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INSURANCE

SUN LIFE INSPECTION.

Superintendent of Home Agencies James W. Simpson, of the Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada, leaves this week for an extended tour of the company's divisions in Western Canada. Mr. Simpson has just returned from a tour of inspection in the State of Michigan.

COLLISION WITH SEAPLANE.

Sooner or later a collision between an aircraft and a seaborne vessel was bound to occur, and the first recorded instance is worthy of consideration with regard to the problems which such an occurrence presents to the insurance market. The case referred to occurred at Toulon, where the steamer Manteau is reported to have been severely damaged by a seaplane, though no details of the extent of the damage appear to have been re-These details are immaterial, however to the consideration of the case from an academic point of view, and until practice has established an answer to the questions now requiring a solution, discussion of any other nature would be valueless. The first point to be raised, is whether a seaplane is "another craft or vessel" for the purpose of the application of the franchise clause. This clause eliminates all claims under three per cent of the insured value, unless the vessel shall have been stranded, on fire or in collision with another ship or vessel, and the necessity for determining whether the last part of the clause is operative when aircraft is concerned is obvious. If the plane is a ship or vessel, underwriters can be asked to pay for small damage resulting from a collision, if not the claims falls upon the owner, or upon any "small damage" insurance he may have effected.

The next point to be considered is the question of the limitation of liability on the part of the plane. Under British laws a statutory liability for collision damage done to another vessel is fixed at £8 per ton of the vessel at fault. Presuming this law to be applied to a seaplane, the point arises as to the method of determining the tonnage of the aircraft. Secondary to this it may be argued that the floats alone are vessels, and that the rest of a plane is exempt from this law, in which case the liability of a colliding float would work out at an infinitesimal figure, and the balance to be borne by the damaged steamer would be enormous in proportion. Then there is the question of blame, though at present it is difficult to see how a steamer on the sea could be held to blame for a collision with an object which is capable of movement in two dimensions. It is possible that other pertinent questions in connection with such claims may have been overlooked, but the foregoing is sufficient to show that a new problem has presented itself, which will require careful consideration on the part of claim experts in the near future.

ALGONQUIN PARK.

The autumn months are delightful in Algonquin Park. The "Highland Inn," situated on the shores of Cache Lake, offers splendid accommodation at reasonable rates. Owned and operated by the Grand Trunk Railway. Altitude 2,000 feet above sea level. Just the place for rest, recreation and recuperation. The Inn will be open for the reception of guests all winter. For rates and all information apply to N. T. Clarke, Manager, Algonquin Park Station, Ontario.

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These are reasons why the Company is known as "Solid as the Continent." Correspond with E. J. Harvey, Supervisor of Agencies.

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