LOCK CANAL AT PANAMA

FAVORED BY PRESIDENT.

Reports of Commission and Consulting Engineers Sent to Congress.

Washington, Feb. 19 .- President Roosevelt itted to Congress to-day the report of the of consulting engineers on the Panama Canal, together with the letter of Secretary Taft, e report of the Isthmian Canal Commission ling construction of a lock canal, and by Chief Engineer Stevens. The letter

nate and House of Representatives: therewith the letter of the Secretary ransmitting the report of the board ing engineers on the Panama Canal report of the Isthmian Canal Commis-preon, together with a letter written to irman of the Isthmian Canal Commis-Chief Engineer Stevens. Both the board n by Chief Engineer Stevens. Both the board consulting engineers and the canal com-sion divide in their report. The majority of board of consulting engineers, eight in mber, including the five foreign engineers, or a sea level canal; and one member of the all commission, Admiral Endicott, takes the ne position. Five of the American members the board of consulting engineers and five of the Isthmian Canal Commission fanembers of the 1sthmian Canal Commission faor the lock canal, and so does Chief Engineer
flevens. The Secretary of War recommends a
lock canal, pursuant to the recommendation of
the minority of the board of consulting engieers and of the majority of the canal comulssion. After careful study of the papers subnitted and full and exhaustive consideration of ole subject I concur in the recommenda-

will be noticed that the American engineers e consulting board and on the commis-y a more than two-to-one majority favor ck canal, whereas, the foreign engineers unit against it. I think this is partly to explained by the fact that the great traffic nal of the Old World is the Suez Canal, a sea anal of the old work is the State Canal, a week canal, whereas the great traffic canal of the New World is the Sault Ste. Marie Canal, a lock canal. Although the latter, the Soo, is cosed to navigation during the winter months, carries annually three times the traffic of the z Canal. In my judgment, the very able ument of the majority of the board of con-ing engineers is vitiated by their failure to niting engineers is vitilated by their failure to by proper heed to the lessons taught by the instruction and operation of the Soo Canal, must be borne in mind, as the commission plats out, that there is no question of building that has been picturesquely termed "the Straits" Panama"; that is, a waterway through which Panama; that is, a waterway through which tell argest vessels could go with safety at unterrupted high speed. Both the sea level mal and the proposed lock canal would be too arrow and shallow to be called with any truthiness a strait, or to have any of the properes of a wide, deep water strip. Both of them ould be canals, pure and simple. Each type a certain disadvantages and certain advantages. disadvantages and certain advan-in my judgment, the disadvantages di the advantages very much greater of a lock canal substantially as propapers forwarded herewith; ecial attention to the fact that the eer, who would be mainly respon-e success of this mighty engineering and who has, therefore, a peculiar personal est in judging aright, is emphatically and stly in favor of the lock canal project and sit the sea level project.

areful study of the reports seems to estable strong probability that the following are acts: The sea level canal would be slightly exposed to damage in the event of war.

ed to damage in the event of war; the xpenses, apart from the heavy cost of n the amount employed to build it, less; and for small ships the time of uid probably be less. On the other lock canal, at a level of 80 feet or s, would not cost much more than uch to build, and could be built in the time, while there would be very risk connected with building it, and chips the travelt would be carried. ships the transit would be quicker ing into account the interest on the aved in building, the actual cost of Moreover, what has been emonstrated in making and operating lock canal, the Soo, a more importnt raffic than the great sea level canal, goes to support the opinion of the f the consulting board of engineers majority of the Isthmian Canal Comto the superior sefety feestbility and superior safety, feasibility and ility of building a lock canal at Panama. The law now on our statute books seems to contemplate a lock canal. In my judgment a lock canal as herein recommended is advisable. the Congress directs that a sea level canal constructed its direction will, of course, be Otherwise, the canal will be built n substantially the plan for a lock canal out blind in the accompanying papers, such changes being made, of course, as may be found actually necessary, including, possibly, the change recom-mended by the Secretary of War as to the site of the dam on the Pacific side. THEODORE ROOSEVELT.
The White House, Feb. 19, 1906.

FINDINGS OF THE COMMISSION.

