

#### CANADIAN LIFE INSURANCE OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Canadian Life Insurance Officers' Association was held in the board room of the North American Life at Toronto last Friday. A large number of prominent Canadian life insurance officials were in attendance and several matters of importance to the companies were under discussion. Mr. Alex. Bissett, manager for Canada, London & Lancashire Life, was re-elected president for the ensuing year and the other officers were appointed as follows:—First vice-president, Col. W. C. Macdonald, managing director and actuary Confederation Life; second vice-president, Mr. H. C. Cox, president Canada Life; honorary secretary-treasurer, Mr. D. E. Kilgour, actuary North American Life; auditors, Messrs. J. F. Weston, managing director Imperial Life; and G. B. Woods, president and general manager Continental Life; executive committee, the foregoing with the past-president, Mr. T. B. Macaulay, president Sun Life; and Messrs. J. E. Kavanagh, superintendent of Canadian agencies, Metropolitan Life; A. R. Howell, manager for Canada Gresham Life; and C. C. Ferguson, general manager Great-West Life.

#### ASSOCIATION OF LIFE INSURANCE PRESIDENTS.

The tenth annual convention of the Association of Life Insurance Presidents is fixed to take place on December 14th and 15th, at the Hotel Astor, New York. Hon. W. A. Day, president of the Equitable Life, will be chairman of the convention. The programme as it is being outlined contemplates a review of the growth of the life insurance business in the United States and Canada during the last ten years, with a prophecy as to the next decade. Representatives of various business and economic organizations in national fields of industry will be invited to contribute their experience and suggestions toward wide co-operative effort. A paper will be read by Mr. H. C. Cox, president of the Canada Life, on a decade of business progress in Canada.

#### BARN FIRES IN ONTARIO.

An investigation made by the Ontario Fire Marshal's department into a fire which destroyed the farm of B. Nankevell, Dereham township, near Ingersoll, Ont., shows that the fire was caused by spontaneous combustion in feed composed to a great extent of oat dust and oat bran, which heats readily unless spread out.

There have been a number of barn fires in Oxford county recently and rumour connects these with mysterious strangers riding about the country in autos at night. The farmers are arming themselves with shotguns.

#### INSURANCE INSTITUTE OF TORONTO.

At last Friday's monthly meeting of the Insurance Institute of Toronto, Mr. J. Armitage Ewing, K.C., of Montreal, gave an instructive address on the laws of the province of Quebec, more particularly in their relation to life insurance. Mr. Ewing explained at length the law regarding beneficiaries and also that relating to married women, which latter is frequently perplexing to residents in English provinces.

#### SCOTTISH WIDOWS' FUND RESULTS.

The success which can be achieved in the business of life insurance by cautious, careful Scotch management is shown by the Scottish Widows' Fund Society which in 1915 paid on an average \$755 for each \$500 originally assured. The Society really did better than this, for in many cases bonuses had been taken during life-time in cash or applied to the reduction of premiums.

The Society's valuation loading for future expenses is equal to 22 per cent. of the premium income but last year expenses of management and commission together only amounted to 9.66 per cent. of premium income or 5.91 per cent. of total revenue. New business last year amounted to just over \$9,000,000; death claims, in spite of war mortality, were only 86 per cent. of the expectation and the funds were handsomely increased during the year to over \$112,000,000 at its close. The Scottish Widows is one of a small group of British offices, which following extremely old-fashioned methods—judging by the standards of this side the Atlantic—in regard to getting new business, concentrate all their attention on giving their carefully-selected policyholders the most possible that good management will produce. The results they thus achieve are certainly remarkable.

#### COLONEL DODDS NEW CANADIAN MANAGER OF MUTUAL LIFE OF N. Y.

Announcement is made that Colonel W. O. H. Dodds, C.M.G., has been appointed by the Mutual Life of New York, manager at Montreal in succession to the late Mr. Fayette Brown. Colonel Dodds, who for many years has been a keen officer of artillery, went overseas with the First Canadian Contingent, and his services at the Front were recently recognised by his promotion to the command of an infantry brigade at Bramshott Camp. Colonel Dodds has been with the Mutual Life since 1892, and is well known and highly regarded in both business and social circles. His appointment is a fitting reward for admirable service given to his Company. Until Colonel Dodds' return from the Front, the territory under the jurisdiction of the Montreal office, which includes eight provinces, will be in charge of the regular subordinates.

#### THE SECURITY LIFE.

It is announced that Sir Henry Pellatt has joined the board of the Security Life Insurance Company. In view of the position of this Company as disclosed in the analysis of its accounts published in our issue of October 13th last, we should like to enquire whether Sir Henry proposes to devote his great financial capacity to putting the Security Life on its feet, or whether he is merely allowing the Company the use of his name.

With the view of taking care of such risks as are not strictly standard but close to the border line, the Mutual Life of New York is now issuing a new policy known as the "modified endowment" policy. The Company has no present intention of writing sub-standard business generally, and the new policy will be issued only in cases where it is considered desirable the policyholder shall be off the books at a certain age.