

ent gentlemen from whom I was soliciting business on the system in question, and I have no hesitation in affirming that it was largely influential in my securing two out of the three as applicants for insurance. I would like to suggest through your columns a still more liberal distribution of such leaflets, as I am convinced that increased advantages would be the result to at least some of those interested, and possibly to all concerned.

Yours, etc.,

GEO. KNIGHT.

("Sarcasm in one so young is deplorable," "Brother Knight.")

ST. JOHN, N.B., July 17, 1886.

Editor INSURANCE AND FINANCE CHRONICLE.

SIR,—In taking up the statements made by Life Companies, notably New York and Mutual Life, I find they particularize the death claims, showing amount of premium paid, amount claim paid, profit, etc., but in endowment policies expired, they simply give the amount paid, but keep secret the amount paid in, how long it had been running, etc. Can you tell me why it is they are not particularized as death claims are? I would suggest this be done, so that intending insurers may see just what is being done and have other figures than their estimates.

Yours truly,

ENQUIRER.

[The Companies do frequently publish these details.—Ed.]

To the Editor INSURANCE CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR,—Can you inform me, through your valuable journal, if the London Life, which has recently come under the Insurance Department at Ottawa, has ever paid any dividend to its stock or policy holders, an agent of that company by the name of Henderson speaks of their present liberal distribution of profits to policyholders, and their prospective ones as something to be coveted by any company. I am seeking this information, as I never heard of the company's having paid either stock or policy dividends.

Yours truly,

H. M. POUSSETT.

[The manager of the London Life is in a better position to reply to this than we are. We will gladly insert a reply in our next issue.—Ed.]

BRANTFORD, July 3rd, 1886.

Editor INSURANCE CHRONICLE.

SIR,—Your remarks under the heading, Is a Fire Insurance Policy a Contract? brings to mind a case lately tried in the Division Court at Scotland, in the County of Brant. A Mr. Paul Huffman, residing on Lot 17, Con. 13, Tp. of Burford, had a horse killed by lightning while travelling on the public highway at some distance from his farm. He brought suit to recover the sum of \$50 from the Brant Farmers' Mutual Fire Ins. Co., and gained his suit.

From the decision in this case as well as in Mooney & Imperial Fire Ins. Co. we must arrive at the conclusion that a Fire Insurance policy is not a contract, and the insured may change the hazard of his risk to any extent and collect the insurance if a loss occurs.

Yours,

LAYMAN.

**Pictou Bank.**—A special meeting of shareholders of the Pictou bank, held on 29 July, voted to close up the bank. It started in 1875 with a capital of \$250,000, and a few years' great prosperity was succeeded by a series of extraordinary and disastrous mismanagement, the result being that the bank has lost some \$225,000. The story of the disasters of this bank is not surpassed by any banking record either in Canada or the United States. The business of the Pictou Bank will be swallowed up by the Bank of Nova Scotia.

## NOTES AND ITEMS.

**The Insurance News** of Philadelphia says "The broker must go."

**The Weekly Statement** says: Assessment Insurance companies are "rapidly gaining ground"—in the cemeteries.

**We are glad to observe** that new fire mains are being laid in some of the principal business streets of Montreal.

**The Caledonian of Edinburgh** received in premiums on the Pacific Coast last year \$22,275 and paid losses amounting to \$196.

**Mr. Harold Engelbach**, of Dublin, manager of the National Assurance Company of Ireland, will visit Canada early this month.

**Australian Mutual Provident Society** has, according to our English exchanges, abandoned the intention of doing business in Great Britain.

**Mr. S. C. Duncan-Clark** of Toronto, chief agent for Canada of the Lancashire Insurance Company, was in Montreal during the last few weeks.

**Wives and Children's Policy Acts.**—We regret that lack of space compels us to omit the information we intended to give on this subject. We hope to be able to insert it next month.

**The Western Assurance Company** has declared a dividend at the rate of ten per cent. per annum. Its stock was lately quoted at 142. The "Western" deserves every prosperity.

**New Consolidated Insurance Act, 1886.**—Our contemporary the *Budget*, Toronto, has published this Act in very neat pamphlet form, price 25 cts. Every insurance agent should procure a copy.

**The Life Companies doing business in Massachusetts** have signed an agreement not to allow agents the rebate they may give to the insured. Massachusetts has a Life Underwriters' Association.

**The London and Lancashire Fire Insurance Co.**, Toronto has, in consequence of the recent and frequent recurrence of fires in the *Mail* building, removed to offices in Manning's Arcade, King st., Toronto.

**Chemical Engines** did valuable service at fires which recently occurred at Shelburne and Orangeville. The National Association of Fire Engineers of the U.S. very strongly recommend the use of these engines.

**A Denial**, that the plaintiffs sustained a loss exceeding four thousand dollars is not an admission that the loss amounted to that or any other sum, according to the Wisconsin Supreme Court in *Hills v Ins Co.*

**The Tasmanian Government** recently asked for tenders for £1,000,000, 4 per cent. debentures having 25 years to run. Applications were made for £2,092,000, or more than double the amount, at an average price of 99 9/10 per cent.

**The Connecticut Fire Insurance Company** has made the following agency appointments:—Toronto, J. B. Reed; Quebec, C. P. Champion; London, Beddome & Brown; Guelph, C. Davidson & Son; St. Thomas, G. T. Claris.

**Hand-book of Assessment Insurance.**—We have received a copy of this book from the *Spectator* (N.Y.), Company. The work is very useful for reference as to the standing and for general information regarding Assessment Societies.