

MR. E. P. HEATON RESIGNS.

It is stated that Mr. E. P. Heaton, manager of the insurance department of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association and of the Central Canada Manufacturers' Mutual Fire Insurance Company, has resigned as the result of a disagreement with the executive. The assistant manager is reported also to have resigned.

SOVEREIGN BANK TO BE WOUND UP.

Owing, it is stated, to the refusal of some of the shareholders to subscribe to stock in the company International Assets, Limited, formed to take over the assets of the Sovereign Bank, notice has been given of the proposed winding up of the bank. It will be remembered that an arrangement was made with a number of the Canadian banks by which the Sovereign Bank handed over to them its business and its deposits, these banks guaranteeing the payment of the depositors. The Sovereign Bank secured the assisting banks by executing a deed of trust of all its assets.

After some years of liquidation, it became apparent that a sufficient number of assets would not be realized in time to repay these banks at the specified date, so a company was formed called "The International Assets," composed of the shareholders of the Sovereign Bank, who subscribed to stock in the International Assets, to an amount equal to their holdings in the Sovereign Bank, the International Assets buying the assets of the Sovereign Bank and the money paid therefor was paid into the trustee of the assisting banks, thus reducing the debt of the Sovereign Bank to the assisting banks, and bonds of the Assets Company were issued for an amount equal to the remaining debt of the assisting banks.

For a long while it was expected that the Sovereign Bank would be kept alive, but the action of some of its shareholders in not subscribing to the shares in the International Assets has compelled action in order that the double liability may be collected.

THIS MEANS YOU.

Every householder should make a personal inspection of his residence and other buildings for the discovery of possible fire dangers.

Look to the chimneys, especially at this season of the year. Has the mortar in the upper parts decayed either from the action of the weather or gases from the fuel used? Defective chimneys are a frequent cause of fires at this time, and are always a menace.

How do you dispose of ashes? Never let ashes come in contact with wood, even though they are apparently cold.

Is there any rubbish lying around awaiting only a spark to start a fire?

Look at your gas connections, and remove that rubber hose, if you are using one.

If electricity is used, examine the wiring.

See that stovepipes do not pass through wooden partitions or come near wood at any point.

These are only a few things to be looked after, but a brief inspection may save your property.

CONSERVATION OF POLICY PROCEEDS.

(*Sylvester C. Dunham, President Travelers Insurance Company, of Hartford.*)

A member of the Association of Life Insurance Presidents who took his first policy of life insurance thirty-six years ago was informed by the agent that the contract embodied the most liberal provisions that could ever be afforded by any responsible insurance company; that statistics and experience had been so accumulated, compared, revised and corrected that it was improbable that any further advances in the science and practice of life insurance would be made within the next fifty years; that certain irresponsible competitors were introducing a dangerous feature known as Cash Surrender Value and that he was daily looking for their bankruptcy. The policyholder was admonished in large type to "read your policy," and upon following the admonition he found among other provisions the following:

Premiums must be paid at the home office of the company promptly on each anniversary during the life of the policyholder or the insurance and all premiums theretofore paid would be forfeited to the company.

All answers, statements and representations in the application were warranted to be literally true. If errors were found, the contract would be void.

The insured was permitted to reside in any civilized abode in the Western Hemisphere north of the 32nd parallel, which is the latitude of Savannah, and in any part of the United States south of that line except from the first day of May to the first of November. If he should pass beyond these limits, or engage in blasting, mining or sub-marine operations; accept service in any capacity on any sea, sound, inlet, river, lake or railroad, or enter into military or naval service, voluntarily or otherwise, without the consent of the company; or if he should become intemperate or be convicted of crime;—for any such violation of the contract the insurance would become void and all premiums would be forfeited to the company.

BUILDING UP EXPERIENCE.

These were hard terms and were exacted within such recent times that they seem almost to discredit the business of life insurance as then conducted, but it must be remembered that our remote insurance ancestors of thirty-six years ago were making the beginnings from which a great volume of experience grew up and became available to their descendants, and they did not and could not know that concessions since made would not expose their companies to ruin. That they were conscientious in their practice is shown by the wrecks their caution was powerless to prevent, the like of which under a more liberal policy guided by greater knowledge do not happen now.

The law abhors a forfeiture. It came to be seen that this maxim applies no less to contracts of insurance than to other more simple instruments of commerce. The equitable interest of the policyholders in the reserve or the substance created by their premiums gained increasing recognition. It was a long step in advance when one who found it necessary to discontinue his insurance was permitted to withdraw his share in the common fund in the form of paid-up insurance.

(*To be continued.*)