

as will invalidate the policy, and is not a violation of the terms of the insurance contract, which prohibits an assignment of the policy before loss without the consent of the insurance company. The stipulation in the policy, providing that it shall be void if assigned before loss without the consent of the company, contemplates a general or complete unconditional assignment of the ownership of the policy, and is not intended to work a forfeiture of the rights of the insured where the policy is assigned merely as collateral security for a debt and its real ownership remains in the insured. Therefore the assignment in this case did not invalidate the policy. The proof in the record shows that the insured had never ceased to be the real owners of the policy, and that the only interest of the assignee was merely such an interest as the holder of collateral security acquires in the thing given as a security,—a mere equity. The legal title and ownership of the policy still remained in the insured. Consequently, when a strict and proper construction is placed upon the terms and stipulations of the policy, as should be done in favor of the insured and against the insurer, where forfeiture is claimed to become plain, and reasonably follows, that the assignment in this case did not constitute an assignment in violation of the stipulation contained in the policy."

CANADIAN FIRE RECORD.

Fire at Thetford Mines, P.Q. On the 28th July a fire broke out in the Jacobs Asbestos Mines, causing a loss of about \$9,000. Insurance stated to be \$200,000.

Fire at Lachine, P.Q. On the 29th July a fire broke out in a block of houses on 7th Avenue numbers 79 to 83, the property of U. Gaineross the houses are three storeys high and built of wood. Loss about \$6,500.

Fire at St. Jacobs, Ont. On the 21st, a fire destroyed the barns of Nathaniel Martin. Loss about \$5,000. There was no insurance. Mr. Martin is a menonite and does not believe in insurance, but on mutual assistance, both in labor and money, and this assistance, it is stated will be promptly given by every member of that society in the neighborhood without being asked for.

Fire at Thorold, Ont. On July 31st fire broke out in the large paper machine room of the Ontario Paper Company and climbed to roof, causing considerable damage to roof and large stock of felts fully covered.

Fire at St. Thomas, Ont. On July 27th a fire destroyed the three storey building occupied by the New Method Laundry in West Talbot. Loss about \$12,000.

Fire at Port Arthur, Ont. On July 24th a fire broke out in the Port Arthur ship building plant. Loss about \$10,000.

Fire near Brampton, Ont. On July 27th an electrical storm destroyed, a large barn on the farm of C. H. Bull, also nine horses and a large quantity of hay. The barn was two-thirds insured.

Fire near Chatham Ont. During the electric storm on July 27th a fire destroyed a large barn and stable on the farm of J. C. Montgomery, the barn was loaded with hay. Damage not estimated.

Fire at Orangeville, Ont. During the electric storm on July 26th the barns of W. H. Hunter, the noted Hereford breeder at the Maples, were destroyed by fire. The barns were well supplied with lightning rods, but the flames appeared to be over the whole building at once, about 50 tons of hay, a large quantity of straw, 2,000 bushels of grain, harness and implements were lost. Loss about \$18,000, insured for about one-half that amount.

Fire at Toronto.. On July 28th a fire broke out in a five storey brick building, 8-10 West Market street, occupied by the Marshall Mattress Company, stated to have been caused by spontaneous combustion. Loss about \$15,000.

Forest Fires Southeast of Fort William, Ont. On July 24th the Saw Mill Plant of Archie Bishop at North Lake was destroyed entailing a loss of about \$20,000, as the result of forest fires in that district. Mr. Bishop and his wife were driven from their home by the flames, and had to take refuge in a row boat on North Lake.

Fire at Sorel, P.Q. By the fire which occurred on July 23rd in the saw mill of the Leclaire ship building Co. the following companies are interested.—Norwich Union \$5,000, General of Perth \$3,000, British Empire \$3,000, British Crown \$5,000, St. Paul \$5,000, Glens Falls \$4,350, Springfield \$2,500, Niagara \$4,500, Queensland \$4,350, British Dominions \$5,000, Royal \$5,000 Firemens of Newark \$3,200, Guardian \$3,000 Atlas \$5,000, British Colonial \$1,200, Aetna \$4,000, North Brit. & Mer. \$6,000, National Union \$5,000, Globe & Rutgers \$5,750, London & Lancashire \$5,750, Nationale \$4,500, Fire Insurance Co. of Canada \$4,500. Total \$94,600. Loss \$37,500.