

ELLIS ISLAND SWAMPED. FLOOD OF IMMIGRANTS. Four Steamers Brought 8,781 Yesterday—Three Boats To-day.

Ellis Island is again swamped by a tremendous flood of immigrants. The great influx has taxed the island to its capacity, and a number of big liners are tied up at their piers with about 6,500 steerage passengers in their holds. The officials of the Immigration Bureau succeeded in handling 6,400 yesterday, and will probably dispose of the same number to-day. The entire force of inspectors are working overtime, and it is more than likely that the work will continue to-morrow. A few hours' delay means much congestion, and there are too many aliens in port to ease up on the work of examination.

On Thursday 3,164 immigrants came in port in four steamers, and yesterday in four steamers 8,781 arrived. The Pennsylvania, from Naples, came up early from Quarantine with a total passenger list of 3,681, of which 2,879 were immigrants. The Neckar, from Naples, came up with 2,690 aliens, and was followed by the Baltic with 1,550. Later in the day the Main, from Bremen, brought to port 1,652 steerage passengers. This made a total of 8,781 immigrants received yesterday.

If the weather is half way fair at sea, three big liners should be in port to-day, each having its contribution of aliens for Ellis Island. The Nord America, from Naples; the Philadelphia, from Southampton; the Etruria, from Liverpool; the Nederland, from Antwerp, and La Bretagne, from Havre, are due, at least, by to-morrow.

Commissioner Watchorn believes that his new plan of compelling the steamship companies to group the immigrants on the piers will greatly aid the handling of the stupendous horde that is at present on hand. The Commissioner contends that the grouping of immigrants, formerly done on the island, caused unnecessary delay. The Commissioner will receive the immigrants in the order in which the steamers arrive. Notwithstanding the fact that many of the steerage passengers are foreigners returning to their country, after a visit to the old country, the flood of immigration is growing with marvellous rapidity. The great magnet that is drawing them is the demand of this country for contract labor, and many of these foreign laborers remain in this city. An instance of this was noted last week when six Italians who came in on Friday called for their baggage at the Baggage Office on Monday. They were working in the subway section at the Battery, and called for their baggage at the noon hour.

STRANGE DEATH IN PARK. Woman's Body in Reservoir—No One Saw Her Jump.

The body of a woman about forty years old was found last night in the Central Park reservoir by Superintendent Sagers, after dragging the bottom with grappling irons for more than an hour. There was no clue to identify except the clothing. Mrs. George H. Stout, of No. 3 West 55th-st., with her mother, was walking along the foot-way near the reservoir when she saw the body. Although a policeman had been in the neighborhood for some time, she had seen or heard nothing unusual. The fence between the woman's clothing and the water was plainly seen by those on the West Drive. Ambulance Surgeon Lathrop, of the Presbyterian Hospital, said that the woman had been in the water several hours.

LADDER TO GET TRUNK. Woman Thief's Belongings in Boarding House for Debt.

Lakewood, N. J., April 21.—Describing herself as Miss Edna Williams, a daughter of a merchant of Long Branch, N. J., a young woman was arrested here early this morning as she was trying to enter her boarding house, in Ridge-avenue, by means of a ladder. A house and carriage were found outside the house, and the young woman explained to the policeman who arrested her that she was attempting to get her trunk, which the owner of the house was holding for a debt. When taken to the town hall and questioned by Chief of Police Beebe she broke down and made a statement, in which she confessed to two thefts.

PLANS CALL ON DIANA. Steeplejack Will Give Arrow to Woman in High Life.

Diana of Madison Square Garden was to have been visited yesterday by Robert Merrill, the steeplejack, but the call was postponed. Four or five months ago Diana's bow was deprived of both the copper string and the arrow. Both were rusted and it was feared that they might fall.

