ALL CANADA FIRE INSURANCE FEDERATION

(*Continued.*)

The leading Ministers who had pledged themselves to its support and vouched for its inclusion in the statutes, expressed their disappointment. The Provincial Treasurer wrote your committee expressing his disappointment and that of his colleagues and promising the re-introduction of this measure at the next session.

FIRE PROTECTION ACT.

The Honorable Mr. Taschereau, Minister of Public Works, introduced a further measure, which had for object to provide for efficient fire equipment and education in the small towns and villages where serious losses have occurred. This fire protection bill was drawn on lines similar to the acts of Manitoba and other provinces and of many states of the Union. This measure has obtained the sanction of the Lieut.-Governor and has become law, but nothing so far has been done to bring about its execution.

Realizing, as no doubt we all do, that success in legislation is only obtained through infinite patience, the work above outlined will again be taken up early next session with a view of obtaining from the Ministers, whose good faith we have no reason to doubt, the very legitimate concessions which we have demanded.

UNREGISTERED COMPANIES' MINIMUM TAX.

In the Province of Quebec, a tax of 1 p.c. and a minimum of $250 is imposed, under the Commercial Corporations Tax Act, on all registered insurance companies doing business therein, the minimum being payable in advance. The Attorney-General of the Province has expressed it as his opinion that unregistered competitors are only liable to the tax of 1 p.c., thus being exempt from the minimum. The injustice of this law is apparent more particularly as it was formed with the stated object that it would effect an even distribution of rights and obligations between registered and unregistered companies. A company, a member of this Federation, on which a demand for the minimum tax in advance has been made, under this law, is willing to be a defendant in a test case and stated its intention to your committee which submits the matter for your consideration.

PROVINCIAL ACTS, NEW BRUNSWICK, NOVA SCOTIA AND ALBERTA.

The Province of Alberta at its last session passed a new insurance act embodying a resident agents' law and providing for a payment into the treasury of the Province of 50 p.c. of all premiums paid to companies not registering under the Act. The Province of New Brunswick adopted statuary conditions based largely on the Nova Scotia conditions, but departing therefrom in several important particulars and in the opinion of our committee an effort should be made to have these conditions amended at the next session of the Legislature. An Insurance Act was introduced in the Nova Scotia Legislature last session. Its provisions were very fair and should have been acceptable to the companies registering under the laws of that Province. But when it reached the Upper House an amendment which has been found so objectionable in other provinces, providing for the placing of business with companies not complying with the laws was introduced, whereupon the bill was withdrawn but may come up again next session.

WATCHING LEGISLATION.

Legislation was carefully watched, bills scanned and submitted to your committee when found of importance.

In view of the importance of the work now before us, particularly of the reference to the Supreme Court of Canada and its ultimate hearing before the Privy Council, a further small assessment is recommended.

Feeling as your committee does that this Federation could accomplish so much while safe-guarding the public, for the joint interests of the companies by mutual co-operation, a recommendation is hereby made that the incoming committee make a special effort to get in closer touch with all its members, more particularly those who on account of distance are not in immediate touch with the Executive, in order to meet their requirements and to devise by practical measures the most effective way to obtain and maintain just and equitable laws.

T. L. MORRISEY, President. C. D. GAUDET, K.C. Acting Secretary.

BUSINESS INSURANCE IS SEASONABLE.

What sort of credit would be extended the merchant who refused or neglected to carry fire insurance?

The credit man of any large concern would immediately transfer that account to the doubtful and go-slow list.

This means of precaution and protection has long been recognized as one of the bases of credit, and no merchant thinks of getting along without it.

Lately, life insurance has been receiving the credit it deserves for furnishing one of the best forms of protection for establishing a credit rating, and credit men everywhere are awakening to its importance as a means of protection to business.

If a man lives he may recoup a fire loss, but a loss by death cannot be regained. It appears that the more important of the two forms of insurance protection would therefore be protection against loss by death.

Business insurance not only protects the creditors or the business itself, but it also frees the mind of the man engaged in the business, so that instead of worrying about the outcome of any endeavour to press him for settlement he utilizes that time in furthering his busness interests.

The small amount of net premium he will pay is not to be reckoned in comparison with the amount of time he has had free of worry.

There are business men in every territory covered by insurance salesmen, many of whom have not had the subject of partnership insurance or business insurance explained to them. This is a good season to specialize on that form. The early part of the year is the time when business men do a lot of planning and thinking about their business. Get some insurance ideas included in these plans.—*Hartford Life's Office and Field.*