



The report of the Superintendent of Insurance for the year ended Dec. 31, 1951, shows that, at that date, there were 277 fire insurance companies under Federal registration; of these, 68 were Canadian, 83 were British and 126 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 75 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.—Total Registered 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.

Fire insurance, as shown in Table 1, accounts for approximately 91 p.c. of the insurance in force. In the more detailed analyses of fire insurance given in Table 2, the statistics cover only the operations of companies with Federal Government registration.