VALUE OF LIFE INSURANCE

XXXIX.

Insurance and Agriculture

BY C. A. HASTINGS

The man who works in a city, or whose work goes on steadily year by year, has no difficulty in estimating his expenditure, because he is earning a fixed income and can put aside a proportion of his earnings. He is in a splendid position in comparison to the man who is engaged in agricultural pursuits, and who has to depend upon climatic conditions—to the possible absolute disappearance of profit for a whole season. For a farmer to be successful he must be a business man, as well as understand the science of farming. More perhaps than in any other form of livelihood, a farmer must sink a considerable portion of his profits in his farm each year in the hopes of further profit in the coming year. Every farmer runs the danger of a bad year, and it is his duty to lessen this risk, so far as his dependents are concerned, and this can only be done by life insurance.

A life insurance policy means the immediate creation of an estate for the family. In previous articles, it has been pointed out, that a policy—chosen with care—represents a sound investment as well as being absolutely stable. It does not take a long time before the policy can be used as security, and a farmer very often requires financial assistance after a bad season. I am dealing with the case of a farmer who wishes to be progressive, and to succeed he must have some knowledge of financing as well as the science of farming.

Speaking generally, many farmers mortgage property and stock in order to raise a loan, which is more or less permanent. Now this loan is different to the loan made in a city which is profitable and necessary. When a farmer raises a loan, he is merely "getting out of the frying-pan to get into the fire." And still worse than this, he does not experience this extra burden.

I will take an example—"A" is earning his bread and butter on his farm and is doing well, for the returns, after paying for expenses, goes to the credit of "A's" family. Now then, "A" has a bad season, perhaps two, he mortgages portions or all of his property and dies before the mortgage is paid off. The wife has now to hire a man of experience who will not work for the mere wage of a laborer—neither will he work as early or as late as the dead farmer: then there is the interest payable on the mortgage—these outgoings have to be met before the wife and family get anything at all. Now supposing "A" had a life policy in force, large enough to meet the mortgage, the wife and family would then have the property unencumbered. Then they will have a better opportunity to derive a living. Of course, one so often hears: "It is hard enough to meet working expenses, let alone life premiums." It is quite true that it is most difficult sometimes to show a profit; but then, if it is difficult for the breadwinner, how much more difficult it is bound to be for the wife and family.

Life insurance is not a luxury; nor is it an expense—but it is a duty, and man has only got to put himself in his family's position and then it will not take him long to realize how simple—how advantageous it is, and how he can really and truly prove himself unselfish.

PROPHETS ARE BUSY WITH CANADA.

Statisticians of the United States government assert that by the time Canada has a population of 25,000,000, and is able to export foodstuffs and other commodities to the amount of $1,000,000,000, a year, the United States will have a population of 150,000,000 and be in need of every eatable animal, and every bushel of wheat and other grain and of potatoes, every pound of butter and every dozen eggs that the Canadians can sell it.

Professor L. E. Horning, addressing the Canadian Club at London, Ont., the other day, predicted that at the end of this century Canada would have a population of 96,000,000 people, and said that for Canadians and Canada the greatest problem was how we should conduct ourselves for the next 25 years in our national life.

The International Mausoleum Company, Limited, Toronto, which has paid four quarterly dividends of 2½ per cent. each, has disposed of its territorial rights to the Quebec Mausoleum Company, Limited, for the province of Quebec and east thereof and to the Western Mausoleum Company, Limited, for the province of Manitoba and west thereof.

COMPANIES RECENTLY REGISTERED.

The following company has been registered to do business in Manitoba:—

Mutual Life and Citizens' Assurance Company, Sydney, Australia.

The following companies have been registered to do business in Alberta:—

Spencer Grain Company, Limited, Winnipeg, $100,000. Western Provincial Lands, Limited, Prince Albert, $1,000,000. Financieele Maatschappij Voor West-Canada (Western Canada Finance Company), Te Rotterdam, Rotterdam, $100,000.

The following companies have been registered to do business in Saskatchewan:—

The Western Canadian Advisory Board, Limited. Stewart Sheaf Loader Company, Limited.

The following company has been registered to do business in Quebec:—

The National Trust Company, Limited, of Toronto, head office, Montreal, Que.

COMPANIES INCREASING CAPITAL.

The following companies in Alberta have increased their capital stock:—

Lowry's, Limited, from $50,000 to $250,000. Killam Curling Club, Limited, from $1,500 to $3,000. The Yellowhead Pass Coal and Coke Company, Limited, from $1,000,000 to $5,000,000. Edmund's Limited, from $10,000 to $50,000.

The following companies in Saskatchewan have increased their capital stocks:—

Liverpool and Canadian Realty and Investment Company, Limited, from $20,000 to $50,000. Johnson and Company, Limited, from $15,000 to $40,000.

The following companies in Canada have increased their capital stock:—

Security Realities, Limited, from $100,000 to $200,000. The Canada Paper Company, Limited, from $20,000 to $120,000.

The following companies in Quebec have increased their capital stock:—

Traders Company, from $50,000 to $60,000. The Canadian Asbestos Company, from $60,000 to $120,000.

The following company in Ontario has increased its capital stock:—

The Renfrew White Granite Company, Limited, from $180,000 to $250,000.

SASKATCHEWAN COMPANIES AND THEIR FUNCTIONS.

The following is a classification of the companies in active operation in Saskatchewan during the fiscal year ending in March 1st, 1913:—

Land companies are most numerous there being 241 of them. General stores number 89 elevator and milling companies 62 and lumber companies 50. The other companies are classified as below according to the registrar of joint stock companies:—

Athletic associations, 4; aerated water, 6; automobiles, 16; builders' supplies, 16; buildings, 44; brick and clay products, 18; brewing, 5; butchers, 1; boots and shoes, 2; bakers, 1; brushes, 1; bankers, 2; baseball, 2; contractors, 31; country clubs, 3; cement, 3; clothing and outfitting, 6; cemeteries, 2; creameries and dairies, 9; cartage, 8; cigars and tobacco, 1; drugs and stationery, 14; dipsomaniac home, 1.

Exhibition, 1; electric supplies, 4; fuel, 18; financial, 23; fruit, 6; furniture, 7; foundries and metal works, 21; fibre, 5; gravel and sand, 7; gas burner, 1; grocers, 8; hotels, 24; hardware, 22; harness and leather goods, 5; hospitals and sanitoria, 4; investment, 22.

Implements, 14; ice, 7; insurance, 6; jewellers, 3; live stock, 2; laundries, 9; lighting, 15; liquor, 12; marble workers, 1; medicinal water, 1; mining, 9; market gardens and nurseries, 3; mutual fire insurance, 4; musical, 2; manufacturing, 7; navigation, 1; office specialty, 1.

Printers and publishers, 26; pianos, 1; paints and oils, 3; plasterers, 1; packing and canning 4; plumbing, 3; rinks, 37; ranching and farming, 17; recreation, 14; restaurants, 1; scales, 1; soap, 1; telephone, 23; turf clubs, 11; tent and mattress, 3; traction engines, 1; theatres, 10; threshing, 1; typewriters, 1; vehicles, 1; warehousing, 10; wire fencing, 1; woodworkers, 1.