

Business done by British companies. 778. The business done by the British fire companies resulted in a balance in their favour of \$712,981, being a decrease of \$205,147, as compared with 1889, as shown by the following statement:—

	1889.	1890.
Paid for losses.....	\$ 1,968,537	\$ 2,229,556
“ general expenses.....	1,083,967	1,129,596
Total.....	<u>\$ 3,052,504</u>	<u>\$ 3,359,152</u>
Received from premiums.....	3,970,632	4,072,133
Balance in favour.....	<u>\$ 918,128</u>	<u>\$ 712,981</u>

The adverse balance, which had been in existence every year since 1877, when occurred the disastrous fire at St. John, N.B., when the losses paid by British companies amounted to four and one-half millions, was reversed in 1887, when a favourable balance of \$341,398 was shown, which was increased in 1888 to \$1,094,894, further increased in 1889 to \$2,013,022, and still further increased in 1890 to \$2,726,003.

By American companies. 779. The following is a comparative statement of the business done by American companies in 1889 and 1890:—

	1889.	1890.
Paid for losses....	\$ 229,538	\$ 300,917
“ general expenses.	116,618	158,996
Total.....	<u>\$ 346,156</u>	<u>\$ 459,913</u>
Received for premiums.	443,644	514,317
Balance.....	<u>+ \$ 97,488</u>	<u>+ \$ 54,404</u>

By Canadian companies. 780. A similar comparative statement of the business done by Canadian companies is found below:—

	1889.	1890.
Paid for losses..	\$ 2,417,047	\$ 2,254,867
“ general expenses....	1,064,558	1,114,472
“ dividends.....	126,759	135,690
Total	<u>\$ 3,608,364</u>	<u>\$ 3,505,029</u>
Received for premiums.....	\$ 3,539,641	\$ 3,603,152
“ from other sources.....	132,349	150,161
Total.....	<u>\$ 3,671,990</u>	<u>\$ 3,753,313</u>
Balance.....	<u>+ \$ 63,626</u>	<u>+ \$ 248,284</u>

The Canadian companies received \$1,018,226 in premiums for business done in Canada, and \$1,584,879 for business done in other countries. The percentage of losses paid to premiums received for Canadian business was 59.40, and for business in other countries 57.45.