

**Fire at Gaspé, P.Q.**—On Dec. 21st, the well-known Morin Hotel was destroyed, with contents. Loss about \$15,000, with \$2,000 insurance.

**Fire at Quebec.**—On Dec. 25th one of the buildings of the Quebec Abbatoir Co. was destroyed. Loss about \$2,000, fully covered.

**Fire at Moncton, N.B.**—On Dec. 25th a fire destroyed the Moncton Tramway Electric and Gas Company's Car Barn, and Machine Shop, one street car and sweeper were destroyed. Loss about \$30,000 fully insured. The loss of one life occurred.

**Fire at Moncton, N.B.**—Two fires quickly followed each other on the 18th inst. The old Winter's Homestead. Loss about \$6,000, and the Moncton Children's Home. Loss about \$5,000.

**Fire at Adamsville, P.Q.**—On Dec. 19th the Wilkins Hub and Mop Handle Factory was destroyed. Loss about \$4,000; no insurance.

#### AUTOMOBILE POLICY COVERAGE.

Q. What is meant by the term Automobile Policy?

A. The automobile policy is a public liability policy which excludes accidents to the policyholder, and to his employees. It provides insurance against loss by reason of the legal liability of the named assured to others for bodily injuries accidentally sustained, including death at any time resulting therefrom, on account of an accident due to the ownership, maintenance or use of any automobile described in the policy, provided such accident occurs during the policy period and within the limits of the United States of America and Canada, subject to certain exclusions.

Q. What exclusions?

A. *First*.—The policy will not cover if the accident occurs while the automobile is being operated in any race or speed contest. *Second*.—While being operated by any one under the age of 16 years or under the age limit fixed by law. *Third*.—Liability assumed by the assured to pay workmen's compensation. *Fourth*.—Liability in respect to any accident happening while the automobile is being used for towing or pre-pelling another vehicle.

Q. What does the automobile policy require of the assured?

A. It requires that when an accident occurs he shall give the insurance company immediate notice and full particulars.

Q. What is meant by "immediate notice" and "full particulars"?

A. "Immediate notice" means as soon as is reasonably possible following an accident, and the term "full particulars" means the time, place and causes of the accident, and, if possible, the apparent result and the names of the witnesses.

Q. How will the assured know that he is expected to do these things?

A. The agent who sells the policy should tell him. It is a part of good service to do so. It may, however, be learned by reading the policy.

Q. What does the company do when it receives a report of an accident?

A. Its claim department refers to the office copy of the policy to see what elements of coverage are provided and then proceeds to have an investigation made by an expert in such matters.

Q. What do you mean by elements of coverage?

A. There are three elements in complete coverage as written by casualty companies: *First*.—Liability coverage, meaning the coverage for injury to persons. *Second*.—Property damage coverage. *Third*.—Collision coverage. The liability coverage is provided by the policy itself, and property damage and collision coverage are added by endorsements when these elements of coverage are also wanted by the assured. In addition to these three elements of coverage, fire insurance companies write fire and theft coverage, and the fire insurance companies sometimes write the collision and property damage coverage.

Q. Do you mean that property damage and collision endorsements are not attached to all automobile policies when issued?

A. Precisely so. Some automobile owners, for one reason or another, do not purchase property damage and collision coverage when they purchase liability coverage, but it is a mistake not to have complete coverage.

Q. What does the company do after investigating an accident reported to it under one of its policies?

A. If there is an apparent legal liability upon the part of the assured, or if a claim is made by the injured person, or by the person whose property has been damaged (if a property damage endorsement is attached to the policy), the company undertakes to adjust and settle the claim, or, if unable to effect a settlement with the claimant, the company is obligated under its policy to defend the assured in court at its own expense and through its own attorney, and if a verdict and judgment are rendered against the assured on account of the accident, the company is obligated to pay, up to the limits insured in its policy.

#### LIMITS OF POLICY

Q. What are these limits?

A. Usually \$5,000 as respects injury sustained by one person and \$10,000 as respects injuries sustained by more than one person in one accident.

Q. Suppose several accidents happen in succession, how about the limits then?

A. These limits will apply as respects each such accident.

Q. May larger limits be obtained?

A. Yes; by paying an additional premium for the additional protection.

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