1903. Others again, like the Tammany-sired Asphalt Trust, were "born to bleat prostrate like sheep on their backs in a ditch."

It behooves Canada to guard against the excesses that marked the United States trust movement of ten years ago. Along with mergers that are in accord with the logic of the situation, others are apt to be projected that have no industrial "raison d'etre."

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Prominent Topics.

Steel-Coal Developments. Rumours there are in abundance relating to details of the expected Steel-Coal Merger. This much and little else is definitely known,-that

Mr. James Ross has sold 50,000 shares Dominion Coal at \$95 a share to a syndicate headed by Mr. E. R. Wood and Sir Henry Pellatt, conditional upon other shareholders being given a similar price. This transfers the control of the company to interests recognized as friendly to the Dominion Iron & Steel Company.

The syndicate is said to have assurance from the holders of 45,000 shares that they will throw in their lot with the new regime. A further lot of 25,000 is said to have been arranged for, and holders of the remaining 30,000 shares will be offered the price received by Mr. Ross.

It is generally thought that settlement of the amount in dispute between the Steel Company and the Coal Company will be made in accordance with whatever decision is arrived at by disinterested accountants. President Plummer, of the Steel Company, has stated that a careful comparative examination of the values of the two properties will be made, and that no merger will be brought about without giving to the shareholders of both companies "such complete information as will enable them to decide intelligently upon the merits of any scheme of consolidation."

It is stated that no increase in the joint-capitalization will be made. In a press interview this week, Mr. Ross expressed his belief that, "The ultimate success of both companies when merged upon a proper basis, is assured. The properties are in excellent physical condition, and both enterprises have now passed the experimental stages of their earlier history, and in the organizations of both companies are very capable men, who fully understand their business."

The Minister of Rail-Level Crossing Legislation. ways, on Tuesday, took the unusual step of op-

posing a railway bill on its first reading. The bill was one introduced by Mr. Lancaster to amend the Level Crossing Act of last session, which provides that railways organized after the Act must pay the whole cost of the crossings, while for previously existing companies the cost is to be apportioned between the municipalities and the companies by the Railway Board. Mr. Lancaster's amendment is to saddle the old companies with the entire cost of crossings on new branches. This the Hon. Mr. Graham denounces as subversive of the principle adopted last year under which the Railway Board apportions the cost.

Canada's Railway Butchers' Bill.

The report of the Railway Commissioners for the year ending March 31, 1909, shows that the Canadian railways killed 438 per-

sons, and injured 1,201 during the year. This includes 26 passengers killed and 227 injured, 191 employees killed and 769 injured. THE CHRONICLE has repeatedly maintained that this perfectly indefensible slaughter is due to the laxity of investigation and the immunity from punishment in connection with the criminal negligence of railway employees. Neither the coroner nor his jury is as a rule capable of investigating a railway accident and both coroner and the jury are generally prevented by sickly sentiment from doing their stern duty. When the coroner, the jury and the criminal courts all do their duty in executing justice and maintaining law, the labour unions step in, and demand the release from prison of the union man who has been jailed for the simple offence of killing a few people by his happy thoughtless-And the unions generally have enough influence with the powers that be to obtain a commutation. We have the greatest admiration for the quality of mercy; but to kill 438 people in one year, simply to encourage railway employees to get drunk and be careless about other pepoles' lives and property, seems to come dangerously near to straining the quality of mercy.

The British Government The Lords and the Budget has promptly accepted the defiance of the House of

Lords and through Mr. Runciman, the president of the Board of Education, announces that there will be no compromise or negotiations on the budget question. Mr. Balfour in a speech at Manchester admitted that tariff reform, or in other words protection, was the only alternative to the Lloyd-George budget. defined the budget as "bad finance and muddle-headed socialism." Mr. Chaplin said that if there were to be taxes on manufactures, it must be frankly avowed that there would also have to be taxes on imported food. This seems to open wide the door to Imperial Preferential Trade.

Question of Naval Defence.

This week the Hon. L. P. Brodeur laid upon the table of the House of Commons the blue book concerning the Imperial Defence

Conference held in London in July last. The report shows that the Conference was characterized by a patriotic spirit and broad views on Imperial questions. One of the resolutions passed will be of commanding interest in Canada just now. It

"If the problem of Imperial naval defence were considered merely as a problem of naval strategy it would be found that the greatest output of strength for a given expenditure is obtained by the maintenance of a single navy with the concomitant unity of training and unity of command."

The next paragraph, however, recognizes that other considerations than those of naval strategy have to be taken into account, and the most hearty recognition is given to local difficulties and prejudices. At the same time it is clearly pointed out what are the essential conditions to really useful colonial navies. The report says: "In the opinion of the Admiralty, a Dominion Government desirous of creating a navy should aim at forming a distinct fleet unit; and the smallest unit is one which, while manageable in time of peace, is capable of being used in its component parts in time of war."

The fleet unit to be aimed at should, therefore, in the opinion of the Admiralty, consist at least of the following:—

1 Armored cruiser (new "Indomitable" class, which is of the "Dreadnought" type); 3 Unarmored cruisers ("Bristol" class); 6 Destroyers; 3 Submarines; with the necessary auxiliaries, such as depot and store ships.

Such a fleet unit would be capable of action not only in the defence of coasts, but also of the trade routes, and would be sufficiently powerful to deal with small hostile squadrons should such ever attempt to act in its waters.

The estimated first cost of building and arming such a complete fleet unit would be approximately £3,700,000, and the cost of maintenance, including upkeep of vessels, pay, and interest and sinking funds, at British rates, approximately £600,000 per annum.

An important British insurance amalgamation is that of the Law Union & Crown Insurance Company and the Rock Life Office, brought about by the acquiring of the latter by the former well-known company. The name of the company has been changed to The Law Union & Rock Insurance Co., Limited, of London.

The amalgamation has greatly strengthened the financial position of the company, increasing its funds to \$45,000,000, its income to \$5,000,000, its paid-up capital to \$825,000 and its general reserve to \$2,500,000. Out of its \$45,000,000 assets no less than \$5,000,000 are invested in Canada, where the company transacts an important fire business under the management of Mr. J. E. E. Dickson, of Montreal. The Canadian accident department of the company is under the direction of Mr. Alex. S. Matthew, manager, and Mr. W. D. Aiken, submanager.

Attempted Assassination of Lord and Lady Minto.

There is no use in ignoring or in pretending to misunderstand the significance of the attack on

the Viceroy of India and Lady Minto; following so many other attacks successful and unsuccessful

upon other British officials. India is a land of fanatics and cranks and isolated attempts to murder British officials there are no more remarkable than similar outrages perpetrated in Europe. But the number of these crimes lately is only to be explained by assuming the existence of a widespread conspiracy against British rule, the only thing which keeps the different native races from trying to exterminate each other. With such ominous symptoms it will be a high crime if the home government allows itself to be caught unprepared.

There have been reports from Insurance Rates on New York and Boston recently the St. Lawrence. to the effect that Montreal has not been holding its gains in

the matter of wheat shipments during recent weeks, and that increased insurance rates on the St. Lawrence route are largely to blame. The exaggerated allegations made are thus met in a statement issued to the local press by Messrs. Dale & Co. of Montreal.

"The statements and the conclusions are erroneous.

"The rates mentioned are incorrect and are considerably higher than those actually current. The diversion of grain to American ports is not unusual at this time of the year, and is due almost entirely to the fact that there is not sufficient tonnage to meet the requirements of the grain trade.

"The St. Lawrence rates show a considerable decrease since the present improvements in navigation were commenced, and it is certain that if those improvements are continued, the marine insurance rates will show a corresponding reduction."

The Merry Suffragette.

Much sympathy is being expressed for Mr. Winston Churchill who had his hat broken and his face lashed by an angry suffragette armed with a whip. An esteemed contemporary

remarks that if a man had done this thing he would probably have been knocked into the gutter and the popular verdict would have been "Served him right." True and he would probably also have been fined for a common assault. The lady will probably get from six o twelve months hard labour in consideration of her sex.

Mining Disaster
in Illinois.

The worst mining disaster in many
years was the explosion which occurred at Cherry, Illinois, by
which nearly 400 miners have lost

their lives. The immediate cause of the accident was the characteristic carelessness of a miner who threw a torch into a bundle of hay. With equally characteristic unreasonableness another miner places the responsibility for the disaster upon the directors of the company which own the mine.

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R. WILSON-SMITH, Proprietor.

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MONTREAL, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1909.

THE GENERAL FINANCIAL SITUATION.

In the European markets the week saw a noticeable easing off in interest rates. The success that has attended the Bank of England in its efforts to attract gold contributed to this. Yesterday's return showed reserve ratio of 541/2 p.c. On Monday it secured the South African gold arrivals amounting to \$2,500,000; and on the succeeding day another \$1,000,000 gain on balance occurred. So, no change has occurred in the bank rate. Possibly when 5 per cent, is departed from the move will be downward instead of upward. However it is to be remembered that one important happening of the week is of a nature to unsettle the London money market considerably. The decision of the Unionist peers to reject the Lloyd-George budget is certain to precipitate an exceedingly bitter election contest. The position of the Lords is that the Chancellor of the Exchequer has evolved an entirely new principle of taxation in his budget, and that it is desirable to have a general election on the particular issue before committing the country to the departure. Though this is sound doctrine the chances are that the radical elements in the Government party will seek to make the Lords themselves an issue; and it is to be expected that the cry "Down with the Lords" will be much in evidence in a number of constituencies. It is fortunate that the British electorate is constitutionally conservative, and not prone to support violent or revolutionary changes. But notwithstanding this fact, those qualified to know declare that there is some likelihood that the election will bring important changes to the British constitution. And in the meanwhile the finances of the Imperial Government will be thrown into some disorder until the question of the budget is settled. It is this latter circumstance that the money market is inclined to be disturbed at. Before the struggle is over the Chancellor of the Exchequer may have to borrow very large amounts to meet the expenses of administration and the service of the debt. But

this week discount rates have eased. In the London market call money is 3½ to 4; short bills are 4½; and three months' bills 4¼.

Bank of France rate remains at 3 per cent. and that of the Bank of Germany at 5. Market rate at Paris is 23% and at Berlin 4½. At both cities the level is about the same as prevailed last week.

In New York call loans are 434; 60 day money 5 to 51/4; 90 days 5 to 51/4; and six months 43/4 to 5. The bank statement there was something of a surprise in that it showed a large gain in surplus-\$6,330,250. It was effected through a loan reduction of \$39,600,000, which together with the cash loss of \$5,300,000, produced a substantial decrease in the deposit liability. The surplus stands at \$10,826,650. There was a large decrease-\$20,100,000-in the deposits of the trust companies and non-member state banks. And the supposition is that the heavy loan reduction of the associated banks was effected through assumption of the banks' loans by very wealthy depositing customers of themselves and of the trust companies. Though the foreign exchange market still rules high the tone appears to have quieted; and it does not seem likely that New York will have to stand an important loss of gold direct to Europe. The satisfactory progress made by the Bank of England in strengthening its specie reserves and the slenderness of the bank surplus in New York are circumstances that point away from gold shipments from New York to Europe. But it is note-worthy that further remittances are being sent to South America by New York bankers in settlement of balances owed by them to London. And it is worthy of notice that in Montreal and Toronto, New York funds are at a rate of discount which often produces a gold movement to Canada. While the balances and funds carried by our banks in New York are as large as at present, and New York exchange rules at a discount of 1-16 or 5-64 p.c., news of gold shipments from New York to Montreal by the Canadian banks may be occasionally reported. Indeed, one of \$200,000 took place this week.

Call money in Canada holds at 5 p.c. Recent announcements regarding the relations of the two large Nova Scotia industrials—Dominion Steel and Dominion Coal—have had a tendency to increase the demand for credits emanating from the stock exchanges. The increased probability of a consolidation of the two concerns has apparently provided for Steel common an added attraction. At any rate a considerable new buying demand has appeared and the price has been advanced. The market appears to think that the merger proposal is more of a bull card for Steel common than it is for Coal common. Some little time will, of course,

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DIVIDEND No. 73.

