

Miscellaneous Insurance in Canada in 1917

Report of Insurance Department, Ottawa, Gives Particulars of the Large Activities of Companies Doing Other Than Fire and Life Business—More than Eleven Other Classes of Insurance Covered in Report.

Insurance business other than fire or life was carried on in Canada during the past year by 84 companies: 26 Canadian, 17 British and 41 Foreign companies. Forty-nine of these companies likewise transacted fire insurance, and one transacted life insurance.

In addition to these eighty-four companies, there were six fraternal orders or societies which carried on sickness insurance and also life insurance.

Of these twenty-six Canadian companies which carried on business other than fire or life eighteen transacted miscellaneous classes of business only. Of these, eight transacted sickness insurance; seven, accident insurance; four, combined accident and sickness; seven, plate glass insurance; six, guarantee insurance; seven, automobile insurance; two, steam boiler insurance; three, burglary insurance; one, tornado insurance; two, hail insurance; one, live stock insurance; and one, title insurance.

At the end of the year the assets of these eighteen companies amounted to \$6,765,461.97.

Their total liabilities amounted to \$1,900,060.69, made up as follows:

Unsettled losses	\$ 496,842.86
Reserve of unearned premiums....	1,013,381.22
Sundry	389,836.61
	\$1,900,066.69

The excess of assets over liabilities was \$4,865,401.28. The capital stock paid up in cash was \$2,620,089.29. There was thus a surplus over all liabilities and capital stock of \$2,245,311.99 being a decrease in surplus over the preceding year 1916 of \$159,658.48.

Accident insurance may be subdivided into two classes, viz.: Employers' Liability Insurance and Ordinary Accident, which includes personal accident and accidental damage to personal property.

A number of companies have also issued a combined accident and sickness policy for which the premiums and claims are not separately shown.

The business of accident insurance was transacted by twenty-eight companies, viz.: twelve Canadian, eight British and eight Foreign.

Of the thirty accident companies, twenty-two transacted employers' liability insurance, viz.: nine Canadian, nine British and four Foreign companies.

The total premiums received for this class of risk was \$2,437,392 and the losses paid amounted to \$1,309,955, with unsettled claims outstanding to the amount of \$867,556.

The total premiums for accident business were \$1,644,664. The claims paid amounted to the sum of \$647,303, and there were outstanding at the close of the year unsettled claims amounting to \$250,688.

Section 134 of the Insurance Act 1917, prescribes certain provisions which all personal accident and sickness policies issued after January 1, 1918, must contain, and provision is also made that renewal receipts issued after September 20, 1917, in respect of such policies issued theretofore shall be deemed to contain the said provisions. In pursuance of this legislation all companies have filed forms complying with the section and it is satisfactory to note that in

practically all cases uniformity of phraseology has been adopted.

The conditions prescribed by the Act were prepared after an examination of the existing legislation in other countries and after consultation with the representatives of the insurance companies, whose committees had for some time been considering the question of standard conditions. They were also submitted to the proper departments of the various provinces of Canada and approved by the majority.

The legislation will substitute substantial uniformity for wide divergence in accident and sickness contracts in Canada and will, it is believed, better protect the policyholders of the companies.

The premiums received for combined accident and sickness insurance amounted to \$859,955 and the claims paid, to \$374,647. There were outstanding at the close of the year unsettled claims amounting to \$97,858.

The business of automobile insurance has this year, as last year, divided into two classes, that including fire risk and that excluding fire risk. The former class includes policies insuring against fire only and against fire in combination with burglary and transportation, but the fire portion of this class is a very large proportion of the total and should be taken account of in estimating the total fire loss experienced in Canada.

The business of automobile insurance (including fire risk) was transacted by twenty-six companies, of which three were Canadian, ten British and thirteen, Foreign companies. The premiums received amounted to \$593,008, and the claims paid, to \$227,286, with \$61,728 of claims outstanding.

The business of automobile insurance (excluding fire risk) was transacted by twenty-six companies, viz.: ten Canadian, eight British and eight Foreign companies. The premiums received amounted to \$831,827, and the claims \$247,500 with \$142,674 of claims outstanding.

An important change made at the 1917 Session of Parliament in section 13 of the Act will now permit of the combination of contracts of automobile, fire and inland transportation insurance in one policy, so that now automobiles can be fully covered against all ordinary hazards by a single policy.

Burglary branch of insurance, which is transacted to a considerable extent in Great Britain, was introduced into Canada fifteen years ago. It is carried on by thirteen companies, six Canadian, three British, and four Foreign companies. The total premiums received amounted to \$159,858, and the losses paid to \$50,636, with unsettled claims outstanding at the end of the year amounting to \$12,323.

Explosion insurance was transacted by one Canadian and three foreign companies. The premiums received during the year amounted to \$134,787 and losses paid to \$110.

The definition of explosion insurance was widened by The Insurance Act, 1917, to include what is known as war risk and bombardment insurance. Section 2 (y) now provides that the term includes insurance against damage "caused by bombardment, invasion, insurrection, riot, civil war on commotion or military or usurped power."

Guarantee business was transacted by nineteen companies, of which nine are Canadian, five British and five Foreign companies.

The total premiums received were \$824,638, and the net amount paid for claims was \$223,668, with unsettled claims amounting to \$338,154 outstanding at the end of the year.

The Canadian Surety Company, the Guarantee Company of North America and the London and Lancashire Guarantee and Accident Co. of Canada transacted business outside of the Dominion which is not included in the above.

The hail insurance business is of comparatively recent development. During 1917, fifteen companies received pre-