

## Insurance: Fire, Life and Miscellaneous.

### FIRE.

Quebec is to appoint a new Fire Chief from the Montreal Brigade, at a proposed salary of \$2,500.

State fire marshals on the other side of the boundary are sending out their warning notices regarding the "Fatal Fourth." Change the "Fourth" to Dominion Day, and the notices would not be unsuitable for Canadian circulation.

"Then after it is all over and its toll of death, maiming and fire is taken, see to it that your city or village council passes such ordinances as will protect you and yours in the future." This, from the State Fire Marshal of Ohio's "Fourth" warning is grim. But it wouldn't do any harm if a few more people thought of fire risks as something grim and serious. There might be a little less carelessness—and fewer fires.

It has been announced in New York that the Yorkshire Insurance Company, Limited, is prepared to make the deposits necessary to enable the Company to extend its operations and establish agencies in the important cities of the United States with the intention of doing a moderate volume of business along conservative lines. The Company, says the New York Journal of Commerce, has for some time been transacting through Frank & DuBois, in accordance with the laws of the various States, a strictly surplus line business on the large affidavit risks throughout the country, where the capacity of the admitted companies has been exhausted, and also a reinsurance business with leading agency companies. The surplus line and reinsurance business will be continued in all of the territory which the Company does not enter for general business. Frank & DuBois will be the United States managers of the Company, and as soon as the necessary details can be perfected will establish agencies in New York and other large cities. The Company will be operated on tariff lines, and the underwriting management will be under the direction of Mr. Ernest B. Boyd, of the firm, who has had extensive experience in agency work, having formerly been the assistant manager of the Lancashire, and prior to that the assistant manager of the Queen in the Southern States.

### LIFE.

A recent amalgamation of Australian offices is of the Australian Widows' Fund Life and the Mutual Life and Citizens Assurance.

We regret to announce the death, which took place recently, of Mr. J. J. W. Deuchar, F.I.A., F.F.A., late Manager and Actuary of the Norwich Union Mutual Life Insurance Society. Mr. Deuchar was chief officer of the Norwich Union Life from 1887, until his resignation, owing to in-

different health, last year. By his death, to quote an English tribute, "life assurance is the loser of a typical example of an honourable and fair-minded professional man."

On the whole, the record of growth and waste (in the United States) during the decade 1901-10 is not a good one. There has been an enormous expansion in outstanding business, but it is not at all proportionate to the volume issued and paid for. In the decade twenty-nine companies wrote over ten and one-half billions of insurance, nearly thirty per cent. of which lapsed before the policies became entitled to surrender values. Less than thirty-six per cent. of the entire amount was retained on the books, while the natural terminations by death, maturity and expiry were but nineteen per cent. of the business written. This showing is capable of considerable improvement, but the indications are that the future will show a much larger proportion of business retained than heretofore.—The Spectator, New York.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

The Illinois Insurance Department has had an invitation to visit London and investigate the affairs and methods of the underwriters at Lloyds. The counsel of the department will make the trip. Recent legislation legalises the operation of Lloyds in Illinois on and after January 1, 1912.

Following the British Chancellor of the Exchequer's recent announcement of proposals for a salary of £400 a year to members of the House of Commons, one of the British Life Offices has brought out an "M.P.'s Policy"—on the theory doubtless that many M.P.'s won't know what to do with their £400 a year when they get it. By "The M.P.'s Policy" a healthy man, aged forty next birthday, with £400 per annum to spare, can secure a guaranteed £14,076 at death, which sum invested at 4 per cent. produces an income of £599 per annum in perpetuity. In case the payment of £400 per annum becomes inconvenient (a delicate way this of alluding to the uncertainties of elections!) these policies bear an endorsement guaranteeing surrender values and free paid-up assurances after payment of two premiums.

At the recent annual meeting of the Institute of Actuaries, of Great Britain the following officers were unanimously elected:—

*President.*—Gerald Hemmington Ryan.

*Vice-Presidents.*—Ernest Colquhoun, Henry Walsingham Andras, Geoffrey Marks, George James Lidstone.

*Council.*—Thomas Gans Ackland, Henry Walsingham Andras, Arthur Rhys Barrand, Arthur Digby Besant, B.A., Henry Cockburn, Ernest Colquhoun, \*Robert Cross, William Palin Elderton, Joseph Ernest Faulks, B.A., Duncan Cumming Fraser, M.A., George Francis Hardy, \*James Robert Hart, Lewis Frederick Hovill, George King, \*Abraham Levine, M.A., George James Lidstone, Geoffrey Marks, \*Alfred Moorhouse, William Peyton Phelps, M.A., Gerald Hemmington Ryan, Frederick Schooling, John Spencer, William Richard Strong, Herbert Cecil Thiselton, Robert Ruthven Tit, \*George Todd, M.A., Alfred William Watson, James Douglas Watson, Ernest Woods, Frank Bertrand Wyatt.

*Treasurer.*—Frederick Schooling.

*Honorary Secretaries.*—William Peyton Phelps, M.A., Lewis Frederick Hovill.

\* Not members of the existing Council.