Notice is hereby given that a Dividend of Two and one-half per cent., being at the rate of Ten per cent. per annum, upon the paid-up Capital Stock of this Bank, has this day been declared for the current three months, and that the same will be payable at the Bank and its Branches on and after Wednesday, the first day of December, 1909, to shareholders of record at the close of business on 16th November next.

The Annual General Meeting of the Shareholders will be held at the Banking House in this city on Wednesday, the 8th day of December next, the chair to be taken at 3 o'clock p.m.

> By Order of the Board, GEO. BURN. General Manager.

Ottawa, Ont., October 18, 1909.

be necessary to work out the details of so important a merger as this. And, in all probability London will be called upon to do the lion's share of the financing. It may be that when everything is arranged it will transpire that English interests have been investing capital in these two great properties. If so it will be a welcome development. The manufacturing capitalists of the United States have secured a good deal of a lead in the matter of acquiring industrial enterprises in the Dominion; and it will be pleasing if the British now enter the field more energetically.

A HOME PREACHMENT TO THE BRITISH INVESTOR.

In a two-column "sermon" to Old Country capitalists, our Overseas contemporary, The Standard of Empire, takes its text from the pages of THE CHRONICLE—commending it *en passant* as a periodical that those "who desire to obtain from time to time an insight into financial conditions in Canada might well peruse with advantage."

"Especially," says The Standard, "would we endorse the remarks made by THE CHRONICLE concerning the vast superiority of 'personally conducted' investment as compared with the system under which the British public has usually handed over large sums for Government loans, but has been chary in the matter of industrial enterprises, simply because in the former case there has been little or no thought exercised, while in the latter instance personal investigation was a necessity."

The difference in this regard between the American and British investor in Canada in accounted for partly by reason of the fact that investors in the United States usually look for securities yielding them from 4 to 5 per cent. and upwards; so that any market for Canadian Government securities is non-existent in the States, and the requirements of the Dominion Government are still met entirely by Great Britain. The Standard agrees with us, however, that where the American capitalist shows his alertness to the possibilities of Canada is by personally visiting the country and taking over, or starting, this or that industrial concern, or acquiring lands in various directions on which to erect manufactories, in a manner and to an extent as yet undreamed of by capitalists in the Home Country-although, happily, there are recent signs of awakening. It is recognized that the geographical proximity of Canada and the United States greatly favours operations of this character, as also does the fact that the countries being so similar in many respects, the American is often better able to judge of the chances for remunerative outlay of capital than is the ordinary banker or merchant in the City of London. Still, the distance between

Canada and London, thanks to improved steamship service, is becoming less and less an obstacle.

The Standard shows no inclination to blame Canada for taking a common-sense view of the situation in welcoming capital-from wnatever quarter it may come-which develops the country's great resources. There is seen in the existence of scores of American factories throughout the country, "with probably at least £20,000,000 of invested capital offering employment to numbers of the population" (twice that amount would be nearer the mark) "at once a standing testimony, on the one hand, to the benefits accruing to Canada from the importation of capital, and, on the other hand, to the enormous profits which have resulted to those in the United States who have been quick to discern the great possibilities which Canada affords for the profitable employment of capital."

Nevertheless our contemporary is convinced that leaders of commerce and finance in Canada would gladly witness developments in the future in which the feature should be not the further extension of United States, but British enterprise and the importation of British rather than foreign capital. Not only so, but it is also evident that there are already indications of an increase in such personal visits on the part of English capitalists as seem likely to yield practical results in the near future.

"Visits from British, European, and American financiers," THE CHRONICLE is quoted as saying, "are being chronicled almost daily by the Canadian Press. Though some of them modestly disclaim any business importance attaching to their jauntings through Canada, we may be excused from concluding otherwise. Undoubtedly Canada is being 'seized up' as never before by Overseas capitalists. And, for the most part, the scrutiny is resulting in favourable judgments. Certainly the continued stream of British capital flowing towards Canada is evidence to that effect."

The Standard deprecates over-emphasis upon the excuse that geographically some advantage must always continue to be on the side of the United States in the matter of easy access to Canada. It calls to mind the vast number of undertakings in such countries as South America, which have mainly owed their origin to the enterprise of those living in the United Kingdom, and well points out that it would be surprising if a country so much nearer at hand, with even greater possibilities, should not appeal irresistibly to those in the Mother Country who will but take the trouble to make the necessary tour of inspection.

THE BANK OF MONTREAL has opened a branch at Outlook, Sask., under the management of Mr. C. P. Colville, formerly accountant at Calgary branch.

Guardian Assurance Company

Limited, of London, England

Subscribed Capital, \$10,000,000

Paid-up Capital, \$5,000,000

Total Assets, over \$30,000,000

Deposited with Dominion Government \$500,000.

Canadian Branch: Head Office, Guardian Building, MONTREAL.

CANADIAN TRUSTEES:

W. M. Ramsay, Esq. (Chairman)

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The LIVERPOOL and LONDON and GLOBE

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Cash Assets exceed - - - Canadian Investments exceed Claims paid exceed - - -

\$55,000,000 4,000,000 250,000,000

Canadian Branch: Head Office, Company's Building, Montreal.

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The Northern Assurance Co. Limited

"Strong as the Strongest"

Capital and Accumulated Funds, . . \$49,490,000 Head Office for Canada, 88 Notre Dame Street West, Montreal.

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ACCIDENT

Commercial Union Assurance Co.

LIMITED, OF LONDON, ENG.

Capital Fully Subscribed : : : \$14,750,000 Life Fund (In special trust for Life Policy Holders) 17,314,400 Total Annual Income, exceeds : : 21,250,000

Total Funds, exceed : : \$3,500,000
Deposit with Dominion Government : : 1,113,807

Head Office Canadian Branch: Commercial Union Building, 232-236 St. James Street. MONTREAL

Applications for Agencies solicited in unrepresented districts:

J. McGREGOR, Manager
W. S. JOPLING, Supt. of Agencies.

Canadian Branch

THE BANK OF MONTREAL.

The preliminary annual statement of the Bank of Montreal for the year ended October 30 last, was issued this week. It shows earnings for the year of \$1,826,167.74, a slight falling off as compared with last year. The striking feature of the report is the increase in deposits by the public of \$35,887,148.94 indicating in large part the important accessions of capital that Canada has received from investors. Current loans to the public show a decrease of \$3,588,364 for the twelvemonth, though now that trade expansion is once more in evidence, this item has lately been showing monthly increases. The increase in call and short loans in Great Britain and the United States amounts to \$36,522,426.

Important items compare as follows for 1909 and 1908:

1900	1909.	1900.
		\$ 14,400,000
Capital Stock	12 000,000	12,000,000
		12,417,132
n L Mata Circulation	*0,0	38,766,918
n ite not interest Dearing		105,192,365
		156,488,728
m : I Tiebilities to Public	,	14,710,975
O-sain and Legals	. 10,012,000	40,689,956
Call I came A broad		19,290,855
D. L. Dalances Abroad	· role solo	87,846,296
matel of anick Assets	,	183,469,160
Total Assets		
	nting to two	thirds of the

With quick assets amounting to two-thirds of the liabilities to the public, the bank's resources are just now ample for taking its part in the Dominion's steady business growth. Under the direction of Sir Edward Clouston, Bart, the Bank of Montreal has done much during the past year to satisfactorily bring British capital into touch with the development of Canada's potential wealth.

BILLION DOLLAR RUMOURS.

New York informants are still considerably at variance in their description of the negotiations understood to be under way between leading copper producers and representatives of the Morgan interests. Foremost among the plans said to be under discussion is the formation of a holding company along lines similar to the United States Steel Corporation. Reports as to the capitalization of the proposed copper trust run from \$700,000,000,000 to \$1,000,000,000, the former being the more likely.

This week brings word of another mammoth trust in the process of becoming. The control of the Western Union Telegraph Company passed, on Tuesday, to the American Telephone and Telegraph Company (Bell System). This is considered as marking a long step toward the proposed merging of the telephone and telegraph companies of the United States into a corporation with a capitalization of nearly \$1,000,000,000.

Economies of operation are stated as the reason

for acquiring the Western Union. Indeed officers of the telephone company state that the merger will save \$75,000,000 in new construction, while it will also enable the utilization at the same time of wires for both telegraphing and telephoning.

To Canadians, whose Mackay holdings are considerable, these changes are interesting from the fact that the Mackay Companies as owners of the Postal Telegraph Company and largest individual holders of the American Telephone and Telegraph will naturally have a leading say in any combinations under way. The Western Union, it will be remembered, controls the Montreal Telegraph Co.

DOMINION GOVERNMENT OLD AGE ANNUITIES.

Details are now furnished as to the annuity contracts issued by the Government for the first seven months following the scheme's inauguration. In a recent report of the Department of Trade and Commerce it is shown that for the seven months ending with July, 1901, 44 immediate annuities (single and last survivor) were issued, totalling \$11,122 at a cost of \$108,924 to the purchasers. Of deferred annuities the number was 244 and the amount \$53,901, on which the premiums paid during the seven months totalled \$97,486. Thus the total number of annuity contracts was considerably under three hundred, aggregating only \$65,000 in amount. Up to October 21, the total revenue of the Annuities Branch is reported as slightly over \$300,000, the number of annuitants having increased to 385.

While, of course, it is not possible to judge fully of future public demand from the results of initial months, it does not look as though THE CHRONICLE'S forecast of a year ago is to prove much astray-so far as relates to wage-earners voluntarily availing themselves of the Scheme. The one chance for any considerable participation by the industrial classes seems to depend upon whatever interest employers of labour may evince. In this respect the situation calls to mind the result of the Massachusetts plan for savings bank life insurance. It has been found since its institution, that wage-earners show little inclination to ask for over-the-counter policies. Only in so far as mill managers and other employers have applied "organized persuasion" have the results been much worth while. It is of interest, therefore, to learn that a number of employers are in communication with the Department of Trade and Commerce as to a plan by which they may assist their employees in securing annuities. The following table has been furnished by the Superintendent of Annuities as an example of the cost of an annuity of \$250 to begin at age 60, to men com-



ONTARIO AND NORTH WEST BRANCH TORONTO & Richmond Street, East.

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HEAD OFFICE TORONTO MONTREAL BRANCH: Thomas F. Dobbin, Resident Secretary, 164 M. James St. QUEBEC BRANCH: C. E. Sword, Resident Secretary, 81 St. Peter St. WINNIPEG BRANCH: A. W. Biake, District Secretary, 507-8 McGreevey Block.

THE ACADIA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1862.

CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED. \$400,000.00 \$300,000.00 CAPITAL PAID-UP.

Total Cash Assets(as at Dec. 31st last) \$574,574.63 100,000.00 Uncalled Capital · · · ·

\$674,574.63 Liabilities, incl. Reinsurance Reserve 71,210.22

Surplus as to Shareholders · · \$603,364.41

For Agency Contracts, Ontario and Quebec apply to BRANCH OFFICE, 260 ST. JAMES ST , MONTREAL W. J. NE BITT, Supt. of Agencies

MANITOBA, ALBERTA and SASKATCHEWAN THOS. BRUCE, Resident Manager, Bulman Block, Winnipeg BRITISH COLUMBIA

CORBET & DONALD, Gen Agents, Vancouver, TORONTO OFFICE, 12-14 WELLINGTON STREET EAST. BURRUSS & SWEATMAN, Gen. Agent

T. L. MORRISEY, Manager, -- Montreal

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WESTERN

ASSURANCE COMPANY

Incorporated In 1851

\$3,130,384.82 ASSETS. 887,495.86 LIABILITIES, : SECURITY to POLICY-HOLDERS, 2,242,888.96

LOSSES paid since organization of Com-\$51,014,051.79 pany

DIRECTORS:

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W. B. MEIKLE, Managing Director. ROBT. BICKERDIKE, M.P.

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THE MUTUAL LIFE

Insurance Company of New York

OLDEST IN AMERICA STRCNGEST IN THE WORLD

Largest Margin of Assets in Excess of Legal Liabilities.

