

PROPOSED AMALGAMATION OF THE MANUFACTURERS AND TEMPERANCE & GENERAL LIFE OFFICES.

On another page we publish a circular letter jointly issued by Mr. H. Sutherland, managing director of the Temperance & General and Mr. J. F. Junkin, managing director of the Manufacturers Life. This circular sets forth the views of the Boards of these two companies. The question of the amalgamation of life offices is one demanding very serious consideration, in consequence of the various interests which may be effected, as well as in some cases the disturbance of the policy pursued by either one of the companies. We presume that the matter has been well considered by the directors in the premises, and that the shareholders and policyholders will be afforded an opportunity of expressing their views in connection therewith before anything of a further binding character is permitted to take place. The consent of Parliament must necessarily, we presume, be obtained before the amalgamation can be consummated. As a matter of interest we append a synopsis of the law on this subject in existence to-day in England.

SYNOPSIS OF ENGLISH LAW REGARDING AMALGAMATION OF LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANIES.

(14). Where it is intended to amalgamate two or more companies, or to transfer the life assurance business of one company to another, the directors of any one or more of such companies may apply to the Court, by petition to sanction the proposed arrangement, notice of such application being published in the "Gazette," and the Court, after hearing the directors and other persons whom it considers entitled to be heard upon the petition, may confirm the same if it is satisfied that no sufficient objection to the arrangement has been established.

Before any such application is made to the Court a statement of the nature of the amalgamation or transfer, as the case may be, together with an abstract containing the material facts embodied in the agreement or deed under which such amalgamation or transfer is proposed to be effected, the copies of the actuarial or other reports upon which such agreement or deed is founded, shall be forwarded to each policyholder of both companies in case of amalgamation, or to each policyholder of the transferred company in case of transfer, by the same being transmitted in manner provided by section one hundred and thirty-six of the Companies' Clauses Consolidation Act, 1845, for the transmission to shareholders of notices not requiring to be served personally; and the agreement or deed under which such amalgamation or transfer is effected shall be open for the inspection of the policyholders and shareholders at the office or offices of the company or companies for a period of 15 days after the issuing of the abstract herein provided.

The Court shall not sanction any amalgamation or transfer in any case in which it appears to the Court that policyholders representing one-tenth or more of the total amount assured in any company, which it is proposed to amalgamate, or in any company the business of which it is proposed to transfer, dissent from such amalgamation or transfer.

No company shall amalgamate with another, or transfer its business to another, unless such amalgamation or transfer is confirmed by the Court in accordance with this section.

Provided always that this section shall not apply in any case in which the business of any company which is sought to be amalgamated or transferred does not comprise the business of life assurance.

(15.) When an amalgamation takes place between any companies or when the business of one company is transferred to another company, the combined company or the purchasing company, as the case may be, shall, within ten days from the date of the completion of the amalgamation or transfer, deposit with the Board of Trade certified copies of statements of the assets and liabilities of the companies concerned in such amalgamation or transfer together with a statement of the nature and terms of the amalgamation or transfer, and a certified copy of the agreement or deed under which such amalgamation or transfer is effected, and certified copies of the actuarial or other reports upon which such agreement or deed is founded; and the statement and agreement or deed of amalgamation or transfer shall be accompanied by a declaration under the hand of the chairman of each company and the principal managing officer of each company, that to the best of their belief every payment made or to be made to any person whatsoever, on account of the said amalgamation or transfer is therein fully set forth, and that no other payments beyond these set forth have been made or are to be made either in money, policies, bonds, valuable securities or other property by or with the knowledge of any parties to the said amalgamation or transfer.

IMPERIAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

The annual meeting of the above company was held at Toronto, on 6th ult. The statement presented evidences a gratifying increase of business in the past year, with a proportionate increase in income and reserves. The new policies issued in 1900 amounted to \$3,107,000, yielding a new annual premium of \$121,403. The total amount of assurance in force at close of 1900 was \$9,226,350, as compared with \$7,134,625 at end of 1899, showing an increase of \$2,091,725. The premium income was \$319,860, and from interest, \$36,272, making the total income, \$356,132. The death claims are stated to have been \$35,803, which is said to have been "considerably less than the amount expected, although the company's estimate was based upon the Select Life Tables deduced from the Institute of Actuaries, H. M. Experience, which takes into account the recent selection of assured lives." The net ledger Assets appear in the statement as \$1,007,017. To this sum are added \$75,314 for "net quarterly and semi-annual premiums not yet due, and premiums in course of transit—full reserve therefor included in liabilities—also, \$19,760 for assured interests on investments, which raise the gross assets to \$1,102,002.

The reserves, computed on a 3½ per cent. basis, are given as..... \$597,188
And all other liabilities..... 15,466
Leaving as surplus on policyholders' account..... 489,348

\$1,102,000

Mr. E. S. Miller has recently been appointed Provincial Manager for Quebec, and has opened his office in the Bank of Toronto building, on St. James street. Messrs. T. J. Drummond and Geo. B. Reeves, both of this city, have been elected directors of the Imperial.