

SHEEP IN COLD-STORAGE.

Some Have Been Kept Over Two Years at Montreal.

A despatch from Montreal says: Montreal's Chief Food Inspector, Dr. McGarry, has been investigating cold-storage conditions here. In one cold-storage place Dr. McGarry has found that no less than two thousand sheep have been kept for the last two years. The owners of the sheep declare that they are still in good condition and fit for consumption. The report will show also that in some cold-storage places there is stored food that has gone beyond "prime" condition. It is likely that more stringent regulations will be enforced.

FIFTY FISHERMEN PERISH.

Adrift on an Ice Floe in the Gulf of Finland.

A despatch from St. Petersburg says: Fifty fishermen who were set adrift upon an ice floe which broke away from the shore near Peterhof, on the south shore of the Gulf of Finland, are believed to have perished, as search for them has been futile.

A YEAR'S RECORD BUSINESS.

Splendid Showing of The Excelsior Life Insurance Company.

Nearly all the Canadian Life Insurance companies have in the past few years shown remarkable growth. The confidence of the people of Canada in their own institutions has been well merited. The managements of the most successful companies have been especially praiseworthy in their efforts to keep down expenses while enlarging their field of operations, adding to their assets and increasing their dividends to policy holders. Canadians have not been slow to recognize the excellent opportunities for safe and profitable investment afforded by these well-managed and thoroughly-supervised financial institutions. The security offered by the regular Canadian companies is second to none. In practically no other line of financial activity can it be said that any company has ever entered into liquidation or failed to meet its obligations in full.

The Excelsior Life Insurance Company has from the first held a position of prominence in those factors which are of essential importance to policy holders. Economy of management, productiveness and security of investments and favorable mortality experience have been the watchwords of its management.

The Mortality Experience of the Excelsior Life is remarkable. The average mortality experience per 1,000 lives at risk for 10 years of all active Canadian companies is slightly over ten and a half per cent. The average of 90 prominent American companies for 1907 was exactly twelve per cent. The Excelsior's average for an entire period of nineteen years is only about four per cent.; and the year 1909 shows the lowest percentage in mortality experience of any year since the company began operations. The experience of the Excelsior in this regard is certainly noteworthy. The importance of a low mortality ratio cannot be overestimated. It is of vastly greater significance to the policy holder than even a low expense ratio.

That Economy of Management has always been regarded in its true importance in the conduct of the affairs of the Excelsior is attested by the fact that Counsellor Tilley made the following reference to this company before the Royal Commission: "I have gone over the salaries; I do not think there is anything to be commented upon except that it has been the effort of the company to keep down expenses."

In some respects, however, the most interesting feature in the results of the Excelsior's business is the productiveness of its investments. During the past five years the average rate of interest earned by all the companies operating in Canada was a shade under five per cent. The average earnings of British Companies from the same source was four and a fifth per cent., while American companies averaged slightly better than the English. The Excelsior Life, however, earned during the same period the remarkable sum of more than seven per cent. on its investments. In 1905 its interest earnings were the highest of any company in Canada and for many years it has not ranked below second place. The far reaching effect of such earnings is too apparent for further comment.

In the year which has just closed the Excelsior increased its Cash In-

GIVEN UP BY HIS PHYSICIAN

"FRUIT-A-TIVES", THE FAMOUS FRUIT MEDICINE, SAVED HIS LIFE.



JAMES DINGWALL, Esq.
Williamstown, Ont., July 27th, 1908. "I suffered all my life from Chronic Constipation and no doctor, or remedy, I ever tried helped me. 'Fruit-a-tives' promptly cured me. Also, last spring I had a bad attack of BLADDER and KIDNEY TROUBLE and the doctor gave me up but 'Fruit-a-tives' saved my life. I am now over eighty years of age and I strongly recommend 'Fruit-a-tives' for Constipation and Kidney Trouble."
(Signed) JAMES DINGWALL.
50c a box, 6 for \$2.50—or trial box, 25c—at dealers or from Fruit-a-tives Limited, Ottawa.