No Company more Economically Managed to-day.

No other Company has, by increasing its scale of annual dividends four years in succession (1906, 1907, 1908, 1909), reduced premium payments so rapidly.

For terms to producing agents address:

GEORGE T. DEXTER, 2nd Vice-President 34 NASSAU STREET, NEW YORK, N. Y. mencing to pay between the ages of 21 and 50, where the employer and employee co-operate in payment.

Column 1 shows amount of annuity which a payment by the employer of \$10 a year from commencing age to age 60 would purchase on Plan "B," under which Plan there would be no return of any portion of purchase money should annuitant die before 60.

Column 2 shows the amount remaining to be purchased by the employee to bring annuity up to \$250.

Columns 3 and 4 show the annual rate to be paid on Plan "A" or "B"" to purchase amount of annuity in column 2. (On Plan "A" should annuitant die before 60, all payments made with three per cent. compound interest would be returned to the purchaser or his legal representatives)

Commencing Age	t-B \$ cts.	2 \$ cts.	3-A.	4-B \$ cts. 9 50
21	23 71	121 80 148 17 175 10 196 38 213 15 226 29 236 47	12 85 19 40 30 47 46 50 71 23 113 33 198 66	14 55 23 38 36 62 57 85 95 45 174 75

The fact that, up to the end of July, five of the forty-four immediate annuities were for the maximum income of \$600—involving large single payments by the applicants—indicates that well-to-do Canadians are availing themselves of the plan. No less than twenty-seven of the forty-four immediate contracts were for annuities of \$200 or over. Of the deferred annuitants, 26 contracted for the maximum of \$600; 14 for \$500; 12 for \$400 and 30 for \$300—the indications here, too, being that the plan is not yet being largely taken advantage of by the industrial class whose welfare its originator had chiefly at heart, but is attracting considerable attention from those who could afford to take contracts with insurance offices.

FIRE INSURANCE COMPANIES, LICENSED AND UNLICENSED.

Collecting claims from underground fire insurance companies is not always so easy a matter as paying premiums to them. An incident referred to elsewhere in this issue emphasizes the point often made by THE CHRONICLE, that both the protection of the public and the fair treatment of licensed companies are interfered with by the prevalence of underground insurance in any community. To instance one particular, it is essential that the commercial loans of banks should be made only where insurance is carried by companies of unquestioned standing. The doubtful legal status of a policy in an unlicensed company is in itself a prime objection to it. Altogether, the importance of fire insurance to a community's commercial

credit warrants government supervision of companies allowed to transact business.

Companies licensed to do business throughout Canada are required to put up large deposits with the government, contribute fees and taxes to the Dominion and provinces, pay for municipal licenses, and maintain large office and agency staffs whose remuneration is spent within the country. Further, they own buildings upon which they pay their duly assessed property taxes, and have large funds invested within the Dominion, thus contributing to its upbuilding and development. Under such conditions it is manifestly unfair that licensed companies should be subjected to competition from outside underground concerns that evade supervision and taxation and all the expenses incidental to duly licensed fire offices, and take the cream of fire insurance business by cutting premium rates To outside companies that are reputable, the Canadian field should be always an open one-provided they comply with the conditions imposed upon companies already legally admitted.

That the licensed companies transacting business in this country since Dominion Confederation have not garnered an unduly large harvest unto themselves seems borne out by the Government Insurance Department's blue book. During the forty years, net premiums have been \$263,700,000; losses and expenses have been \$250,700,000 (taking expenses as 30 per cent, of premiums). There thus remains at first sight a balance of \$13,000,000. But this difference between income and outgo is not to be considered as actual profit. Against this, it has to be further accounted that the net liabilities of the companies for unearned premiums have increased by some \$10,000,000 from the \$800,000 held at the beginning of 1869. In round figures, therefore, a forty-year underwriting balance sheet for the fire insurance companies licensed by the Dominion would be about as follows:

Dominion would be about as follows:	
Premiums	\$171,660,000 79,100,000 10,000,000 3,000,000
Total\$263,700,000	\$263,700,000

In considering premium rates the public seldom takes into account that the conflagration hazard has always to be reckoned with. Materially lower rates can be brought about only when the community, as well as individual owners of property, take active steps to lessen the risks of fire inception and fire-spreading. Underwriters themselves would gladly welcome conditions under which they could charge lower rates. This is evident from their activity in urging municipalities and property-owners to make improvements for which specific rate-reductions are offered.

Reference was made a week ago to the difficulty experienced by the receivers of the Nichols & Langworthy Machine Co., of Hope Valley, R.I., in collecting claims from some eleven unlicensed companies and underwriting associations. As some of these have been sending circulars into this country and soliciting business, the following particulars from the New York Journal of Commerce will be of timely interest to Canadian readers.

* *

COLLECTING FIRE INSURANCE CLAIMS FROM UNDERGROUND COMPANIES.

Difficulties Encountered by Receivers of Nichels and
Langworthy Machine Co.—Eleven Unlicensed
Companies and Underwriters' Associations Seek to Evade all Liability on
Technicality—In Contrast to
fairly based Settlement
Agreed to by all the
Licensed Companies
on the Risk.

Some rather sensational developments, according to the New York Journal of Commerce, have grown out of the attempts to settle the loss by the fire of April 13, in the plant of the Nichols & Langworthy Machine Company at Hope Valley, R.I. Canadian property owners who have been disposed to place their fire insurance in unlicensed institutions abroad because of inducements in the matter of reduced premiums, will find the difficulties the machinery company and its receivers have experienced of peculiar interest. The receiver for the Nichols & Langworthy Machine Company, William Beverly Winslow, has recently returned from London, where he instructed attorneys to bring suit against eleven companies, underwriting associations and Lloyds, for payment of their proportion of the loss, under policies aggregating \$280,000. These companies and underwriting associations, some of rather doubtful financial responsibility, says the New York Journal of Commerce, deny liability on a technicality based on alleged misstatement in the cabled application for the insurance.

Had Shifted from Licensed to Underground Companies.

The plant had for some time been protected by insurance of a number of well known and reputable companies, all legally authorized to transact business in Rhode Island, their policies aggregating \$370,000 on the plant and \$90,000 on the use and occupancy. These policies were cancelled on March o, of this year, because of some difficulties in the matter of the payment of the premiums. The insurance was subsequently placed by Oviatt & Mason, of New Haven, largely through W. H. Crane & Co., of London, in Lloyds, London, some small "surplus line" British companies and four underwriting associations of rather uncertain char-Four regularly admitted companies of unquestioned standing also remained on the risk. The insurance at the time of the fire, as already given in the Journal of Commerce was as follows:

List of Insurance.

Sun Ins. Office, Lon \$10,000	Royal Underwriters\$25,000
Niagara Fire of N.Y 10,000	International Limited
Lon. Assur. Corp 5,000	of England 17,500
Concordia of Milwau-	Lloyds, London 62,500
kee, Wis 5,000	Fine Arts & General 50,000
Brit. Underwriters 25,000	Cosmopolitan Ins Corp.
Brit. Crown Assur 25,000	Eng 15,000
United Lon. & Scot 25,000	North Eastern Ins. Co. 5,000
Imperial Underwriters. 25,000	
Roy'l Alliance U'writers 25,000	Total\$330,000

Settlement Agreed to by Regular Companies.

The four companies regularly admitted to the United States, namely, the Sun Insurance Office of London, Niagara Fire of New York, London Assurance Corporation, and Concordia Fire of Milwaukee, made a settlement in the nature of a compromise on the following basis: Sound value, \$314,698.91; loss and damage, \$169,998. The above "sound value" was arrived at by reducing the values claimed in the proof of loss by 25 per cent. so that the four companies named admitted liability to the extent of 51.51 per cent. of the face of their policies. The Niagara Fire of New York promptly paid its share shortly after the settlement was reached and the other three have delayed payment because of some liens having been made on the property which brought the insurance money into litigation. They will undoubtedly pay their proportion into court, leaving it for the court to decide to whom the money belongs.

Unadmitted Companies Deny all Liability.

All the unadmitted companies and associations, following the lead of Lloyds, London, have denied liability on the grounds of misrepresentations in the cabled application for the insurance. The allegation of misrepresentation is based upon the fact that the cable application called the plant "sprinklered," and this, they assert, would imply that it was fully protected by automatic sprinklers, whereas such was not the case. As a matter of fact, however, the survey made by the New England Bureau of United Inspection showed that the plant was 54 p.c. equipped with sprinkler protection. William Beverly Winslow, receiver in New York for the Nichols & Langworthy Machine Company, went to London in August to try to collect the insurance placed through Crane & Co. Thus far this has met with no success, and attorneys in London have been instructed to bring suits against eleven of these insurance companies and underwriting associations.

Mr. Winslow recently returned to New York, and from his accounts of the result of his investigations on the other side the chances of the Nichols & Langworthy Machine Company or its creditors recovering any considerable portion of this insurance are not at all rosy. Before leaving London Mr. Winslow furnished the attorneys who are bringing the suits against the insurers a complete report of the history of the Nichols & Langworthy Machine Company and its fire insurance operations. In this report, which was written in London, Receiver Winslow thus answers the contentions of the repudiating companies that there was any misrepresentation:

"I wish to call your attention to the fact that the so-called 'Automatic Sprinkler clause' attached to all these policies was prepared on this side either by Crane or by the companies. They are all alike in form.

Receiver's Answer to Repudiating Companies.

"All the policies refer to the 'Rules and Regulations of the New England Bureau of United Inspection.' Exactly what the writer of this phrase means by this phraseology I do not know, but it cannot refer to anything except to the so-called 'Survey' or 'Inspection' which Mason forwarded to Crane enclosed in his letter of April 1, 1909, and I understand that because this survey states that the plant was only 54 per cent. sprinklered the companies on this side hope to evade liability because the risk was represented to them as being 'fully' or 'completely' sprinklered. My position as to this is that they having referred in their policies to this 'survey' or 'inspection' are bound by it, even though they did not receive it till after the time of the fire and did not know its full contents. I do not regard it as necessary to attempt to digest this survey very fully, since I know that you are just as capable of doing this as I am, but from my experience I find that each time I read it there is something new in our favour and I therefore suggest that it will bear more than one reading. have noticed two new things in it to-day which had not impressed themselves upon me heretofore:

No Misrepresentation by the Machine Company.

"First—The very first sentence after the caption is that 'This re-original is complete to date and all previous surveys may be destroyed.' This shows that there can have been no other survey on rules and regulations with reference to this risk at the time that the companies on this side were bound.

"Second-And the very next words (intended as a general description or caption for the details to follow) are 'Sprinklered Risk,' the very word which Mason used to describe the plant when he sent the first cablegram to Crane (dated March 11, 1909) asking Crane to 'cover' same for \$300,000. These same words are used as a caption to the two supplementary reports attached to and forming a part of this survey —one showing an inspection on June 23, 1908, by E. M. Coffin, inspector, and the other showing an inspection on February 16, 1909, by G. H. Robinson. The dates show that the survey was complete virtually to the time of the fire, and the use of the term 'Sprinklered Risk,' in my opinion, justifies Mason in calling the risk a 'Sprinklered Risk' in his first cablegram describing the same, and does not justify Crane and the other people on this side in repudiating liability on the ground that the plant was not 'fully sprinklered'

An important point in the situation is the question of the financial responsibility of the four underwriting associations, the policies of which were delivered to the assured's agent by Crane & Co., namely, the "Royal Underwriters," "Royal Alliance Underwriters," "British Underwriters" and "Imperial Underwriters." Each of these policies was for £5,000 or about \$25,000. Mr. Winslow states that he called upon Crane & Co. and asked the addresses of the various underwriters appearing on the said policies or the name and address of their attorneys-in-fact, but was refused all information further than that the underwriters were all Americans. In view of this statement the lists of underwriters on these policies are of increased interest.

The Four Underwriters' Associations.

