CERTIFICATE OF OFFICIAL EXAMINATION BY FOUR STATES' INSURANCE DEPARTMENTS.

Mutual Reserve Fund Life Association

OF NEW YORK CITY

E. B. HARPER, - - - President.

COMMISSIONERS' CERTIFICATE

NEW YORK CITY, January 24th, 1895.

E, the Insurance Commissioners and Superintendents of the States of Illinois. Ohio, Texas, and South Dakota, do hereby certify that we have been for the last two months engaged in an exhaustive and thorough examination of the books and accounts of the Mutual Reserve Fund Life Association and of all receipts and disbursements during the period extending from the first day of January, 1894, to the 13th day of November, 1894. We further certify that we have carefully ckecked and proved all items; that the loans on bond and mortgage have been checked and verified; that stocks and bonds have been accounted for through receipts held for deposits; that cash on hand has been counted, and that cash deposited with sundry banks has been proved by the books of said banks or by proper certificates therefrom; that the real estate has been valued upon the basis of net rentals and from information derived from reliable sources, and that the operations of the Association have been subjected to a thorough examination in which every facility has been afforded us by the officers and managers, every book, record and source of information having been laid open to us without reservation.

We further certify that we find the Association possessed of admitted invested and non-invested assets on the said November 13, 1894, to the amount of \$4.228,120.93, and of contingent mortuary assets to the amount of \$1,340,490.31, making gross assets as of said date to the amount of \$5,568,611.24; that against said assets we have charged actual liabilities to the amount of \$673,767.84 (including bonds, but not bond statements), and contingent mortuary liabilities to the amount of \$1,175,041.32, making the surplus of the Association, on basis of gross invested and non-invested assets, \$3,552,353.09, and on basis of gross assets (contingent mortuary assets and habilities being included), \$3,717,802.08.

We further certify that we have verified by a competent expert the value of the Association's interest in the building known as the Mutual Reserve Building, and that we are satisfied that its value is largely in excess of the amount at which it stands upon the Association's books. We further certify that we have made a very careful examination of the death claims paid by the Association during the period covered by this examination, and that we are of the opinion that the Mutuai Reserve Fund Life Association pays its death claims honorably and promptly, and that it does not in any case wilfully attempt to resist payment of any honest death claim that is made upon it; and that the work of the death-claim department is handled with all possible dispatch and in such a way that the most critical can have no just cause or reasonable ground of complaint. While under the operation of the fundamental principle of the Association, which calls for the collection after death of the sum required to pay a claim, there may be some seeming delay, payment is just as sure as with any other company or association, which fact is fully established by our examination. We further certify that we have made a personal examination of the methods of the Medical Department, and feel warranted in saying that the utmost care is exercised in the selection of risks, and that in this respect the Association will compare favorably with any other life insurance company or association. The financial statement furnishes abundant proof of the healthy and prosperous condition of the Association, and the gradually increasing assets show prudence and economy. The management, the public, and the members are to be warmly congratulated upon the solidity and security of the Association.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have

hereunto subscribed our respective names, in the city of New York, the day and year above written.

Sho & Kollingson Mh Insurance Commissioner and Examiner, State

Examiner, State of South Dakota,

MUTUAL RESERVE FUND LIFE ASSOCIATION MUTUAL RESERVE BUILDING

335, 307, 309 Broadway, Corner Bunne St., New York City

EXTRACTS FROM ANNUA REPORT, DEG. 31, 1894

We have increased our Reserve or Sur-plus Emergency Fund during the past twelve months from \$3,589,733 13 to \$3,527,-635 12, making a net gain for the year of

INCOME.

Our income from all sources during the year 1894 amounted to \$4,95,739 59, as against \$4,498,815 for 1805, making a not increase of \$444,224 59.

DEATH CLAIMS.

