

creased by over six million dollars, the total on December 31st being \$55,726,347. These huge assets, the largest held by any Canadian life company, are the guarantee our policyholders have of the security of their policies.

We now come to the net surplus shown by the Company over all liabilities, including capital. Although the Sun Life uses a basis of computation for arriving at this surplus much more stringent than the law requires, and despite the great shrinkage in the market-values of securities the world over, the Company, after paying large sums in claims, profits, etc., was still able to add substantially to its total net surplus, which stood, on December 31st, at over five millions and three-quarters.

During the year payments to policyholders or their beneficiaries amounted to a trifle over \$4,982,500. This means that nearly five million dollars was handed back by the Company, and the bulk of this was in the shape of death claims and matured endowments, which, of course, meant lightening the burden of those left without their previous means of support either by death of the earner or by his increasing years.

The foregoing figures are full of interest to all readers of SUNSHINE. They show that the Sun Life of Canada is, as ever, prosperous and progressive; that even the trying financial conditions of the past year failed to make it falter in its onward stride; and that to-day the Company is still maintaining its steady advance and forging further and further ahead in the forward march of life assurance.

Who Carries the Risk?

Many a man who refuses to take out life assurance declares that he prefers to carry his own risk. But this is something he cannot do. It is his family that carries the risk.

This risk means the chance of suffering by reason of his death and the consequent loss of his earning power. When he is dead,

this loss will not be felt by him. It is upon his family, those who depended upon him, that the blow will fall. It is they who carry the risk. It is their comfort and happiness that are at stake, not his.

So the man who has no life assurance is not carrying his own risk—his family is. He is gambling with the future of his loved ones.

The Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada will carry the risk for him, and the annual price for which it will do so is comparatively small and definitely fixed. But what limit is there to the price the family may have to pay?

The man who refuses to let a life assurance company carry his risk will save but a matter of so many cents a day, and meanwhile he lets his family carry the risk at a price which may be want and misery for all of them after his death.

Life's Tragedies.

Conceive that three years have passed and that you are in fact dead. You are buried; you are lying away over there in the cold dark. The funeral is done. The friends are gone. But your family is just as alive as ever. Disaster has not killed it, nor even diminished its vitality. It wants just as much to eat and drink as it did before sorrow passed over it. Look through the sod. Do you see that child there playing with a razor? It is your eldest son at grips with your business. Do you see that other youngster striving against a wolf with a lead pencil? It is your second son. Well, they are males, these two, and must manfully expect what they get. But do see those four creatures with their hands cut off, thrust out into the infested desert? They are your wife and your daughters. You cut their hands off. You did it so kindly and persuasively. . . .

"Yes, you compelled all these four women to live so that money and luxury and servants and idleness were absolutely essential to them if their existence was to be tolerable. And what is worse, you compelled them to live so that, deprived of magic money, they were incapable of existing at all, tolerably or intolerably. Either they must expire in misery—after their splendid career with you!—or they must earn existence by smiles and acquiescence and caresses. (For you cut their hands off). They must beg for their food and raiment."—*Arnold Bennett in A Plain Man and his Wife.*