

**THE JULY FIRE LOSS.**

The losses by fire in the United States and Canada during the month of July, as compiled from the records of the New York Journal of Commerce, aggregated \$23,013,800, as compared with \$9,006,800 charged against the same month last year and \$17,539,800 in July, 1914. The losses for the first seven months of this year reach a total of \$148,790,220. This compares with \$101,397,800 for the same months of 1915 and \$150,558,050 in 1914. The following table gives a comparison of the fire losses for the first seven months of 1916 with those of 1915, together with the monthly losses for the balance of those years:

	1915.	1916.
January.....	\$20,060,600	\$21,423,350
February.....	13,081,250	24,770,770
March.....	18,786,400	38,680,250
April.....	18,180,350	12,681,050
May.....	11,388,450	15,973,500
June.....	10,893,950	12,247,500
July.....	9,006,800	23,013,800
<b>Total, 7 months.....</b>	<b>\$101,397,800</b>	<b>\$148,790,220</b>
August.....	10,067,100	.....
September.....	14,823,500	.....
October.....	14,465,850	.....
November.....	21,204,850	.....
December.....	20,877,100	.....

Total for year..... \$182,836,200

During July this year there were 169 fires, each causing an estimated property damage of \$10,000 or over. This compares with 150 such fires in June and 215 in May.

The Black Tom Island disaster, which is put down at \$11,000,000, is responsible for about half of the loss last month, says the Journal of Commerce, and it gives July, 1916, the worst fire record which any July has been charged with for many years. The fire underwriters are decidedly depressed by this heavy loss, and figure that it will make 1916 an unprofitable year.

**THE IMPERIAL LIFE.**

It will be good tidings to The Imperial Life field force that the month of July closed with an increase of \$113,000 in business written over July of last year. It will be still better tidings that the net gain in insurance in force recorded for the month equalled no less than 71 per cent. of the total new insurance written. The new business written in July was \$791,000. The gain for that month in insurance in force was \$563,000.

Last year our gain in total insurance was good, taking into consideration the adverse conditions of the year. We were, in fact, among the first four Canadian companies in this respect. Yet we are now, at the end of only seven months, within a comparatively small amount, viz., \$340,000, of the total gain in insurance which we made for the whole twelve months of 1915.—*Imperial Life Agents' News.*

A compilation of the death claims of the British life offices shows that the ratio of war claims to aggregate death claims averages 12 per cent. which is about the same figure as was shown in the first few months of the war. In some individual cases, the ratio is over 20 per cent., but in only a very few cases was the margin of expectancy exceeded during 1915, and in some cases there was actually a decrease in the total claims.

**ANOTHER HORRIBLE EXAMPLE.**

There is this to be said for State insurance schemes, they are most obliging in furnishing horrible examples of how not to do it. Here is North Dakota which has a State hail insurance fund. Premiums to August 1st were \$31,272 while the amount of losses thus far adjusted is \$41,673. Some premiums have yet to come in and some losses to be adjusted. "We cannot predict with any certainty," says the State Insurance Commissioner, "what the experience in the Hail Insurance Fund will be, but it is not likely that we shall be able to pay more than about 60 per cent. of the total losses incurred."

Nice news this for those insured in the State Fund, especially at a time when a big political campaign is going on in the State to have State insurance of every sort.

Insurance companies doing business in the United States have to face new Federal taxes. The income tax is being doubled, and there is a new tax of 50 cents per \$1,000 of capital, surplus and undivided profits of corporations. On the other hand, a Federal stamp tax of one-half of one per cent. of premiums is eliminated.

FOUNDED A.D. 1819

**THE GENERAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY  
OF PARIS, FRANCE**

SURPLUS TO POLICY-HOLDERS, \$5,828,800

THOMAS F. DOBBIN, *Manager for Canada.*  
EDMUND FOSTER, *Superintendent of Agencies.*

**LEWIS BUILDING, ST. JOHN ST., MONTREAL**  
Applications for Agencies invited

**Scottish Union and National  
Insurance Co., of Edinburgh, Scotland**

ESTABLISHED 1824

Capital, . . . . .	<b>\$30,000,000</b>
Total Assets, . . . . .	<b>72,238,564</b>
Deposited with Dominion Gov't, . . . . .	<b>391,883</b>
Invested Assets in Canada, . . . . .	<b>7,166,267</b>

**NORTH AMERICAN DEPT., HARTFORD, CONN. U.S.A.**  
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CORPORATION  
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INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER A.D. 1726

CAPITAL PAID UP	<b>\$2,241,375</b>
TOTAL CASH ASSETS	<b>22,457,415</b>

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