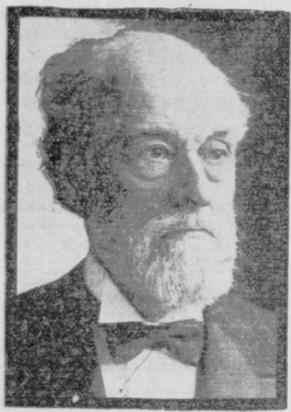
UNMARRIAGEABLE GIRLS WANTED. Huron, S. D., Teachers All Get Married—Commissioners Require Celibacy Pledges.

Huron, S. D., April 21.—The County School Commissioners have determined to require a pledge from all women school teachers that they will not marry for at least two years after coming to this county. So great is the death of young women in this county that the school authorities have been unable to keep their teachers for more than two or three months before they marry and resign.

PLAN TO STOP CONSUMPTIVES KISSING. St. Louis Health Commissioner Has Ordinance to That Effect Drafted.

St. Louis, April 21.—John H. Simon, Health Commissioner of this city, has drafted an ordinance prohibiting kissing when one of the participants is afflicted with consumption. The ordinance is to be submitted to the municipal assembly for passage by that body.

SPECIAL FROM ATLANTIC CITY EASTER MONDAY. Special train of parlor cars, dining car and coaches will leave Atlantic City at 6:30 P. M. Easter Monday, April 24, for New-York via Pennsylvania Railroad.—Adv.



SENATOR ORVILLE H. PLATT, of Connecticut, who died yesterday.

SENATOR O. H. PLATT DEAD. A VICTIM OF PNEUMONIA. Abscess in Lung Breaks and Strangulation Ensues.

Washington, Conn., April 21.—Orville Hitchcock Platt, senior Senator from Connecticut, and one of the leading public men of the United States, died at his summer home in this, his native town, at 8:53 o'clock to-night, from pneumonia. The end came almost unexpectedly, the immediate cause of death being the breaking of an abscess which had formed in the right lung, producing strangulation. Only a few minutes before the end Dr. Ford, the family physician, had prepared a bulletin, saying that if Mr. Platt did not have another sinking spell, such as he had experienced in the forenoon, he would probably live through the night. When the doctor left the sickroom Senator Platt was perfectly conscious, appeared to suffer no pain, and had answered questions asked by those at the bedside, showing that his mind was clear. In the room at the time were Mrs. Platt and the Senator's only son, Judge James P. Platt, of the United States Circuit Court, who had been summoned home in the afternoon and reached the house three hours before his father died.

The funeral will probably be held next Tuesday, although the date has not been definitely fixed. The services will be held in the Congregational Church, in the centre of the village. The Rev. Robert Carter, pastor of the church, will conduct the services, which will be simple, in accordance with the tastes of Senator Platt and the wishes of Mrs. Platt.

His illness and death. Senator Platt contracted a severe cold while the Swayne impeachment trial was in progress before the Senate. He had not fully recovered from it at the time of Senator Hawley's funeral. He stood in the railroad station at Hartford for some time awaiting the arrival of the train on which General Hawley's body was brought from Washington. He complained of a slight chill. In consequence of which, after the exercises at the Capitol, he returned to his country home here.

On Friday, March 31, he was taken with the illness which proved fatal. The first attack was bronchial pneumonia of a comparatively slight nature. This was followed on April 4 by complications, which lasted for about a week. On April 11 Mr. Platt showed signs of improvement, and hopes of recovery were entertained, but soon after that the abscess in the lung began to develop, and on April 18 he had a severe chill. The following day his physicians and nurses feared the end, but he rallied from that attack. Other chills, however, followed at intervals, culminating in a particularly severe one this forenoon between 9 and 11 o'clock. Although the sick man seemed to rally somewhat from this attack, and was comfortable in the afternoon, it was evident that his life was ebbing away. His physician at 8:45 o'clock said that the end would come with another chill, and that the thread of life would snap suddenly. This proved to be the case, and a few minutes later Senator Platt's life work ended.

