

STATE'S PROFIT FROM INSURANCE

Nebraska's Treasury Enriched to the Amount of \$539,307.87 in Last Six Years.

SIXTEEN THOUSAND LICENSES OUT

Insurance Department of the State is Poorly Equipped.

ANALYTICAL STATISTICS LACKING

Economic Importance of Insurance Business is Tremendous.

FIGURES ON FIRE, LIFE, ACCIDENT

Nebraska Life Companies are Growing in Encouraging Fashion, and the Fraternals are Making Great Gains.

Fire, life and accident insurance business in Nebraska foots up a very substantial total in these later years. At the present time there are 16,000 certificates granted by the state insurance department, indicating that many agencies of several hundred companies. There are not that many agents, of course, since one agent often represents several companies, and he must have a certificate for each company represented. Just how many agents there are, not even the state insurance deputy can tell; nor can the insurance department of the state auditor's office tell the percentage of losses in Nebraska, to premiums paid. These statements need some explanation of a peculiar condition existing in this state.

In the six years preceding 1938 the entire receipts of the insurance deputy's office totaled \$198,763.87. During the same time the salaries and running expenses of the office cost the state \$20,000. This leaves a balance on the right side of the ledger of \$178,763.87. During the six years since 1933 the amount collected for the state treasury from fees and taxes totaled \$200,947.87, while the expense was the same, \$20,540, leaving a balance to the state of \$180,407.87.

Office Force Inadequate. In spite of the tremendous increase in income from fees and taxes, the office force has not been increased, nor have the salaries been boosted. The result of this policy is, that analytical work on reports is almost totally neglected. Today there is piled on tables in the state insurance deputy's office hundreds of reports that have not been examined or tabulated by the state auditor, because of lack of time on his part and insufficient help at the time when the reports come in. During the session of the legislature Mr. Wiggin, the auditor, was kept busy looking up information of one kind or another, or making examinations. The state auditor, very properly, perhaps, has considered the making of examinations of companies as of more importance than the tabulating and analyzing of reports. So the reports await the day when the state auditor shall have the time to attend to them.

For the biennium ended December 1, 1938, the receipts of the insurance department of Nebraska were \$223,743.84, divided as follows: From fees, \$93,502.79; taxes from fire insurance companies, \$22,666.43; taxes from life insurance companies, \$2,883.77; taxes from strictly fraternal, \$88.81; from 2 per cent gross premiums, \$119,592.13; from 2 per cent gross on surety and miscellaneous companies, \$13,761.94. For the same period the total expense was: For salaries, \$7,689; running expenses, \$2,599; total, \$10,288. Field is Well Covered.

On November 30, 1938, the companies doing business in this state numbered 266. There were five Nebraska stock companies, ninety-nine stock companies of other states, seventy-one mutual fire companies, forty-six legal reserve life companies, four hall and plate glass companies, twenty-four mutual benefit associations, life and accident companies, fifty-one fidelity, casualty and surety companies; forty-six fraternal beneficiary societies.

Risks written in Nebraska during 1937, with premiums received, were: Fire insurance companies, \$1,568,277; Nebraska stock companies, \$6,216,623; Stock companies other states, \$1,193,827; Mutual companies, \$5,688,277. Life, accident and miscellaneous companies—Nebraska legal reserve companies, \$7,762,440; Legal reserve life companies of other states, \$4,777,562; Mutual benefit life and accident companies, \$5,708,000; Fraternal beneficiary societies, \$2,537,812; Mutual hall companies, \$8,329.

Certificate of Publication. STATE OF NEBRASKA, OFFICE OF AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS. LINCOLN, Feb. 1, 1939. IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED, That the Hartford Steam Boiler and Insurance Company of Hartford, in the state of Connecticut, has complied with the insurance law of this state, applicable to such companies and is, therefore, authorized to continue the business of Steam Boiler Insurance in this state for the current year ending January 31st, 1939.

INCOME. Premiums \$1,125,586.55 All other sources \$1,592,853 Total \$2,718,440 DISBURSEMENTS. Paid policy holders \$1,235,616.23 All other payments \$1,125,586.55 Total \$2,361,202.78

LIABILITIES. Unpaid claims and expenses \$25,823.11 Unearned premiums \$1,567,729.15 All other liabilities \$2,008,331.92 Capital stock paid up \$1,000,000.00 Surplus beyond capital stock and other liabilities \$4,183,044.32 \$2,438,074.47

Witness my hand and the seal of the Auditor of Public Accounts the day and year first above written. SILAS R. BARTON, Auditor of Public Accounts, C. E. PIERCE, Deputy.

