

licensed companies in good standing here, or not. Other manufacturers were fully insured up to the ability of our licensed companies in good repute to protect them, and when they had excess insurance which they could not place in Canada they went to Lloyds and good outside companies, and got such excess placed in some cases paying the same rate in the foreign as in the licensed companies. Some of these large concerns do not belong to the Manufacturers' Association. They have kept within the law in the past, and filled the licensed companies before they went abroad. Some of these concerns have the best part of a million to place over and above the ability of licensed companies here to protect them. Is it fair to such concerns to say 'when you get placed all you possibly can in good companies licensed in Canada, you must pay a tax of 35 per cent for the privilege of placing what the Canadian companies will not take and cannot take, or else go without sufficient cover?'

We repeat that if this 35 per cent compromise goes into effect it will work hardship on some large firms who have always given the licensed companies a square deal in the past in taking all they could cover. The question is, if the Bill becomes an Act with the 35 per cent clause inserted in section 71, will not the manufacturers who have been placing all their lines abroad in the past still continue to do so, relying on a certain tendency towards the non-enforcement of such Acts, and will not the firms who have lived up to the spirit of the old Insurance Act and wish to live strictly up to the laws be badly handicapped under this 35 per cent proposed clause in section 71?

If you would kindly give us your opinion on this it would be appreciated.

Yours respectfully,

MACNAB & CAMPBELL.

OWEN SOUND, ONT., April 2, 1909.

Mr. W. S. MIDDLEBRO, M.P.,
Parliament Buildings,
Ottawa, Ont.

DEAR SIR,—I wrote you a few days ago in reference to the Insurance Bill now before the House and asked you to use your endeavours to have the law so fixed that foreign or outside fire insurance companies cannot do business in this country without making a government deposit, and without paying a license fee.

I had a talk yesterday with a manufacturer here who made the remark that the Canadian Fire Underwriters' Association was one of the most vicious combines that ever existed in this country. He stated that that association if allowed to have their own way would fix the rates to suit themselves, and that these rates would be fixed very high.

Now I want to point out to you the falsity of this statement by presenting facts which no one can dispute. As you are aware yourself the C.F.U.A. quite recently issued new specific rates, for Owen Sound. This they did because Owen Sound had improved their fire protection apparatus. And from this fact we can surely believe that the C.F.U.A. will do the same whatever there is fairly good reason for them to do so.

On looking at the rating book I find that Williamson's barber shop building on Division Street is rated at 40 per cent with no co-insurance and 32 cents with 80 per cent co-insurance. This is a solid brick building with felt and gravel roof. Then Putschart's hardware building on the corner of Poulett and Baker Street where a large amount of oils and varnishes are stored, I find that the rate is fixed at 78 cents with no co-insurance and 65 cents with 80 per cent co-insurance. Then on Division Street I find that Mr. Lemon's building occupied by Mr. Kramer as grocery store is rated at 60 cents without co-insurance and 48 cents with 80 per cent co-insurance. Speers' building on the corner of Poulett and Division Streets, occupied by a bank, a large clothing store, clothes cleaning and pressing, dance hall and offices is rated at 91 cents no co-insurance, 73 cents with 80 per cent co-insurance. Matt. Duncan's grocery store building, corner Poulett and Division Street, solid stone, with felt and