By temperament and feeling Senator Platt was peculiarly the representative of New-England ideas and of the old-fashioned Puritan integrity and conscience. Throughout his life he kept himself in the most sympathetic touch with New-England institutions of every kind. The church, the township, the farm and the schools were the objects of his keen interest. Particularly strong was his love for his native town of Washington, with whose citizens he had always been familiar, where several years ago he built a beautiful home, and where most of his time in summer was passed.

LAST PUBLIC UTTERANCE. Senator Platt's last public utterance was at the State Capitol on March 21, when, before the General Assembly, he delivered the eulogy of the General Hawley, whose body lay in state in the corridor below. He spoke from a heart overflowing with grief, and in words that deeply touched all who heard him, telling of the personal side of his long relations with General Hawley rather than of the political battles they had fought for the party of which both were members. It was noticed then that Senator Platt seemed to be in impaired health, and this was attributed to his arduous labors in the Senate, and especially to the added responsibilities thrown upon him by the recent death of Senator Hoar. Senator Platt succeeded Senator Hoar as chairman of the Judiciary Committee of the Senate. Later he was made chairman of the special committee of the Senate appointed to conduct the Swayne impeachment trial, and this was followed by his appointment as presiding officer of the Senate sitting as a court in the impeachment trial. That was his last public duty before returning to his native State to assist in paying honor to the memory of General Hawley.

One of the most striking features of Senator Platt's public life was his intimacy with the State of Connecticut and its problems and interests as connected with federal affairs. All citizens of the State looked up to him with the greatest respect, and his relations to the Commonwealth were similar to those of Senator Hoar to the people of Massachusetts.

In stature and face Senator Platt was an impressive figure, more than six feet tall, erect, strongly but gracefully built, and with features which reminded his friends of Abraham Lincoln. In private and domestic life and intimate relations with friends he carried the same di-

AN EQUITABLE BILL. Agents' Measure at Albany for Mutualization.

Albany, N. Y., April 21.—It was learned to-night that a bill has been prepared and will be introduced in the legislature early next week embodying the views of the agents and policyholders behind them and providing for complete and early mutualization of the Equitable. Under its provisions all of the fifty-two directors of the society would be elected by the policyholders. Its details could not be learned here to-night.

PRESIDENT ON THE TRAIL. Starts Out in Hope of Reaching a Bear by Nightfall.

Glenwood Springs, Col., April 21.—After a day's enforced rest the President's hunting party started out bright and early to-day. The snow that had fallen obliterated all old tracks and the party hoped to get close to a bear by nightfall, the guides having found several fresh tracks.

In spite of the fact that he rode twenty-five miles from the President's camp yesterday, Secretary Loeb spent several hours in the saddle to-day, after disposing of an unusually heavy mail. He is preparing himself so that he can make the next trip with greater ease.

A large bundle of newspapers was sent to the camp by Elmer Chapman, a courier. Many of the papers contained stories of the President's hunt. The members of the hunting party were greatly displeased when they learned of the character of some of the stories printed by several papers from reporters at New-Castle.

Preparations are under way to give President Roosevelt a royal welcome on May 14, when he will arrive from Red Stone to spend the night before returning to Washington. The belt of the bear killed by the President is being prepared as a rug. The skin of the head will be drawn over a papier maché form, but natural teeth will be used. The skull is to be added to the collection of C. Hart Merriam, biologist of the Department of Agriculture.

TO HUNT WITH COLONEL GREENE. Fairbanks and Shaw Invited, but May Not Be Able to Go to Mexico.

