$150,000,000 LIMIT SUITS 'BIG THREE'

Objections Withdrawn to One of the Important of the New Laws Planned.

OTHER FIGHTS GO ON

Stuyvesant Fish in Correspondence with Sir Alfred Harmsworth on Mutual Inquiry.

SATISFIED, SAY THE AGENTS

Denial Is Made That There Is an Emphatic Protest To Be Made on the Armstrong Report.

Frequent conferences held recently by the officers of the three great insurance companies have resulted in the announcement that the New York, Mutual and Equitable will not oppose that portion of the Armstrong committee's recommendations which limits the yearly business to be done by the "big three" to $150,000,000.

Among all the suggestions made by the legislative committee none was so strongly criticized by the insurance officials as this limitation of business, and when, yesterday, it was stated by a high officer of the New York Life that his company had decided to withdraw all opposition to this section of the new law there was much rejoicing among the smaller companies, which will reap great benefits.

While the companies have yielded this point in the fight which it is certain they will make against the passage of the new insurance laws, it was said it was merely a sop thrown to the policy holders and that all the energies of the companies' pleaders will be directed toward the elimination of other features of the suggested laws, which if put on the statute books will necessitate many changes in the present methods of doing business.

It was stated that Stuyvesant Fish received yesterday from Sir Alfred Harmsworth, head of the Mutual Life's British Policy Holders' Association, a third cablegram assuring him of the support of that organization in the effort to have another investigation of the Mutual's affairs. This message was sent to Mr. Fish at his country home, in Garrison, N. Y., and was in reply to a message from Mr. Fish asking whether he would be backed up in his fight for reform within the company.

William H. Truesdale, chairman of the committee from which Mr. Fish recently resigned because he would not agree to the halfway measures pursued by the other two members of the committee, declined to discuss the affairs of the committee when asked regarding the future policy of that body.

It was learned that Mr. Fish has been assured by Sir Alfred Harmsworth that not only will the British policy holders stand by him, but Sir Alfred will take it upon himself to provide suitable French and German representatives to join in an international movement for investigation and reform within the Mutual.

AGENTS ENTER DENIAL.

William C. Johnson, chairman of the Life Underwriters' Association of New York, denied yesterday the statement that insurance agents had organized to strike back at the Armstrong committee for having recommended reforms which may injure the business of the agents. Instead of criticising the work of the investigating committee, Mr. Johnson said, the agents were practically unanimous in their praise of the recommendations.

"The eighteen thousand licensed agents in the State of New York," said Mr. Johnson, "rejoice in the efficient work done by the Armstrong Investigating Committee and welcome the proposed laws requiring publicity, accountability and a proper limitation of expenses. We believe a reform in the agency system will lead to driving the unscrupulous rebating agents out of the business and do much to elevate the call of the life agent. It will diminish lapses and benefit all policy holders.

"Every honest insurance man believes in putting a stop to extravagant methods in the handling of trust funds and will rejoice to see that that end is accomplished. The agent's interest is the welfare of the policy holder and in protecting him the Armstrong committee benefits them as well.

"The agents do not disagree with the end sought by the Armstrong committee. They merely feel that the method of limiting agency expenses as proposed by that committee will be not only of injury to them but to the policy holders of the companies. With this view of the matter they intend to be heard through their representatives at the hearing in Albany on March 9, and the agents as a whole feel so strongly about the matter that a large number of them will go to the hearing.

TO STATE POSITION.

"They are making no effort whatever to create sentiment against the Armstrong committee or the purposes that it has in view. On the contrary, they are in hearty accord with the most of its recommendations. They intend only to make a clear and businesslike statement of their objections to the proposed new section 98, covering agency expenses, which objections are that the adoption of such a radical provision would lead not only to the disintegration and destruction of the agency plants of the New York State companies but to the withdrawing from this State of the old and conservative companies of New England and of other outside States.

"Such withdrawal would of course throw thousands of agents out of employment and would be an injury to the citizens of the State, as it would preclude them from thereafter purchasing insurance from a class of companies which have contributed nothing to recent scandals and which have given the public a square deal and sound insurance at honest cost."

ESCAPED INSIDE OF AN HOUR.

"Nephew of Booker T. Washington" Has His Brief Liberty Spoiled by Police.

Standing on a car in front of Sergeant Grimsby, of the West 152d street police station, last night a wet, bedraggled negro boy said, with a winning smile, that his name was Washington Little, that he was ten years old and a nephew of Booker T. Washington.

