

CANADIAN FIRE RECORD.

Compiled by The Chronicle.

Fire at Winnipeg, Man.—On the 17th instant a fire destroyed the building owned by Gray, Campbell, Carey & Co., Winnipeg. Loss about \$125,000.

Fire near Guelph, Ont.—On the 17th instant fire destroyed two barns belonging to Mr. D. Aitcheson in Pilkington township. Loss about \$7,500.

Fire at Montreal.—On the 21st instant a fire destroyed the Sash & Door factory of Messrs. Traversy Limited, 136 Papineau Ave., Montreal. Insurance: Employers, \$1,000; Royal Exchange, \$1,000; Guardian, \$3,000; Globe & Rutgers, \$2,000; Union of Canton, \$1,550; Nova Scotia, \$1,500; London Guarantee, \$1,500; Niagara, \$500; Commercial Union, \$2,500; New York Underwriters, \$500; National of Paris, \$1,000; Springfield, \$500; British Colonial, \$1,000; Aetna, \$1,500; British Traders, \$1,000; Norwich Union, \$1,000. Total, \$21,000. Loss total.

Fire at Renfrew, Ont.—On the 23rd instant a fire destroyed a laundry, the property of M. J. O'Brien. Insurance Phoenix of London, \$9,300. Loss total.

NORTHERN ASSURANCE CO., LIMITED

The announcement is made at the Head Office of the Northern Assurance Company, Aberdeen, Scotland, "that Mr. John C. Denison Pender, M.P., has accepted an invitation to join the London Board of Directors.

Mr. R. Mackay, F.F.A., the present secretary at Aberdeen, and acting chief officer in Scotland of the Northern, has been appointed manager at the Aberdeen head office with the title of manager and secretary to the Aberdeen Board.

Mr. A. Hardie, the company's chief fire clerk and surveyor at Aberdeen, has been appointed fire superintendent at the Aberdeen head office.

THE LIVERPOOL & LONDON & GLOBE INSURANCE CO., LTD.,**New Director.**

Announcement is made that Mr. James Caruthers has been appointed a Canadian Director of the Liverpool & London & Globe Insurance Company, Limited, the other members of the Board being Mr. M. Chevalier, Sir Alexandre Lacoste, Mr. Wm. Molson Macpherson and Sir Frederick Williams-Taylor, with Mr. J. Gardner Thompson, Manager, Mr. Lewis Laing, Assistant Manager, and Mr. J. D. Simpson, Deputy Assistant Manager.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION LAW

Is a workman's illness, if contracted in the course of his work, an accident within the meaning of the Workmen's Compensation Act? The question was submitted in the Superior Court in four cases before Mr. Justice Tellier for adjudication. His Lordship's conclusion, on the 24th instant, was in the negative, and the actions as entered were dismissed.

Early in 1917 Joseph Brabant, Arthur Charron, Ernest Charron, and Edmond Charron were engaged to work for the Canadian Pacific Railway Company in the Sortin Yard, near Lachine. They contracted typhoid fever, and Arthur Charron died. His widow, Dame B. Paquette, authorized by judgment of the court to ester in justice, took an action against the railway company under the Workmen's Compensation Act, claiming \$2,025 damages in her own behalf and that of her minor children. It was alleged that deceased's illness was contracted while he was at work through drinking impure water supplied to him.

Ernest and Edmond Charron and Joseph Brabant recovered from their illness, and likewise took action against the company for damages under the Workmen's Compensation Act, alleging liability on the ground mentioned in the widow's plea.

Justice Pellitier ruled that the actions would not legally be under the statute in question. Employers his Lordship pointed out, were liable under this measure for injuries resulting from accidents sustained by workmen in the course of their labour. Even if the men in question had contracted their illness through drinking water supplied for drinking purposes by the employer—and the court said this had not been proved in any instance before him—but even if the proof were there, he said, action in damages under the Workmen's Compensation Act could not succeed. The men's illness would then have resulted from something apart from their labour. It had not been shown that one of the conditions of their work was that the company should supply them with meat and drink. That was a matter entirely their own. The germ of the disease might have come elsewhere than from the source of the water supply in the railway yard.

On the merits of a claim under the Workmen's Compensation Act, the judge added that it must be proved that the injury sued upon resulted from an accident related to the injured party's work. What was an accident? In law it was a fortuitous event suddenly produced from the man's work. In none of the four cases under consideration has the men suffered from an accident within the meaning of the act. Their actions, therefore, were dismissed with costs.

INTEREST ON WAR LOANS

Notice is given by the Finance Department that the books of the first war loan, due in 1925, and of the Victory Loan of 1917, the semi-annual interest on which is payable on the first of December, 1918, will be closed from the 1st of November until the 1st of December. Interest cheques for these loans will be issued by the department to fully registered holders as of record 1st November, 1918.

INSPECT CHIMNEY FLUES

Bear in mind that it is of supreme importance to have all chimneys and flues carefully inspected at least twice a year. The most important season for this is just now approaching. This may have a vital bearing on the safety of your property and lives of loved ones. Let "Fire Prevention" and "Safety First" have full sway in your daily relations of life.