At the end of the year 1883 we had dis-bursed to the widows and orphans and representatives of our deceased members the aum of \$17,684,233 86. For the same purpose during the year 1894 we have paid out the largest sum in the history of our institution, viz.: \$3,670,514 01, making in all in the fourteen years of our exister magnificent total of \$20,754,847 87.

BUSINESS IN FORCE.

Our books show that on December 31, 1894, we had in force 96,067 policies, covering insurance amounting to \$253,366,108, being a net increase for the year of 13,251 policies, amounting to \$30,759,041, while the

NEW BUSINESS

received during the year amounted to \$31,-265,145, which does not include one dollar's worth of business received since Decem-ber 31, 1894. The eloquence of these results can, per-

haps, be best illustrated by the following statement, showing the

PROGRESS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

Year	In Frent	Intested Assets
1881	\$ 7,603,000	\$ 6,624.83
1882	. 35,190,750	50,444 53
1883	. 63,325,500	169,946-24
1884	85,452,000	350,775 (6
1885	. 123,355,501	639,879 41
1886	150,175,250	989,240 16
1887	156,554,100	1,472,300 41
1888	. 168,900,850	1,953,753 81
1889	181,258,200	2.512.588 96
1890		2,930,178 90
1891	215,207,910	3,381,437 65
1892	. 208,421,790	3,690,502 76
1890		3,938,941 15
1894	293,396,106	4,246,143.90
	Beareso or	Gently Chairms
Your	Reserve or	Benth Claims
Year	Energency Fund	Beath Claims Paid
1881	Energency Food	Paid _
1881 1882	Emergency Fund .\$ 11,906 05	Publ
1881 1882 1883	Emergency Fund .\$ 11,966 65 . 145,702 60	Faid \$ 24,250 00 235,675 00
1881 1882 1882 1884	8 11,906 05 145,752 60 271,440 65	Faid \$ 24,550 00 335,675 00 815,575 00
1881	\$ 11,906 05 145,702 60 271,440 65 409,333 91	\$ 24,550 00 335,675 00 815,575 00 1,654,250 00
1881	Energency Fund \$ 11,906 05 145,702 60 271,440 05 409,333 91 856,256 46	Faid 00 335,675 00 835,675 00 815,575 00 1,654,250 00 2,803,390 00
1881	Energony Feed 	Faid — \$ 24,250 00 335,675 00 \$15,575 00 1,654,250 00 2,803,350 00 4,182,071,23
1881	Emergeny Fund	Paid 9 34,550 00 335,675 00 1,654,250 00 2,803,790 00 4,182,071 23 5,761,403 45
1881	Emergeny Fand \$ 11,966 (6) 145,742 (6) 271,440 (6) 409,333 (6) 409,335 (6) 1,355,091 27 1,766,578 (2) 2,304,599 25	Paid 54,250 00 235,675 00 815,575 00 1,654,250 00 4,182,071 22 5,764,408 45 7,600,434 74
1881 1882 1882 1884 1885 1895 1895 1898 1898 1889	Energeny Fund \$ 11,996 05 145,702 00 271,440 05 409,333 91 \$6,256 46 1,305,001 27 1,706,678 19 2,304,500 25 2,777 925 80	Faid
1881	Energency Fund \$ 11,906 05 145,732 90 271,440 05 499,333 91 896,296 46 1,365,091 27 1,796,678 19 2,304,509 25 2,772,285 80 2,172,285 93 3,155,239 94	\$ 24.550 00 295.675 00 815.555 00 1.654.250 00 2.803.250 00 4.182.071 25 5.764.000 45 7.600.434 74 9.746.902 79
1881 1882 1882 1884 1885 1896 1896 1887 1888 1889 1889 1890 1891	Emergency Fand \$ 11,996 65 .145,732 69 .271,449 05 .499,233 91 .856,236 46 .1,305,991 27 .1,766,678 19 .2,304,549 25 .2,772,285 89 .3,155,239 94 .3,000 79	\$ 24,250 00 305,675 00 305,675 00 1,654,230 00 2,803,390 00 4,182,071 22 5,764,400 45 7,604,401 47 9,746,902 79 12,072,917 61
1881	Energency Fund \$ 11,906 05 . 145,782 90 . 271,449 06 . 499,333 91 . 856,296 46 . 1,365,091 27 . 1,796,678 19 . 2,394,509 25 . 2,772,285 80 . 3,155,220 94 . 3,771,303 50 . 3,582,326 13	\$ 24.550 00 295.675 00 815.555 00 1.654.250 00 2.803.250 00 4.182.071 25 5.764.000 45 7.600.434 74 9.746.902 79