El Paso, Tex., April 21.—Some of the most notable men of the United States and Mexico are to join Colonel W. C. Greene, ex-cowboy, "Copper King" and railroad builder, on a hunting trip into the wilds of the Sierra Madre, in the State of Sonora, Mexico. The invitation, issued by Colonel Greene include Vice-President Fairbanks, Secretary Shaw, Speaker Cannon, Senator Proctor, of Vermont; Senator Lattimer, of South Carolina; Congressman Hemenway, of Indiana; ex-Governor Woodbury of Vermont; ex-Governor Harris of South Carolina; Governor Terrazas, of Chihuahua; Mayor Governor Yabuel, of Sonora, Mexico; P. Mallon, Mexican Consul, and several others.

Nearly all of the foregoing have accepted the invitation, but there is some doubt about the ability of Mr. Fairbanks and Mr. Shaw to join the party. In addition to those mentioned, Colonel Patrick Garrett, Collector of the Port, of El Paso, who killed "Billy the Kid" while Sheriff in New-Mexico, will be in the party.

The guests of Colonel Greene will arrive here Tuesday evening from the East. They will go from here to Casas Grandes, and from there they will journey by horseback and wagon into the wild hunting grounds of Sonora, where big game is plentiful.

FALL FROM BUCKET KILLS. Man in Palisades Stone Carriage Which Turns Turtle.

The turning turtle of a bucket used for hoisting stone up the side of the Palisades at Wood-cliff, N. J., caused the death of Thomas Burke, thirty-eight years old, of 130th-st. and Bergen-line-ave., West New-York, N. J., who was in the bucket at the time it turned. Burke had frequently made the perilous journey from the River Road to the Boulevard, a distance of 150 feet in the air. Yesterday afternoon the bucket was almost at the top of the Palisades, when it turned, and he was hurled to the road below.

When picked up not a bone in his body was whole, and his features were battered beyond recognition. He was married and had five children. Callery & Murphy, the contractors, who were using the stone to improve the Hudson County Boulevard, stated after the accident that Burke had been warned that the trip in the bucket was a dangerous one, and that he would have to take any responsibility upon himself.

DREW GUN IN DINING CAR. Cool Conductor Match for Disturber on Washington Express.

Stamford, Conn., April 21.—A well built, middle aged, prosperous looking man, who said he was George Lewis, an expert accountant, of Boston, who the police say is either C. R. Sewell or C. R. Ives, of Cambridge, Mass., caused terror to the passengers on the Washington express west-bound to-day. The man created a disturbance in the dining car, and when Mr. Noyes, the parlor car conductor, remonstrated with him he drew a revolver, thrust it into the conductor's face and cried, "Shut up, or I will give you a taste of this!"

Mr. Noyes is an officer in the 3d Connecticut Regiment. "You have not got nerve enough to kill a tomat," he said to the fellow, as he gazed into the loaded revolver.

The passengers scrambled out of the dining car. At Stamford Mr. Noyes turned the man over to the police, but was loath to press a charge against him. The fellow pleaded guilty to a charge of assault and breach of the peace, and was fined \$5. Mayor Cummings appeared for him. He is said to be well connected in Boston.

MANUFACTURER WEDS DANCING GIRL. Son of Jacob Reyer, of Pittsburg, Quietly Married to Carpenter's Daughter.

Pittsburg, April 21.—The announcement was made here to-day that Samuel S. Reyer, of Alameda here, had on March 6 quietly married Miss Nellie H. Paris, a former dancing girl, who came to Pittsburg four years ago and was first seen by Reyer dancing at a carnival given by the Elks in Allegheny.

Miss Paris is the daughter of a poor carpenter at Oliver, Penn., near Connelleville, and is now twenty-three years of age. Reyer, who is twenty-eight years of age. The couple are said to be in Denver. The records of marriage were filed by a justice of the peace here a few days ago.

TRIED TO CAPTURE HOLY CARPET. Cairo, Egypt, April 21.—Bedouin marauders attacked a convey escorting the Holy Carpet from Yambo to Medina. A fight ensued in which several of the Bedouins were killed.

CHICAGO STRIKE THREAT. Union Votes to Extend the Trouble—37,000 Men Affected.