W. S. Curtis, Special Agent 405-406 McCague Bldg. Omaha, Neb.

Fidelity, casualty and surety companies, \$88,024. Losses paid in Nebraska during 1937 reached the total of \$4,762,435, as follows: Fire insurance companies, \$2,541,196; Stock companies of other states, \$2,151,239; Mutual companies, \$1,568,277.

Economic Importance Immense. The widespread economic importance of the insurance business of the United States can best be shown by some statistics printed by the Spectator, the New York insurance journal, on March 4 and 5, last. Following is a summary of the figures printed, giving the financial condition of the principal fire insurance companies operating in this country, as of date January 1, 1939:

Great Showing of Big Ones. For 161 life insurance companies, including one Omaha and two Lincoln companies, the following showing was made, as of date January 1, 1939:

Some investigators assert that fully 50 per cent of fires are incendiary and that a very large per cent of the rest are caused by carelessness, some of it of a criminal nature. Advocates of the fire warden system insist that specialists are needed to cope with the problem of fire protection and for the investigation of suspicious conflagrations. W. S. Rogers, the state fire marshal of Ohio, in a paper recently printed, says that until the creation of the special force of detectives in that state court officers agreed that, perjury added to the crime was the crime in which trial was most likely to result in acquittal, for the reason that in arson cases there is always difficulty in establishing the fact that a crime has been committed.

The "incendiary," says Mr. Rogers, "is bothered with no plunder which has to be concealed or sold," whereas "the burglar must bother with the goods." He says further that "the most important result of the activities of a fire marshal is the deterrent effect. Knowledge that incendiaries are quickly pursued and usually punished greatly diminishes the number of crimes."

Two hundred years of continuous business existence and steady growth constitute a record without parallel among private enterprises in the world today. This unique distinction is enjoyed by the ancient Sun Insurance Company, founded throughout the civilized world agents and policy holders of the venerable institution are this year celebrating the bicentenary. The record of the Sun Insurance office becomes all the more remarkable when it is recalled that, according to the statistics of the commercial agencies, not more than one out of 100 business enterprises are successful. Very few of even the enterprises reckoned as successful enjoy a continuous life of more than a generation.

When Lackaye was Lacking. Wilton Lackaye tells the following story of his early efforts: "Lawrence Barrett had engaged me to play 'another' one of his friends, in 'Francesca da Rimini.' I was engaged to play at \$25 a week and provide my own costume. That seemed easy enough, but after we had been out six weeks Mr. Barrett began putting on the other plays of his repertory, and I had to play several parts in each, and that meant as many changes of costume. I bought what I could and borrowed the others. It was about this time that he played 'Julius Caesar.' I appeared in four roles and got on very well by borrowing, until the last act. Then all the other members were on the stage and needed their costumes as Roman soldiers. I put on a pair of ragged pink tights and an old white tunic that Otis Skinner had outgrown and discarded—he was about a head shorter than I am. I knew I was not looking my best in them, for I was as tall as I am now and weighed 130 pounds. But I was not prepared for what Mr. Barrett said to me.

"When the curtain fell he beckoned to me. I approached. 'What do you think you are impersonating?' he asked. "I am trying to impersonate a camp follower, one who skulks after the army and robs the dead," I answered. "Mr. Barrett took another long survey of my unattractive person before he replied: 'You looked like a sore finger.'" The Designer.

Quick Action for Your Money—You get that by using 'The Bee' advertising columns.

FIRE WARDENS ARE CREATED

Governor Will Appoint a Chief and Two Deputies for State.

MAYOR NAMES ONE FOR OMAHA

Duty of Wardens Will Be to Take Precautions Against Fire and to Punish Incendiarism Where Possible.

A law to create a state fire marshal, with two assistants, was passed at the recent session of the legislature in Nebraska, together with a law to create the office of fire warden in the city of Omaha. Under the new law the governor appoints the state fire marshal and two deputies, and the mayor will appoint the city fire warden when the law takes effect—July 1—at a salary of \$1,800 a year. His duties will be to see that all ordinances of the city affecting the matter of fire prevention are enforced and also to investigate the causes of fires. He will likewise be expected to cause the removal of possible causes of fire, have an oversight of the storage of combustibles and generally watch for the preservation of property from fire. Similar duties devolve on the state wardens, in a larger field.

Possible convictions for incendiarism are not regarded elsewhere as the smallest part of the duties of a fire warden. Statistics from the office of the fire marshal in Ohio show that the number of convictions for incendiarism in that state in the last three years exceed the number convicted during the hundred years preceding the creation of the office. In Texas, also, during the last winter, an effort was made to establish the office of fire marshal because of a loss during the last year of \$7,000,000, as against not quite \$5,000,000 loss in Nebraska.