British Underwriters.—Leroy Gates, Alfred Morton, John Sherman, W. H. Miller, Randolph Seaton, A. S. Mason, W. B. Hammond, Julius Henderson, H. C. Williamson, John Wray, Marion Allery, C. G. Moore, Clarence Payton, H. H. Howard, Seymour Price, T. D. Turner, George Eldridge, Samuel Tracy, Burdet O'Connor, Frank Witherbee, Watson Page, Henry Dunlop, Frederick Gray, Manuel Vogle, Thomas Montague—all per H. P. Whitney.

Royal Underwriters.—Wm. Cameron, Robert S. Perkins, Alexander Davidson, S. M. Gloyd, A. G. McCall, Thomas Harbour, H. H. Drennan, John T. Collins, H. H. Richards, F. E. Huston, Charles F. Calkins, F. H. Johnson, J. Henry Hunter, Henry T. Cowan, F. N. Bushwell, J. Edwin Pond, James Taylor, P. H. Bell, Newton K. Bernar, Charles H. Hilt, E. D. Brooks, Franklin Trimble—all per

Henry F. Davis.

Royal Alliance Underwriters.—J. S. Robertson,
C. P. Lampson, Richard Taylor, S. H. Clarkson,
B. S. Prentice, C. P. Custiss, M. W. Hayes, Walter
Palmer, E. R. Braley, D. Davies, D. S. Sherman,
E. K. Gaylord, Wm. Hodges, Harry Hughes, J. R.
Newberry, J. K. Farley, V. N. Bailey, Albert
Farwell, Anthony Comstock, D. V. Hutchison—all

per C. P. Curtiss.

Imperial Underwriters.—F. L. Williamson, R. H. Hanna, D. W. Morris, N. M. Alexander, Elmer H. Watson, H. W. Averill, D. A. Martin, Thomas Reeves, Hiram Wright, Eugene F. Wyman, S. Lelson, John A. Carso, Myron E. Bruce, John B. Anderson, Wallace Wright, B. A. Whitney, S. T. Lawrence, F. M. Heath, Fred. George, Raymond Phillips, P. M. Hillyer, H. M. Burns, James Mc-Bride, Arthur Barker, H. W. Cummings, Randolph T. Hayden, Clinton Andrews, F. S. Dara, Claude Fisher, James Fairchilds—all per E. M. Dunbar.

The Lloyds, London, binder for \$62,500 which Crane & Co. delivered was signed by R. C. Burton Rowe, but no details as to the underwriters he signed for could be obtained.

INSURANCE INSTITUTE OF MONTREAL.

Thoroughly Successful Opening to Season of 1909-10 on Saturday Evening Last.

With President George H. Allen in the chair, the opening meeting of the Insurance Institute of Montreal proved an interesting and successful occasion from start to close on Saturday evening last. A goodly number of insurance men and their friends gathered in the Ladies' Ordinary, of the Windsor Hotel, and enjoyed instruction mingled with entertainment, amid the informal surroundings of a "smoker." Those in attendance were heartily welcomed by the president who urged co-operation in the good work the institute had undertaken. That energy and enthusiasm are characteristics of this year's executive is evident from the announced arrangements already made for the current session of the institute.

Among the prominent men who have consented to address the institute later during the season the

following were mentioned:
The Hon. James V. Barry, Insurance Commissioner, State of Michigan.

Lieut. Col. Burland, Montreal.

Charles Warren Pickell, manager, Massachusetts Mutual, Detroit.

Joseph A. DeBoer, president, National Insurance Company, Montpelier, Vt.

Edson L. Lott, United States Casualty Company, New York.

James Bissell, vice-president, Hartford Fire Insurance, Hartford, Conn.

Mr. B. Hal Brown, chairman of the Governing Council, in following the President said that the large and representative attendance recalled earlier meetings of the institute and augured well for the success of its future.

The speaker considered that the members were most fortunate in having with them the Honorable Mr. Graham, Minister of Railways and Canals, and Mr. Martin, Professor of Mathematics, Royal Military College, Kingston, at their opening meeting, both being gentlemen actively engaged in their respective capacities in furthering the development of the great Dominion, of which all are so justly proud. Hand in hand with this development the protection offered by insurance in all its branches must go, guaranteeing the stability of individual business effort, and the property wealth already accumulated. The people of Canada were reputed to have more insurance per capita than those of any other country in the world. This, as far as life insurance was concerned, was unquestioned; and if properly encouraged by wise laws, and not hampered thereby, would go far towards relieving tax payers from burdens to provide old age pensions for the support of impecunious citizens.

It appeared certain that the session of 1909-10 gave promise of great interest and advantage. Arrangements had been made to eliminate the fees for ordinary membership. The money necessary for unavoidable expenses had been contributed or promised by the companies or their officials. It was anticipated that some lively and instructive debates would take place between the members of the Montreal Institute as well as with members of the Toronto Institute.

Mr. B. Hal Brown stated that there were in Montreal about 60 chief offices, and that the clerks engaged number between 800 and 1,000. The outside agents, to say nothing of the medical examiners intimately associated with companies, and the many policyholders all interested in insurance, supplied a community which presented wide opportunities for interesting and valuable Institute work.

Address by Hon. George P. Graham.

The outstanding feature of the evening's programme was the address upon "Canada" deliverd by Hon. George P. Graham, Minister of Railways and Canals. He urged strongly upon those present their individual responsibility in the upbuilding of Canada and in its good government. "Young men," he said, in part, "have not been taught, and are not teaching themselves the necessity for taking part in public affairs. Perhaps it is the fault of us older ones. But this country has been given, with all its wonderful resources, to the people, and every man has a duty to perform in return; and the man who refuses is not giving a proper quid pro quo for what he is getting from the country."

His speech was largely a resume of the constitutional development of Canada. "The young man," said Mr. Graham, "who is looking for something to interest his spare moments could not do better than devote them to the study of Canada'."

The time had come when Canadians were looked upon as proprietors—not merely as tenants. And in the coming to this status there were involved certain responsibilities. Thus it was, while plans for defence might differ, Canadians generally felt that it was time they did something towards guarding their coasts and protecting their sea-commerce.

As to internal development, he thought Canada could boast that no people in the world had spent more proportionately in the development of their country. And the expenditure was warranted. Canadians had the greater part of the water transportation on the continent. If the Georgian Bay canal was constructed, Canada would have the best water route in the world. Canada had spent dollars on her waterways, where the United States had spent dimes.

Professor Martin's Address.

Following Mr. Graham, Mr. I. V. Martin, Professor of Mathematics in the Royal Military College, Kingston, gave an interesting and humourous address. One suggestion, however, was made in all seriousness, namely, that a memorial be presented to the Board of Governors of McGill University to provide for a department in that institution devoted to the study of insurance subjects.

The programme was enjoyably supplemented by musical and literary numbers. A vote of thanks was proposed to Hon. Mr. Graham by Mr. Lansing Lewis, seconded by S. P. Stearns. Mr. T. L. Morrisey proposed a vote of thanks to Professor Martin and took occasion to refer to the necessity for every effort being put forward to secure fair legislation in the Insurance Bill now pending; Mr. R. Macdonald, seconded the vote to Prof, Martin. Mr. R. Wilson-Smith in moving a vote of thanks to President Allen referred with approval to the suggestion made by Prof. Martin as to the establishment of an insurance course at McGill. He also threw out the suggestion that, considering the important interests represented by the Institute, it should secure some permanent home as its meeting place.

INDUSTRIAL CANADA, the official organ of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, complains that car shortage is proving a serious handicap to Canadian shippers all over the country. Exception is taken to the charge of \$1 per day as demurrage charges on cars, and shippers are cautioned to avoid the fine.

Railroad officials state that it is inevitable that in a year of prosperity some shortage should be felt from now to the close of navigation.

"The shippers are not, however, delayed to any great extent," said Fourth Vice-President Bosworth of the C.P.R. to a press representative, "for every effort is made to expedite traffic. The double-tracking of the C.P.R. between Fort William and Winnipeg has done much to relieve the congestion in that district this season."

MERGERS PAST AND PRESENT.

Some that have Made Good and Others that have not—Lessons which United States Experiences should have for Canada.

It was when industrial conditions were recovering from the post-panic depression of 1893-7 that the real "trust" movement began in the United States. Scarcely an important industry escaped consolidation; and in the three years 1898-1900, one hundred and fifty large combinations—with a total capitalization of over \$3,500,000,000—were formed. Of these, the subsequent fortunes differed widely. Some fell ignominiously by the wayside; many, for a time at any rate, had to flounder in Sloughs of Despond before getting to really solid ground.

The Voice of the Promoter.

At the commencement of every period of trade recovery, the compelling voice of the promoter is heard in the land. The flow of securities from newly established undertakings and old begins apace. For the successful flotation of these the general stock market level has to be kept up. The strong support given to New York stocks during recent weeks of threatened relapse is credited largely to corporate interests with new scurities in readiness for disposal. Bearing out this surmise is the fact that the total of securities authorized in the United States this year up to the close of October was about \$2,325,000,000, as compared with somewhere around \$1,750,000,000 in the corresponding months of 1908. But of the ten months' authorizations only some \$1,335,000,000 have been offered the public. The rest it is deemed wise to hold over, in the hope that money loosening will make possible an advance in the stock market price-level, and thus give more favouring auspices for fresh offerings.

The Copper Situation.

In addition to announced authorizations, as given above, many other issues of railroad and industrial corporations are pending. So thoroughly, however, was the ground covered by the "trust" movement which culminated at the beginning of the 20th century that projected industrial consolidations are not at present numerous in the United States. Instead, it seems now to be Canada's turn. remains one line of industry, however, in the United States wherein some genius for consolidation is now likely to exercise his power. The eyes of Wall Street are fixed intently and excitedly upon the copper situation. Owing to sharp falling-off in foreign demand for copper, the opening up of new mines by active competitors, and disturbance from legal proceedings, failure followed the attempt of ten years ago at forming a really com-prehensive copper trust. And there has thus been left this one important field for re-organization in 1909. So far, the impelling motives to consolidation of copper interests do not appear so sound, on economic grounds, as those that led to the formation of the Steel trust. Increasing the price of copper by limitation of mining production seems the be-all and end-all of some at least of the advocates of amalgamation. A trust so formed would be signally open to successful attack by

alert competitors, and the history of ten years ago would seem likely to repeat itself. Had Standard Oil and the Steel Trust limited their efforts to attempted monopoly over raw material, they would have failed long ago. Whatever may be said for or against their methods, the success of the trusts has been bound up in their perfecting and cheapening methods of manufacture and distribution. If the diamond trade of South Africa be cited as proving that prices may be regulated year in and year out, and practical monopoly maintained in raw materials, the conclusive reply is that the world's copper areas, unlike its supply of "first water" diamonds, are widely spread and are being added to from time to time. Also low-grade ore, with improved processes of extraction, can be more and more utilized as occasion arises.

Danger of Over-Capitalization.

Broadly speaking, the preferred stock issued in forming the "trusts" of 1898-1900 represented value in existence; and the common stock, value in prospect. Generally there was good reason why a certain amount of value could be looked for, over and above the sum of the capitalized earnings of the individual companies of the various mergers. Merger prospectuses at that time, as now in Canada, pointed out that "savings in buying, selling, freight, administration and manufacture of the combined concerns should add substantially to the net earnings without charging any more for the output." The trouble was that too often a trust was capitalized on the supposition that prosperity profits would continue without a break. Too much faith was implicitly placed-if not always explicitly advertised-in a quasi-monopoly's keeping up prices during off-years. But time has shown that though trusts may modify sharp price fluctuations of commodities they cannot keep up a declining tide in times of a trade ebb. Not only was capitalization oftentimes over large, but too liberal a dividend policy was generally followed in initial years. Most of the preferred stock issues were on the cumulative basis, while dividends on common were often paid from earnings that should plainly have gone to build up reserves against lean years. Promoters and underwriters whose profits depended on gradually getting the public to take over their own stock quotas, would naturally be inclined to urge a rather generous dividend policy from the start-out. To maintain these returns-in other words to have fulfilled the promises made to the stock-buying public by trust promoters—soon became impossible in most cases. To have succeeded in doing so, as E. S. Meade pointed out in his "Trust Finance" some seven years ago, competition would have had to be stilled, labour made content with its wages, borrowers prove successful in all their ventures. "In short, industrial conditions must not fall below the high point of prosperity, and that prosperity must increase."