Chicago, April 21.—Business agents for forty-seven teamsters' unions in Chicago have been instructed to demand that employers cease hauling goods to Montgomery Ward & Co., whose teamsters and garment workers are on a strike. A refusal will in each case result, it was stated, in the calling of a strike by the joint council of teamsters. This would affect 37,000 men, and practically tie up all traffic in the city. It is generally believed that the employers will refuse to accede to the demand.

This action was taken this afternoon at a meeting presided over by President Shea. The situation was some over and immediate action was decided on. The business agents started out at once to present the ultimatum. Prior to the action of the business agents of the unions, a definite attitude was shown by the Chicago Employers' Association. A placard pasted on every wagon owned by the new teaming corporation backed by the association reads:

This wagon belongs to the independent company. We deliver goods to Montgomery Ward & Co. and employ non-union drivers.

Below this placard is pasted a copy of an injunction issued by Judge Brennan, prohibiting any interference with the business of Ward & Co.

Acid bombs were again used by the strikers to-day, and two horses of Ward & Co. were badly injured.

MR. JEFFERSON WORSE. Aged Actor Now Unable to Take Nourishment.

West Palm Beach, Fla., April 21.—Joseph Jefferson is worse to-night, and his physicians are again alarmed. His condition changed decidedly at about 4 o'clock, and he has not since been able to take nourishment.

"FRENZIED" TOWN SITES. Mexican Land Bought for \$5,000, Sold for \$375,000.

Mexico City, April 21.—James R. Parsons, the American consul general, has commenced an investigation of the alleged colonist scheme of an American land company in Chiapas.

Induced by advertisements of the company, farmers in Western Texas, Oklahoma, Nebraska and Washington State came to Chiapas at their own expense to investigate. It is alleged that the land company bought ten thousand acres from the State government for \$5,000 and advertising sold town lots for more than \$375,000.

The consul general has summoned the officers of the company in Kansas City to appear here, to show cause why they should not be barred from further use of the United States mails.

WERE HIRED TO KILL. Half-Breed Negroes Attack American Near Acapulco.

Mexico City, April 21.—The American Embassy has presented to the Foreign Office a protest against the treatment received by William A. Stephens, a ranchman from Arkansas, at the hands of half-breed negroes near Acapulco.

Two negroes, it is said, were hired to kill Stephens and his family. After having been driven from his ranch and \$30,000 in improvements had been destroyed, he shot one of his alleged assailants, named Palmer. He was arrested and placed in a dungeon.

Despite the efforts of the American consul and others he was kept in shackles for forty hours. The Mexican government will investigate the case.

COACH NEARLY IN RIVER. Narrow Escape of Funeral Party—Horses Scared by "Autos."

Returning home, after having the body of her husband cremated at Fresh Pond, yesterday, Mrs. Pauline Heiser, of No. 836 1st-ave., Manhattan, came near being killed, with her daughter, Mrs. Hannah Shel, and the latter's husband, both of No. 185 Broadway, and Shel's brother Herman, of No. 1252 3d-ave., in Borden-ave., Long Island City, the horses attached to the coach took fright at automobiles and ran away and the driver was thrown to the street.

Folkman Kane at the ferry saw the runaway coming, ran inside the ferry yard and slammed the big gates just in time to keep the horses from plunging into the ferry slip. They were thrown off their feet by the shock. Mrs. Heiser and her daughter fainted and were carried into the Long Island Railroad ferryhouse, where they revived.

Both horses were cut badly and the coach was wrecked. The automobilists who were responsible for the runaway never stopped to see what had become of the coach or its occupants, but continued on their way.

SCHOOL STRIKE LASTED FOUR DAYS. South Omaha Protest Against Japanese Compromised.

South Omaha, Neb., April 21.—The three hundred public school pupils, who went on strike because of the presence of a number of Japanese in the school, have declared the boycott off and have returned to their work. The objectionable pupils are to remain in the school, but will not attempt to associate with the white students in any way. The strike lasted four days and threatened to extend to all the schools in the city.

