

THE INSURANCE CHRONICLE

CASE FOR INVESTIGATION.

It is not only insurance companies in Canada who expect some protection from the State in return for the tribute they pay to it. And not in Canada only do protectionist manufacturers or merchants go abroad for their insurance to companies which pay no tribute in Canada. A New York insurance paper tells of a prominent clothing firm near Astor Place placing the bulk of its fire insurance in London, Eng., and only a small portion in the States. This, says the journal, is suggestive of an invasion of the rights of the authorized companies that is dangerous for their future. "If one merchant can go abroad for a line of insurance without filing an affidavit of inability (to secure it at home, as the law requires), and can obtain policies in London at cut rates to the exclusion of the regularly admitted companies, whose policies were cancelled to make room for the London concerns, then others may claim the same privilege. It seems as if there were a case for investigation by the State Insurance Department, as well as by the Exchange."

INSURANCE INSTITUTES OF MONTREAL AND TORONTO.

The opening meeting of the Montreal Insurance Institute takes place at the Windsor Hotel, Montreal, this evening. The speakers are the Hon. Mr. George P. Graham, Minister of Railways and Canals, the subject of whose address will be "Canada," and Prof. Iva E. Martin, Royal Military College, Kingston, the subject of his address being "The Education of Insurance is the Assurance of an Education."

Amongst the speakers who have given their consent to address the meetings for 1909-10 are Messrs. Charles Warren Pickell, manager the Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company, Detroit, Mich.; Joseph DeBoer, president National Life Insurance Company, Montpelier, Vt.; Edison S. Lott, manager United States Casualty Company, New York, N.Y.; the Hon. James J. Barry, insurance commissioner, State of Michigan, and Col Boland and many other prominent authorities on insurance in its different branches in the United States and Canada.

The officers of the Montreal Insurance Institute are as follows: George H. Allen, president; B. Hal Brown, chairman Governing Council; Thos. F. Dobbin, vice-president; Maurice Burke, secretary; Charles D. Cornell, treasurer.

The Insurance Institute of Toronto held the opening meeting of its eleventh session recently at the St. Charles Cafe. The president, Mr. E. F. Garrow, was in the chair, and Mr. J. A. Macdonald was the speaker of the evening. The president read his inaugural address, which was received with the attention it well deserved. Mr. Macdonald again demonstrated his powers as an orator in his address, "Honor in Business." The Institute meets again on Thursday, November 25th, at which meeting the following papers will be read: 1. "Ontario Statutory Conditions," Mr. John H. Hunter. 2. "Surplus: Its Origin and Distribution," Mr. L. K. File, B.A., F.I.A.

ACTION UNDER THE MANITOBA COMPENSATION ACT.

At Winnipeg, before Mr. Justice Perdue and a jury, the case of Szwetske vs. Mills & Shepley for damages, under the Manitoba Compensation Act, was continued. The plaintiff had been injured, it is alleged, while riding in a hoist belonging to the defendant company. If the jury came to the conclusion that he was injured in such a manner as would make his claim good under the compensation for injuries act, they could then only give him a verdict for an amount equal to what a man employed in the same grade of work as plaintiff was engaged in at the time of the occurrence, would earn in three years preceding that date, in this province.

Under the Compensation for Injuries act, the action would lie if the injury was sustained through the negligent act of a fellow workman. The court held that the finding

was under the common law, as they found no negligence on the part of the engineer who was in charge of the motive power operating the hoist, and a pro forma verdict for the sum which the jury awarded the plaintiff, \$1,000, was entered with the costs of the trial.

An appeal will be made to the full court for a decision as to the liability of employers for injuries which may be sustained by their workmen under circumstances such as in the present.

LEADING LIFE INSURANCE MAN PROMOTED.

Mr. R. W. E. Burnaby, who has been for years the city manager of the Dominion Life Insurance Company, is leaving that company to accept a more important position with the Imperial Life. Mr. Burnaby is well known as a capable and progressive insurance man. He has managed the Toronto agency of the Waterloo company and has handled its business with exceptional energy and ability.

One of the chief officers of the Dominion Life tells the Monetary Times that the company parts with Mr. Burnaby with sincere regret, but joins with all who know him in wishing him continued success in his new position.

PACIFIC COAST FIRE'S INCREASED CAPITAL.

The subscribed capital of the Pacific Coast Fire Insurance Company has been increased from \$275,000 to \$500,000. This was the decision of the directors at their regular quarterly meeting recently held in Vancouver. The new issue will be offered first to the present shareholders, who will probably absorb a large portion. Any remaining stock will be offered to the investing public at the premium of \$50 per share. The reports of the company for the first nine months of the year were presented at the meeting and showed that the premium income was double that of the similar period last year. The Pacific Coast Fire has now been in operation for more than nineteen years, and has enjoyed an honorable career. Its directors are:—Messrs. J. B. Mathers, R. P. McLennan, J. Ramsay, G. Spencer, G. J. Telfer, M. P. Thomson, G. Ward, G. H. Wilson, E. H. Crandell, H. Carstens, D. R. Dingwall, R. H. Duke, W. Henderson, J. W. Horne, T. T. Langlois, W. H. Malkin, G. Martin, and Hon. R. McBride. Mr. R. H. Duke is general manager.

FIRE AND MARINE NOTES.

The City of Toronto, Ont., have decided on the insurance of their property to the amount of \$3,012,400, and it is expected that the insurance will be divided among sixty companies, as was the case three years ago. The insurance is for about 50 per cent. of the value of the buildings, which is placed at \$6,000,000. The rate of insurance is 75 cents per \$100 per year, and the premiums total \$67,779. The increase in the insurance is due to new buildings valued at about \$750,000. The insurance on the city hall is \$1,000,000 and the contents therein are insured for \$27,500.

La Providence Mutual Fire Insurance Company, the Dominion Mutual Fire Insurance Company and La Foncier Mutual Fire Assurance Company have gone into voluntary liquidation. The head offices of these companies were at Montreal. Their contracts cease on November 22nd, 29th, and 21st, respectively. The Quebec Government's advice to these companies that they should go into voluntary liquidation was good and in the public interest. Mr. William Chubb, A.I.A., is superintendent of insurance of that Province, and the inspector is Mr. A. O. Dostaler.

Under the heading "Not the real old Western," the New York Journal of Commerce has the following which shows that respectable papers know how to apologize: "The Western, Toronto, was quoted as having had the largest line on the risk of the Montreal Cotton and Wool Waste Company damaged 50 per cent. by fire in October. This was an error, as this class is absolutely prohibited by the Western of Toronto. The company on the risk is the Western Canada Fire Insurance Company of Calgary, Alta., a little company with total assets of about \$50,000. It was formerly called the Merchants Co-operative Fire Insurance Company of Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, but changed its name to the Western Canada Fire Insurance Company in 1907, notwithstanding the protests of the Western of Toronto."