How far fulfilment fell short of promises for many years in most cases—and apparently "forever and aye" in some—is seen from the following comparative quotations of common stock prices.

The first column of quotations gives the average prices during the first month of listing—representing the initial value that the public put upon the

promoters' promises of good things to come. The next two columns give low prices of 1903-4 and of 1907. The final column gives current quotations—showing that while investment, or speculative, demand has brought some prices above their first level, others have fallen far short of living up to the glittering prospects of a decade ago.

mo	Price in	Low 1903-4	Low 1907	Nov. 18 1909
Amalgamated Copper	961	334	42	951
American Car and Foundry	21	142	244	75
Amer. Agricultural Chemica	311	12	12	49
American Ice	394	-	81	26
American Linseed Oil	94	5	6 8 3 2 1	16 621
American Locomotive	284 271	103	24	8
American Malting	547	364	581	102
American Smelting	211	71	121	351
International Paper	574	9	74	151
International Steam Pump.	28%	28	71	52
National Biscuit	33,5	321	581	1134 544
Pressed Steel Car	561	22 §	15 g 12	474
Republic Iron and Steel	261 40	31	4	13
Union Bag and Paper United States Steel	448	84	211	901

COMMON LAW AND COMPENSATION ACTS.

An interesting "workmen's compensation" verdict was last week rendered by a High Court Assizes jury at Ottawa. The case was that of Brennan v. Grand Trunk Railway. The jury gave the widow and children of Paul Brennan \$2,000 damages under the Workmen's Compensation Act, or \$5,000 under common law, whichever the judge should decide the company to be liable for from the answers to the questions he put to the jury. Paul Brennan was a yard foreman in the local yards, and while riding on the shunting engine fell off, either because he was seized with dizziness or attempted to jump off, and was killed. The plaintiffs claimed under the Ontario Workmen's Compensation Act that the engine was running too fast, and under the Common Law that the step on which Brennan stood was too narrow. The jury found both that the engine was running too fast, and also that the step was too narrow. The judge reserved judgment.

The framers of the Quebec Workmen's Compensation Act, which comes into effect on January 1st, probably had in mind some such circumstances as the above, when they incorporated a clause in their bill to the effect that where "inexcusable fault" on the part of the employer is shown, the judge may assess compensation in excess of the \$2,000 maximum normally allowed. The avoidance of necessity for a double action—under Compensation Act and under Common Law—seems desirable. Also, it is a wise provision that there shall be no trial by jury in any action taken under the Quebec Act. Jury findings in such matters sometime show undue bias.

No decision is yet announced as to the increase in rates that will have to be charged in the Province of Quebec, by companies writing employers' liability insurance. A representative of manufacturing interests, in speaking of the matter this week, admitted that a 25 to 35 per cent, advance would not bear severely upon employers as they could carry protection for a smaller amount than the \$5,000 now general. The award is limited to \$2,000 under the Act, except where extended by the judge on account of inexcusable fault on the part of the employer.

The necessity of raising rates on the part of the

underwriters, cannot be denied. Claims are bound to be much more frequent under the specified terms of the Compensation Act than under the general provision of the Common Law.

Our London Letter. THE MUCH DISCUSSED BUDGET.

Concessions have not Placated Leading Financiers
—Canada's Successful Flotation of New Securities—Turkish Issue a Failure—Important
Banking Decision—Assurance Companies
Bill—Special Correspondence of
THE CHRONICLE for Week
Ending November 6.

By a majority of 230, Mr. Lloyd George's Budget, after a discussion lasting over six months. has been sent to the House of Lords. The Lords meet on the 22nd November, to give it that Second Reading debate which will decide its fate, so that for well over a fortnight we shall be on tenterhooks. Probably at no time within living memory has there been such a critical pause in our home politics. In many particulars, the Budget is a very different document from that originally introduced by the Chancellor, but the various concessions and amendments which have been made, have in no way placated the opposition that is based on fundamental grounds. It may be useful at this critical juncture to summarize the conclusions come to in regard to the Budget by so weighty an organ of city opinion as The Bankers' Magazine. The writer of this article, I may say, is everywhere recognized as one of the sanest of our writers upon finance and his article reflects almost, if not quite, the unanimous opinion of those in the city of London whose views are of weight. The summarized conclusions of The Bankers' Magazine with regard to the Budget are as follows: -

- It penalises capital and discourages thrift.
- 2. It impairs the national credit.
- 3. It encourages extravagance in the national expenditure
- 4. It encroaches on the nation's reserves for use in time of war and other emergency.
- 5. It tends to destroy the natural growth in revenue, or, in other words, the wealth-producing power of the country.
- It has even failed to produce the revenues it was intended to produce.
- 7. It is concerned on lines and has been defended in a manner directly calculated to weaken public confidence and to impair one of the country's chief sources of wealth—credit and security.

Dull Markets.

The London markets have again had a very cheerless week, partly, perhaps (so sensitive are they) on account of the weather; partly on unrealized anticipations that Thursday would see a 6 per cent bank rate in force, and the news that more sovereigns are going to Egypt and Brazil; partly on account of the political strain, and, partly, too, in the case of such specialties as Trunks, because there has been a tap on and no one has a good word to say for them at present. In more than one direction bear accounts are being built

up, so that, although next week's settlement is being looked forward to with forebodings there are counterweights.

Success of New Canadian Issues.

There has again been much activity in new issues. The long-heralded Turkish loan-4 p.c. at 89has made its appearance and been a dismal failure, underwriters being saddled with 81 p.c. of the two millions which was reserved for London. This result is quite contrary to general anticipations and is in rather striking contrast to the Paris result, the loan being there oversubscribed. other interesting ventures which have made their apearance this week are the Omnium Insurance Corporation, to which reference was made in my last letter, and an Anglo-Russian Trust Company, which is believed to be the herald of a considerable expansion in the financial relations of the two countries. The new issue honours of the week have been, however, carried off by Canada. Both the £850,000 4 p.c. perpetual consolidated debentures of the Canadian Northern Railway at 93 and the \$3,150,000 7 p.c. cumulative preference stock of the new Canadian Car & Foundry Company at £19.10.6 per \$100 shares or approximately 95 p.c. have been over-subscribed. Such success, at a not particularly propitious time is a fresh proof-if, at this time of day, any proof is needed—that there is plenty of British capital available for Canada's development.

We hear of another new Canadian railway issue in the immediate future—1½ millions sterling in 5 p.c. bonds. The price mentioned is 108.

Western Canada Cement's Reorganization.

The statement of the directors of the Western Canada Cement & Coal Company regarding the financial position, from which it appears that had the company not joined the new Canadian cement combine "a re-organization might have become imperative" has come as a surprise here, and the 6 p.c. first mortgage debentures at 85½ are 6 points lower than a fortnight ago. The directors propose to make a fresh issue at 5 p.c. first mortgage debentures to be exchanged at par for the existing 6 p.c. first mortgage and 7 p.c. second mortgage debentures. In the circumstances bondholders will, no doubt, gladly accept the terms offered, even though the directors describe them as not entirely satisfactory.

Bygone Banking.

Stuckey's Banking Company, whose absorption by Parr's I chronicled last week, has several claims to fame. Stuckey's have always confined their operations to the two west country counties of Somerset and Gloucester, but in those two counties their position was supreme. For a country bank they had a large note issue, the total authorized (£356,976) coming in size next to that of the Bank of England itself, and the prestige of their notes is shown by a well-known story a propos of the panic which followed the failure of Overend, Gurney & Co., in 1866. At that time Stuckey's Bristol office shared the common fate of being subject to "runs." In the crowd was an old lady, who, when she got to the counter was asked how she wanted her money-in gold or silver. "Neither,"

she replied "Stuckey's notes are good enough for me" and off she went proudly conscious of having secured her funds before the expected smash came.

There is another story about Stuckey's which illustrates very clearly and forcibly how times have changed from the 18th century. Among the bank's customers was the elder Pitt, who had a country place near the little Somersetshire town of Longport, where Stuckey's head office was until lately. Like less illustrious mortals Pitt got head over heels in debt, and the bank demanded-as banks have a habit of demanding-a settlement. Pitt had no money but heaps of patronage-and so the little matter was satisfactorily settled! founder of Stuckey's was great uncle of Walter Bagehot, who was for some years himself connected with the bank. At one time indeed Bagehot acted for Stuckey's in London, in addition to doing his work as editor of The Economist.

The Assurance Companies' Bill.

The Assurance Companies' Bill passed its second reading this week, but it is a little doubtful whether the Bill will become law this session. As Mr. Winston Churchill, who, as President of the Board of Trade, is in charge of the bill, has pointed out, its passage will only be secured at this time of the Parliamentary year by the general good will of the House, and it is clear that that general good will can only be secured by further negotiations. The Labour party are much exercised in mind on the subject of industrial insurance. They desire a Royal Commission to enquire into its working, and, through Mr. Keir Hardie moved on the second reading that the Bill should not be proceeded with until such a Royal Commission had reported, Mr. Churchill pointed out that an enquiry of that kind would require long and anxious consideration on his part and that it might cause a great amount of unrest and uneasiness in the community which would reflect adversely on the business of the companies con-cerned. There is no doubt, that it would be well to alter the present position of industrial insurance by the proposed legislation as quickly as possible. It is estimated that about ten million policies issued by the large collecting societies and industrial companies are void, owing to these associations having exceeded their powers by issuing policies to sons to provide for parents' burial and to brothere for sisters burial. As the Bill will legalize these illegal policies, the position is being anxiously watched by insurance interests.

Apart from this question of industrial insurance there appears to be a widespread feeling in insurance circles that in another particular the Bill is lacking—it fails to give protection to policyholders in foreign companies doing business in this country. The deposit of £20,000 which will, in future, be required from them is not a large amount in comparison with the enormous liabilities which companies, not native, often undertake in this country, and there is a suggestion being put forward that these companies shall be compelled to keep part of their assets in the United Kingdom.

A Banking Decision.

A novel banking point has just been decided in the London courts. On October 30, 1907, a business man sending remittances to a mining company in Mexico through Glyn Mills Currie & Co., as London agents for Kessler & Co., of New York, who gave credit to the mining company, paid a cheque to Glyn's for forwarding, of £500. The same day Kessler & Co. made an assignment, but the fact was not known in London until after the cheque had been paid. Application was made to Glyn's not to send the amount to Kessler's, and as a matter of fact Glynn's did not do so, but put the money to the credit of their account, Kessler's being largely indebted to them. They refused to return it but the Courts have now decided that they must do so.

London, 6th November, 1909.

METRO.

Mines and Mining.

COBALT SHIPMENTS were again heavy last week eleven mines sending out 1,880,443 pounds of ore, or 040 22 tons, La Rose was again the heaviest shipper with Nipissing next.

	Week.	Year
Buffalo		945,978
Chambers Ferland		961,110
City of Cobalt		1,100,122
		731,327
Cobalt Central		141,340
Cobalt Lake		1,420,925
Coniagas	61.720	5,294,986
Crown Reserve		1,382,100
Drummond	390,000	96,000
Keeley		
Kerr Lake	160,150	2,064,491
King Edward	******	183,740
La Rose	452,674	11 982,629
McKinley	46,700	1,829,706
Nipissing	449,921	11,274,826
Nova Scotia		480,810
Nancy Helen		124,700
North Cobalt	40,000	40,000
O'Brien	64,052	2.589,160
Peterson Lake		324,040
		2,664,587
Right of Way		684,814
Silver Queen		241,820
Silver Cliff	63,000	1,686,060
Temiskaming		1,818,323
Trethewey	75,000	1,166,485
т. & н. В	6,225	50,000
Wettlaufer		
		- f 1+ man

BRITISH COLUMBIA ORE SHIPMENTS for last week reached the record total of over 56,000 tons.

