

Insurance

The Importance of Life Insurance

IT would seem that the importance of life insurance had been so frequently demonstrated that nothing further along that line could possibly be presented. And yet many men with a full realization of what it signifies to those dependent upon them to be without the protection afforded by life insurance continue to put off obtaining such insurance which they know they ought to have. Day passes into day and they continue uninsured. Death lurks in the pot, it stalks abroad in the land; friends and business associates fall before it; and still they halt before insuring themselves against the certainty of dying some day. The life insurance agent is treated with scant courtesy and many men meet death without having been insured. Procrastination is frequently the moving cause of non-insurance; and in the face of the uncertainty of life the importance of the procurement of a life insurance policy is here urged once more. It cannot be done too quickly.—*The Independent*.

Canadians Favor Canadian Companies

THE Abstract of Life Insurance in Canada for 1903 is full of information of interest to those who are desirous of seeing the Canadian business secured by home companies. Of the fifty-two companies licensed to carry on business in Canada, twenty-two are Canadian, fifteen are British and fifteen American. Of these, five British and four American companies have ceased to do new business. There are thus in active operation as many Canadian companies as there are British and American companies combined.

It is quite as noteworthy that, while some American and British companies are deliberately dropping out of the race, others are being forced out. Canadian companies are forging ahead. From the Abstract it appears that of the 178,964 policies new and taken up, Canadian companies had 80,927, nearly one-half of the total number. The significance of these figures is seen when it is known that the distribution of the year's policies shows an increase of 24,372 for Canadian companies, while both the British

and the American companies show a decrease, the British a small, the American companies a large one.

In the amount of policies new and taken up, the showing of Canadian companies is even better. Out of \$91,577,805, Canadian companies secured \$55,170,604, or nearly 85 per cent. of the year's new business. From these figures it is evident that Canadians intend to do their own business. The Canadian Insurance companies have the proper qualifications, and the Canadian public is not slow in appreciating the fact.

This confidence of the people in their own companies is a strong factor in the building up of a new country. Just now it must be a matter of satisfaction to true Canadians that an American company can no longer boast of a larger Canadian business than that of any other company doing business in Canada. The figures for 1903 show a Canadian company now in the lead. From this out, Canadian companies will increase that lead and Canada will profit by it.

Women and Insurance

FOR a long time there was a heavy disability clause aimed at the sex. Now this has all been done away with, and women are insured on exactly the same terms as men. The Canadian Order of Workmen is the latest to admit women on an equal basis with men. The change came about through a study of statistics which revealed the fact that, everything considered, women are as good if not better risks than men. Their habits are better, and they are not so much exposed to accidents.

In consequence of the change, and of the more general recognition of the value of insurance both for wives and in the case of women who are self-supporting and on whom others may depend, the amount of insurance carried by women to-day is enormously increased. In some instances, such as that of Mrs. Leland Stanford, of California, the amount of policies carried is over a million dollars. The popular stage women of the day, such as Maxine Elliott, Miss Maud Adams, and Mrs. Leslie Carter, have \$10,000, \$25,000, and \$50,000, respectively, on their lives.