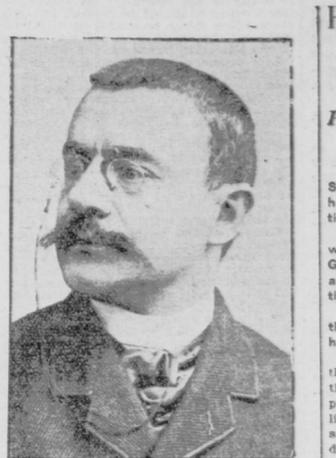
RICH MAN WEDS DRYGOODS BUYER. Much Opposition from Children of Former Boston Merchant.

Newton, Mass., April 21.—W. R. Dupe, a wealthy man and former member of the firm of Dupe, Nichols and Co., Boston, has married Mrs. Hadassah Mackintosh of Watertown, and sailed to-day with his bride on the Cedric from New-York.

Mr. Dupe is sixty-two years old. His bride is forty-seven and was a buyer for a Boston drygoods house. The marriage took place after much opposition from Mr. Dupe's children, wives of prominent lawyers.

BALL DRIVES RIB IN LUNG. Woman in Hospital in Serious Condition as Result of Accident.

Miss Carrie Morrell of No. 6 Littleton-ave., Newark, was injured yesterday by being hit by a baseball. She is in the City Hospital in a serious condition. She was passing along the street where some factory hands were playing ball, a batted ball struck her in the left breast, broke one of her ribs and drove the broken rib into her lung. She fell unconscious.



THEOPHILE DELCASSE, The French Minister of Foreign Affairs, who resigned yesterday.

M. DELCASSE RESIGNS. PRESENT CRISIS CAUSE. Colleagues of Minister Urge Him to Stay in Cabinet.

Formal, precise and repeated orders have been given our agents in Indo-China to assure the absolute neutrality of France in Indo-Chinese waters.—Premier Rouvier.

The Russian Admiralty has notified Admiral Rojestvensky of the grave danger to peace which will be entailed if the stay of his squadron off the coast of Annam is prolonged contrary to the laws of neutrality, and no doubt is entertained that the admiral will carry out the formal instructions sent him.—(St. Petersburg dispatch.)

Paris, April 21.—After a notable service of nearly eight years in the direction of foreign affairs, Theophile Delcasse to-day informed M. Rouvier, president of the council, of his desire and intention to resign.

This announcement came as a surprise and shock to M. Delcasse's colleagues of the Cabinet, who immediately took steps to endeavor to secure a reconsideration of his determination. A cabinet council was held this afternoon, at which M. Rouvier, in the absence of M. Delcasse, laid the situation before the Ministers.

It was the unanimous determination of the council that the interest of the country at this particular time required that M. Delcasse retain the portfolio of Foreign Affairs. Accordingly, at the conclusion of the council M. Rouvier proceeded to the Quai d'Orsay, where he held an extended conference with the Minister of Foreign Affairs. The president of the council, voicing the wishes of President Loubet and the Ministers, earnestly besought M. Delcasse to retain his place in the Cabinet.

THE RETIRING MINISTER WAVERS. It is evident that M. Rouvier's earnest appeal caused M. Delcasse to waver in his determination. When the President of the Council came from the interview he stated to his colleagues that he bore a favorable impression of its results. M. Delcasse, he said, had given no final answer, but had promised to reserve his determination until to-morrow, when a final answer will be given. It is believed that M. Delcasse will yield to the insistence of President Loubet and the President of the Council.

The motives leading up to M. Delcasse's sudden determination to retire from the Cabinet are primarily attributed to internal controversies over the Moroccan question, and this to some extent has been accentuated by similar controversies over French neutrality in the Far East. The Opposition have been quick to seize upon both questions, and headed by Socialists and Nationalists, have directed their criticisms against M. Delcasse.

