



The report of the Superintendent of Insurance for the year ended Dec. 31, 1948, shows that at that date there were 274 fire insurance companies under Dominion registration; of these, 63 were Canadian, 76 were British, and 135 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 77 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.

Subsection 1.—Grand Total of Fire Insurance in Canada

Of the total amount of insurance effected in Canada during each year, a part is sold by the companies holding provincial licences and permits. Such companies generally confine their operations to the province of incorporation but may be allowed to sell insurance in other provinces.

In the more detailed analyses of fire insurance given in Table 2, the statistics cover only the operations of companies with Dominion registration; as shown in Table 1, such companies account for approximately 90 p.c. of the insurance in force.