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121 Devonshire Street, BOSTON, Mass., U.S.A. DECISIONS IN COMMERCIAL LAW.

FLEMING V. LONDON & LANCASHIRE ASSURANCE CO—This was an action upon a life insurance policy. The trial judge held that there was nothing to prevent defendants from accepting the promissory note of a third person in satisfaction and discharge of the premium, and that the defendants having so accepted the note of their local agent, a note for and on account of the premium, could not avail themselves of a condition in the policy to the effect that if a note should be taken for the first premium, and should not be paid when due, the policy should become void. The members of the Court of Appeal being divided in opinion, appeal dismissed.

McCormick v. Temperance and General LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY OF NORTH AMERICA. -An appeal by plaintiff from order dismissing with costs action brought by widow of Michael A. McCormick to recover \$2,000, the amount of a policy on the life of deceased. The defence of the action was that a promissory note had been given for the first year's premium, and was unpaid at the time of the death. Plaintiff contended that note had been paid by an arrangement of set-off entered into by the deceased with defendant's local agent, and that defendants, having issued their official receipt for the first year's premium, were estopped from setting up non-payment. The Court of Appeal dismissed the appeal.

ROGERS V. TORONTO PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD. - The action was brought by the late Benjamin Rogers, in respect of injuries received by him on the 16th July, 1894, and was continued by his executors after his death, which took place in October, 1895. His death was not caused by the injuries so received. He was a yardsman in the employ of Elias Rogers & Co., coal merchants, of Toronto, and received the injuries in the basement of the Ryerson school, Toronto, where he went on the evening before the delivery of a large quantity of coal to inspect the premises in order to see where it should be stowed, by falling into the furnace pit, which caused a fracture of the hip-bone. The jury awarded him \$2,700 for his suffering, and \$3,000 for "permanent injury." The Court of Appeal held that the School Board were not liable as a School Board for what occurred, and even if they had been ordinary individuals, that they owed no duty to deceased under the circumstances; and also that there could be no damages for "permanent injury" under the circumstances.

AN EMPLOYER'S LIABILITY DECISION.

An interesting English employer's liability case is reported by the Solicitors' Journal. It appears that a firm of stevedores contracted to discharge the cargo of a ship. The owners of the ship agreed to furnish all the necessary cranes and chains. One of the chains thus furnished proved defective. It broke, causing a serious injury to an employee of the stevedore firm. The firm did not examine the apparatus furnished them by the owners of the ship. The firm compensated the workman for his injuries, and then sought to recover the same from the owners of the ship. The court held, that notwithstanding the neglect of the firm to examine the apparatus furnished them, that the negligence of the owners of the ship in furnishing defective apparatus was so much greater that the firm was entitled to recover. This practically eliminated the negligence of the firm as a factor in the case, and made the negligence of the ship owners the direct cause of the acci-

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