Secretary Taft transmitted the commission's report, and the accompanying documents to the President, summarizing closely the conclusions of the majority and minority, which respectively favored a sea level and a lock canal. He called attention to the fact that the act of Congress effect fixes the minimum dimensions of the ocks and the width and depth of the canal prism by the requirement that the canal shall accommodate the largest vessels afloat, or such as may reasonably be anticipated. As two ships low building, which are 800 feet long, 88 feet beam and 38 feet draught, can be passed through the locks proposed by the minority, he says it is evident this requirement is met. The Secre-

In the high level canal a vessel of the dimensions noted would have, with the exception of the 4.7 miles where the width is only 200 feet, ample lee-way for safe navigation and good speed, without objectionable currents and without difficulties at the points where changes in course are necessary.

ORJECTS TO SEA LEVEL PLAN. But of the sea level canal project he makes

ith the proposed sea level canal conditions are trent. The depth is but two feet greater than draught of the ship, not sufficient to permit her eed under her own steam, except at great enty-one miles of the canal is not sufficient for two such ships to pass; currents caused for two such ships to pass; currents caused regulation of the Chagres and by the flow of streams into the canal, and its man; combine to increase the difficulties and combine to increase the difficulties and of navigation. In short, the sea leve commended is "not of sufficient capacity and o"afford convenient passage for vessels of est tonnage and greatest depth," and can be couly by materially increasing the depth ith, and at a considerable increase of time.

The Secretary meets the objection of the mafority of the board that locks are unsafe for great ships by saying that lock navigation is .not experimental nor particularly dangerous, for duplicate locks as planned are only thirty feet lift. Moreover, he says, "the delays due to lockages are more than offset by the greater ed at which vessels can safely navigate the lakes formed by the dam than is possible in the sea level canal, and the arguments on this point in the minority report seem to me to be the

ADVANTAGES OF LOCK SYSTEM.

The majority of the board questioned the stability of the great dams at Gatun and La Boca, but the Secretary says that they are to have such ample dimensions as to compress the mud and clay at their base rather than be subject to displacement. Other dams to retain water eighty-five feet deep are not experimental, he Eays, and those proposed for a lock canal will

Continued on fifth page.

\$50.00 TO PACIFIC COAST POINTS \$50.00

THE ISTHMIAN CANAL COMMISSION.



From left to right: General P. C. Hains, Admiral M. T. Endicott, Chairman T. P. Shonts, Major B. M. Harrod, Charles E. Magoon, Governor of the Canal Zone; Joseph B. Bishop, Colonel O. H. Ernst.

A TWO MILLION SALE. MAY WAIT FOR MALBY. PLAN TO OUST HAINES

GREELEY, SQ. PARCELS GO. BANK MATTER UP TO-DAY. OPPOSERS ENCOURAGED.

Bought by W. R. H. Martin.

W. R. H. Martin, of Rogers, Peet & Co., yesterday bought, through George R. Read & Co., from the Roxton Realty Company, the old Broadway Tabernacle Church property, at 34th-st. and Broadway, northeast, and an abutting parcel, Nos. 66, 68 and 70 West 35th-st., for considerably more than \$2,225,000.

On December 19, 1901, Edward F. Searles purchased the Tabernacle plot for \$1,300,000, through Herbert A. Sherman, from Cornelius N. Bliss and William Ives Washburn, as trustees of the church corporation, and Nos. 68 and 70 West 35th-st., from James C. Parrish for about \$150,000, making a total investment of \$1,450,000. In 1857 the Broadway Tabernacle Church corporation bought its old site for \$78,500. The sums which have been paid for the plot within the last fifty years give only a slight

Greeley Square section of Broadway in that time. When Mr. Searles bought the property it was said that he intended to erect on the plot a large hotel having many unique features. That project was abandoned, and about two years ago Mr. Searles enlarged the property by the purchase of a ferred title to the property to the Roxton Realty Company, the seller in the present transaction. The personnel of the realty company has not been revealed, but persons connected with the real estate market have thought that its principal, if not its sole, stockholder was Mr. Searles. So, in the present sale of the property, Mr. Searles will be generally considered the seller, under the name of the Roxton Realty Company.

Mr. Martin, the buyer, has long been numbered estate. The Hotel Martinique, in 33d-st., is one of his properties. He will begin in the near future the erection of a ten story or higher fireproof building on his premises, which have a frontage of 98.9 feet in Broadway, 150 feet in 34th-st. and 53 feet in 35th-st. A large part of the structure will be used by Rogers, Peet & Co.