Good Work of Wardens. Nine states now have fire wardens, part of whose duty in Minnesota and the coast states is to protect the standing timber as well as other property.

Table with 5 columns: All Companies, Bankers' Reserve, Midwest Life, Bankers' Reserve, Omaha. Rows include Total assets, Capital and unassigned funds, Premiums, Total payments to policy holders, Total disbursements, Net surplus.

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WEBSTER, HOWARD & CO. GENERAL INSURANCE AGENTS

Twenty years faithfully serving our patrons and still representing companies absolutely sound and reliable with assets aggregating \$60,000,000. All losses adjusted from this office promptly and paid in cash. We call the attention of careful insurers to these facts and respectfully solicit a share of your patronage.

CERTIFICATE OF PUBLICATION. STATE OF NEBRASKA, OFFICE OF AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS. LINCOLN, Feb. 1, 1939. IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED, That the Insurance Company of North America of Philadelphia, in the state of Pennsylvania, has complied with the insurance law of this state, applicable to such companies and is, therefore, authorized to continue the business of Fire, Tornado, Marine and Inland Insurance in this state for the current year ending January 31st, 1939.

CERTIFICATE OF PUBLICATION. STATE OF NEBRASKA, OFFICE OF AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS. LINCOLN, Feb. 1, 1939. IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED, That the Scottish Union and National Insurance Company of Edinburgh, Scotland has complied with the insurance law of this state, applicable to such companies and is, therefore, authorized to continue the business of Fire Insurance in this state for the current year ending January 31st, 1939.

Phone Douglas 970 After 6 P. M.—Harney 1059

CERTIFICATE OF PUBLICATION. STATE OF NEBRASKA, OFFICE OF AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS. LINCOLN, Feb. 1, 1939. IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED, That the London Assurance Corporation Insurance Company of London, England, has complied with the insurance law of this state, applicable to such companies and is, therefore, authorized to continue the business of Fire Insurance in this state for the current year ending January 31st, 1939.

CERTIFICATE OF PUBLICATION. STATE OF NEBRASKA, OFFICE OF AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS. LINCOLN, Feb. 1, 1939. IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED, That the Liverpool and London and Globe Insurance Company of Liverpool, England, has complied with the insurance law of this state, applicable to such companies and is, therefore, authorized to continue the business of Fire Insurance in this state for the current year ending January 31st, 1939.

CERTIFICATE OF PUBLICATION. STATE OF NEBRASKA, OFFICE OF AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS. LINCOLN, Feb. 1, 1939. IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED, That the Title Guaranty and Surety Company of Scranton, in the state of Pennsylvania, has complied with the Insurance Law of this State, applicable to such companies and is therefore authorized to continue the business of Surety and Fidelity Insurance in this State for the current year ending January 31st, 1939.

CERTIFICATE OF PUBLICATION. STATE OF NEBRASKA, OFFICE OF AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS. LINCOLN, February 1st, 1939. IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED, That the Aachen and Munich Fire Insurance Company of Aachen, Germany, has complied with the Insurance Law of this State, applicable to such Companies and is therefore authorized to continue the business of Fire Insurance in this State for the current year ending January 31st, 1939.

CERTIFICATE OF PUBLICATION. STATE OF NEBRASKA, OFFICE OF AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS. LINCOLN, February 1st, 1939. IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED, That the New York Fire Insurance Company of New York, in the State of New York, has complied with the Insurance Law of this State, applicable to such Companies and is therefore authorized to continue the business of Fire and Tornado Insurance in this State for the current year ending January 31st, 1939.

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H. E. PALMER, Pres. J. D. FOSTER, Vice-Pres. JOSEPH BARKER, Secy.

H. E. Palmer, Son & Co. CAREFUL UNDERWRITERS

Surety Bonds of Every Nature Executed Immediately; Accident, Steam Boiler, Employers' and Public Liability, General Liability, Landlord's and Contractor's Contingent Liability, Burglary, Plate Glass, Sprinkler's Leakage, Flywheel, Elevator Liability, Workman's Collective Insurance, Automobile Insurance.

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OFFICE—500 TO 506 BRANDEIS BUILDING. Telephones—Bell Douglas 29; Independent A1129

We offer you insurance protection, embracing fire, wind, hail, tornado and plate glass, chosen as the strongest from our thirty years' experience.

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McCague Investment Company 1506 Dodge Street

No Wonder. "Your delineation of the part of a man under fire is marvelous," declared the manager. "I don't see how you do the thing so naturally."

The Lord will provide—that is, he will provide us with the ability to provide for ourselves.

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F. D. Wead, Agent WEAD BLDG. 18th and Farnam Sts.