

In the more detailed analyses of fire insurance in Canada dealt with in Table 2, the statistics cover only the operations of companies with Dominion registration, but, as shown in Table 1, such companies account for approximately 94 p.c. of the insurance in force.

### 1.—Dominion and Provincial Fire Insurance in Canada, 1944

| Item   | Gross<br>Insurance<br>Written | Net in<br>Force at End<br>of Year | Net<br>Premiums<br>Written | Net<br>Losses<br>Incurred |
|--|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
|  | \$                            | \$                                | \$                         | \$                        |
| Dominion Licensees.....  | 14,572,876,024                | 14,174,130,630                    | 55,027,051                 | 28,921,930                |
| Provincial Licensees—  |                               |                                   |                            |                           |
| (a) Provincial companies within provinces<br>by which they are incorporated.....                     | 657,155,435                   | 1,339,467,038                     | 4,953,955                  | 2,673,273                 |
| (b) Provincial companies within provinces<br>other than those by which they are<br>incorporated..... | 94,047,609                    | 113,308,224                       | 662,392                    | 397,366                   |
| Totals, Provincial Licensees.....  | 751,203,044                   | 1,452,775,262                     | 5,616,347                  | 3,070,639                 |
| Lloyds, London.....  | 176,062,137                   | 205,351,916                       | 1,229,785                  | 613,109                   |
| <b>Grand Totals.....</b>   | <b>15,500,141,205</b>         | <b>15,832,257,808</b>             | <b>61,873,183</b>          | <b>32,605,678</b>         |

### Subsection 2.—Historical and Operational Statistics of Dominion Fire Insurance Companies

**Historical Statistics of Dominion Fire Insurance.**—The report of the Superintendent of Insurance for the year ended Dec. 31, 1944, shows that at that date there were 270 fire insurance companies under Dominion registration; of these 59 were Canadian, 73 were British, and 138 were foreign companies. In 1875, the first year for which authentic records were collected by the Department of Insurance, 27 companies operated in Canada—11 Canadian, 13 British and 3 United States. The proportionate increase in the number of British and foreign companies from 59 p.c. to 78 p.c. of the total number is a very marked point of difference between the fire and life insurance businesses in Canada, the latter being carried on very largely by Canadian companies.

The trend in the average rate payable for fire insurance has been steadily downward, although the increases in fire losses experienced in the years from 1941 to 1945 have had the effect of checking that tendency. The increase in value of insurable buildings and their contents tends to increase fire insurance premiums in spite of the trend of the average rate. Another factor that has tended to increase the amount of premiums during the past few years is that in the years before 1939 fire insurance companies were prohibited under provincial legislation from insuring mercantile or manufacturing risks for terms exceeding one year, but since that time they have been free to insure such property without a term limitation. The figures indicate that this privilege was not taken advantage of to any great extent until 1941.