

The Semaphore

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EDITOR SEMAPHORE,

YARMOUTH, N. S.

THE GAP FILLED.

As outlined in the first number of THE SEMAPHORE, it is to be the particular mission of this paper to advocate the assessment plan of Life Insurance. Our first issue of six thousand copies has by this time, we trust, found as many as thirty thousand readers—it being a fair assumption that a paper going into a family will be read by as many as five persons—and we hope that the seed which we are trying to sow will before long begin to germinate and give evidence of future vigorous growth.

The more we study the Life Insurance problem, the more are we convinced that the “natural premium” system, as applied by such Associations as the MUTUAL RELIEF OF NOVA SCOTIA, is the only equitable, logical and sensible system extant, and is destined in the end to supersede all others. We have received from our readers many encouraging and appreciative letters, for which we here wish to express our thanks. We are also informed by the Manager of the MUTUAL RELIEF SOCIETY that the Agents of his Company find THE SEMAPHORE a very valuable aid to them in securing applications for Insurance. It is gratifying to us to know this, and to feel that we are doing some good in the work we have laid out for ourselves.

Webster vs. Mutual Relief Society of Nova Scotia.

We have recently obtained the Judgments of the Supreme Court of Canada in this Cause, which has been occupying the attention of the Courts for the past three years.

We subjoin the full text of the Judgment, as delivered by the several Judges of the Supreme Court of Canada:

Webster vs. Mutual Relief Society of N. S.

PATTERSON J.

The contract of insurance on which this action is brought is called a Bond of Membership. The operative portion of it is in these words:

This Bond of Membership witnesseth, that the Mutual Relief Society of Nova Scotia, in consideration of statements made in the application heretofore, and the payment of nine dollars, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, and the further payment of Annual Dues of Four 50-100 Dollars, on or before the 23rd day of February of each year, and a further sum in accordance with the rate in Column number Two of the Table endorsed hereon, as often as required to replenish the Death Indemnity Fund during the continuance of this contract, (said sum not to exceed, however, ten payments each year);

Do agree to pay to Helen O. G. Webster, the wife of the member, her Executors, Administrators or Assigns, sixty days after due notice and proof of death of John L. R. Webster, one full assessment contributed to the Indemnity Fund by all the Members of the Society at the date of the death of the said member; provided, however, such payment shall not exceed the sum of Five Thousand Dollars.

Then follow some conditions relating to specified