

dent is no better than any other citizen is held generally by Americans, hence their insistence upon the right, as they deem it, to hail and salute him with the freedom of an equal. Common decency suggests that the Chief Magistrate of a nation should have ceremonial protection from the impertinence of the unmannerly, for unmannerly those are who thrust themselves unbidden and without warrant into the presence of any person worthy of respect. None but the rudest even enter a business office without some warrant. Yet this man was allowed to walk right up to the President when he was engaged in a public function, and offer to shake hands with him as if he had been one of his chums, and even detectives saw nothing improper in this outrageous impudence, impudence which cloaked a diabolical crime. The American people will perhaps learn from the Buffalo incident that the ceremonial cordon around dignitaries in the old world and in Canada is not so foolish or so offensive as they have been in the habit of regarding it.

**Policy Dangers.**

The acts of Commission and omissions of acts that are liable to render a fire policy void are more numerous than is generally understood by those whose property is insured. A pamphlet written by Mr. W. B. Elison, New York, on "Fire Insurance, Insurer and Insured," gives a schedule of what endangers a policy, which those who have property insured should read carefully, and we suggest that it should be kept in a place for ready and occasional reference. The schedule has been compiled with especial reference to risks in the United States, but, practically, its provisions may be taken as applicable to those in Canada. It should be understood that the breach of any of the following conditions renders a policy void, unless the insuring company consents thereto in writing by an agent authorized to act for the company in the premises, or, with the knowledge of the breach of the conditions of the policy, formally waives the same in writing.

1. If the insured has concealed or misrepresented any material fact or circumstance concerning the property insured.
2. If the interest of the insured in property is not truly stated.
3. If the insured be guilty of any fraud or false swearing in any matter relating to the insurance.
4. If the insured has or thereafter procures any other insurance.
5. If the property insured is a manufacturing establishment, and it be operated in whole or in part at night later than ten o'clock, or if it cease to be operated more than ten consecutive days.
6. If the hazard be increased by any means within the control or knowledge of the insured.
7. If mechanics be employed in altering or repairing the premises for more than fifteen days at any one time.
8. If the interest of the insured be other than unconditional and sole ownership.
9. If the property insured is a building on ground not owned by the insured in fee simple.
10. If the property insured is personal property and it is or becomes encumbered by a chattel mortgage.
11. If, with the knowledge of the insured, foreclosure proceedings be commenced, or notice be given of sale of any of the property insured by virtue of any mortgage or trust deed.
12. If any change, other than by death, take place in the interest, title, or possession of

the property insured (except change of occupants without increase of hazard).

13. If the policy be assigned before a loss occur.
14. If illuminating gas or vapor be generated in the buildings (or adjacent thereto) for use therein.
15. If (any usage or custom of the trade to the contrary notwithstanding) there be kept, used, or allowed on the premises benzine, benzole, dynamite, ether, fireworks, gasoline, Greek fire, gunpowder exceeding twenty-five pounds in quantity, naphtha, nitro-glycerine or other explosives, phosphorus, petroleum or any of its products of greater inflammability than kerosene oil of the United States standard (which last named may be used for lights and kept for sale according to law, but in quantities not exceeding five barrels, provided it be drawn and lamps filled by daylight or at a distance not less than ten feet from any artificial light).
16. If the building described whether intended for occupancy by the owner or a tenant, be or become vacant or unoccupied and so remain for ten days.

To above list may be added, Failure to pay premium at the proper time; by taking in a new partner without the consent of the company; by the removal of personal property to a new location without the consent of the company. The erection of an exposure to the property insured without the consent of the company.

**INTEREST EARNINGS OF THE LIFE INSURANCE COMPANIES TRANSACTING BUSINESS IN CANADA, 1897-1900.**

In this issue we present a table prepared for THE CHRONICLE, showing the mean amount of assets held by the life assurance companies operating in Canada for the years 1898, 1899, 1900, with the interest earned thereon and the rate of interest per cent.; also the rate of interest for 1897. For the Canadian and British companies the figures have been taken from the report of the Superintendent of Insurance, and for the American companies from the "New York Insurance Report."

The calculations have been made as for similar tables published in previous years. The "Mean Assets" are obtained by deducting from gross assets for each year all outstanding premiums, with accrued and overdue interest. To the cash income from interest, rents, etc., as shown in the statements, have been added the accrued and overdue interest for the year under consideration, then have been deducted the overdue and accrued interest of the preceding year—the remainder is the interest for the current year earned on the mean amount of assets.

It is interesting to note how narrow are the fluctuations in the interest rate in a series of four past years.

The extremes of the Canadian companies were, 4.52--4.77 per cent; the average being 4.62. The extremes of the British companies were, 3.92--4.0; the average being 3.99 per cent. The extremes of the American companies were, 4.31--4.69, the average being 4.52 per cent.

The sacred uses to which the funds of life assurance companies are devoted devolve upon the managers such grave responsibilities as compel them to select investment securities of undoubted soundness. Their observance of this obligation is manifested by the moderate rate of interest earned by their assets,