The boy was found, shivering, peeping into Trinity Cemetery, Amsterdam avenue and 155th street. He said he lived in 103d street, was on his way home and perfectly able to take care of himself.

When taken to the station house the boy held to his story that he was Booker T. Washington's nephew and asked to be released and allowed to go home. The coat that he wore excited the suspicions of the police and they telephoned to the negro asylum, 143d street and Amsterdam avenue. It was then learned that the lad was Archibald Berry, formerly of 152d street. He was sent to the institution yesterday and inside of an hour had escaped.

Twenty-Five Captains Accused.

Twenty-five masters of crafts plying on Long Island Sound will have to pay penalties to the United States government. The majority failed to have aboard their vessels fog horns. The penalty is a $200 fine. The others failed to have the names of their vessels painted on the bows.

Boy Asks $11,195 for Loss of Legs.

ALBANY, N. Y., Saturday.—Max Freeman, a boy of fourteen years, of Utica, today filed against the State a claim of $11,195 damages for the loss of two legs by the premature operation of a canal bridge in that city.

WEALTHY SOCIALISTS AND MANSION IN WHICH THEY MET.

The Stokes Mansion "Brick House" at Noroton Point Conn.

J. G. Phelps Stokes.

Joseph Medill Patterson

Robert Hunter.

Photo copyright 1904 by the Macmillan Co.

FORMER GOVERNOR HOGG IS DEAD

Well Known Political Leader of Texas and Bryan Lieutenant Had Been Ill a Year.

HAD WON FAME AS A FIGHTER

Twice Chief Executive of Lone Star State in Face of Great Opposition, and Mentioned as Possible Cabinet Officer.

HOUSTON, Texas, Saturday.—Former Governor James Stephen Hogg died today at the residence of Frank C. Jones, his law partner. Mr. Hogg had been in failing health for a year or more. His condition was not considered critical by his physician and he was planning a trip to Battle Creek, Mich. Governor Hogg reached Houston last night and, feeling ill, took to his bed. Funeral arrangements have not been announced.

James S. Hogg, Dead in Houston, Texas, Led a Fighting Life from Boyhood.

James Stephen Hogg, of picturesque career and striking personality, was born on a ranch near Rusk, Texas, on March 24, 1851. His father, of Irish ancestry, was Brigadier General Joseph L. Hogg, of the Confederate Army, who fell while leading his command at Corinth.

During his boyhood he worked on a farm owned by a widow. After the day's toil was ended she taught him to spell and read. At the age of fourteen years he became a clerk in a store in Tyler, but, that not being to his taste, he learned to be a compositor and soon an editor. Before he was twenty years old he began to take an interest in politics, and the year he became of age he was elected road overseer. Then he was elected justice of the peace in an eastern county in Texas. He was then elected to the Legislature, and after his term was out there he was elected District Attorney of Smith, his native county. Meanwhile he had been admitted to the Bar.

The county was overrun with lawless characters, who boasted that they were not afraid of the courts. The shotgun and rifle were the arbitrators of disputes more often than the courts. Hogg, on being elected District Attorney, emphasized his intention of cleaning out the gang, and he soon had a dozen of the most reckless characters in the penitentiary, and the rest had fled the State. His success made him well known, and in 1886, and again in 1888, he was re-elected on an anti-railroad and anti-monopoly platform as Attorney General.

His principal successes while Attorney General were in prosecuting the International and Great Western Railroad for violation of the law and restoring to the public domain thousands of acres of land. It was then that he made his famous proclamation that he would purge Texas of lawlessness and crime or bankrupt the State treasury. He gave force to this sentiment by sending to the penitentiary a man who had committed no less than sixteen murders and boasted that the State of Texas was not powerful enough to arrest his lawless career. This case became the cause celebre which elected him Governor in 1890 by one hundred and fifty thousand majority.

He was chosen for a second term in the face of tremendous opposition. Practically every financial power in the State turned its guns on him, and Texas was invaded by emissaries of railroads, banks, trust companies, manufacturing institutions, mortgage bondholding companies and others to fight against him. His name was made the butt of all kinds and sorts of ribald and inhuman jokes, and he was stigmatized as a boor, an ignoramus and an illiterate fool. His enemies spoke of his first term as Governor with a sneer, and called it the "Hogg blight." The names of his children were dragged into the mud and he was led about in the most malicious and malignant manner.