come thirteen per cent.; decreased its Expense and Death Claims Ratio nine per cent.; increased its Assets sixteen per cent.; increased its Government Reserve twenty-three per cent.; decreased its Liabilities thirty-seven per cent., added to its Net Surplus on Policy Holders' Account forty-three per cent. and more than doubled its Net Unallotted Surplus. The total assets for the security of policy holders now stand at \$140.00 for every \$100.00 of Liability, a most unassailable position all through. The management of the Excelsior has shown a most praiseworthy conservatism in the selection of new business and in every essential of progressiveness, consistent with the utmost safety. It has given a most remarkable and satisfactory account of itself in the conduct of the company's affairs.

SPRING SKIN TROUBLES.

Are Cured by Zam-Buk.

At this season, scores of people—girls and young women especially—find their faces disfigured by pimples, dark spots, eruptions, etc. The skin needs attention.

Just think what it has gone through! You have been out in rain and sleet and snow. You have been at one moment perspiring from skating, or some other exertion. Then you have stood to "cool off." You have spent hours of the day indoors at a temperature equal to summer heat. Then you have covered up your skin—except your face—and gone out into a temperature away below zero!

Don't forget that the skin has to do work just as any other organ of the body, and if you overwork it, it gives out. Zam-Buk is the remedy. Smear it lightly over the spots, the eruptions, the sallow patches, at night, and notice how quickly your appearance improves. As the rich, refined, herbal essences sink deep into the tissue, the hard, scurvy-like patches are removed. Better color results. The cells of the skin become transparent, and the delicate bloom of health replaces the sallowness and pallor of disease.

Zam-Buk also cures eczema, ulcers, chaps, ringworm, cuts, burns, bruises, children's rashes, piles, etc. All druggists and stores at 50c. box, or Zam-Buk Co., Toronto, for price. Refuse harmful substitutes and imitations.

SEVEN TONS OF SILVER.

Big Shipment of Cobalt Product for England.

A despatch from St. Catharines says: Three big lorry loads of solid silver passing along St. Paul street on their way to the Grand Trunk station on Tuesday evening testified to the richness of the Cobalt silver mines. The silver was all in bars weighing about seventy-five pounds avoirdupois each, a hundred and seventy-six of them in all, the whole totalling up to about seven tons of solid silver. It all came from the Thorold smelter, and was smelted from Cobalt ore. The silver goes to London, England, through Montreal and Halifax. As it is very heavy stuff, its very weight adds to its security in transit, though every precaution will be taken en route. This is probably the greatest shipment of silver ever sent from St. Catharines.

An agent of the American Bible Society was assaulted in Venezuela and his Bibles destroyed.

SHOT HIS SISTER DEAD.

Old Gun Had Hung on Kitchen Wall for Years.

A despatch from Centreville, N. B., says: On Saturday, Wm. Lewis, a prominent farmer, accidentally shot his sister, Mrs. Esther Gallup dead. Lewis took his gun from the kitchen wall, where it had been hanging unused for years, with the intention of cleaning it. Not knowing it was loaded, he snapped the hammer, and the charge of buckshot blew his sister's head nearly off. The victim was sitting in a chair with her two-year-old grandchild prattling by her side when the accident occurred, and the little one's escape is a miracle. Lewis, who is 67 years old, is prostrated with grief.

POURED COLD WATER ON SLAG

Three Men Seriously Injured by Explosion at Sydney, N. S.

A despatch from Sydney, N. S., says: An explosion occurred on Saturday at the open hearth furnaces of the Dominion Iron and Steel plant. Three men were seriously burned by flying molten metal and severely injured. Supt. MacKley, of the blast furnaces department, who was passing through the mill at the time of the explosion, was most badly injured. All the victims will recover. It was caused by pouring cold water on slag.

NO RABIES EAST OF TORONTO.

Report of Dr. Rutherford, Vet. General of the Dominion.

