

GERMAN LIFE COMPANIES SEEKING AMERICAN RISKS

New York, February 1.—The Mercury Reinsurance Company of Cologne, Germany, has entered the United States for the purpose of transacting life insurance and has been licensed by the States of New York and Ohio.

At a joint meeting of the fire prevention and fire protection committees of the World's Insurance Congress events it was decided to sound the various organizations interested in reducing the fire waste throughout the world on holding an international fire waste congress in San Francisco on October 7-9, coincident with the World's Insurance Congress.

MONTHLY RETURN OF CUSTOMS FOR MONTREAL IN JANUARY.

The return of the Montreal Customs for January shows a figure of \$1,669,465.97, a decrease of \$128,391. Despite this drop, however, the fact that last month's returns are the largest since August of last year, is a favorable feature; and is attributed to increased imports, due to the fact that duties on certain goods may be increased by the Dominion Parliament in the near future.

GENERAL CHEMICAL WILL INCREASE AUTHORIZED STOCK TO \$40,000,000.

New York, February 1.—In addition to the annual meeting to elect directors and increase authorized stock to \$40,000,000, a special meeting of General Chemical stockholders will be held February 18, to amend certificates of incorporation to provide that stock of either class or both classes may at any time be issued in such amounts to such persons and on such terms, the price to be not less than par as directors may determine, subject only to condition that shares of either class issued for money only must be first offered for subscription on terms so determined to then record holders of stock of corresponding class; but stockholders may by resolution adopted by two thirds of each class of stock at any special meeting modify or withdraw provisions herein set forth as to any issue under consideration and make any other provision.

TWO NEW COMPANIES.

Bills have been introduced in the Connecticut Legislature for charters for two reinsurance companies, one to be known as the Fire and Marine Co. of Hartford, and the other as the Life and Casualty Co. of Hartford. The first will have an authorized capital of \$11,000,000 and the latter of \$2,000,000. The companies will start business with a paid in capital of about \$500,000 each, which will be increased from time to time as their business requires. They are expected to begin business about July 1.

ROCK ISLAND BOND DEPOSIT.

New York, February 1.—Following notice regarding Rock Island bond deposits is issued: "Unless undeposited Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railroad Chicago per cent. collateral trust is deposited by February 9th, holders thereof will not obtain warrants entitling them to subscribe for excess stock at the price of \$10.42 as may be available for subscription on March 6th."

YOUNG MAN! READ The Journal of Commerce MONTREAL If you desire a newspaper that will cultivate your judgment and give authority for your statements.

ALLEGED "FAKE" INSURANCE OPERATORS' TRIAL FIXED

Wilmington, Del., February 1.—Former United States Senator R. R. Kenney, Donald P. Brennan and D. M. Ritzeley, who, with Clair W. Anthony, his father, Frank W. Anthony and Harry A. Woodcock, are charged with use of the mails in connection with alleged "fake" insurance companies operating throughout the United States and Canada, will be placed on trial in the U. S. District Court on March 9. The time for the trial was fixed by Judge Edward G. Bradford Saturday.

No order was entered in the case of the two Anthonys and Woodcock, who were not in court, but John P. Niels, United States District Attorney, informed the Court that he would have these three defendants in court next Wednesday, at which time the court will make an order. The Anthonys were not represented by counsel, but Woodcock was represented by J. Frank Ball.

German submarines have been raiding the Irish Sea and the English Channel. In the last two days five English merchantmen have been torpedoed and sunk.

REAL ESTATE AND TRUST COMPANIES

Table with columns: Bid, Asked, and various company names like Aberdeen Estates, Bellevue Land Co., etc.



MR. G. T. SOMERS, President Crown Life, whose annual meeting was held in Toronto to-day.

FIVE YEAR SENTENCE FOR DEFRAUDING THE PUBLIC

Harry Symons, K.C., Sent to Penitentiary and Dr. Hughes Found Guilty in One Count, Granted Reduced Case.