A few weeks after it sold its old site to Mr. Searles, the Broadway Tabernacle Church corporation bought a large plot at 56th-st., and Broadway northeast, and on that site the congregation of the church now worships. The Rev. Dr. Charles E. Jefferson has been the pastor of the church since February 2, 1898. The church was organized on July 30, 1840, and was the outgrowth of a congregational church, organized on Febru-ary 14, 1832. The question as to whether the church should remain near 34th-st. and Broadway or move uptown caused considerable friction in the church before the end of 1895. On April 8, 1896, at a meeting of the church called for that purpose, the Rev. Dr. Henry A. Stimson offered his resignation as pastor. A long discussion followed, after which the resignation was accepted. Dr. Stimson made a lengthy address after the vote was counted. He said in part:

The church has had a distinguished history in its present position, but great changes are going on about it, and I was led to believe that the church, and especially the brethren who came to confer with me, were prepared to face new conditions and adopt a policy appropriate to them. There were manifest reasons why the church should, if possible, remain where it is and at the same time there is an urgent necessity for one or more additional congregational churches uptown.

Mr. Searles, who bought the old Tabernacle site from the church, has been prominently identified with Manhattan real estate for many years. In 1887 he married the widow of Mark Hopkins,

builder of the Housatonic Railroad, now a part of the New-York, New-Haven and Hartford system. She died a few years later, leaving to her husband her estate, said to be valued at \$30,000,000.

The old Broadway Tabernacle property is within block of the plot chosen by the New-York and Jersey Railroad Company as site for a big terminal station for its 6th-ave, tunnel spur. W. R. H. Martin said last night, in speaking about his plans for improving the old Broadway Taber-

THE REV. DR. MINOT J. SAVAGE ILL. Pastor of Church of Messiah Resting in

The Rev. Dr. Minot J. Savage, pastor of the Church of the Messiah, has retired from the active duties of his pastorate for a few weeks, and is now resting at Redlands, Cal., where his son has a charge. Mrs. Savage is with him. It was learned that Dr. Savage, while in need of much rest and quiet, is not alarmingly ill. He may be able to take up his work again in a month or two.

California.

The Rev. Robert Collyer, who retired as the active head of the Church of the Messiah some time ago, preached on Sunday, and will attend to the pastoral iuties until Dr. Savage returns.

Dr. Savage has been at the Church of the Messiah for ten years. Too close application to his ministerial duties and literary work are said to have caused his present indisposition.

JOHNSON OFFERS TO LEASE ROADS. [By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Cleveland, Feb. 19.-Mayor Tom L. Johnson day, in behalf of the city, offered to lease the lines of the Cleveland Rallway Company. The offer was made to Horace E. Andrews, the president, who gave no answer. The Mayor said that at the present rate of fare, figuring on the natural increase of travel, if the city bought the street railroad property at a capitalization of \$12,000,000, the property Eric Railroad. Tickets sold until April 6. erty at a capitalization eighteen years.

Hendricks's Place.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Albany, Feb. 19 .- The Senate Finance Committee will meet to-morrow and take up the Assembly resolution for an investigation of the State Banking Department. Senator Allds, who has the information from the Governor relating to the charges against Superintendent Kilburn, will transmit this information to the commit-Just what action it will take on the resolution is uncertain.

Senator Malby, its chairman, is still ill at his home in Ogdensburg. Members of the committee may ask that nothing be done until his return, "Senatorial courtesy" would demand that this request be respected. The probability seems that the committee

merely will take the Kilburn charges under consideration in connection with the Assembly

"Consideration" may be extended indefinitely. The situation as to the final disposition of the resolution apparently has not changed much. The members of the committee say they do not know just what will be done, but a general impression exists that no inquiry will result through any favorable consideration of the As-

Governor Higgins was asked to-night if he expected to send any special message to the Legislature relative to the banking inquiry. He declared that at present he should not, as the situation was entirely outside his province. To the same question regarding insurance legislation, he replied:

"No, I do not expect to now. If at any time it might appear that the legislation was not being considered as rapidly as possible, or as rapidly as might be desirable, I might think it my duty to send in a special message." 'Is there any authority for the report that you

will appoint ex-Senator Pound temporarily to "I had not heard the report. I do not know where such an idea originated." "Have you in mind any particular candidate to

succeed Superintendent Hendricks?" "No, I have not. Each day new names are added to the list, but there are no heavyweights

ROADS TO PAY STATE.