The opposition to him crystallized in the nomination of George Clarke, of Dallas, as an independent democratic candidate for Governor. The conflict was the fiercest ever waged in Texas, but thousands of republicans voted for him, and Governor Hogg received a plurality of 65,000. This election immediately made Governor Hogg a conspicuous man over all the United States. This was in 1892. He became one of William J. Bryan's most energetic lieutenants. His appearance at a Tammany Hall meeting here on July 4, 1899, was an occasion of considerable excitement, when he caused a great furore for Bryan at the close of his short speech. He was himself mentioned in connection with the Vice Presidential nomination.

It is said that a place in Alton B. Parker's possible Cabinet was offered to him for his support of Parker in the Democratic Nominating Convention. He rejected the offer.

Though tempted to contest for the seat of Roger Q. Mills in the United States Senate he decided to retire to private practice of law, which he did, with success in Austin, Texas. Before his fatal illness began Mr. Hogg weighed 375 pounds. He wore a broad brimmed slouch hat, a twenty-two-inch collar, a black broadcloth frock coat, a narrow black necktie and square-toed Texas boots.

He was a blunt and fearless man, controversial, a good story teller, careless of dress and diction, and big in many ways. Because the name of his daughter Imogene was familiarly shortened to Ima it has been told derisively that he deliberately played upon his own name with the first names of his children. On the contrary his three sons were called William, Thomas and Michael. His wife was Miss Sallie A. Stinson, daughter of Colonel James A. Stinson, of Georgia.

Greek Church Damaged by Fire.

Fire in the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, at No. 158 East Seventy-second street, early yesterday morning did about $800 damage to the ceiling, rafters and pews.

More Money for Stone Masons.

Members of the Stone Masons' Union of New York are jubilant because of a new agreement signed with the Stone Contractors' Association, which gives them an increase of twenty cents a day, making their wages $4.40 for rubble work and $5.50 for setting cut stone. Contractors say that if they are forced to grant corresponding increases to all building mechanics the cost of construction work in New York in 1906 will be increased from fifteen to twenty per cent.

SILK THIEVES WORK NEAR POLICE HOUSE

Smash Front Door in Electric Light Within a Block of Mercer Street Station.

GET BOOTY BY THE ARMFUL

Police of the Mercer street station, as well as detectives from Inspector McLaughlin's staff, are still trying to find out the man or men who, on Monday night, attempted to carry off nearly all the stock of Dessauer & Barruch, manufacturers of silk skirts, at Nos. 175 and 177 Wooster street. It was only when they admitted that they were unable to find the slightest clew to the robbers that the police allowed the case to become public yesterday.

It was impossible to learn yesterday the full loss suffered by the firm. Silk worth $400 is reported to have been taken, and twenty-eight silk skirts besides other articles are in the list. The members of the firm would not discuss the case and the police were equally reticent as to details.

According to the report, entrance to the establishment, which is on the first floor, was obtained by wrenching the lock off the front door. There was evidence to show that the visitors had first tried to get in by the back way, but, failing in that, had gone to the front, and in a street lighted by electric light, within a block of the Mercer street station, had coolly battered in the lock and wrenched it loose by a jimmy. The noise must have been heard for at least a block, and, as there were more than two persons, it is believed they would have been a fair mark for a policeman who might have happened to be patrolling in that neighborhood. The skirts, it is said, valued at from $4 to $10 each, wholesale, must have made a bundle which required two men at least to carry. Besides this, there was discovered in the morning in the store silk, more skirts and other articles bundled up as if it had been the idea to make several trips.

BINGHAM STIRRED BY CLAICHE CASE

Police Commissioner Watches Revelations Concerning the Conduct of Men in the Tenderloin.

MAY DISMISS TAINTED ONES

Although Saturday brought a respite to Bertha Claiche, who is on trial for the murder of Emile Gerdron, it was a busy day not only for the prosecution and the defence, but for Police Commissioner Bingham as well. One unsavory incident of the case has been the testimony of policemen, one against the other, of a relationship between the police and the woman. This was a revelation to the Commissioner.

Mr. Bingham went early yesterday to the Criminal Courts Building and had a long interview with Assistant District Attorney Ely, who is conducting the prosecution. Outside Mr. Ely's door were the policemen—Martineau, Billafer, Brueck and Lannon—whose names have been mentioned, but Policeman Harry Morton, who has admitted that he made fifty visits to the young woman, was not there. He is a witness for the defence.

