

COST OF INSURANCE INCREASED IN PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

(Special Correspondence of The Journal of Commerce).

On Monday, December 19th, the day after the smaller fire in Summerside, and six days after the larger one, which did damage to the extent of \$330,000, the Board of Fire Underwriters' met, and announced an increase of 15 per cent on all premiums throughout the province, to take effect, on that date, and on all renewal business from the New Year.

The Board in their published statement, gave as the reason for the increase, the heavy losses sustained by the fires in Summerside, on which was \$220,000 insurance, the St. Dunstons Cathedral fire in Charlottetown, \$110,000 insurance, and other fires during the past five years.

Another reason given was the imposition of civic and provincial government taxes upon insurance companies, the recent increase in the latter tax of one-third for war purposes, and the war tax imposed by the Provincial Government.

THE YEAR'S FIRE LOSSES.

According to the Insurance Press the year's fire losses in Canada and the United States will be heavier than usual. Losses of property by fire in the United States for the seven-year period ending with 1916:

Year.	Prop. Loss.
1916	\$213,539,670
1915	172,033,200
1914	221,439,350
1913	203,408,250
1912	206,438,900
1911	217,004,575
1910	214,003,300

In the first 87 days of 1916 the destruction of property by big fires in the United States and Canada was about \$45,000,000 against only about \$12,000,000 in the first three months of 1915.

Losses in the United States by months follow:

Months:	Prop. Loss.
January	\$20,885,350
February	19,614,770
March	36,787,250
April	12,032,050
May	14,794,500
June	11,697,500
July	22,091,800
August	10,341,000
September	11,530,625
October	16,551,375
November	19,213,450
December	*18,000,000
	\$213,539,670

*Estimated.

WOMEN INSURANCE WRITERS.

At the opening of the 10th session of the Belfast Insurance Institute a feature of the proceedings was the presence of a large number of young ladies who are engaged in the Belfast insurance offices. A motion that they should be admitted as members was unanimously passed.

A BIG POLICY.

The Radiator says that Blake and Davies, managers in Philadelphia, have placed insurance to the amount of \$1,000,000 on the life of J. S. Cosden of Tulsa, Okla. Mr. Cosden is an oil operator. The total of his life insurance is \$2,000,000, of which the Massachusetts Mutual issued its limit of \$50,000.

At least some of the results Life Insurance has accomplished in the educational field have been recognized, if subconsciously. Dr. Charles Mayo, the famous surgeon of Rochester, Minn., has recently stated that there were 800,000 preventable deaths in the United States last year, and most of them were in countries not educated in the prevention of disease. Furthermore, he held, there is no reason why the public should not be educated through the advertising columns.

AN IMPORTANT TIME OF LIFE.

At age 40 a man should take stock of himself. He should see how much he is off standard weight, and make toward it by carefully graduated diet and exercise (Dr. F. M. Denslow advises). If he should be a little under weight, all the better for him from now on. He should have his teeth looked after. Pyorrhoia should be corrected at all cost. He should have a comprehensive physical examination.

CAESAR AS A TALKER.

Caesar was captured, placed in chains, and put in a boat to be taken to Rome and thrown into a dungeon. Before he got there, he talked himself out of his chains, made himself captain of the boat, and the crew took him where he wanted to go.—The Dotted Line.

THE FIRE WASTE PROBLEM.

(Charles F. Nesbit, Superintendent of Insurance, District of Columbia, in Insurance Press.)

How much of the enormous fire waste of this country can be attributed to the present faulty system of fire insurance no one can say, but when the people have found it possible for a comparatively small premium to insure any kind of risk, no difference how faulty in construction, or with what inflammable or explosive materials it was filled, and when they have been able, in large part, if not wholly, to be financially compensated when their property burned, without any liability from their neighbors for damage or loss sustained from fire starting in their property, through carelessness or violation of law, we have a situation not intended to reduce the fire waste of this country.

An Estate Free of Debt

Many investors purchase real estate by means of instalments, payable monthly or yearly: thus making absolute ownership possible in time.

In the event of death before the payments are completed, however, the estate is bequeathed encumbered with debt, and the heirs may not be able to continue the payments.

And it might easily result that the whole of the investment would be lost to the beneficiaries.

Life insurance also constitutes an estate payable by instalments, but death ends the obligation to make payments, and the estate is handed down intact.

Every man who has dependent relatives or friends should have a substantial portion of his investments in the form of life insurance, since the payment of the first premium creates for them an estate free of debt.

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Up-to-date business methods, backed by an unbroken record of fair-dealing with its policyholders, have achieved for the Sun Life of Canada a phenomenal growth.

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Life Fund and Special Trust Funds.... 74,591,540
Total Annual Income Exceeds 47,250,000
" Funds Exceed 142,000,000
" Fire Losses Paid.. . . . 183,366,690
Deposits with Dominion Government ... 1,225,467
(As at 31st December, 1915.)

Head Office, Canadian Branch:—Commercial Union Bldg
232-236 St. James Street, Montreal.

Applications for Agencies solicited in unrepresented districts.
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The first two lessons of the Company's correspondence course will be sent to anyone interested. It will pay young men who desire to get on in the world to look into this.

All correspondence strictly confidential.

CANADA LIFE
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Head Office, Toronto.