The Socialist criticisms have been particularly vehement during recent days on the Moroccan question, and this appears to have finally decided M. Delcasse to surrender the question into other hands. It is felt that his retirement would be hailed in Germany as a German triumph, and this is one of the main considerations leading M. Rouvier earnestly to appeal to M. Delcasse to remain in the Foreign Office.

The news of M. Delcasse's intentions made a profound impression in the Chamber of Deputies, where it was first treated with incredulity. Later, however, when M. Delcasse (Republican) questioned the government upon the neutrality question and M. Rouvier replied instead of M. Delcasse, it was realized that the report had solid foundation. Several Deputies stated that M. Delcasse had sent a letter of resignation to the President of the Council this morning, but that M. Rouvier had declined to accept it, saying that he would be obliged to present it to the Council of Ministers. It was as a result of this presentation to the Council that M. Rouvier persuaded M. Delcasse to withhold his final decision until to-morrow.

A DAY OF MUCH ANXIETY. The announcement concerning M. Delcasse's intention to resign was but one of many incidents in a day of much anxiety throughout government quarters. Following also on the heels of the complications with Germany over Morocco, the Franco-Japanese incident suddenly assumed serious proportions, and unusual energy was shown in preventing its embroiling France in complications in the Far East. In order to secure definite co-operation between three departments of the government, namely, Naval, Colonial and Foreign, a conference was held this afternoon between leading representatives of each department. This brought about a clear understanding regarding the measures necessary for the maintenance of the neutrality of Indo-Chinese waters, and orders were sent to Governor General Beau specifically to report the exact location of the Russian Pacific squadron and whether it had or had not withdrawn from French waters. Communications with St. Petersburg led to orders being transmitted by the Russian government to Vice-Admiral Rojestvensky to respect rigorously the neutrality of French waters. It was even stated that Foreign Minister Lamsdorff would carry the assurance before Emperor Nicholas in order to assure complete respect of French neutrality.

Probably the most significant development from the energetic measures adopted was the receipt of a dispatch from Saigon saying that imperative orders had been given for the disarmament of the Russian cruiser Diana, which sought refuge in the harbor of Saigon eight days ago.

Continued on third page.

TO SEE WASHINGTON. Pennsylvania Railroad three-day tour, April 24. Rate, including hotel accommodations, \$12 or \$15. Apply to ticket agents.—Adv.

HYDE SAYS HE IS TRICKED. RESENTS AGENTS' ACT. His Friends Assert Alexander and Tarbell Must Go.

A committee of Equitable agents called on Superintendent Hendricks at Syracuse to ask him to use his efforts toward mutualization of the society.

From Syracuse the agents went to Albany, where they advanced the same arguments to Governor Higgins. He said he was devoting his attention to the problem, in which he sympathized with the policyholders.

A suit for the appointment of a receiver for the Equitable was begun in Chicago by policyholders. The resignation of any officer responsible for the injury which the society has suffered and is doubtless to suffer in the future your request is misdirected.

In view of the concessions I have been willing to make for the welfare of the society, I resent your misguided action, taken in utter ignorance of the true situation, of which you have been possibly misled. The plea of expediency, perhaps unwittingly on your part, is merely another move in the campaign of attack originally devised. When the real facts are known to the policyholders, I feel that all right minded men among them will be indignant as I am with the methods that have been employed by my enemies for their own ends. In pursuit of their ends they have hesitated to sacrifice the best interests of the society and to disregard the proper protection of the policyholders. Your action, instead of furnishing a situation of the most unfortunate nature, renders the difficulty more acute. It is regrettable that in this situation the convention of managers did not take advantage of its opportunity to become a factor in promoting honorable peace.

I assume that you have been kept informed, through the newspapers, of the assaults that have been made upon me, but I doubt whether you have been told the whole truth. I do not intend to avert the injury to the society from these attacks.

