

class lives prevents, as above noted, such undue loading of the premium, and the only wise course to adopt is one of rigorous selection and studied adaptation of the premium to the character of the risk. A judicious combination of actuarial and medical experience in this connection is, as was recently urged in one of the papers referred to, both desirable and necessary, the former being brought to bear on the little known influences above alluded to, and thus preventing the unconditional acceptance of lives which, from the medical point of view, might be unexceptionable. Such a course tends to the distribution of the burdens of life insurance in an equitable manner, and in this direction lies the way towards the continuance in the future of the successful results of the past. We consider that the office adopting it should have the loyal support of the insuring public who in giving it will find their own reward.—*The Insurance News*.

RUMOURED AMALGAMATION OF LIFE COMPANIES.

The Toronto and Montreal press have been publishing the reported and suggested fusion of several life companies. The names of all or many of the newer companies are mentioned in connection with this scheme of amalgamation. It is stated that the Presidents of the Imperial and the Manufacturers have been endeavouring to secure the controlling interest in the Temperance and General, and other companies, in order to make the amalgamation of interests possible.

That there has been a movement in this direction is correct, and we shall not be surprised to see signs of success, partial or otherwise, in this attempt to combine several of the life companies; although we have reason to doubt if those desiring amalgamation have secured control of the Temperance and General, or of the Excelsior Life. At the same time, it is quite possible that some of the companies referred to in the daily press may be contemplating amalgamation.

THE NEW YORK LIFE ADMITTED TO SWITZERLAND.

A cablegram of the 15th inst. states that the Swiss Council had just voted to re-admit the New York Life Insurance Company into Switzerland. The company withdrew from Switzerland on February 18, 1891, since which time American and French life insurance companies have been practically excluded, it is said, from the territory. Negotiations were reopened recently, however, with the result that Actuary Kummer, at the head of the Swiss Insurance Department, reported favorably on the company's application for a concession to do business in Switzerland. The struggle over the readmittance of foreign companies into Switzerland has attracted more or less attention at insurance centres throughout the world, and underwriters generally will be interested in the news of the action by the Swiss Council.

Obituary.

JAMES LOCKIE.

On Friday last, Mr. James Lockie died at his residence in Waterloo, and those who followed his remains to their last resting place in Mount Hope cemetery know what genuine grief his death caused to all who enjoyed the privilege of knowing this much esteemed and highly respected gentleman.

Mr. Lockie was for many years inspector of the Mercantile Fire Insurance Company. In 1887, he joined the Northern as inspector, resigning in 1892 to take the management of the company he had formerly served as inspector. In 1896, the Mercantile was re-insured by the London and Lancashire; Mr. Lockie's services being retained by the re-insuring company as managing director, from which position he retired in August of 1897, being then in his sixty-fifth year.

An estimable man and much loved and respected, Mr. James Lockie will be greatly missed in Waterloo, and mourned for by his numerous friends in the insurance field.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN AGE 100 IS ATTAINED?

This rather curious point in regard to the practice in life assurance, when an insured lives to an age beyond that provided for by the mortality tables, is discussed in the columns of *The Insurance Press*, New York, and it is the first occasion upon which we have seen this rather interesting question referred to.

Amongst the serried ranks of policyholders the wide world over there are very few, indeed, to whom the question raised is at all likely to be one of any practical importance.

We are not in a position to assert that the end of life, as indicated by mortality tables, has never been exceeded by policyholders. If any instance of the sort has occurred we have never seen it recorded, and we rather feel disposed to believe that if such had happened the occurrence would have found its way into the press by reason of its exceptional and interesting character.

A policy of this description, if effected under a with-profits table, with one of the offices which declare handsome compound bonuses, would be gladly utilized as an advertising illustration of the benefits accruing from assurance in that particular company.

The circumstance that no such illustration has ever been produced is circumstantial evidence in itself that no such policy ever existed, in so far, at least, as with-profits policies are concerned.

The contention of our New York friend is, that provided a policyholder lived to an age in excess of that provided for in mortality tables, then, as a matter