NOTICE. - Professional and business men possessing pluck, grit and energy, who will devote the whole or even a part of their time, can secure excellent paying

of their time, can secure excellent paying positions in the Agency Department in each town, county, city and state; also in Great Britain and Europe.

Address or call upon the General Agent or Mannger of your State, or address Agency Department, Mutual Reserve Fund Life Association, Mutual Reserve Building, Broadway and Duane street, New York.

E. B. HARPER, President.

NAMED FOR OFFICE little likelihood of the case ever coming

THE APPOINTMENTS MADE BY THE GOVERNOR.

Death Near Salem of Alexander Spong, Who Was Forty Years a Resident of Marion County.

SALEM, Feb. 21.-Governor Lord made

the following appointments today: Regents of the state agricultural college-W. E. Yates, of Corvailts; H. B. Miller, of Grant's Pass; Benton Killin, of Portland. Regents of the state university -A. Dush, of Salem; S. P. Sturgiss, of Pendleton; S. H. Priendly, of Eugene. Re-gents of Monmouth normal school-Ben-jamin Schofield, A. Noltner and O. F. Paxton, of Portland, Regent Weston state normal school—W. G. Lyon, of Helix. Brigadier-general Oregon National Guard—Charles F. Beebe, of Portland. Trustees Oregon Soldiers' Home—S. B. Ormsby, of Argenti; B. F. Alley, of Florence; William Galloway, of McMinnyille; John P. on, of Salem; Henry Rust, of Ba

Alexander Spong, a resident of Mario county for 40 years, died at his farm hom north of Salem Wednesday evening. He was 77 years old. He came to Oregon in 1851, locating at Oregon City for a short time; thence moving to Lafayette, Yamhili county, where he lived for two years, and then came to this county. He was proprietor of Spong's ferry, connecting Marion and Polk counties at Lincoln. One of his sons is Captain A. J. Spong, master of the Ramona, between Oregon City and Portland.

THE ASHLAND MINE. Joseph Dame Has Been Placed in

Charge as Receiver. ASHLAND, Or., Feb. 21.-On an order tasued by Judge Hanna, Joseph Dame was yesterday placed in charge as re-ceiver of the Ashland mine. This action followed the instituting of suit by 38 claimants for wages and material, aggre gating \$900, against P. B. Sinnot and Penumbra Kelly, owners of the mine. The claims against the mine, not covered by lien or suit, will make the total indebtedness aggregate over \$15,000. The Ashland is the most important quariz proposition in Southern Oregon, if not in the state. It has been developed to a depth of 600 feet, and is acknowledged to be in a more promising condition than it ever has been before. It is estimated that about \$100,000 in gold has already been taken from it, but the heavy expenses for machinery and development tunnels and work have used most of it up and run the mine in debt besides, until creditor became dissatisfied with the way it was being conducted and pressed their claims with the foregoing result. The receiver has been instructed to make a careful examination of the property and contin made regularly to the court, the first report to be made March 4. A large am of valuable cre is in sight, and the mine is in splendid shape to be worked. The have confidence in the property as have all who are acquainted with it persons lately, but the property

COURT AT BAKER CITY.

Grand Jury Reprimanded for Not Making Gambling Indictments. Making cambling indictments.