To Cancel Debts of Indiana's Secretary in Two-Cent Fare Fight. Indianapolis, Feb. 19 .- It was rumored here

to-day that the railroads of this State will raise enough money to pay the alleged debts of Daniel Storms, the Secretary of State, to the State. By so doing they will prevent a special session of the legislature, which might pass a two-cent fare law. Mr. Storms resigned the Secretaryship to-day, his resignation becoming effective April 1. He has been permitted to hold office as long as this by the Governor because he has promised that his shortages, amounting, it is alleged, to \$6,310, will be paid. If the money is not paid the legislature will be called in special

Mr. Storms resigned his position as Secretary of State after a ten minutes conversation with Governor Hanly. The resignation was accepted immediately. Frederick Sims, Republican candi-date for the nomination of Secretary of State before the next convention, has been appointed to succeed Storms to fill out the unexpired term.

BROOKLYN BABY BLUNDER.

Two Mothers Get Each Other's Progeny by Error of Department Store Checker.

Williamsburg had a baby tangle yesterday afteroon, which began at a department store and ended in the Hamburg-ave. police station. Mrs. Anna Ross, of No. 592 Marcy-ave., checked her baby and carriage at the store, as did Mrs. Mary Johnson, of 1,085 Lafayette-ave. The latter also left her eight-year-old daughter, Florence, with her baby eight-year-old daughter, Florence, with her bady. Mrs. Johnson finished her shopping and hurried home, leaving Florence to wheel home the infant. Mrs. Ross called for her child about an hour later and 'became hysterical when the baby was not there. Florence was found later wheeling the strange baby, and the two were taken to the Hamburg-ave. police station. The two mothers were sent for, the bables were exchanged and both mothers left vowing vengeance on the blundering checker.

SOLDIER OF FORTUNE JOINS CASTRO.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.] New-Orleans, Feb. 19.—Advices from Spanish Hon duras say that Lee Christmas, of Louisiana, Chief of Police of Tegucigalpa, has sent his resignation to President Bonilla of that republic, to accept a ommission in the Venezuelan army. General Christmas is a well known revolutionary leader and took part in the recent revolution in Spanish He was President Bonilla's chief of staff, and was made Chief of Police of Tegucigalpa when the Bonilla faction took charge. General Christmas says things are too quiet in Honduras. and he intends leading the Venezuelans against France in case of war.

DEWEY'S COMMUNION WINES Comply with the Pure Food Laws.
H. T. Dewey & Sons Co., 133 Fulton St., New York.

Old Broadway Tabernacle Property | Governor Has No One in Mind for | Campaign Against S. P. C. A. Head Discussed at Meeting.

> The persons who constitute the reform element in the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Antmals expressed themselves yesterday as much encouraged with the outlook for the removal of John P. Haines from the presidency of the society. It is to that end that henceforth they will bend their efforts. Mr. Haines, they declared at the home of John H. Iselin, one of the "insurgents," which was attended by several members of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, to put their purpose into effect it is necessary to capture a majority of the members of the board of managers, who have the power of removal. The board now consists of seventeen members, some of which are known to be hostile to Mr. Haines.

The reformers will work hard from now until March 8, when the Board of Managers will meet to obtian the necessary nine votes. One of the members said yesterday: "We are very much en-couraged at the outlook." Mr. Iselin gave out the following statement of the meeting on Sunday

ing resolved itself into a committee to consider this danger and to formulate various plans for averting it, if possible.

All agreed that in an association whose object is the fulliment of quasi-public duties, and whose support is in a large measure derived from public moneys, it is essential that the executive officers command in the fullest degree public confidence and respect; that it is apparent that the present widespread dissatisfaction with the workings and administration of the society has involved the loss of public confidence, and political interference is

of public confidence, and political interference is now threatened.

In view of the action taken at the last adjourned meeting of the society cutting off all debate by the members upon the present situation and effectually gagging the large and increasing portion of the membership that is seeking to reform the society from within, it seemed to all that the only means left whereby the immediate situation could be met was through an appeal to the board of managers to view the situation broadly and without personal feeling and to realize the paramount importance of speedily regaining public confidence.

