

Insurance: Fire, Life and Miscellaneous.

Have you a surplus? The insurance company stands ready to supply you with one.—The Aetna.

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The Niagara Fire Insurance Company of New York will shortly begin writing business in the province of Manitoba.

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Ontario agents of the Travelers' Insurance Company of Hartford, to the number of 75, met in convention at Toronto this week.

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The Home Life Association of Canada is adding four stories to its present eight-story building on Victoria street, Toronto. The new addition will cost \$150,000.

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Application will be made at the next session of Parliament, by the Dominion Guarantee Company, Ltd., for an act to change the name of that company to the Dominion Gresham Guarantee & Casualty Company.

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I am downright sorry for the man who gets only his salary out of his job. There is something the matter either with him or his job. It is a case of incompatibility of temper, and unless the difference can be patched up, a suit for separation ought to be filed.—Robert Lynn Cox.

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The Canadian Fire Underwriters' Association has decided to adopt stricter regulations in regard to electric wiring. A higher grade of insulated wiring is required than formerly. It is stated also that the question of the prohibition of the placing of electric wiring in wooden moulding is under consideration.

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Mr. H. S. Wilson, of the Sovereign Fire of Canada, has been elected president of the Acme Fire of Cedar Rapids to represent the Canadian interests which recently obtained control of the company. The capital of the Acme is to be increased from \$100,000 to \$200,000 and an equal amount is to be added to surplus.

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The Metropolitan Life has made the following announcement with regard to industrial policies:—"If the holder of a policy beyond the grace period should die, and at the time of death there be due and unpaid or uncredited a bonus, which, if applied as a credit, would have brought the premiums to within the grace period at the date of death, the company will recognize the claim. This rule is effective immediately, and retroactive."

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To give better fire protection to the many villages in Queens county, the chief of the New York Fire Department has entered into an arrangement with the Long Island Railroad Company, whereby firemen and fire fighting apparatus may be shipped at a few minutes' notice to any station on the railroad. A flat car is to be kept on a siding in the railroad yard in Long Island City, and as soon as an alarm is received that

necessitates a large force to handle it, to assist the village fire department, the plan is to put an engine, hose cart, horses and men on the flat car and send it to the village where the fire is. It is said that a recent test, the entire outfit was put aboard the car, and the firemen were ready to start within seven minutes after receiving the alarm.

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It is notoriously difficult to awaken the adult mind to a sense of danger arising from familiar sources. The tendency is to take dangers with which one is daily associated as a matter of course, and to spend little thought or effort towards improving the conditions which are responsible for them. It seems evident that if public school instruction in fire prevention had been in vogue fifty years ago the present fire waste would have been much less.—West Virginia Insurance Commissioner's Bulletin.

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A cable from London says that the "Olympic," which was in collision with the cruiser "Hawke" near Southampton is insured in London for £1,000,000. The terms of the policies under which the vessel is covered provide that the underwriters shall pay only in the event of a claim exceeding £150,000. The liability, therefore, may depend a great deal upon the result of the finding as to where the blame lies for the accident. Under the terms of the Merchant Shipping Act the "Olympic" is entitled to a limit in her liability of £8 per ton on her registered tonnage, but as she is of 45,234 tons her liability in all amounts to almost £350,000, in the event of the "Olympic" being found at fault.

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Information continues to drift in relating to parties who have been victimized by some of the mutual fire insurance companies which were recently closed up. One letter tells of a loss sustained by a policyholder in Illinois who forwarded his proof of loss some time ago, but has not heard from either the company whose policy he held or the broker who supplied it. Another similar case is reported from Mississippi in which the Insurance Commissioner, on being consulted, advised the insured that under the law he could hold the agent personally responsible for his loss. Agents and brokers cannot be too careful as to the class of companies represented by them or with which they have dealings.—The Spectator, N. Y.

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Industrial policy-holders of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company who pay their premiums directly to the Home Office or to District Offices have been surprised and gratified since September 1 by receiving sizable checks from the Company, accompanied by the following letter of explanation.

Metropolitan Life Insurance Co.,
Home Office Account Division,
Home Office Account Division.

September 1, 1911.

Dear Sir or Madam:—Laws have recently been passed in several States, at the initiative of the Company, permitting us to return to the holders of weekly premium policies on which premium payments have been made for not less than one year directly to the Home Office or to the District Offices in those States, a percentage of the premium representing the saving of the cost of collections from agents. It gives us great pleasure to enclose you our check for 10 per cent. of the amount so paid by you during the past year, and at the same time to advise you that until otherwise notified a similar remittance will be made you annually.

Yours truly,

JOHN R. HEGEMAN,
President.