Toronto, February 1.—After two weeks of legal battling the Union Life case came to a close on Saturday afternoon, when the jury brought in a verdict of guilty against Harry Symons, K.C., on the first count, Dr. Hughes not guilty on the first count, and both guilty on the second count. Symons was sentenced to five years in the penitentiary. Dr. Hughes will receive his sentence on April 12.

AMHERST HAD \$30,000 FIRE.

Amherst, N.S., February 1.—Fire destroyed several business firms and caused a property loss estimated at \$30,000 on Saturday night. The fire, in wood on buildings, extended from Eddy street north up Victoria street to the residential part of that section. The blaze started in the third story of the Andrews Block, which was in the centre of the buildings burned, and worked west through what is known as the Pugsley Block, and in a short time these with their contents were destroyed. The fire then burned through the basement and upper part of the W. D. Main Block and the Chambers Block.

FIRE IN PICTURE HOUSE.

Two hundred persons rushed for the exits of the moving picture house at 162 1/2 Hadley Street, last evening when, just as the first show of the night was starting at 8 o'clock, fire broke out in the operator's box at the side. The film which was being shown ignited, and the burst of flame which followed drove the operator from the box. The theatre was cleared without injury to anyone. The blaze was confined mainly to the operator's box, which is cased in the films, however, being all lost.

COTE'S HOTEL DESTROYED.

With the thermometer at 18 below zero in the early hours of Sunday morning, District Chief Hooper and the fire-fighters of the north-end division of the brigade had to battle with a blaze that destroyed Cote's Hotel on the Back River road. Before the alarm was sent in the two and a half storey brick building was ablaze from cellar to roof. There was no one in the place when the fire was discovered, Joseph Cote, the proprietor, having left for St. Adele, in the Laurentian Mountains, early Saturday evening. Two hours' hard work was required before the flames had the blaze under control. By that time the interior of the hotel was burnt out and the stables and sheds destroyed. A horse and a cow were suffocated. Cote's Hotel was erected thirty years ago, and has since been a half-way house between the city and Back River.

TAILORS' STOCK BURNED.

Sherbrooke, Que., February 1.—Fire did damage to the extent of \$3,000 to the stock of Martine and Pelletier, tailors, Wellington street, on Saturday. It is supposed to have started from an electric wire that had been left with the power on.

VALUE OF CANADIAN PEAT.

Toronto, Ont., February 1.—The Journal of the Canadian Peat Society calls attention to the fact that an opportunity exists for Canadian peat bogs to take the places of Germany and Austria as producers of sulphate of ammonia, of which 1,265,000 tons were produced last year, worth about \$80,000,000.

FRED W. G. JOHNSON INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE

111 Board of Trade Building Telephone: Main 7882; Up, 1333 Your Patronage Solicited.

REAL ESTATE

There were forty-three transfers on Saturday, of which the most important was for \$26,844, representing the sale by Mrs. Paul Boyer and others to the City of Montreal, of lots of land Nos. 188-89 to 91 Carrières Road, Village of Cote St. Louis, containing a total area of 9,762 feet.

Edgar Tremblay and others sold to Adelard Giguere eight emplacements at Pointe aux Trembles, composed of lots 181-511, 541, 591, 503, 502, 501, 500, 499 and 484-485, 444 to 448, 430 and 494, parish of Pointe aux Trembles Ward, with 39 other lots in the same ward. Nos. 181-475 to 479, 506 to 510, 513 to 516, 519 to 529, 537 to 540, 547 to 552 for \$21,600.

Achille Laurin sold to Mrs. A. A. Lefebvre two lots, Nos. 5-262-263, Cote St. Louis, with buildings Nos. 1849a to 1849h Christophe Colombe, for \$20,100.

Joseph Arthur Gelin sold to Aulay Raymond an emplacement in Montreal East, being part of lot No. 91 in Hochelaga Ward, with buildings Nos. 1559 to 1564 St. Catherine Street, for \$19,500.

