

destroy more than 80 per cent. of the value, the clause would not in any way affect the loss settlement or the amount to be paid to the property owner. For this reason the co-insurance clause is seldom a factor in loss settlements in the case of properties which are not under fire protection, since such properties are usually totally destroyed when once on fire.

Property owners sometimes object to the use of co-insurance or percentage liability clause because in the case of partial losses it puts a penalty upon those insurers who fail to maintain the agreed amount of insurance, but from the foregoing it is evident that the rate was predicated upon a certain percentage of insurance as compared with the value and, therefore, if the assured fails to keep up that amount of insurance it is not unfair for him to be penalized for his failure so to do.

EXAMPLE NO. 1.

80 PER CENT. CO-INSURANCE CLAUSE.

Value of property	\$10,000
Insurance carried	6,000
Insurance required	8,000
Deficiency	2,000
Amount of loss	6,000

APPORTIONMENT.

Company's proportion, 6-8 or	\$ 4,500
Assured's proportion, 2-8 or	1,500
	\$6,000

100 PER CENT. CO-INSURANCE CLAUSE.

Value of property	\$10,000
Insurance carried	8,000
Insurance required	10,000
Deficiency	2,000
Amount of loss	8,000

APPORTIONMENT.

Company's proportion, 8-10 or	\$ 6,400
Assured's proportion, 2-10 or	1,600
	\$8,000

EXAMPLE NO. 2.

Value of property	\$10,000
Insurance carried	8,000
Insurance required	8,000
Loss	5,000
Company pays	5,000

BIGGEST GUN IN THE WORLD.

When its breech-locking device has been perfected at Watervliet arsenal, the 16-inch gun, the biggest piece of ordnance in the world, which has just been shipped from Sandy Hook proving grounds, will be practically ready for service on the Panama Canal fortifications. The carriage for this giant gun is now under construction at the Waterdown, Mass., arsenal. It probably will be taken back to Sandy Hook for tests after being mounted and will not be shipped to Panama before next spring.

Some idea may be gotten of the tremendous power of this gun, destined to protect the Pacific entrance to the Panama Canal, by the fact that it is 50 feet long, weighs 142 tons and fires a projectile about six feet long. The projectile itself weighs a ton and is discharged by 665 pounds of powder. It requires eight men to carry the powder charge. This gun has a maximum range of from 22 to 23 miles, or half the distance between New York city and West Point.

SCOTTISH WIDOWS' FUND.

The centenary celebration of the Scottish Widows' Fund takes place next month. Already there has been published an extremely well-written volume to mark the event, being "The Annals of the Scottish Widows' Life Assurance Society, during 100 years, 1815-1914." The work is by the Rt. Hon. Sir Herbert Maxwell, which is at once a guarantee of reliability and literary excellence. Primarily of concern to the Society, whose record it is, there is a great deal of interesting reading matter in it which will be perused by a wider circle. In fact, the book has been so well received that it has been decided to offer it to the public at 5s. 3d. per copy post free, through the publishers, Messrs. C. & E. Layton, of 56, Farringdon Street, E.C. While the volume is a most admirable history of the Scottish Widows' Fund, showing its unbroken progress from the very beginning, it may be taken also to be the history generally of life assurance during the past century, for what has obtained with this great life office has been the experience of other insurance concerns in so far that all were based more or less on the lines of the old Equitable, which was instituted more than 150 years ago. From a small mutual office the Scottish Widows' has steadily and unflatteringly grown until it now ranks as one of the leading and largest of British life institutions. It possesses accumulated funds of £22,000,000. The colossal sums which during its long career it has received and disbursed, show that the founders built up their enterprise on correct lines, being men of determination, integrity, resource and sterling ability. No greater monument could stand to their memory than, for instance, the last annual report and accounts of the office. Men come and go; times and seasons alter. The present officials of the Society have behind them great traditions, and the spirit which they have inherited from the past must fill them with the one great aim and object of leaving the work still better than they found it. One cannot help admiring how faithfully and consistently the pioneers of the Society pursued their uphill work, all of which is described in the fine story told by Sir H. Maxwell; it is a fitting record of the institution's triumphs.

COURT HOLDS LANDLORD RESPONSIBLE FOR INJURIES.

A decision believed to be the first of its kind in the United States was handed down by the Minnesota Supreme Court at Minneapolis recently, awarding damages for injuries sustained in a fire. Mrs. M. E. Wardwell of Minneapolis and Margery McCall of St. Paul were the plaintiffs. They sued Hannah Cameron, owner of the Concord Flats, located in that city, which were destroyed by a fire in which four women lost their lives in 1910.

Suits were based on the allegation that the fire-escapes were insufficient. Mrs. Wardwell received judgment for \$2,713. She went down a fire-escape until she was compelled to jump 20 feet. Her leg was broken. Margery McCall, as administratrix for Jennette Wilford, a little girl who was burned to death, received judgment for \$1,000.

The decisions affirm the finding of the court below and are said to be the first clearly defining the responsibility of a landlord of an apartment building to keep the fire-escapes in proper condition.—*United States Review.*