BAKER CITY, Or., Feb. 21.—Circuit court adjourned yesterday. Judge Fee continued a good many cases, to be tried before the new judge. Among them is the case of the state vs. Frank Shinn, charged with maybem. It went over on motion of the district attorney, who stat-ed that one Mr. Cartwright, an important witness for the defense, had secreted himself and could not be found. Judge

During the trial of the state vs. J. D. Hart, an ex-convict of the Idaho peniten tiary, who is now convicted of being the ringleader in the Warshauer hotel hold-up, there was so much testimony given to show that gambling was, and is now, car ried on here in a bold and disgraceful manner, that Judge Fee severely reprimanded the grand jury for not finding more indictments than it did. There

was certainly room for more.

One Simpson, whose true name is un known, and who has been a prominent witness for the state during this term of court, was sentenced to one year in the penitentiary. Simpson is an ex-convict of the Montana penitentiary. One night last fall he kno sked a man Main street in this city, and relieved in of \$160. Subsequently he pleaded guilty to the charge and turned state's vidence against the other prisoners in the niency. As a consequence, he appeared as a witness in nearly every criminal ase, with a peculiar story, of very little importance to the state, and much less believed by the jury.

The merchants' fair is now in progress and is an immense succes

FROM ALASKA.

A Rope Tramway to Be Built Over the Chilket Pass.

SEATTLE, Feb. 21.-The latest mail adices from Alaska are as follows: P. Peterson, J. T. Field and Robert Wright are about to build a rope tram-way from the head of Dyer inlet over the Chilkat pass, to transport miners' outfits to the head waters of the Yukon, The safe of Winn brothers' saloon, at uneau, was robbed of \$150, used in the faro game, January 7.

Adam, an Indian, was crushed to death by a snowsilde near Juneau Pebruary 6. August and 2500 from the Ebner mill in of whites and natives on Douglas island or selling liquor to Indians, and in one aid seized many gallons of whisky, stored inder the house of one Moody. N. H. Gaddis has been acquitted of the

charge of stealing \$1000 worth of amal-gam from Thorp & Bonnifield's mill last August and \$3000 from the Ebner mill in October and November last. The Alaska-Mexican Gold Mining Com-

any intends adding @ stamps to its mill n Douglas island. Between \$3000 and \$4000 in gold has been taken by sluicing from Gold and Lemon creeks in the last

VERY MILD WEATHER. Fruitgrowers in Wasco a Little Ap-

prehensive. THE DALLES, Feb. 21.—A heavy rain visited this section last night, mairing the roads very muddy. The weather has been nusually soft and mild and the fruitrowers are a little apprehensive lest the suds may start and suffer from a subse-quent cold spell. A large number of or-hards will bear for the first time this ear, and unless a frost damages the tr the fruit crop this year will be very large

A musquerade ball will be given on Vashington's birthday at the Baldwin pera-house by the Order of Woodmen. The Workmen had originally intended to join with them, but the death of Mr. L. Neuman, who was a prominent member of that order, Tuesday, made it necessary for them to withdraw.

OTHER NORTHWEST NEWS.

A Charge Against Pickett. GOLDENDALE, Wash., Feb. 21.-Frank Pickett, a young man, is in the Klickitai county juli. Mrs. H. M. Goddar, a tracher of the Goldendale public school, caused his arrest. It is alleged he circulated obscene cards among her scholars. The penalty for the offense in this state is bly killed. three years in the penitentiary.

Said His Accounts Were Short. TACOMA, Feb. 21.—The president of the Stevedores' & Riggers' Union this even-ing swore out a warrant in the municipal court for the arrest of Thomas Pentory,

the ship there tonight and take him off, if possible. He left a note stating his accounts were short and that he would pay up later, if he could.