You probably know in a general way of the circumstances under which I have been summoned to the office of the president, by telephone, from the country, on the eve of the annual meeting and shortly before the explanation of the true situation of the society is held. I was there confronted, without previous notice of warning, with a hostile memorial of officers and employees, which had been secretly circulated, and which contained many insidious and coercive influences, that my immediate retirement was demanded under threats; that I temporarily refused to retire, and that such refusal was followed by the immediate invitation to the board of directors of a demand for my retirement and for practical disfranchisement of the stock of the society. It may surprise you to learn that I have not only refused to resign, but the society have persistently disclaimed responsibility for any and all of the newspaper publications assailing me and defaming the society and its management. The plea of expediency was a mere sham under cover of which it was designed by those leaders to wrest the control of the society from the responsible hands of the members of the board of directors of this country and to transfer it to the hands of instrumentalities.

QUESTION OF EQUITABLE CONTROL. I can understand the desire of your body for mutualization, but I have never believed, and I do not now believe, in a system of mutualization which virtually places the agents over the directors and officers in sound in principle. At the threshold of this matter and before any public controversy had arisen, I have consistently urged upon me that there was a genuine desire upon the part of the policyholders that they be given the right of vote for directors. Therefore, notwithstanding my own objections, I have consented to give time for the careful consideration of the proper method of bringing this about. I could hardly have given stronger evidence of my belief in the power of control of the society. This offer was not accepted. The members of the conspiracy made impossible demands.

Finally, although I was advised by eminent counsel that the power of control of the stock could not be lawfully taken from the hands of the holders, either by the board or by the legislature, I consented, so far as my stock interests were concerned, that the policyholders should have the right to elect fifty-two directors of the society. This concession was intended for the benefit of the policyholders, but in practical effect, as I then feared and now believe, it was to be used as a means of control by me should be utilized for the benefit and account of the instigators of this movement, who proposed to erect a constituency of agents to control the stock of the society. This belief is confirmed by the extraordinary proceedings at your recent meetings in this city, in which the power dominating the meetings was quite apparent.

SAYS HE ACCEDED TO DEMANDS. Although it was represented that this important concession would assure permanent peace for the society, it was followed by new demands, to which I again acceded in the belief that faith would at last be kept and peace restored. It was only too true, however, that the demands which had been secured from me because of my loyalty to the society and on the repeated assurances given to the board of directors and to me that they would if granted be regarded as a complete settlement, were simply a means to an end, and that the warfare would go on until I should be forced out of office and the society would be in the hands of those who were so persistently reserved, should be completely destroyed.

It is evident that I have been designedly tricked. This far I am the only person in this controversy who has made any sacrifices. The others have no such substantial interests in the society and nothing to lose by this warfare against me. It is true that I have made some sacrifices which I have been deceived into making, but have been simply an encouragement to further attempted invasions of the rights of the stockholders. The extraordinary proceedings you are at this juncture, gathered here from all parts of the country, and under the exciting influences of false rumors, induced to me that I was told that these concessions as informing yourselves of the facts of the situation.

I am justified in further reminding you that the matters upon which you have assumed to act are matters not for your consideration and action, but for the consideration and action of the board of directors of the society. These matters are now in their hands, and the facts relating to them are being definitely ascertained by an investigating committee appointed by the board. To the board and to the committee I have made a number of communications stating the facts and expressing my views upon these subjects. I do not feel at liberty to further discuss them also with you. I can only say that I think you are making a mistake in the course you are following, and that your duty to the society requires you rather to submit loyally to the lawful direction of the board of directors than to associate yourselves with those who are stirring up further strife and endeavoring to override and frustrate the action of the board.

While I resent—and I am justified in resenting—your mistaken action toward me, I am by no means unfriendly toward you, and I trust that the society's affairs I shall be able to gain for my own part in their administration the sup-