The "rollitical interference" spoken of in this

The "political interference" spoken of in thisstatement refers to two bills now pending in the legislature. One of these, introduced by Assemblyman Tompkins and drawn by Health Commis sioner Darlington, provides for the transferring of the power to grant dog licenses from the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals to the Board of Health. The revenue from this source amounts approximately to \$55,000 a year. The other measure, introduced by Assemblyman Francis, asks that permission be granted to the Henry Bergh Humane Society to engage actively in the aid of dumb animals. Under an act of the legislature the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Anim is the only organization that can engage in this Ludwig Nissen, treasurer of the Henry Bergh Humane Society, said yesterday:

There is room enough in this big city for anothumane society, and the Society for the Prevition of Cruelty to Animals should not be permit to enjoy a monopoly in this work.

In connection with this it was learned that Mr Nissen addressed some time ago a letter to Mayor McClellan, calling his attention to the shorte ings of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. The Mayor later resigned as a mem ber of the board of managers of the Society for

ber of the board of managers of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, without giving his reasons.

The Henry Bergh society, while prevented by law from employing special policemen or using ambulances for injured animals, has mapped out another plan for suffering animals. David Belais, its president, announces that it will set up several much needed drinking places. Among the charges of neglect made against the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals is the one that these drinking places have not been erected. The Bergh society also announces that Herbert N. Casson will deliver a series of lectures on humane education in the public lecture courses under the auspices of the Board of Education. The dates of the lectures so far arranged are February 22, at St. Luke's Hall. No. 483 Hudson-st.; February 23, at Public School No. 2, 3d-ave. and 168th-st., and February 26, at Public School No. 5, 141st-st. and Edgecombe-ave.

ATTEMPTS SUICIDE ON STAGE.

Audience Thinks Woman's Shooting Part of the Performance.

Denver, Feb. 19 .- Leaving her seat in one of th boxes in the Crystal Theatre at this afternoon's performance, Mrs. C. A. Weilder made her way to the stage, and, after flourishing a revolver for a noment in full view of the audience, discharged the weapon at herself, inflicting a probably fatal

Persons in the audience thought that the shooting was part of an act, and made no outery Screams of the performers in the wings showed that something unusual had occurred. When the woman was carried away unconscious by stage attendants, she still held the weapon and a photo-graph, said to be that of her young son. The woman was removed to a hospital, quiet was restored and the performance resumed.

EARTHQUAKE RECORDED AT VIENNA.

Vienna, Feb. 19 .- The instruments of the Imperial Meteorological Department this morning recorded an earthquake centre which was 7,500 miles off. The movement lasted from 3:22

THROUGH SLEEPING CAR TO

Youngstown and Barberton. Pennsylvania Railroad's new service. Leaves New York daily at 8:25 P. M. Through sleeping car to Cleveland also.—

ALL WELL ON THE DEWEY.

The Drydock Reported 500 Miles West of the Canaries.

Las Palmas, Canary Islands, Feb. 19 .- The United States tug Potomac, which arrived here to-day, reported that she left the drydock Dewey five hundred miles to the westward of this port

The steel drydock Dewey left Solomon's Island, Chesapeake Bay, on December 28, 1905, for Olontowed by the United States colliers the Brutus, the Cæsar and the Glacier, and the navy tug Potomac Commander Harry H. Hosley being in command. It was believed that the voyage would occupy about five months. Communication with the convoying uary 22. The dispatch from Las Palmas is the first news of the Dewey that has been received since that time. In the mean time there has been much uneasiness felt in official quarters for the safety of the drydock, which was expected to be heard from at Gibraltar by February 10. According to the report brought to Las Palmas the Dewey must at this time be 900 to 1,000 miles from Gibraltar, and at the rate she was moving, while within touch by wireless telegraph, she cannot be expected to reach Gibraltar in less than twelve days.

CANFIELD ON JEROME.

Says He's "on the Square," but "Plays Favorites."

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.] Milwaukee, Feb. 19.—Richard Canfield, the well known New-York gambler, was in this city to-day, and before going to Chicago to-night gave his views on Jerome, Parkhurst, gambling and wide open towns. He said Jerome was "on the square" and enforcing the law as "he saw his duty," but he "thought he played favorites." He thought Parkhurst had done great harm to New-York by scat-tering vice, where before it had been segregated in certain places. As for a "wide open" town here, he said he had always heard that Milwaukee gave everybody a "square deal" and believed that policy

"Gambling." he said, "can never be stopped Under the circumstances, it is best to regulate it and let it run in the open. When hidden and in ecret, other crimes accompany the evil."

BIG BEQUEST TO SEAMEN.

Lord Inverclyde's Will Provides Fund for American Sailors.

