

### IMPORTANCE OF INSURANCE EDUCATIONAL WORK IN CASUALTY BUSINESS.

The following extract from the proceedings of the Casualty Actuarial and Statistical Society of America is of interest:

"This society has decided that its educational committee shall co-operate with the Insurance Society of New York in giving a series of lectures on casualty insurance in the fall of 1919, for the benefit of men who are preparing for the examinations of both organizations."

The Chronicle feels that in Montreal in the past Insurance Education has been left to take care of itself with the exception of a few lectures on Fire Insurance given under the auspices of the "Blue Goose." The Insurance Fraternity in Montreal are not placed in such a favourable position from the point of view of acquiring the same standard of technical training that is available in Great Britain and the United States. This education has been looked upon as of importance in connection with efficient underwriting.

Insurance educational work has been carried on very successfully in Great Britain for many years, and from press indications the United States would appear to be following Great Britain. We do not think that a progressive country like Canada, should be behind in matters of such importance.

We consider that a city of the importance of Montreal ought to have an active insurance institute. Such institutes are in operation in all the large centres in Great Britain, also in South Africa and in Australia. There is also an institute in Toronto. Montreal, as the Metropolitan City of Canada, and as the centre of the large majority of head offices of insurance companies operating in Canada, might reasonably be expected to be prominent in matters pertaining to the betterment of insurance generally.

### DEATH OF MR. GEORGE J. PYKE.

We regret to record the death of Mr. George J. Pyke on the 22nd instant, at his residence, 1246 King St., Toronto, at the age of 84 years. Many years ago the late Mr. Pyke, who was a fluent writer, was identified with The Chronicle as its correspondent at Toronto, and some of our readers will remember some of those letters signed "Ariel," published some twenty years ago in our columns, always interesting and useful, though sometimes containing pretty sharp criticism, which was occasionally very embarrassing to those concerned. Mr. Pyke was greatly respected in fire insurance circles in Toronto, though very retiring of recent years. He was agent of the old Quebec Fire and London & Lancashire Fire for many years. The late Mr. Pyke entered the service of the Liverpool & London & Globe sixty-five years ago in Montreal, shortly after the company entered Canada. He left the company's service in 1875

to assume the management of the Stadacona Fire Insurance Company at Quebec, where he remained until that company's retirement in 1880, when he removed to Toronto. The deceased gentleman was educated at Bishops College, P.Q. He was buried in Mount Royal Cemetery, Montreal on the 24th instant.

### NORTHERN ASSURANCE COMPANY.

Mr. John Robertson, joint general manager of the Northern Assurance Company, paid his first visit to Canada last week. He was accompanied by Mrs. Robertson, also Mr. Roberts, of the Marine Underwriters' department and Mrs. Roberts. After spending a few days in Montreal, visiting the Canadian head office, and seeing a little of the Metropolitan City of Canada Mr. Robertson, who was much impressed with what might be called his first glimpse of the Dominion, left for Toronto and the West, accompanied by Mr. G. E. Moberly, in addition to his own party. Before returning to the other side of the water, Mr. Robertson proposes to make an extended tour of the country across the border. He is expected to visit Montreal again before sailing for home.

### MR. A. G. DENT.

Mr. Alfred G. Dent, general manager of the Liverpool and London and Globe, who recently arrived in New York and left for the Pacific Coast, accompanied by Mr. A. Duncan Reid, president of the Globe Indemnity is expected to arrive in Montreal next week.

### WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION LOSSES AND METHOD OF SETTLING IN N. Y. STATE.

The change in the method of settling workmen's compensation losses in New York State, due to the abolition of the plan of direct settlements, by a recent amendment to the law, does not meet with the approval of the underwriters. It seems to be the opinion in underwriting circles that the settlement of claims through the medium of the industrial Commission, may tend to produce undue liberality in the settlements, and may even increase the number and extent of unwarranted claims. This is no reflection upon the Industrial Commission, but, after all, it is the money of the insurance companies which is to be expended for claims, and it would seem proper, therefore, that the companies should have a voice in the adjustment leading to vast disbursements from their funds. It might be proper to have the industrial Commission act as an arbitrator in the cases of disputed claims, but the system which has heretofore been in use seems to have worked satisfactorily, in the main, even though there may have been instances in which it may be asserted that claimants were not granted as liberal settlements as they should have been.—Spectator.