

THE "APPLICATION" FOR LIFE INSURANCE.—So far as the offices are concerned, too great care cannot be exercised in the selection of lives: but it is a question whether a very rigidly drawn up proposal form will contribute in any appreciable degree to this object. Our opinion is that it does not, and that in the interests of the offices themselves, the shorter and simpler a proposal form is, the better for all parties. The proposal form consists essentially of four parts (1) particulars required for the policy such as the names, designation, address, and age of the proposer, the sum to be assured and the table under which the assurance is to be effected; (2) particulars as to the health history (including habits) of the proposer; (3) the family history, and (4) the declaration. It is necessary that the offices be in possession of full and complete information with regard to the present and past state of health of the applicant, of his habits, and of his family history; but it is very important at the same time that this information, which is of a very inquisitorial description, be obtained in as delicate and inoffensive a manner as possible. It is the usual practice to lay upon the proposer the whole *onus* of giving precise and accurate answers to questions relating to matters which are most perplexing. It is very common for instance, to ask proposers if they have ever suffered from fistula, fits, dropsy, hernia, liver complaint, disease of the kidneys, heart or lungs, or any other disease tending to shorten life. Many persons could not answer such a question. A person might be ruptured, or have disease of the heart or kidneys, without knowing it, and yet proposers have not only to answer such perplexing questions as these but to sign a declaration that their answers are true, coupled with warranty in many cases that they are at the present time in sound health. Such statement, declarations, and warranties have been the fruitful source of a great deal of litigation which might easily be avoided were a simpler form of proposal adopted. Beyond a simple statement by proposers that they are in good health at the time of making the proposal, and that their habits are strictly regular and temperate, we think it better that the decision of all technical medical points as to health be left to the medical examiner, who should have full instructions to elicit from proposers all information on these points. It is essential that the questions in the proposal form be exceedingly simple, and simply put. All medical technicalities should be avoided. Instead of asking an intended assurer in the proposal if he has had any of a long list of complaints, he might with advantage be asked if he had required medical advice during the last so many years, and to state the names of the doctors consulted, and for what disease their services were sought. A very imposing array of questions on a proposal form is a great obstacle to business, and has deterred many from completing an assurance.—*The Policyholder.*

—Mr. J. A. Campbell, of Stracathro, Scotland, M. P., has authorized his factor, Mr. James Young, Forfar, to intimate to the farmers on the Stracathro estate that this year again he is to give them an allowance for lime and dung. The amounts vary from 15 per cent. upwards on the farm rents.

—In a practical article on "Compulsion in Sanitation," the New York *Sanitary Engineer*, writes as follows: Sanitary laws belong for the most part to that class of rules whose formula is "thou shalt not" if they require a man to forbear from injuring his neighbour's health; nevertheless, they may require the doing of a certain act to insure such forbearance, as, for instance, the filling up of the ancient family cesspool and the putting in of a drain-pipe to connect with the sewer. The necessity for such laws depends to a great extent on the aggregation of human beings; for example, in the country a man may usually dispose of his house-drainage as he likes, while in the city it is a very different matter. The decision as to whether this necessity exists or not in any given case, and also as to what particular mode of action is best calculated to meet such necessity, must depend on the will of the majority of the community, and also upon the opinions of the minority of the community. When these two coincide the way is plain; but, except in special emergencies—as, for instance, just after an epidemic—these two things rarely do coincide. Hence it is that we find almost everywhere that there are laws which are not enforced and that it is not possible to judge of the extent to which men are restrained from injuring their neighbours' health by merely examining the statute book or reading the health board regulations.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a meeting of the subscribers to the Capital Stock of the British Canadian Bank will be held at THE ROSSIN HOUSE, in the City of Toronto, on THURSDAY, THE SECOND DAY OF OCTOBER, 1884, at the hour of Twelve o'clock noon, for the election of Directors and for other purposes connected with the organization of the said Bank. By order of the Provisional Board. G. YOUNG SMITH, Chairman.

THE GREAT NORTH WESTERN TELEGRAPH CO. OF CANADA.

The Annual General Meeting of the Shareholders of this Company, will be held at the Company's Head Office, Wellington and Scott Streets, in the City of Toronto,

On Wednesday, Sept. 17th, 1884, at Twelve o'clock noon, for the purpose of electing Directors and Inspectors of Election for the ensuing year and for the transaction of such other business as may be brought before the meeting. By order of the Board. F. ROPER, Secretary. Toronto, Aug 12th, 1884.

SCOTT & WALMSLEY, FIRE & MARINE UNDERWRITERS, ESTABLISHED 1858.

London Ass'ce Corporation. OF ENGLAND. Established, - - - 1780.

National Assurance Comp'y OF IRELAND. Established - - - 1822.