Commissioner Bingham intends to clean out the Tenderloin by transferring men who have been in the precinct long enough to come to working agreements with men or women who break the law. He has also said that he will use his utmost endeavor to dismiss from the force every man tainted by the testimony in the Claiche trial. He would not say anything about it yesterday, however.

"Oh, I just happened to call," he said after he left Mr. Ely, but the policemen who saw him there were none the less uneasy.

The close of the first real week of the Claiche girl's trial left both sides in the case apparently confident of victory. The defence bases its hope upon the testimony of Irma Deon, the fifteen-year-old half sister of the defendant, who said Gerdron had told her that if Bertha did not keep a rendezvous with him he would kill her, at the same time showing a revolver. The trial will be resumed to-morrow morning.

CITY MAY VOTE BY MACHINE IN 1908

Eight Districts To Be Equipped for Experiment This Fall and Others as Soon as Possible.

WILL STOP CRY OF FRAUD

That Is the Main Argument for Their Use—Buffalo Cited as an Example.

[SPECIAL DESPATCH TO THE HERALD.]

ALBANY, N. Y., Saturday.—New York city will probably cast its next vote for President by pulling the levers and pressing the knobs of voting machines. A beginning is to be made this year by the compulsory equipment of eight of the fifty-nine Assembly districts in the city with the machines, and the remaining districts are to be supplied as fast as the makers of the machines can turn them out in sufficient quantities.

Strong efforts have been made for many years to compel the city to adopt voting machines in its elections, but they have always been defeated by the unwise methods employed by the promoters of the machines. Any voting community in the State under the present law may adopt the machines if it sees fit to do so, but the attempts of Michael J. Dady, as a member of the Board of Elections, to have them introduced in the city have hitherto been unsuccessful. Mr. Dady has been interested in one of the machines, but he has told his friends that he no longer has any interest.

RUMOR OF GRAFT.

Stock in some of the concerns has been distributed among political leaders in the hope of gaining their influence, and it is notorious that liberal offers of "graft" have been held out to local officials to persuade them to aid in the introduction of the machines. Moreover, more than one attempt has been made by the lobbyists regularly employed at the Capitol to sneak "jokers" into ballot bills, which would have compelled the city to use the machines.

While the employment of these questionable methods has brought all attempts to get the machines adopted under suspicion, it is probable that their advantages will overcome this year the objections that have hitherto been raised against them. It has been pointed out that there would never have been any question as to the result of the New York city election had the machines been in use there, and that every vote would have been automatically counted as soon as it had been cast, without the possibility of dispute regarding the validity of the ballots.

BUFFALO AN EXAMPLE.

In Buffalo, where the machines are used, the outcome of the election is always known within a few minutes after the closing of the polls, and the cry of fraud in the counting of the votes has been eliminated. Moreover, although the initial cost of installing the machines is large, the expenses of election are materially reduced by their use, and it is argued that they "pay for themselves" through this saving in the course of a few years.

One Grand Jury in New York county has recommended ballot machines as a solution of the controversy over elections. George W. Morgan, State Superintendent of Elections, is advocating their adoption. Herbert Parsons, president of the Republican County Committee, is in favor of them and Mayor McClellan is said to be an advocate of their introduction. The chief opposition to them in New York city has always come from Tammany.

The city is now required to purchase for experiment the type of machine decided upon by the State Voting Machine Commission, which consists of H. de B. Parsons, of New York city; John H. Burr, of Ithaca, and Thomas Ewing, of Yonkers.

LAMB TRAVELS WITH LION.

Two Animals Coming from England in One Cage to Join Circus Menagerie.

By the Minneapolis, of the Atlantic Transport line, there will arrive from London at West Houston street to-day a single cage containing a lion and a lamb for the menagerie of the Barnum & Bailey Show, which is to open in Madison Square Garden this month. The lion is a full grown African lion. It was captured in a wild state, therefore was not accustomed from birth or from the time it was a cub to the presence of the lamb.

Among the passengers are Miss Marie Meers, an equestrienne, and George Brown, a humorist and clown. Miss Meers is a member of the Meers family of circus riders, and with her sister, Onika Meers, who is now here, will perform a double carrying riding act. Three trained dogs and two trained horses accompany them.

DRY GOODS, &C. DRY GOODS, &C. DRY GOODS, &C.