Boundary	We*k. 47,947 5,388 3,090	Year. 1,296,486 204,541 165,371
	56,325	1,666,398

NOVA SCOTIA STEEL SHIPMENTS of coal compare as follows with last year's:

Oeto	ober,	1909	9							٠,									91,974 64,391
	Incre	asc	19	09															27,673
	mont	hs,	190	9		٠.													650,173
Ten	mon	the,	190	18.	٠				,	٠	•	٠.			٠	,	٠	• •	545,312
	Incre	BEC.	19	09			 		 				 						104,861

MR. MILTON HERSEY while recently at the Wyandoh mine located the main shaft, on which sinking has already begun. This will be carried to the 100 foot level before stopeing. Necessary mining buildings are being rushed up, and every preparation made for energetic development.

THE TRETHEWEY DIRECTORS declared a dividend of 15 per cent, this week making 25 per cent, for the year. It is payable December 15.

LA ROSE DIRECTORS are meeting in New York within a few days, and the public is keeping its ears open. Boston and New York as well as Toronto and Montreal are still discussing recent developments. The stock sold in Montreal yesterday around \$4.90. Says a correspondent of the Boston Evening Transcript.

"The La Rose break is accounted for by the fact that a New York broking house had an option at \$8.50 on a large block of stock, said to have been owned by some of the original owners of the mines, and allowed the option to go by default. Presumably the stock which they failed to take, or a part of it, was put upon the market, and the selling taken with the knowledge that the option was not taken up, naturally would cause a break. On all hands the earlier Nipissing experience with the Guggenheims was recalled, owing to the similarity of the circumstances."

DOMINION ESTIMATES.

Hon. Mr. Fielding yesterday tabled the main estimates for 1910-11, amounting in all to \$127,-620,993 compared with the \$111,623,377 for 1909-10 (including supplementaries of \$1,226,687).

The naval service appropriation is \$3,676,500, made up of purchase, construction and maintenance of ships, maintenance and upkeep of dock-yards at Esquimalt and Halifax, and the establishment and maintenance of training schools, \$3,000,000.

It will be noted that the estimates indicate some changes in bookkeeping methods this year. For instance, the militia vote of \$1,300,000 for ordinance, arms, rifle ranges, etc., appears charged to income instead of capital as formerly. The estimate for Dominion lands and hydrographic surveys, \$771,000, is similarly transferred.

The total militia appropriation, chargeable to income, is \$6,876,700, and shows an increase of \$315,000 in annual drill, \$50,000 grant to 65th Regiment for armory, while permanent force pay and allowance appropriation is increased by \$200,000.

For railways and canals, an appropriation of \$27.000,000 is asked for surveys and construction of the National Transcontinental; \$1,750,000, a slight decrease from last session, is asked for the I.C.R, increasing accommodation, etc.; for the proposed Hudson Bay Railway, survey, etc., \$180,000 is asked.

Interest on public debt now stands at \$13,440,-198, an increase of \$640,950. The sum of \$7,300,-000 is again asked for redemption of debt.

INSURANCE BILL BEFORE THE SENATE.

The Insurance Bill was formally re-introduced in the Senate yesterday and received its first reading—practically without change from the form in which it passed the Commons last session. It will be advanced promptly to its second stage and sent to the Senate Banking and Commerce Committee, where a further hearing will be given to interests concerned. The matters of policy-holders' directors in life companies and of unlicensed fire insurance business will be mooted topics during the Committee proceedings.

Stock Exchange Notes

Thursday, November 18, 1909.

Dominion Iron Common was the outstanding feature in the trading and it advanced 9 1-2 points to 68 1-2 on sales aggregating over 48,600 shares. Dominion Coal Common gained fractionally over 2 points on transactions of some 6,300 shares. The negotiations pointing to a merger of the two companies and the purchase of the holdings of Mr. James Ross in the Coal Company, are treated of more fully in another column. Canadian Pacific, now selling ex-rights, has advanced the equivalent of 3-1-4 points on moderate trading. Detroit United, Penmans Common, Montreal Power and Nova Scotia Steel Common were all prominent and fairly active. Detroit United which sold down to 58-1-2 early in the week has made a good recovery to 63 bid, a net gain of 15-8 points. Crown Reserve was under pressure and after selling down to 4.95 recovered to 5.30 declining again to 5.05 bid at the close, a loss of 64 cents for the week. The break has been credited to a bear raid, but such reactions are to be looked for in mining stocks from time to time. The movement in Penmans Common involved over 2,000 shares and the stock moved up to 60, while the Preferred sold up to 85-3-4. The rights on Canadian Pacific are selling around 9 1-2. The Bank of England rate is unchanged at 5 per cent.

Call money in Montreal	5%
Call money in Montreal	43%
Call money in New York	
Call money in London	476
Call money in Loudon	5%
Bank of England rate	8919
Congole	
Demand Sterling	94%
Demand Sterling	847
Sixty days' sight Sterling	
The quotations at continental points were as for	ollows: —
The quotations at continental points were Mi	arket. Bank.
2	2 3
Paris	
Berlin	2 3
Vienna 3	4
Vienna	ā 3
Amsterdam	3 31
Brussels 3	3 2

Brussels	•••		31	34
SUMMARY OF WREE	's S	ALES AND	QUOTATIONS	
Bearing of many		Closing	Closing	Net
Security. S	ales.	bid.	bid.	change
		Nov. 11th.	to-day.	. 21
Canadian Pacific	836	183	1764 XR	+ 31
"Soo" Common	225	::.	1361	+ 19
Detroit United	2,517	614	63	
Halifax Tram	24		::	
Illinois Preferred			92	
Montreal Street			206	:
Quebec Railway:		65	62	- 3
Toledo Railwaye		••	••	
Toronto Railway		1223		:
Twin City		108	108	- 11 + 3 - 21 + 81 + 51
Richelieu & Ontario		873	861	- 11
Can. Con. Rubber Com			101	+ 3
Can. Con. Rubber Pfd				
Dom. Coal Com			921	+ 21
Dom. Iron Common			671	+ 84
Dom. Iron Preferred	4.05	7 132	137	+ 51
Dom. Iron Bonds	\$5.00	0 95	95	
Lake of the Woods Com	. 13	8 132	131	- 1
Mackay Common			95	+ 3
Mackay Preferred	* **		753	
Mexican Power	2.2		71	
Montreal Power			1234	+ 14
Nova Scotia Steel Com	1 06		75	+ 2
Ogilvie Com		-	137	
Rio Light and Power			874	+ 11
Nio Light and Power		0 92		
Shawinigan Can. Colored Cotton	* .		593	- 1
		0 431	442	+ 11
Can. Convertors			74	+ 14
Dom, Textile Com			1051	+ 2
Dom. Textile Preferred		5 1274	1264	- 1
Montreal Cotton			591	+ 3
Penmans Common	17.00			6
Crown Reserve		10	104	
Nipissing				

MONTREAL BANK CLEARINGS for week ending November 18th, 1909, were \$44,434,955. For the corresponding weeks of 1908 and 1907 they were \$40,017,285 and \$32,843,908 respectively.

The Bank of England Statement this week shows reserve to have increased by £2,519,000 to £25,362,000. The ratio of reserve to liabilities increased from 50.71 p.c. to 54.45 p.c.

Traffic Earnings.

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

1908 w	ere as fo	lows:-			
Year to Oct. 31 Week Nov. 7.	date, 196 \$37,3 ending.	FRAND TRU 17 19 106,624 \$31, 1997. 15 415 10,509	908 ,970,462 1908 837,226 854,223	1909. 33,588,891 1909 902,197 924,271	Increase \$1.618.429 Increase 64.971 70,048
Oct. 31. Week Nov. 7.	o date. 161,6	14,000 \$56 907. 573,000 1.	1909	1909.	Increase \$10.766,000 Increase 425,000 454,000
Year (Oct. 31. Week Nov. 7	Cate do date \$8,96 ending 2	1907 33,800 \$ 1907 41,800 32,600	1908. 7,254,800 1908 256,900 2 64,500	\$8,145,400 1909 340,300 369,800	Increase 9890,600 Increase 83,400 105,300
	ending.	TH, SOUTH 1907 61.247 ONTREAL S	53.381 STREET R	65,478	12,097
Oct. 31 Week Nov.	ending.	66,066 69,134	68,125	\$3,181,389 1909, 75,624 74,886	188.312 Increase 7.047 6,761
Oct. 31 Wee	to date.	TORONTO S' 1907 \$2,818,606 1907 65,302	1908. \$2,935,679 1908 68,483	9 \$3,189,86 1909 75,283	Increase
Oct. 3 Wee	to date.	1907 \$5 025,027 1907. 116,553	85,265.0 1908. 123,363	1909 134,56	Increase
	k ending. 7	AX ELECTR	124,02:	146,56 AY Co., LT	
Nov.	k ending. 7 14	2,754 2,677	3,050 3,159 3,159	1909. 3,322 3,155	Dec. 3
Nov.	k ending 7 14	37. 34	.272 .873	45,022 40,816	7.750 5,943 ng the Em-

MR. J. G. RAINNIE, Halifax, representing the Employers' Liability Assurance Corporation, Limited, spent a few days in Montreal this week.

MR. JAMES W. RAITT, Lachute, P.Q., representing the Guardian & Phoenix of London, was in the city yesterday.

THE BANK OF NEW YORK this week engaged \$200,000 in gold for export to Canada.

Toroxto Clearings for week ending November 18, 1909, were \$34,5%6,776. For the corresponding weeks of 1998 and 1907, they were \$32,380,662 and \$25,376,373 respectively.

OTTAWA BASE CLEARINGS for week ending November 18, 1909, were \$3,979,247. For the corresponding weeks of 1908 and 1907 they were \$3,983,133 and \$3,253,791 respectively.

Canadian Bank Clearings for week ending November 11th, 1909, were \$134,129,132 and for 1908 \$96,856,187.

BANK OF MONTREAL

Statement, for Year ending October 30th, 1909, as compared with that of a year ago.

PROFIT AND I			1909. 217,628,56		1908. \$ 699,969,88
Balance of Profit and Loss Account, 31st October Paid for the year ended 30th October, 1909, after deducting agement, and making full provision for all bad and do		es of man-	1,826,167,74		1,957,658,68
Quarterly Dividend, 2 1-2 per cent. paid 1st March Quarterly Dividend, 2 1-2 per cent. paid 1st June Quarterly Dividend, 2 1-2 per cent. paid 1st September Quarterly Dividend, 2 1-2 per cent. payable 1st December		\$360,000.00 360,000.00	\$2,043,796,30	\$360,000.00 \$360,000.00 \$360,000.00 \$360,000.00	\$2,657,628.56
Amount credited to Rest account		1,440,000.00		\$1,440,000.00 \$1,000,000.00	
Balance of Profit and Loss carried forward		\$6	03,796.30	2	217,628.56
LIABI	ILITIES				
Capital Stock	\$ 00,000.00 03,796.30	14,400,000.60		\$12,000,000,00 217,628,56	\$14,400,000,00
Unclaimed Dividends	$\begin{array}{c} 603,796,30 \\ 2,580,51 \\ 60,000,00 \end{array}$			\$12,217,628,56 2,883,01 360,000,00	
		27,366,376,81			\$26,980,431,57
Notes of the Bank in circulation	245,289,00 401,226,27 445,206,58			105,192,365,64 112,312,36	
	\$220,	582,746.70		\$183	3,469,159.80
A	SSETS				
Gold and Silver coin current	,802,263,05 ,240,587,00			\$ 5,168,887.3 9,542,088.2	3 5
required by act of Parliament for security of general bank note circulation. Due by agencies of this bank and \$ 8719 654 41	600,000,00			600,000,0	0
Oue by agencies of this bank and other banks in Great Britain \$ 8,719,654,41 Due by agencies of this bank and 7,425,676,78			7,331,267,6		
other banks in Foreign countries. 1,420,070,75			11,959,588,0		
and United States 77,212,382.00	,357,713,19		40,689,956,0	00 - 59,980,811,6	36
Deminion and Provincial Government Securities				8,105,233,5 3,492,713,6	57
Bank Premises at Montreal and Branches		600,000,00			600,000,00
where (rebate interest reserved) and other as- sets	1,173,656,56 143,552.13				
Overdue debts not specially secured (loss provided for)	83,294.2	91,409,502,96	,	84,437.	69 — 95,022,863,27
	\$220	0.582,746.70		\$10	83,469,159.80

Financial and Insurance Items

THE CEMENT MERGER was the subject of a question asked of the Government in the House of Commons The Finance Minister replied thus:this week. Whether this consolidation has in any way enhanced the price of cement is a disputed point. The law provides two ways of dealing with combinations which unduly enhance prices. One of these, in the case of dutiable articles, is by abolition, or reduction, of customs duties after the facts have been established by judicial inquiry. It is proposed to introduce, during the present session, a measure to make this portion of the law more effective. The other method is under the criminal code, the administration of which comes under the direction of the Attorney-Generals of the various provinces.