A despatch from Ottawa says: Dr. Rutherford, Dominion Veterinary-General, stated on Wednesday that reports which had been appearing in the press as to mad dogs having bitten people in several districts of Ontario east of Toronto are not borne out by the facts elicited by the official investigation. In none of the cases mentioned has it been found that the dogs were suffering from rabies, and as far as it is now known there has been no outbreak of the disease east of Toronto.

DREADNOUGHT A PIGMY SHIP

Rear-Admiral Says Size of War Vessels Must Increase.

A despatch from London says: "The battleship of the future may be fifty per cent. larger than the present Dreadnought." This is the prediction of Rear-Admiral Bacon, commander of the original Dreadnought, who addressed the Institute of Naval Architecture on Wednesday. The size of the ships and the power of their guns must increase until actual war confirms or qualifies the present theories of naval construction, he added.

EUCALYPTUS.

A Rapid Growing Hardwood—Native of Australia. But Being Propagated Very Satisfactorily in California.

The rapid development of the Eucalyptus growing industry in California has been attracting much attention of both the State and Federal Forestry officials, and more recently this interest has spread to the point where many capitalists are investing very largely.

With the one-time almost unlimited forests of native hardwoods, America looked upon the Eucalyptus simply as a supply for certain oils for medicinal purposes, and but little attention was given to the wonderful growth and the intense hardness of many species of Eucalypts. Recent years, however, have proven the fact that Eucalyptus will grow in California as readily as in its own native country of Australia, and the following quotation from "A Handbook for Eucalyptus Planters," issued by the California State Board of Forestry confirms this statement.

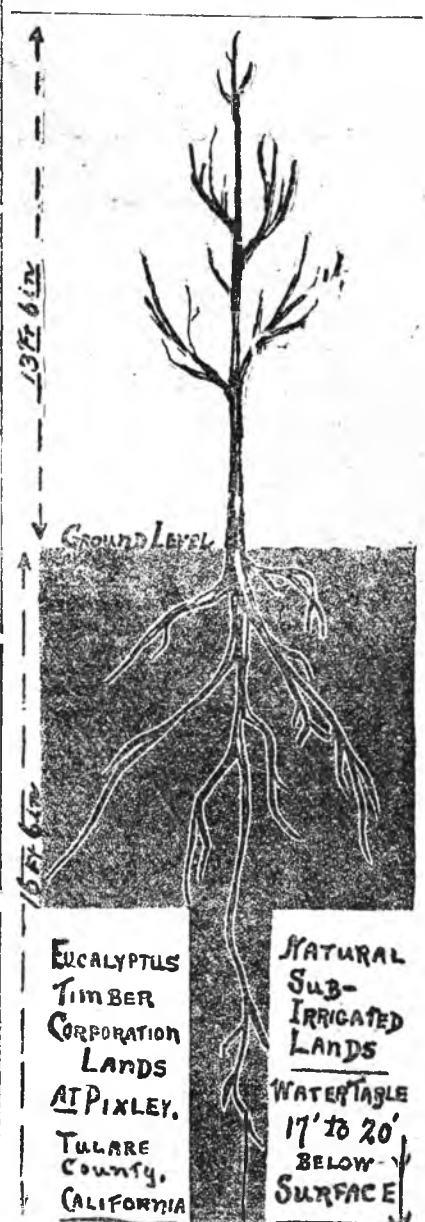
Page (33) Under favorable conditions trees in seeding plantations have reached a maximum development of 5 inches in diameter and 67 feet in height in four years. This represents an average of 17 feet height growth per year, though a growth of 10 to 15 feet in height yearly is the general average. . . . the most rapid seedling growth noted was made by a tree which in nine years reached a height of 125 feet and a diameter of 36 inches.

The Eucalyptus is a remarkable tree—remarkable from almost every standpoint as compared with the native American timber trees. It is an evergreen, but a hardwood. It is one of the hardest of hardwoods, but is a more rapid grower than any of our native softwoods. As a seedling it requires about as much care as a field of corn, and it grows almost as fast, but after two or three years it requires very little attention, and yet will continue its remarkable growth for many years. Even when cut down there is a second growth (like our Canadian chestnut trees), more rapid than the first.