BEST & Co

LILIPUTIAN BAZAAR

Boys' Clothing.

There is a style—a fit—a finish to our Boys' Clothing not found in the clothing purchased elsewhere. We take unusual care in making our suits and overcoats, and much of the work is hand tailored, instead of machine made. For this reason the garments retain their shapes longer and wear better than boys' clothes generally do. Only tested fabrics are used. We show a great variety of pure wool fabrics made up in fashionable and becoming styles.

Prices moderate for clothes that are

Exceptional in Style and Merit.

60-62 West 23d Street.

DRY GOODS, &C. DRY GOODS, &C.

B. Altman & Co.

NOTICE. B. Altman & Co. announce that, during the Spring months, their establishment will remain open daily until SIX P. M.

FURNISHINGS FOR COUNTRY HOMES.

B. Altman & Co. direct particular attention to their facilities for the fitting of Out-of-Town Residences, Seaside and Country Cottages with Summer Draperies and Furnishings, also Rugs, Floor Coverings, Veranda fittings and Household Linens.

ESTIMATES SUBMITTED ON REQUEST.

For this purpose, assortments of suitable articles and materials have been expressly selected and are offered at moderate cost, comprising Lace and Muslin Curtains; Cretonnes and other light fabrics; Portieres, Lounge and Table Covers, Bed Coverlets and Boudoir fittings; Lounging Pillows and Hammocks. Window Shades made to order.

Also Domestic Rugs at Very Reasonable Prices, including Brussels, Smyrna, Wilton and Axminster, in European and Oriental patterns; Art Squares, Washable Rugs and Veranda Mats.

NOTICE.—RUGS AND DRAPERIES RECEIVED FOR STORAGE WITH THE USUAL GUARANTEE FOR SAFE-KEEPING.

WOMEN'S SUMMER DRESSES, UNDERGARMENTS AND CORSETS.

Foreign and Domestic Models in Gowns of white and colored linens, and various cotton fabrics; Lingerie Dresses of sheer materials, with lace and embroidery in the prevailing styles; Separate Costume and Walking Skirts, including the corset model.

NEW MODELS OF THE FASSO CORSET HAVE BEEN RECEIVED, CONFORMING TO THE RECENT CHANGES IN FASHIONABLE DRESS FOR SPRING AND SUMMER, INCLUDING FANCY STYLES IN LINEN AND SILK BATISTE, AND HAND-EMBROIDERED COUTIL.

Orders for Bridal Sets or Trousseaux of Women's Undergarments, made of delicate fabrics combined with lace and embroidery, are executed in workrooms which have been expressly provided for that purpose. Crests, Monograms and Initials embroidered.

SILK TAFFETAS, WOOL DRESS FABRICS and TRIMMINGS FOR SPRING GOWNS at attractive prices, on the following days:

On TUESDAY, March Sixth,

Four Thousand Yards of Imported Lightweight Wool Dress Material, in shadow checks, adapted for street and evening gowns, at the special price of, per yard, 68c

(Counters Rear of Rotunda on First Floor.)

On MONDAY, March Fifth,

An additional shipment of Imported Black Chiffon Taffetas, forty-three inches wide; regular price $2.00 per yard, at $1.58

On MONDAY, March Fifth,

A Sale of Dress Trimmings in Styles suitable for Spring Gowns, as follows:

Colored Applique, Persian Bands, Embroidered White Taffetas Vesting, Opalescent Passementerie, Black Spangled and Black Braid Passementerie; usually $1.50 to $5.00 per yard, at 75c. and $1.45 per yard.

(Rear of Rotunda, First Floor.)

B. Altman & Co. will hold a sale of Women's Men's and Children's HOSIERY on MONDAY, March Fifth, as follows:

Women's Black Silk Embroidered Hose,

$1.85 per pair. Per box of Three pairs, $5.00

Women's Plain Black Silk Hose,

$1.10 per pair. Per box of Three pairs, $3.00

Women's Lisle Thread Hose, black with embroidery, also black and tan openwork,

35c. per pair. Per box of Six pairs, $1.90

Women's Black Cotton Hose,

25c. per pair. Per box of Six pairs, $1.40

Men's Lisle Thread Half Hose, fancy colorings, and black with embroidery.

35c. per pair. Per box of Six pairs, $1.90

Children's Black Ribbed Cotton Hose,

20c per pair. Per box of Six pairs, $1.00

Nineteenth Street and Sixth Avenue, New York.