London, Feb. 19 .- The will of Lord Inverclyde, chairman of the Cunard Steamship Company, who died on October 8 last, was probated in London to-day. It leaves his property to the widow for life, with the remainder to the Merchants' House of Glasgow for a fund to be known as the Inverciyde Bequest, for the benefit of the seamen of New-York, Boston, Scotland, Liverpool and Belfast. In addition to the real estate, Lord Inverclyde's personal estate in the United Kingdom is valued at \$1,475,000.

MAY FIGHT AT POLLS.

Pittsburg Police Are Partisans in Mayoralty Contest.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.] Pittsburg, Feb. 19.—Democrats hope to elect George W. Guthrie, the first Mayor of greater Pittsburg, to-morrow, and, if they do, are sanguine that they can carry Western Pennsylvania in the

and more than \$500,000 has been wagered on the result of the contest. Alexander M. Jenkinson, the Republican candidate, has spent some \$250,000 Werner was relieved from duty to-day because he refused his support to Guthrie, who is backed by the city administration. Previous to his relief from duty. Werner had a flerce word battle his assistant, Edward Kennelly-a pitched fight was narrowly averted.

It is expected that there will be fighting between the police at the polls to-morrow, as the force is ompletely split in favor of the opposing candi-

MITCHELL SPURNS OFFER.

Miners' Leader Refuses Nomination to Congress by Democrats.

The announcement was made last evening by President Mitchell of the United Mine-Workers, that he had received an offer of the nomination on the Democratic ticket for Congressman for the Peoria district of Illinois by the Democratic committee of the district. He declined with thanks, he said, because he made up his mind long ago that he would never run for any political office.

It was stated that the nomination was unanimous. It was sent by wire to him by a special committee, and he sent a telegram declining it. Mitchell votes secretly, his voting residence being Spring Valley, Ill., which is in the Peoria district. He is supposed to be an independent

MAY HOLD UP GAS BILL.

Friends of Eighty-Cent Measure Fear Changes.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.] Albany, Feb. 19 .- Reports were affoat to-day that the Page 80-cent gas bill would not be reported favorably on Thursday by the Committee on Miscellaneous Corporations, but instead would be held up in deference to the demands of the gas companies. Further delay on the bill may result in a complete alteration of the scale of prices established in it for the various districts of the city, according to present conditions.

The Committee on Miscellaneous Corporations is not inclined to be hard on the gas companies.. Friends of the 80-cent bill fear that the committee will try to amend it to allow the companies some leeway, fixing a price of 85 or 90 cents for New York. The committee will hold a meeting on Thursday. If the bill is not reported, Senator Page probably will ask to have the committee discharged. What is feared now, however, is that the committee, will report an amended bill with prices higher than the Page

The Agnew bill will be on the Senate calendar to-morrow. No objection to its passage is expected.

EX-SPEAKER HENDERSON SINKING.

Dubuque, Iowa, Feb. 19.-Ex-Speaker David B. Henderson has suffered another paralytic stroke, which has almost deprived him of his sight. His wife is the only person he recognizes. His general condition is worse. It is believed the end is near.

THE FAMOUS LAKE SHORE LIMITED has sleeping cars for St. Louis and Cincinnati, leaving New York every day at 5:30 p. m., via New York Central Lines. No excess fare.—Advt.

WILL SUE M'CURDYS.

PRICE THREE CENTS.

FRUIT OF FISH DEMAND.

Mr. Peabody Says Mutual Committee "Got All It Wanted."

Charles A. Peabody, president of the Mutual Life Insurance Company, and Frederic Crom well, the treasurer, yesterday started the suits

that Stuyvesant Fish had demanded.

Mr. Peabody announced that suits had been begun by the Mutual against Richard A. Me-Curdy, ex-president of the Mutual; Robert H. McCurdy, his son, formerly general manager of the company, and the firm of Charles H. Raymond & Co., including Louis G. Thebaud, the son-in-law of Richard A. McCurdy, for an accessive commissions paid them for writing insurance and for the return of the alleged excessive salaries and moneys contributed to campaign funds. Mr. Peabody said that the Mc Curdys would be defended by De Lancey Nicoll and Raymond & Co. by John S. Wise.

When he made this announcement Mr. Per body spoke of Mr. Fish as "a little boy," and remarked on his "spectacular resignation for effect," while Mr. Cromwell said that Mr. Fish found himself alone in his position of antagonism to the Mutual trustees and officials, and ad ded that "a man who flocks by himself is not likely to find himself in a very pleasant posttion." Mr. Cromwell hastened to add, "I don't, of course, mean this as a threat against Mr.

