The opinion appears general in insurance circles that aircraft insurance will soon reach considerable proportions.

In view of the probable entry of American companies into the aircraft insurance field, the rates being asked by the British companies, through their recently formed syndicates, are of the utmost importance at this time. These rates are not entirely worked out, but those that have been made public appear to be rather low in the opinion of American underwriters. The English syndicates are offering to cover the aircraft against damage from fire or accident, including rising or landing, at five shillings per cent. upwards, according to the flight. These rates, however, are purely for the leading recognized makes of up-to-date machines, flying to and from recognized airdromes.

The English syndicate offers protection against third party liability, known here as public liability, but including also liability for property damage, at the rate of one shilling per cent., the policy providing for legal costs in addition to unlimited liability. Personal accident insurance for pilots and crew of aircrafts is offered at rates graded in accordance with the purpose of the flight. Thus, a civilian pilot testing machines is charged ten pounds per cent per annum to cover against death by accident.

One of the English associations writing aircraft insurance has offered to cover aircraft passengers against death or loss of limbs or eyes, or temporary total disablement by accident sustained in flights within the United Kingdom and short distances on the continent, at the rate of five shillings per cent. For short flights in the United Kingdom a rate of two shillings per cent is quoted for accident insurance for air craft passengers.

MR. JOHN R. HEGEMAN'S WILL.

The will of John R. Hegeman late President of the Metropolitan Life, was filed for probate last week. Although no value of the estate is indicated by the terms of the will, it is believed that Mr. Hegeman left property exceeding \$10,000,000. Some estimates place the value of the state at double that figure.

By the terms of the document a life interest in one-half the estate is given to his son, John R. Hegeman, Jr., of New York City. The testator directs that the trustees pay the son a certain monthly allowance.

The sum of \$175,000 is bequeathed for division among the trustees and executors. They also divide the palatial yacht, Elolyn, his fine motor boat Camilla, his horses and the furnishings of his summer home at Mamaroneck, N.Y., and of his town house at 1 Madison Avenue, N.Y. One-half of the estate is divided into four parts of which one part is set aside for the erection of the new building of the Metropolitan's sanitarium at Mt. McGregor, Saratoga County, N.Y. This building will be known as the Hegeman Memorial and is to be maintained by the company. Another of the four equal parts, equivalent to one-eighth of the estate, is to be divided among the officers of the Metropolitan and Mr. Hegeman's private secretary. His servants also are given the equivalent of one month's pay.

The trustees and executors who share the \$175,000 bequest and the household effects are Haley Fiske, Frederick H. Echer, David H. Butcher and George B. Sheppard, all of New York.

NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the National Fire Protection Association to be held at Chateau Laurier, Ottawa, Ont., on May 6 to 8, promises to be of special interest to fire underwriters, fire protection engineers and builders. The programme for the three days' session has just been issued and shows some attractive features aside from the routine work of the association. There will be an address of welcome by His Excellency, the Duke of Devonshire, Governor-General of Canada. Wednesday a luncheon will be arranged by the Canadian Committee, which will be held at the Chateau Laurier, the speaker will be Sir Thomas White. K.C.M.G., acting Prime Minister of Canada. The programme in detail is a lengthy one and its publication not nearly so important, as will be the results of the deliberations, and the good it is hoped will finally accrue, from whatever resolutions and plans that may be adopted for the reduction of fire losses on this continent. Theoretical reasoning and eloquent and convincing addresses will no doubt prevail as is usual on such occasions.

PERSONALS.

Mr. Joseph Rowat, general agent at Montreal, of the Union Insurance Society of Canton, and the British Crown Assurance Corporation, has removed to larger offices in the Lewis Building.

Mr. A. R. D. Paterson, director Workman's Compensation Board, Winnipeg, spent a few days in Montreal this week. Mr. Paterson is a member of the firm of Paterson & Waugh, fire insurance adjusters, Winnipeg.

CORRECTION.

In reporting the companies interested in the fire at Shawinigan Falls, P.Q., in an issue of March 7th through a clerical error, the Commerce Mutual was reported as being interested for the amount of \$55,000 instead of \$8,500, which was the correct amount of their covering.