Ernest St. Amour sold to Geo. Goodfellow 7 lots, Nos. 7-30 to 36 Cote de la Visitation, with buildings on Chapeau St., for \$14,000.

S. Archambault sold to Ferd. Gagnon lot 825-190 and 191 Cote St. Louis with buildings Nos. 768 to 776a Gifford Street, each measuring 20 by 83 feet, for \$11,000.

Edward P. Gagnon sold to the City of Montreal in St. Denis Ward the southeast half of lot No. 198-13, and lot No. 197-16, Cote St. Louis, having an area of 3,648 feet, with buildings, for \$12,104.

Jos. Nap. Larocque sold to Emile Cordeau lots 1072 and 1073 St. James Ward, with buildings Nos. 16 and 18 Robin Street, and Nos. 443 to 449 Beaudry Street, for \$16,000.

Simon Messer and others sold to J. A. Fraser lot No. 692 and part of 6 99 Louis Ward, with building Nos. 206 to 210 Sanguinet Street, 60 by 21.3 feet, for \$11,000.

Theo. Morin sold to the City of Montreal lots Nos. 239-549 Cote St. Louis in St. Denis Ward, with buildings containing an area of 1,733 feet, for \$13,002.

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CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE, SOUTH SHORE—A FARM COMPRISING 125 acres, with buildings, very suitable for subdivision, not far from the Armstrong-Whitworth Mammoth Plant, now in operation, for sale or will trade equity for bull property and some cash. Apply for further particulars to Post Office, Box 2645, Montreal.

PERSONALS

Sir Charles, who was at the Place Viger, left for Ottawa on Saturday. Major-General the Hon. Sam Hughes is expected back in Ottawa from his western tour on Tuesday. Colonel Rathbun of Deseronto, is in town, and is staying at the Windsor.

Major E. G. N. Cape, of the 21st Westmount Battery C.F.A., and Major Fleet, of the 3rd Outremont Battery, are taking the militia staff course at Kingston. Senator J. P. Landry left for Ottawa last night.

Mr. Charles Webb of New York is at the Ritz Carlton. Colonel Colt, Rhode Island, is in Montreal for a few days, and is staying at the Ritz-Carlton.

Mr. Newton McFavish, Touchwood Hills, is at the Windsor. Captain C. J. Sylvester is in town from St. Johns, Que., and is staying at the Place Viger.

KING'S PRINTER A CAPTAIN.

J. E. E. Cinq Mars, King's Printer of Quebec, has been gazetted honorary captain whilst attached as official interpreter with the Canadian expeditionary force.

BISHOP'S COLLEGE SCHOOL GUTTED.

Sherbrooke, Que., February 1.—Bishop's College Preparatory School, Lennoxville, was completely gutted by fire on Saturday evening. The fire started after the pupils had retired, but they were all got out without injury or loss of life. The fire is supposed to have started from an overheated furnace. Only the walls are standing. The damage will amount to about \$15,000, which is covered by insurance.

WARNED AGAINST FIRE.

The Imperial Oil Company has complained to the Board of Control of the danger of fire in their premises on the Lachine Canal because of pieces of burning paper being blown out of the high chimney of the Incineration Department nearby, and carried close to the company's tanks. The company warned the city that they would be held responsible for damages if any fire occurred through this cause.

A CORRECTION.

In a recent issue of the Journal of Commerce a reference was made to the amount of dividends paid to policyholders of the North American Life Assurance Company during the year which has just closed. This was placed at \$2,735, but should have read \$27,635. The error was a typographical one, as anyone who has followed the history and growth of this progressive company would have recognized. The company closed a satisfactory year.

MISCELLANEOUS, WANTED—AUTOMOBILE OWNERS TO ENQUIRE about our insurance policy for autos. Best in Canada. Phone M. 3478, or write London & Lancashire Guaranty and Accident Insurance Co., 1648 St. James St., Montreal.