

**NORTHERN ASSURANCE COMPANY.**

That the Northern Assurance Company propose to open a branch of its casualty business in Canada has already been referred to by The Chronicle. In this connection attention is directed to an advertisement appearing on another page, by which it will be seen that the Company is prepared to receive applications for the services of an experienced casualty underwriter to take charge of this department of its business.

In addition to the acquisitions of the National Guarantee and Suretyship, the Royal Scottish Fire, the White Cross Motor, the Provident Accident & Guarantee, and the Indemnity Mutual Marine, notices have appeared in the press that the Northern has taken over local companies in South Africa and Tasmania. This might indicate that the Northern, like more of the big companies in the insurance field, are ready to acquire, established companies, when a favourable opportunity offers.

**DEATH OF MR. JOHN R. HEGEMAN.**

The death of Mr. John R. Hegeman, for the past 28 years President of the Metropolitan Life, New York, which occurred on the 6th inst., has called forth many tributes to the memory of this great and outstanding figure in the business of life insurance. Mr. Hegeman had been in poor health for the past few years, which precluded his taking a very active part in the Company's business. During his administration the Metropolitan has grown until it has the largest income and the largest amount of insurance in force of any company in the world. While it did industrial business exclusively for many years, it last year wrote more ordinary than industrial business. Mr. Hegeman, who was in his 75th year, had many striking characteristics. He was intensely independent, and went his own way whether the rest of the world did so or not. He had the gift of expressing his thoughts clearly in fine language. Throughout the great organization of the Metropolitan Life was felt the kindly human touch of the man at its head. His good qualities were very many, and a kindly, generous and tender heart is stilled forever.

**ROYAL INSURANCE COMPANY.**

Mr. George Chappel, general manager of the Royal Insurance Company of Liverpool, arrived in New York on the 8th instant, per SS. Mauretania. We understand his visit to this side is mainly for the purpose of appointing a successor to Mr. C. F. Shalleross, manager at New York of the Royal. He is not expected to visit the head office for Canada on this occasion.

Mr. A. Rendtorff, managing director of the Sterling Offices Limited, London, England, spent a few days in Montreal last week.

**CHANGE OF NAME.**

**By London & Lancashire Life & General Assurance Association, Ltd.**

We understand an amicable arrangement has been decided upon between the London & Lancashire Fire Insurance Company and the London & Lancashire Life and General Assurance Association, Ltd., whereby the latter Company, subject to the approval of its shareholders, will change its title and be known in future as the London and Scottish Assurance Corporation, Limited. The decision arrived at by all concerned, is considered a wise one, and will avoid the confusion which has long existed owing to the similarity of titles. The new title, London and Scottish Assurance Corporation, to be adopted by the London & Lancashire Life, is well suited to Canada, and will be most popular and more easily pronounced, and we are sure that by the change in title the Company will not be the loser.

**CANADIAN FIRE RECORD.**

**Fire Near Kitchener, Ont.**—On the 2nd instant a fire destroyed the large barns on the farm of Conrad V. Gies, in Wellesley Township. In addition to the barns, there was also destroyed implements, waggon, harness, 27 sheep and 47 hogs. Loss about \$7,500. Partly insured.

**Fire at Toronto.**—On the 2nd instant the storage building of the Imperial Extract Co., 24 Matilda Street was destroyed. Loss about \$3,000.

**Fire at Windsor, Ont.**—On the 7th instant a fire broke out on the premises of J. F. Smythe & Co., wholesale grocers. Loss estimated at \$35,000. The following companies are interested for amounts not known as we go to press: Northern Continental, Liverpool & London & Globe, Royal, Queen, Western, London & Lancashire, Yorkshire, Firemen's Fund, General of Perth, Caledonian, Guardian, Northern Union, North America, North British & Mercantile, and Commercial Union. The Total insurance, \$69,500.

**Fire at Quebec.**—By the fire which occurred on the 8th instant, on the premises of Fiset & Co., the following companies are interested: On stock, Scottish Union, \$2,000; British America, \$3,000; Great American, \$3,000; Continental, \$1,200; Nat. Ben Franklin, \$500; Liverpool & London & Globe, \$400. Total, \$10,100. Loss, total. Insurance on building not to hand.

**Fire at Hull, Que.**—On the 3rd instant a fire destroyed the Dorion Block at the corner of Main and Leduc Streets, consisting of a social club and three stores. Loss about \$20,000.