

J. Powell, president of the National Association of Life Underwriters.

Another issue of that capital insurance office journal, The Shield, the magazine of the China Mutual Life Insurance Company of Shanghai, has come to hand. Excellently illustrated and produced, it contains a number of interesting features both as regards the progress and development of the China Mutual itself, and in regard to insurance matters generally. Of particular interest to Montrealers is a reproduction of a portrait of Mr. J. A. Wattie, the China Mutual's energetic managing director, who will be remembered by many insurance men in Montreal. This portrait was painted last year by Mr. J. H. F. Bacon, A.R.A., and was the gift of the staff to Mr. Wattie. The reproduction shows that, artistically, the portrait is an excellent piece of work, and, as an indication of the cordial relations existing between Mr. Wattie and the Company's staff, the presentation is a matter of legitimate congratulation to all concerned.

The proposed government insurance monopoly in Italy looks serious for the foreign companies operating there. An Italian correspondent, writing to the London Economist, describes the bill as a daring and contemptuous challenge to all the accepted principles of right:—"No indemnity is allowed to those whose property, goodwill, and means of life are seized on the pretext of a superior public interest. An article of the Bill expressly declares that the concerns to be expropriated will not be entitled to claim any compensation from the State. They will be bound to keep their present engagements, whereas their clients will be allowed either to keep or cancel their contracts. Once the Bill be passed into a law, no company or concern, either Italian or foreign, will be entitled to underwrite a new policy of life insurance."

The limit of new insurance which the New York Life insurance company will take on a single risk hereafter will be \$100,000 at ages under fifty-five. For ages fifty-five and above the limit will be:

Age	Limit in a Single Year.
55	\$80,000
56	60,000
57	50,000
58	40,000
59	80,000
60	25,000
61	20,900
62	15,000
63	10,000
64 and 65	5,000
66 and over	not acceptable.

Where the applicant is not gilt edge in all respects the maximum amount of new business acceptable will be smaller than the above, and where a moderate advance in age is charged, the maximum amount will be about one-half the foregoing figures. If the applicant is a distinctly sub-standard risk (more than double the normal mortality anticipated) the maximum amount of new business will be as follows: Under 55, \$25,000; under 55 and 56, \$20,000; under 57 and 58, \$15,000; under 59, 60, 61 and 62, \$10,000; under 63, 64 and 65, \$5,000.

THE CANADIAN FIRE RECORD.

The second half-year of 1911 has opened with a series of heavy losses to fire underwriters throughout Canada. We refer on another page to the disaster at Porcupine with its terrible loss of life. That stands by itself as a tragedy, but elsewhere in Ontario, and Quebec there has been a sequence of outbreaks during the last few days, which have resulted in considerable losses. We subjoin the available particulars with regard to these fires; in the case of those outbreaks where full insurance particulars are not yet available, they will be given subsequently.

LUMBER FIRE AT AYLMER, QUE.

Lumber aggregating 10,000,000 feet was destroyed at Aylmer, Que., on July 10, the fire originating, it is supposed, from the throwing away carelessly of a match. The loss falls upon a number of firms including Messrs. R. & T. Ritchie, the Fraser-Bryson Lumber Company and others. Messrs. Ritchie's and the Fraser-Bryson insurance is as follows:—

R. AND T. RITCHIE.	
Commercial Union, \$10,000	Royal Exchange . . . \$5,000
Caledonian 5,000	Phoenix of L. 10,000
N. B. & M. 10,000	General Fire 5,000
Phoenix of H. 5,000	
	\$50,000

Loss, total.

FRASER-BRYSON LUMBER CO.	
Queen \$10,000	Law Union & P. . . \$ 5,000
Commercial U. 4,000	L. L. & G. 5,000
Caledonian 5,000	Atlas 20,000
Phoenix of H. 5,000	Sun 10,000
N. B. & M. 15,000	London and Lanc. F. 20,000
Phoenix of L. 10,000	
Northern. 10,000	
	\$119,000

Loss, total.

It is stated that the following companies are also interested in this loss:—

Phoenix of L. (additionally)	\$ 8,000
Royal	15,000
Alliance	5,000
Guardian	7,000

This makes an aggregate loss of \$200,000.

PART OF EGANSVILLE, ONT., DESTROYED.

On July 9, two-thirds of the business section of Egansville, Ont., was wiped out. The fire had its origin in cigarettes which four boys were smoking. Full insurance particulars are not yet available; the following is a preliminary statement only:—

John Childerhose, wooden mill, creamery, residence and business block, \$25,000; insurance, \$4,000; Alex. Mills, general store, storehouse and residence, \$24,500; insurance, \$7,000; saved, \$1,000 stock; J. Ferguson estate, roller mill, \$30,000; stock, wheat and flour, \$13,000; insurance \$15,000; John Channonhouse, drug store, business block, residence, loss, \$18,000; insurance, \$2,800; C. McElligott, hotel, loss, \$15,000; insurance, \$4,000; R. Reeves, residence, store, stables and business block; loss, \$10,000; partly covered by insurance; James Reeves estate, business block, laundry and hall, loss, \$7,000 partly covered by insurance; James Guthrie, store and residence, loss, \$15,000; insurance, \$5,000; M. J. McCann, machine shop, harness shop, and residence, loss, \$7,000; insurance, \$1,000; J. D. McRae, saw mill, block, electric light plant, loss, \$10,000; insurance,