

The total amount of Industrial Assurance in force in Canada at 31st December 1892 was only about \$2,720,000.

Apart from a few of the larger cities, it is obvious that a sparsely-settled country like Canada does not form a very favourable field for this class of business, nor does it seem to meet with much popular favour when introduced.

Rebating.

The demoralising effect of rebating commissions has led in Ontario to the inclusion of an important clause in the Corporations Act, 1892, by which it is made an offence for a corporation or agent to allow a rebate of premium on sums assured of \$5000 and upwards; and a corporation which rebates is liable to have its registration cancelled, *i.e.* its authority to undertake contracts in Ontario. The utility of the above enactment is largely impaired by including only assurances of \$5000 and upwards; and it would appear that this limitation was contrary to the desire of the principal Companies and managers. It is felt that the benefit of such a legal enactment will not be fully realised until 'rebating' is entirely prohibited, irrespective of the amount of the assurance, and even then only with the co-operation of both the managers and agents of the various Companies. In 1892 a rebate Bill was introduced into the Dominion Parliament, but did not succeed in becoming law. No other province, besides Ontario, has yet passed a law prohibiting 'rebating' in life assurance.

Assignment of Policies.

The question of the assignment of policies and the effect of same is governed largely by common law, and an assignment, when made in good faith and by the assured when in solvent circumstances, would prevail. It is necessary, however, that notice of the assignment should be given to the Insurance Company to preserve priority, inasmuch as without notice the Company, upon the policy becoming a claim, might deal with the personal representatives or others claiming the policy. Where an assignment is actually made in defraud of creditors, neither in England nor here will notice avail to place the policy beyond their reach. The rule generally applies that the assignee takes subject to any equities against the assignor.

The assignment of policies to trustees for wife and children is governed by the Common Law as well as by the Statute Law, reference to which latter is made in this paper, and the general principle above outlined is emphasised in that Statute at section