The secret of this rapid growth is due very largely to the tap-root system that nature seems to have worked out to perfection in this species of her many wonderful children. Almost immediately after transplanting into an open field the seedlings develop what is called a tap-root. That is the main central root starts in a downward course and simply keeps on growing until it finds a supply of water.

The following illustration for which we are indebted to Mr. W. E. Dyer, Canadian Representative of the Eucalyptus Timber Corporation of Los Angeles, shows what nature and scientific work will pro-

duce in the short space of time stated.



EUCALYPTUS ROSTRATA.
Age, 15½ months; height, 13½ feet; circumference, 13½ inch at base; tap root, 16½ feet below surface. Planted April 20, 1908. Dug up August 5, 1909.

This is not one of the fastest growing Eucalypts, but is one of the hardest and most valuable for timber products. Regarding this particular species the United States Dep't of Agriculture, Bulletin No. 35, may be quoted:

(Page 77) The E. rostrata is a timber that is very valuable for many purposes. It is very hard and strong—almost as hard as iron, when thoroughly dried. The great usefulness of this timber is due principally to its durability, both under ground and in water.

Baron Von Mueller says that well matured trees of this species, cut at the season when the circulation of sap is least active, and carefully placed for drying, have proved one of the most durable of any timbers of the whole globe.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY OF CANADA FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31ST, 1910

CASH ACCOUNT.	
INCOME.	
Net Ledger Assets, December 31, 1908	\$12,355,474 81
Premiums (net)	2,049,820 41
Interest	700,227 00
	\$15,105,322 22
DISBURSEMENTS.	
To Policyholders—	
Death Claims	\$384,527 26
Matured Endowments	240,137 00
Surrendered Policies	96,257 79
Surplus	86,044 54
Annuities	11,843 06
	\$818,809 64
Expenses, Taxes, etc.	452,338 20
Balance Net Ledger Assets, December 31st, 1909	13,834,174 33
	\$15,105,322 22

BALANCE SHEET	
ASSETS.	
Mortgages	\$ 6,885,864 88
Debentures and Bonds	4,868,596 62
Loans on Policies	1,818,768 55
Premium Obligations	19,885 01
Real Estate (Company's Head Office)	50,528 00
Cash in Banks	233,633 42
Cash at Head Office	3,786 90
Due and Deferred Premiums (net)	354,717 99
Interest due and accrued	292,660 24
	\$14,518,441 61
LIABILITIES.	
Reserve, 4%, 3½% and 3% standard	\$12,065,146 16
Reserve on lapsed policies on which surrender values are claimable	1,938 67
Death Claims unadjusted	41,247 00
Present value of amounts not yet due on matured installment policies	74,404 73
Matured Endowments, unadjusted	2,762 59
Premiums paid in advance	14,282 53
Due for medical fees and sundry accounts	12,078 68
Credit Ledger Balances	36,889 00
Surplus, December 31st, 1909 (Surplus on Government Standard of Valuation, \$2,973,749.51)	2,269,692 25
	\$14,518,441 61

Audited and found correct. J. M. SCULLY, F.C.A., Auditor. Waterloo, January 24, 1910. GEO WEGENAST, Managing Director.

New Business (all Canadian) written in 1909 \$ 8,125,578; Increase over 1908 \$ 877,114
Assurances in force, December 31, 1909 59,261,959; Increase over 1908 4,668,077
Assets, December 31, 1909 14,518,442; Increase over 1908 1,534,778
Surplus, December 31, 1909 2,269,692; Surplus earned in 1909. 608,921

Booklets containing the Directors' Report and proceedings of the 40th Annual Meeting held March 3rd, 1910, are being printed, and will be distributed among policyholders in due course. **HEAD OFFICE WATERLOO, ONT.**