Mr. Peabody said that he could not undertake to account for Mr. Fish's actions, as that was asking him to go too deep. It was evident that Mr. Peabody deeply resented the course taken by Mr. Fish. He was asked in regard to the reports that in reprisal for his demand for a real cleaning out of the Mutual, Mr. Fish would be deposed from his position as president of the Illinois Central.

"Why should I know anything about that?"

he asked in return. "You are still a director of the Illinois Central. are you not?" he was asked.

Mr. Peabody laughed. "Mr. McCurdy was de-

"Yes," he replied. "Could anything be done before the annual neeting in October %" was asked.

osed from this company neeting," he said. Mr. Fish, on his part, feels that a hard fight is being made against him in his railroad connections to "get even" with him for his life in-

that there was no doubt that the strongest efof the Illinois Central. On the question being put, if the chances were for or against Mr. Fish, the reply was made that Mr. Harriman owned 20 per cent of the

stock of the Illinois Central, and a man who

surance course. A source close to Mr. Fish said

controlled that amount of stock had a powerful influence in the affairs of a railroad company. It was reported, however, that the situation arising from the resignation of Mr. Fish from the Mutual committee might bring on anothe legislative investigation. It was said in usuallwell informed quarters that there would probably be a special investigation for the sole

benefit of the Mutual. Mr. Peabody avowed ignorance of any such intention at Albany. There was also a report current that the grand jury had found indictments against cer tain officers and other employes of the Mutual whose names have been especially prominent in the life insurance scandals. This report was subsequently denied at the Criminal Courts Building, and it may be said on the highest authority that it is not likely that the presen grand jury will be able to reach the Mutual in

its investigations. District Attorney Jerome has not fully decided yet whether to let the Mutual and New-York Life cases go before the March grand jury, in the regular course, or to have a special grand jury impanelled. There is considerable doubt whether it would be possible for a grand jury to indict Hamilton, Fields and some of the others, and whether conthibuting to campaign funds is an indictable offence.

Several subpænas were issued yesterday from the District Attorney's office for men who are understood to know a good deal about the affairs of the big insurance companies and the Mutual Reserve, especially the latter company. Some of the Mutual Reserve officials are to testify before the grand jury to-day and others will follow. Indictments are expected to be handed down shortly for various officials of the company.

For two weeks Matthew C. Fleming, who was the of the chief assistants to Mr. Hughes in the investigations of the Armstrong committee, has been going over the records of the inquiry, with a view to criminal prosecutions, and has been in frequent consultation with Mr. Jerome, He submitted his report yesterday, and the work before the jury was immediately laid aside to take up the insurance cases.

Assistant District Attorney Nott is to have charge of the investigation of the Mutual Reserve. He said yesterday that that company would be the first one taken up, and, so far as he knew, it would be the only one under the probe at this time. Officers of the company are to be summoned to testify, he added. From other sources it was learned that the Mutual and the New-York Life would follow the Mutual Reserve.

The selection of a successor to Mr. Fish on the Mutual committee will be left to Mr. Trues dale and Mr. Auchincloss. Mr. Truesdale said yesterday that they had not had time yet to get together for this purpose. It is understood that James B. Dill, William G. Choate, Bainbridge Coiby and D. Cady Herrick, who recommended the suits against the McCurdys, will be dropped as counsel to the committee, and John W. Griggs, ex-United States Attorney General and now general counsel for the Lackawanna, of which Mr. Truesdale is president, will become the counsel of the committee, with John H Choate for advisory counsel.

President Peabody gave out a statement in reply to the letters and various other exhibits in the resignation of Stuyvesant Fish from the Mutual's self-investigation. He said:

The letter from the investigating committee demanding certain information from the president of the company in regard to the marital and other relations of its officers and employes and their financial affairs while in the employ of the company was sent to Mr. Cromwell on December 28. Between that day and my taking office a Saturday and Sunday intervened. I immediately prepared an answer to the letter, but at the request of Mr. Truesdale I withheld the reply until the return of Mr. Fish and Mr. Archincloss, six weeks later. That effectually replies to the criticism of the delay in making the answer about which so much has been made. The answer was delayed because Mr. Fish was not here to receive it.

In the second place, I had thought that the information called for in the letter would apply only to the five hundred employes in this build-

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