COTTON CURTAILMENT, owing to high price of raw materials, is the order of the day by Canadian as well as British and American mills.

"We are now going slow," said Mr. C. B. Gordon, president of the Dominion Textile, to a representative of the Montreal Star this week. "However," he added, "at any time there may be a change which will enable us to resume our former activities. On the other hand, the change may not come for a considerable time."

THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ACCIDENT UNDERWRITERS has called a meeting of claim managers of the companies, members of this association, to be held Tuesday, November 23rd, 1909, at II o'clock in the forenoon, Hotel Manhattan, Madison Avenue and Forty-Second Street, New York City. In directing that this meeting be called, the Chairman is acting under authority of a resolution of the last convention of the association and a vote of the recent meeting of the executive committee.

THREE YEARS AGO 1,000,000 bushels of wheat passed through the Harbour Commission's elevator at the Port of Montreal; last year 8,000,000; and this year it is expected the total will be 12,000,000. Thus far this year, according to the president of the Harbour Commission, as much wheat has pass-ed through Montreal as through all the North Atlantic ports of the United States combined.

CANADIAN NORTHERN EARNINGS for the year ending June 30, compare with last year as follows:

g June 30, compare w	1909.	1908.
Gross earnings	\$10,581,767 7,015,405	\$9,709,462 6,676,775
Working expenses Net earnings	3,566,362	3,032,686 2,353,757
Fixed charges	2,919,617 646,745	678,929
our plus		

The increase in the bonded debt, owing to the continuous extensions of the road's mileage, caused the slight decrease in surplus.

MEXICAN LIGHT & POWER COMPANY earnings for the month of October, 1909, are in Mexican currency, as follows: -

currency, as follows:	1908.	1909.	Dec. \$6,790*
Net earnings Gross Op. expenses	\$392,685 519,631 126,966	\$399,475 517,271 117,796	2,380 9,170

MR. H. L. WATT, treasurer of the Canada Life, was in Montreal this week.

WINNIPEG WHEAT PRICES yesterday compared as follows with one week and two weeks ago:

	Oct.	Dec	May.
. 10	987	958	991
Nov. 18	981	984	988
Nov 11	953	921	97
Nov. 4			

Chicago prices were around \$1.05 for May delivery.

THE CANADA NORTHWEST LAND COMPANY gives notice that a distribution on realization of assets. No. 2, of \$5 per share, has been declared and that the same is payable on the 15th day of January, 1910, to shareholders of record on the books of the company at the close of business on the 30th day of November, 1909 (fractional shares not included).

REGARDING NEW YORK DESPATCHES to the effect that the Bell Telephone Co. of Canada is affected by merger plans, it is pointed out that the Canadian company is an independent organization in which the American Telephone and Telegraph has a minority interest. Local offices say the Canadian situation is in no wise affected by the changes across the line.

THE TWO MANUFACTURERS' FIRE MUTUALS of the Canadian Manufacturers Association are now seeking authority from Parliament to extend their operations to buildings generally, and to any goods, chattels, railway plant, bridges or personal estate, and to obtain power to do a fire insurance business in all its branches.

MR. CHARLES H. NEELY, manager for Canada of the Ocean Accident & Guarantee Corporation, Limited, spent a few days in Montreal this week visiting the company's branch, Mr. Neely states that the volume of business written in Canada this year shows a satisfactory increase.

THE DETROIT UNITED RAILWAY is now being charged \$300 a day rental for use of city streets which passed back under civic control at the close of last week. The company stipulates that it does not waive its right to protest the charge in the future.

Another Hose Wagon has been smashed by coming into collision with a street car. The firemen were not hurt, but the apparatus was badly damaged. The frequency of these collisions within the last week or two is remarkable and calls for investigation as to the

THE SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL of the Pacific Coast Fire Insurance Company was recently increased from \$275,000 to \$500,000. This was the decision of the directors at their regular quarterly meeting recently held in Vancouver.

THE MEXICAN NORTHERN POWER COMPANY shareholders have authorized an increase of the bond issue from seven and a half millions to ten millions, and at the same time the stock was increased from ten million to fifteen million dollars.

THE LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE has listed £500,-000 Canadian Iron Corporation bonds and £1,000,-000 Dominion Iron & Steel bonds.

ONE IN SEVEN who carry accident insurance meets with a disabling accident, and one in five suffers disablement from sickness every twelve months, states a circular of the Imperial Guarantee & Accident Company. It also points out that of twenty accidents to business and professional men, nineteen are met aside from their ordinary occupation. There are forty-two accidents for one fire reported in cities. One accident in every three is caused by a fall. Nearly half of all accidents are caused by the carelessness of others.

SAVINGS BANK LIFE INSURANCE in Massachusets, according to The Standard, aggregates but a little over \$1,000,000 in the combined showing of the Whitman Savings Bank and the People's of Brockton, Mass. One institution has been in operation for over a year and the other for about a year.

THE NORTH BRITISH AND MERCANTILE celebrated its centennial anniversary last week. The company does business in Great Britain, United States, Canada, Australia, South Africa, India, Ceylon, Argentine Republic, Austria and Germany.

THE PRUDENTIAL LIFE is resisting an attempt on the part of the city authorities of Newark, N.J., to tax its deferred dividend reserve on the sound grounds that the reserve is a liability and therefore exempt from taxation.

THE ROYAL SECURITIES CORPORATION reports that the issue of \$3,150,000 of the Car & Foundry Company's preferred stock has been most successful, the issue having been largely oversubscribed in London.

THE SELKIRK CENTENNIAL committee this week decided that a strong delegation proceed to Ottawa for a final interview with the Dominion Government regarding the securing of a big money grant.

MR. R. W. E. BURNABY, formerly manager for the Dominion Life at Toronto, has received the important appointment of manager for Toronto and York of the Imperial Life Assurance Company.

To-DAY IT IS EXPECTED that the water will be turned into the new Montreal civic conduit, which has been two years under construction, and has cost three-quarters of a million dollars to construct.

THE LAKE OF THE WOODS MILLING COMPANY met this week and declared the usual quarterly dividends of 1½ per cent. on the common stock, and 1¾ per cent. on the preferred stock.

WINDSOR HOTEL DIRECTORS this week elected Mr. Henry Joseph, president; Mr. F. L. Wanklyn, vice-president; Mr. W. S Weldon, managing director, and Mr. A. E. Shaw, treasurer.

THE EXTRA-PROVINCIAL CORPORATION ACT of Manitoba went into effect on November 1, imposing a tax on all companies outside of Manitoba which do business within its borders.

TORONTO CITY COUNCIL decided at a meeting this week to ask the ratepayers to vote at New Year's on a proposal to build a tube system of underground railways in Toronto.

THE VARIOUS SECURITIES of the Dominion Steel-Coal companies total up to fifty-seven millions, as follows:

Dominion Iron and Steel Company-	
Common Stock	\$20,000,000
Preferred Stock	5,000,000
Bonds (Sept. 30, 1908)	9,368,833
Dominion Coal Company—	
Common Stock	\$15,000,000
Preferred Stock	3,000,000
Bonds	5,000,000
Total	957 368 833

THE SLOSS-SHEFFIELD COMPANY, has declared a regular dividend of 1¼ per cent. on the common stock, and an extra dividend of ¾ of one per cent. The extra dividend represents compensation to common stockholders for the amount lost during 1908, when the dividend was reduced from 5 per cent. to a 4 per cent. basis.

THE UNION BANK OF HALIFAX will open for buiness in its Montreal branch, Notre Dame street, on the 1st December.

FIRE AT BARRIE, ONT.

On the 17th instant, a fire occurred on Dunlop St. Barrie. The block contained the Crystal Palace, Gas Works, the C.P.R. Ticket Office, the G. N. W. Telegraph Company's Office, the Gazette printing office, and Armstrong's barber shop. The loss is stated to be about \$40,000; insurance unknown at time of going to press.

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List of Leading Stocks and Bonds
REPORTED FOR THE CHRONICLE BY R. WILSON-SMITH & CO., 160 ST. JAMES STREET, MONTREAL.
CORRECTED TO THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18th, 1909,

