



# INSURANCE SOCIETY

"Still achieving, still pursuing,  
Learn to labour and to wait."

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The *Chatham Banner* says that a system of water-works, to furnish an unlimited supply of water to that town, can be had at a cost of \$105,000. The water to be brought a distance of sixteen miles, from Chenel Ecarte. Have the water at the price, Chatham. You'll save it ten times over before you've done with it.

Collingwood does not seem to get much satisfaction out of its Steam Fire Engine. In December last a whole row of buildings were burnt, and during last month another row went, and in neither case did the telegrams say that "the steamer was on the ground, and working in full force within 15 minutes of the alarm."

The first-mentioned fire spread from north to south, and that of last month from south to north and in every direction, and no news came of an alarmingly high wind in either case.

The first few minutes are the all important ones in staying the spread of a fire, more particularly in towns where wooden buildings are numerous, and there are very many towns in Canada where good Steamers are kept well equipped, but where a few months immunity from fire begets a certain kind of carelessness, and on sudden need arising, the valuable minutes are lost before a good stream is played on the fire.

A correspondent writes: "Will you kindly inform me through your journal why Insurance Companies do not renew short date risks by renewal receipt, the same as yearly risks, instead of putting the agent to all the trouble of making new applications, diagrams, &c. I fail to see any good reason for not doing so."

There is no principle of insurance involved in this, but is merely a matter of convenience in book-keeping to the Companies, it being considered less complicated to keep track of the short date risks under fresh applications, than by renewal receipts. There are, however, some Companies that do renew short date policies by renewal receipts. If a

new short date policy be in reality a renewal of a former one, a signed application stating that fact, and referring to the original application as the basis of the insurance, would probably be accepted as a description by most Companies. The circumstances of the case should govern the action. By such a course, the agent's work is but little increased.

The "Globe Mutual" goose still incubates the golden fee and lays it in the lawyer's hat. And that goose is not going to die in a hurry, either, not if several parties know it. Why the Government of Canada, through its Insurance Department, we presume, gave \$82,000 of this Company's deposit into the hands of the assignee, without receiving any security therefor, that being the amount of Canadian re-insurance fund and death claims, and paid the remaining \$18,000 to the New York Receiver of the Company, is more than any sane man can explain or justify. Not satisfied with idiotic Canadian generosity, the New York Receiver is now trying to lay his hands on the remainder of the \$82,000, by an attempt to prove that the Company was purely mutual, and on that account the amount of the Canadian deposit, made especially for the security of Canadian policy holders, should be thrown in with the United States wreckage, and contribute to the payments of its total liabilities. There is, perhaps, not much doubt as to the way the decision must go, according to the evidence taken, which proves the Company to have had capital and shareholders, and therefore not a purely mutual concern. There should never have been any ground for a case at all, as far as we can see, and it should in all justice have been turned out of Court. These Government deposits are made for the benefit of Canadian policy holders, and for them alone; and until all the claims of these policy holders are satisfied, there should be no possibility of even attempting to turn the money into any other channel. Granting it as a right principle that all assets of a purely Mutual Company, in whatever country, should contribute *pro rata* for the security of all policy holders, and allowing for the moment, that the "Globe Mutual" is a purely mutual Company, then there is but one conclusion to come to, viz., that the "Globe Mutual Life" entered this country and did business under false colors. They made a deposit, as do Stock Companies, for the seeming security of their policy holders, and did business on the strength of that security, while all the time that deposit was not fully realizable by Canadian policy holders. We hardly think that the Company or its Receiver is prepared to admit such evident fraud. If not, then, as it entered the country, so it should leave it, a Stock Company.