Orient Insurance Company OF NEW YORK. Established - - - 1854.

Queen City Insurance Co'y OF TORONTO. Established - - - 1871.

Hand-in-Hand Ins. Comp'y OF CANADA. Established - - - 1873.

The Canadian Lloyds. OF ENGLAND. Established - - - 1873. UNDERWRITERS.

SCOTT & WALMSLEY —OFFICES— 24 Church St., Toronto.

ROBERT J. WYLIE, Commission Merchant, MANUFACTURER'S AGENT AND APPRAISER.

34 COLBORNE ST., TORONTO —REPRESENTING—

William Balnes, Leeds, England. Unions, Meltons, Costume and Carriage Cloths

Darwen Paper Staining Co., Darwen, Eng. Wall Papers, Decorations, &c.

Wilhelm Vogel, Chemnitz, Saxony. Curtains, Covers, Furniture Coverings, &c.

J. N. Richardson, Sons & Owden, Belfast, Ireland. Linen Manufacturers & Bleachers

Robt. Andrews & Co., Manchester, Eng. Velvetens Cords, &c.

Ell Shaw & Sons, Golcar, Eng. Woollen Manufacturers.

Gebruder Koch, Lausigk, Saxony. Utrecht Velvets, Plush, &c

Insurance. STATEMENT OF THE EQUITABLE LIFE Assurance Society For the Year ending Dec. 31, 1883.

LEDGER ASSETS, Jan. 1, 1883.....\$45,529,581.54

INCOME.

Premiums.....\$10,727,547.96
Interest, Rents & Realized
Net Profits on Invest-
ments and on Sales of
Real Estate 2,743,023.72 13,470,571.68
\$59,000,153.22

DISBURSEMENTS.

Claims by Death and Matured Endow-
ments\$ 3,410,614.97
Dividends, Surrender Values, and An-
nuities..... 2,906,999.94
Discounted Endowments 143,456.75

TOTAL PAID POLICY-HOLDERS.....\$6,461,070.66
Dividend on Capital..... 7,000.00
Commissions, Advertising, Postage and
Exchange 1,019,156.66
General Expenses 973,618.06
State, County and City Taxes 107,060.11

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS.....\$ 8,507,908.49

NET CASH ASSETS Dec. 31, 1883...\$50,432,249.73

ASSETS.

Bonds and Mortgages.....\$ 13,072,941.20
New York Real Estate, including the
Equitable Building and purchases
under foreclosure 5,819,817.08
United States Stocks, State Stocks, City
Stocks, and Stocks authorized by the
laws of the State of New York 15,341,915.19
Loans secured by Bonds and Stocks
(market value, \$10,698,652.00) 8,199,000.00
Real Estate outside the State of New
York, including purchases under fore-
closure and Society's Buildings in
other cities 3,627,515.66
Cash in Banks and Trust Companies
at interest* 3,979,998.98
(*A large portion of this amount was
in transit and has been since in-
vested.)

Commuted Commissions 112,545.15
Due from Agents on account of Prem-
iums 278,517.14
\$ 50,432,249.73

Market value of Stocks and Bonds over
cost 765,653.53
Interest and rents due and accrued..... 451,350.44
Premiums due and in process of collec-
tion (less premiums paid in advance,
(\$25,949.00) 446,125.00
Deferred Premiums 985,203.00

TOTAL ASSETS, Dec. 31, 1883.....\$57,030,581.70

TOTAL LIABILITIES, including valuation
at FOUR per cent..... 48,914,612.44

TOTAL UNDIVIDED SURPLUS.....\$9,115,969.26
Upon the New York standard of 4 per
cent. interest the Surplus is.....\$12,109,756.79
Of which the proportion contributed
(as computed) by Policies in gener-
al class, is\$ 6,420,593.79
Of which the proportion contributed
(as computed) by Policies in Ton-
tine Class, is.....\$ 5,689,233.00

NEW ASSURANCE in 1883.....\$ 81,129,756
TOTAL ASSURANCE 275,160,588

From the undivided surplus, contributed by poli-
cies in the General Class, reversionary dividends
will be declared, available on settlement of next
annual premium, to ordinary participating policies.
From the undivided surplus contributed by policies
in the Tontine Class, the amounts applicable to
policies maturing within the present year will be
duly declared, as their respective annual premiums
become due.

GEO. W. PHILLIPS, } Actuaries.
J. G. VAN CISE, }

HENRY B. HYDE, PRESIDENT.
JAMES W. ALEXANDER, VICE-PRESIDENT.
W. J. SMYTH, MANAGER, Toronto.
R. W. GALE, MANAGER, Montreal.
A. C. EDWARDS and B. A. FIELDING,
General Agents, Halifax, N.S.