BANK STOCKS.	Closing prices or Last sale,	Par value of one share.	Revenue per cent. on investment at present prices.	Capital subscribed	Capital paid up		Per cent'ge of Rest	Rate of Annual Dividend	When Dividend payable.
British North America Anadian Bank of Commerce XD Sominion Eastern Townships	Asked. Bid. 189 1884	\$ 243 50 50 100	Per Cent.	\$ 4.866,666 10,000,000 3,983,700 3,000,000	\$ 4.866,666 10,000.000 3,983,700 3,000,000	\$ 2,433,333 6,000,000 4 982,070 2,000,000	125.06	Per cent. 7 8 12 8	April, October. March, June, Sept., Dec., Jan., April, July, October Jan., April, July, October
Farmers. Hamilton XD		100 100 100 100 100	5 55	1,000,000 2,500,000 2,500,000 1,084,900 5,000,000	566,396 2,500,000 2,500,000 1,019,539 5,000,000	2,500,000 2,150,000 333,653 5 000,000	86.00 32,73	10 8 6 11	March, June, Sept., Dec. March, June, Sept., Dec. March, June, Sept., Dec. Feb., May, August, Nov.
Home Bank of Canada Imperial La Banque Nationale Merchants Bank of Canada XD Metropolitan Bank Molsons. XD Montreal XD	::: :::	30 100 100 100 100	4 97 4 00	1,999 530 6,000,000 1,000,000 8,500,000 14,400,000	1,000,000 3,500.000	1,050,000 4,000,000 1,000,000 3,500,000 12,000,000	66,66 0 100.00 0 100.00	7 8 8 10 10	Feb., May, August, Nov. March, June, Sept., Dec. Jan., April, July, October Jan., April, July, October March, June, Sept., Dec.
Montreal New Brunswick Northern Crown Bank Nova Scotia Ottawa Provincial Bank of Canada XI		100 100 100	4'8i	750,000 2,207,500 3,000,000 3,000,000 1,000,075	2,202,181 3,000,000 3,000,000	1,312,50 50,00 5,400,00 3,000,00 300,00	0 180.00 0 100.00	13 5 12 10 5	Jan., April, July, October January, July, Jan., April, July, October March, June, Sept., Dec. Jan., April, July, October
Quebec XI Royal Standard St. Stephens	230 225	100 100 50	4 34	2,507,007 4,956,800 1,929,950 200,000	2,500,060 4,914,270 1,924,465 200,000	1,250 00 8,614,27 2,224,46 55,00	114.24 15 115.59 27.50	7 10 12 5	March, June, Sept., Dec. Ja.: April, July, October Feb., May, Aug, November March, September.
St. Hyacinthe	200	100 100 100	5 00	504,600 876,900 4,000,000 4,367,50	841,830 4,000,000 4,354,311	207,3 4,500.0 2,000,0	72 24,63 00 112,50 00 45.93	5 10 7 8 7	Feb., May, August, Nov. March, June, Sept., Dec. Jan., April, July, October Feb., May, August, Nov.
Union Bank of Halifax Union Bank of Canada United Empire Bank	D 1384	100	5 24	1,500,00 3,207,20 638,30	0 3,201,970	1,800,0	00 56,21		March, June, Sept., Desi
MISCELLANEOUS STOCKS. Bell Telephone B. C. Packers Assn "A" pref. X	D 85 7	7 100	8 23	12,500,00 635,00 635,00	635,000			7	Jan., April, July, October Cumulative. In arrears do 10½ p.e.
Can. Colored Cotton Mills Co		100		2,700,0		0			March, June, Sept., Dec.
Canada General Electric Comdo PfdX	R 1776 i	10 771 10	8 94	4,700,00 1,452 30 146,016 00 1,733,50	4,700.00 85 1,452,38 00 145.016,00	5		6	
Canadian Converters Detroit Electric St	631	63 10	0	12,500.0	00 12,500,00	0			February, August.
Dominion Coal Preferred do Common Dominion Textile Co. Com do Pfd	741	901 10 787 10 041 10 661 10	0 4 39 0 6 70 0 6 60	3,000,0 15,000,0 5,000,0 1,858,0	00 15,000,00 0 5,000,00 1,858.08	0		5 7	
Dom. Iron & Steel Com do Pfd		37 10		5,000.0	5,000,00	ю о		7	
Duluth S. S. & Atlantic	:: ::: :	10	00	12,000,0	10,000,00	m	::	7	Jan April, July, October
Halifax Tramway Co	::: :::: :		00	7,500,0	7,500,0	00		.	Initial Div.
do Preferred Illinois Trac. Pfd Laurentide Paper Com	xD	92 1	00 6 45 00 00 00 4 57	1,600,0	000 4,575,0 000 1,600 0 000 1,200,0	00		77	Jan., April. July, October February, August. Jan., April, July, October April. Physics (\$10 B'nusOct.'09)
Lake of the Woods Mill Co. Com. do do Pfd Mackay Companies Com. do Pfd	127	951 1 751 1	00 5 51 00 4 22 00 5 26 00 5 51	1,500, 43,437. 50,000, 13,585,	000 1.500,0 200 43,437,2 000 50,000,0 000 13,585,0	000			March, June, Sept., Dec. Jan., April, July, October Jan., April, July, October Jan., April, July, October
Minn. St. Paul & S.S.M. Com	1001	1232	100 4 37 100 100 5 6	10,416, 3,000 17,000	000 8.400, 000 3.000, 000 17,000	000		:::	April, October, March, June, Sept. Dec. Feb., May, August, Nov.
Montreal Cotton Co. Montreal Light, Ht. & Pwr. Co D Montreal Steel Work, Com. do Pfd. Montreal Street Railway Montreal Telegraph Northern Ohio Track Co.	207	2064	100 100 4.8 40 5.1	9 9,000 9 2,000	000 9,000	000		1	Jan., April, July, October
North West Land, Com N Scotia Steel & Coal Co. Com	751	75	100	5,000 2,000	0,000 4,987, 0,000 1,030,	000			*****
Ogilvie Flour Mills Com do Pfd	1271 87 90	864 874	100 5 4 100 5 7 100 4 4	3,132 4 25,000	2,000 2,000 3,132 3,000 25,000	000 000 000 000			March, June, Sept., Dec.
Sao. Paulo Shawinghan Water & Power Co St. John Street Railway. Toledo Ry & Light Co. Toronto Street Railway.		152	100 6 5 100 100 100	6,500	0,000 6,500 0,000 800 5,000 12,000	000 000 000 000		::::	Jan., April, July, Octobe Jan., April, July, Octobe June, December. Jan., April, July, Octobe
Trinidad Floatric Ry				1,16	1.164	,000			5 Jan., April, July, Octobe
Tri. City Ry, Co. Com	109	1084	100 100 100 100	2,60	0,000 2,600 0,000 20,100 0,000 3,000	,000			Jan., April, July, Octobe Feb., May. August, Nov Jan., April, July, Octobe Jan., April, July, Octobe
West India Elec Windsor Hotel		::::	100 ··· 100 ···	1.00	0.000 1,000	000			May, November Jan., April, July, Octobe

STOCK AND BOND LIST Continued

			ST	OCK A	ND BOND	LIST CONTINUE		
BONDS.	Closi Quota	tions	Rate p.c. of Int- erest per	Amount outstanding.	When Interest due,	Where Interest payable.	Date of Maturity.	REMARKS.
:	Asked.	Bid.	num.					
Bell Telephone Co			5	\$3,363,000	1st Oct. 1st Apl.	Bk. of Montreal, Mtl	April 1st, 1925	
Can. Colored Cotton Co			6	2,000,000	0 2nd Apl. 2nd Oct	" "	April 2nd, 1912	D-1
Dominion Coal Co		973	5	6,175,00	0 1st May 1st Nov.	" "	April let, 1940	Redeemable at 105 and Int.after May 1st, 1910
Dom. Iron & Steel Co	954	95	5	7.674,00	0 let Jan. 1st July.	Bk. of Montreal, Mtl	July 1st, 1929	
" 2nd Mortg. Bds Dom. Tex Sers. "A"		96	6			Bk. of Montreal, Mtl Royal Tru-t Co., Mtl.	March 1st, 1925	\$250,000 Redeemable Redeemable at 110 and Interest.
" "B"		100	6	1,162,00	0 "	" "	"	Redeemable at par after 5 years.
" "C"		95		1,000,00		" "	"	Redeemable at 105 and Interest.
" "D"				450,00	00	ro Panadanay N V	Feb. 1st. 1952	Redeemable at 105
Havana Electric Railway			5	8,311,56	1 1st Feb. 1st Aug.	52 Broadway, N.Y Bk. of Montreal, Mtl.	Jao. 1st, 1916	n 1 11 110
Halifax Tram Keewatin Mill Co		::	6	750,00	00 1-t March I Sept	. Royal Trust, Merrer	Sept. 1st, 1916	Redeemable at 110
Lake of the Woods Mill Co	0 112		6			Merchants Bank of Canada, Montreal	June 1st, 1923	
Laurentide Paper Co	. 111	110	6	1,036,0	2 Jan. 2 July.	Bk. of Montreal, Mtl.	Jan. 2nd, 1920	
Magdalen Island			6	6 000 0	00 30 June 30 Dec 00 1st Jan. 1st July	7.	July 1st, 1935	
Mexican Electric L. Co. Mex. L't & Power Co		::		19 000 0	oo lst Feb. 1st Aug		Feb. 1st, 1933 Jan. 1st, 1932	Redeemable at 105 and
Montreal L. & Pow. Co.				5,476,0	00 lst Jan. 1st July			Int. after 1912.
Montreal Street Ry. Co N. S. Steel & Coal Co				1,500,0 2,282,0	00 lst May 1st Nov 00 l Jan. 1 July.	U.B. of Hali'ax or B.	May 1st, 1922 July 1st, 1931	Interest.
N. S. Steel Consolidated				1,470,0	00 1 Jan. 1 July.	1 01 21.51	July 1st, 1931	Int. after 1912.
Ogilvie Milling Co			5 6	1,000,0	000 1st June 1st Dec	c. Bk. of Montreal, Mtl.	. July 1st, 1932	Redeemable at 105 and Interest
Price Bros				6 1,000,0	000 1st June 1st De	c	June 1st, 1928	
Rich. & Ontario Rio Janeiro				5 323,1 5 23,284,0	146 March 1 Sept 1000 Jan. 1 July	C B of C. Londo	. Jan. 1st, 193	
Sao Paulo				5 6,000.0	000 L June 1 Dec	Nat. Trust Co., Tor	June 1st, 192	6
Winnipeg Electric				5 { 1,000,0	000 1 July 1 Jan 000 2 July 2 Jan		Jan. 1st, 193	5

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Of Portland Maine.

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German American

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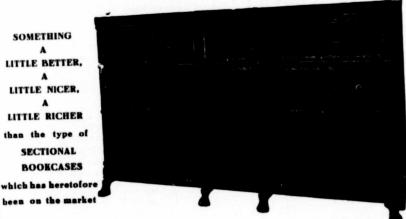
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PHILADELPHIA

CAPITAL,				\$3,000,000
ASSETS JA	NUAR	Y 1,	1909,	12,006,998
LOSSES DA	ID			145.000.000

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CROWN LIFE INSURANCE CO.

Low Premiums—Highest Guarantees—Extended Insurance Automatic Non-forfelture—All Modern Previleges to Policyholders

Liberal Contracts Available to Reliable and Productive Agents.

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The National Life Assurance Co.

requires three good men as special agents for the City of Montreal. Must be well recommended. Very liberal contracts will be made with the right men.

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JULY 1st 1908 Reserve Liability accrued on Policies

\$590,000

Capital and Assets accumulated for Security of Policies in Force -

\$1,425,000 \$1,000,000

Annual New Insurance Insurance in Force

in Force

\$5,000,000

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THE CHIEFDIFFICULTY that confronts the new man entering the Life Insurance

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-	1 9	0	8	•	-1 007 078 28
	Total Cash Income		••••	•••	9.590,638.09
	Total Assets				876,214.16
	Net Surplus Payments to policyholder	8.			654,991.05
	Payments to policyholder Insurance in Force	•••			40,340,031.00

For information respecting Agency openings write, T. G. McCONKEY, Supt. of Agencies

SUN LIFE

ASSURANCE COMPANY

CANADA JF

AT 31st DECEMBER, 1908.

\$29,238,525.51 2,596,303.95 SURPLUS over all Liabilities & Capital, Hm. 3½ & 3 per cent. Standard 4,118,491.91 SURPLUS, GOVERNMENT STANDARD 6,949,601.98 **INCOME 1908** -119,517,740.89 ASSURANCES IN FORCE

Write to Head Office, Montreal, for Leaflet entitled "PROGRESSIVE AND PROSPEROUS."

SUN LIFE POLICIES ARE EASY TO SELL.

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has many good openings for wide-awake fieldmen

Business in force, over \$55,000,000

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SICKNESS.

IMPERIAL PROTECTION

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Agents have a valuable Asset when they represent this strong Canadian Company. If you require an Agency write us.

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METROPOLITAN

INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW YORK.

(Stock Company.)

\$236,927,000 Assets ..

Policies in force on Dec-9,960,000 ember 31st, 1908

In 1908 it issued in Canada \$16,812,000 Insurance for ...

It has deposited with the Dominion Government, exclusively for Canadi-

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There are over 300,000 Canadians insured in the METROPOLITAN.

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OF CANADA

Incorporated by Special Act of Dominion Parliament

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Home Life Bldg., Toronto

*** ESTABISHED 1825. ***

The Standard Life Assurance Company.

OF EDINBURGH, SCOTLAND.

HEAD OFFICE	FOR	CANADA	: MONTREAL.

	INVESTED FUNI	DS				•	•			\$60,000,000
	INVESTMENTS	UNDER	CANAL	IAN	BRANCH	1		-		17,000,000
	DEPOSITED WI	TH CAN	ADIAN	GOV	ERNMEN	T	AND GOV	ERN	MENT	
	TRUSTE	ES, OVI	ER	-				-		7,000,000
	ANNUAL REVEN	NUE			16					7,500,000
	BONUS DECLAR	ED	-				•			35,000,000
W.	H. CLARK KENN	EDY,	Secretai	ry			D. M.	Mc	GOUN,	Manager for Canada.

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FIRE INSURANCE ONLY—ABSOLUTE SECURITY.
WM. MACKAY, Manager.
J. H. LABELLE, Assist. Manager

The Federal Life Assurance Company

- Head Office, - - Hamilton, Canada. =

CAPITAL AND ASSETS - - \$4,184,856.65
PAID POLICYHOLDERS IN 1908 - - - - 303,743.23
TOTAL ASSURANCE IN FORCE - - - 20,128,400.61

MOST DESIRABLE POLICY CONTRACTS.

DAVID DEXTER, President and Managine Director,

H. RUSSEL POPHAM, Manager, Montreal District.