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LEGAL DECISIONS.

Barnes v. Dominion Grange Mutual Fire Insurance Association.—B. applied to a mutual company for insurance on his property for four years, giving an undertaking to pay the amounts required from time to time, and a four months' note for the first premium. He received a receipt beginning as follows: "Received from B. an undertaking for the sum of \$46.50, being the premium for an insurance to the extent of \$1,500 on the property described in his application of this date," and then providing that the company could cancel the contract, at any time within fifty days, by notice mailed to the applicant, and that non-receipt of a policy within the fifty days, with or without notice, should be absolute evidence of rejection of the application. No notice of rejection was sent to B., and no policy was issued within the said time, which expired on 4th March, 1891. On 7th April, B. received a letter from the manager asking him to remit funds to pay his note maturing on 1st March. He did so, and his letter or remittance crossed another from the manager, mailed at Owen Sound, 20th April, stating the rejection of his application and returning the undertaking and note. On 24th April, the insured property was destroyed by fire. B. notified the manager by telegraph, and on 29th April, the latter wrote returning the money remitted by B., who afterwards sent it again to the manager, and it was again returned. B. then brought an action to recover the amount of the loss, which was dismissed at the hearing. A new trial was ordered by the Queen's Bench Divisional Court, whose decision was affirmed by the Court of Appeal, and now the Supreme Court confirms the Court of Appeal, holding that there was a valid contract by the company with B. for insurance for four years; that the statutory conditions in the Ontario Insurance Act governed such contract, though not in the form of a policy; that if the provision as to non-receipt of a policy within fifteen days was a variation of a statutory condition, it was ineffectual for non-compliance with condition 115, requiring variations to be written in a different colored ink from the rest of the document, and if it had been so printed the condition was unreasonable; and that such notice, though the non-receipt might operate as a notice, was inconsistent with condition 19, which provides that notice shall not operate until seven days after its receipt.

COMBINATIONS TO GOVERN PRICES.

A judgment handed down on Saturday last, 16th May, by Judge Truax of the New York Supreme Court, is of interest and importance to many trade associations. The John D. Park & Sons Company sued the National Wholesale Druggists' Association, and applied for an injunction, which the judge granted, restraining the association from combining against the plaintiff company, because the latter was not a member of the organization, and would not sign an agreement to maintain prices. Much attention has been attracted by the decision, because the principle on which the injunction was granted applies, it is argued, to all branches of business in which the "limited price" system is in operation.

—The bridges on the line of the Quebec Central Railway, swept away during the recent floods in Sherbrooke and the Beauce valley, have been replaced by temporary structures, and traffic has been fully resumed between Sherbrooke and Quebec. The first crossing was made at the former city last week, when a large accumulation of loaded freight cars were brought across from Newington.

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