Counterfeiter's Outfit Captured. WALLA WALLA, Feb. 21.—Sheriff El-ingsworth and Police Officer Johnson cored another success today in the discovery of dies and other paraphernalla of counterfeiters, who have been operating in this city. The outfit was found in the cellar of an old building occupied and run by W. H. Greenwood as a lodging-house. Greenwood and an accomplice were arrested this afternoon and lodged

this city for several years. Smith, a youth of 19, and a member of highly-respected family here, was arrested and put in jail for breaking into the house of L. F. Anderson. He se-cured property valued at \$200.

in jail. Greenwood was intoxicated and had \$17.25 in counterfeit pieces on his

person when arrested. He has lived in

An Unconfirmed Rumor. ASTORIA, Feb. II.-An unconfirmed ruor comes from Ilwaco that Jacob Kar ontemplates disposing of his stock in the regon Railway & Navigation Company. The reason alleged is the supposed intention on the part of the Oregon Railway & Navigation Company to parallel its line from Ilwaco to Tinker's, at which point the Oregon Railway & Navigation officials, on the occasion of their recent visit to liwaco, professed to have found what

Stricken With Paralysis ALBANY, Or., Feb. 21.-Robert Knox. raveling salesman for Mills & Gibb ew York, was stricken with paralysiere this evening. His recovery is doubt

ful. His family resides in San Francisco. Movements of Ocean Vessels. NEW YORK, Feb. 2L-Arrived-Kaiser Withelm II., from Genoa; Lahn, from Bremen and Southampton; Island, from Copenhagen, etc. Arrived out - Kron Prinz Friedrich Wilhelm, at Gibraltar; Fuerst Bismarch, at Alexandria; Assyrina and Peruvian, at Glasgow; Cufle and Roman, at Liverpool; New York, at Southampton. Sailed for New York— Werra, from Genoa; Ems, from Southatton. Sighted-Patria, from New Y ton. Sighted-Patria, from New York for Hamburg, passed the Lizard; Werk-

Arrived-Steamer Alice Blanchard, from San Francisco. Arrived down-Schooner John F. Miller, from Portland for San Francisco. Left up-British four-masted Dumfriesshire, for Portland, Cleared-British ship Grasserdale, for Queenstown with 47,437 sacks of wheat,

endam, from New York for Rotterdam

Armenians Hissed General Wallace. CHICAGO, Feb. 21.-General Lew Wal-ace was openly hiosed several times in Central Music hall tonight during his lecture on "Turkey and the Turks." A large number of Armenians were in the audience, expecting General Wallace would allude to the Armenian atrocities. the Armenian portion of his audio and they expressed their feelings without restraint.

New Jersey's Peach Crop FLEMINGTON, N. J., Feb. 21.—Out of 5 inquiries sent out among the largest each growers in this vicinity, 200 substantially report that the prospects for an enormous crop next season are good. The buds were reported frozen several times, but the growers contradict the statements, and say that the buds are in a healthy condition. The blackberry crop is proba-

A Fight With Russian Stude PETERSBURG, Feb. 21.-The students' demonstrations became so riot that soldiers were summoned to quel them. The students resisted, and a flero-light ensued. Order was not restored beness, but the officers falled to get service. treasurer of the union, who is alleged to fore many students had been arreste. It is whispered around that there is very be 2165 short in his accounts. Pentory I and a number injured.

(Continued from First Page.)

clared that to the Pacific coast the question of a cable connection with Honolulu overshadowed and transcended all others, save only that of the construction of the Nicaragua canal, and added:

"The people of the Hawaiian islands give us 30 per cent of their trade. More of our ships entered the port of Honolulu than any other port in the world last year, Liverpool not excepted. Aside from the commercial reasons for the construction of the cable, there are patriotic and pub

Harter thought this cable should be laid private capital, and he said private parties had appeared before the comand asked for a charter for this purpose. Ryan thought this democratic house could well afford in the closing hours of the session to show its sympathy with merchants desiring to extend our trade by voting an appropriation for the construction of this cable. Sickles earnesty supported the cable proposition. was compelled to appeal from the judg-ment of the house committee on foreign affairs to that of the senate committee. As an American, he had a platform of his own. He favored annexation. As a dem-ocrat, he found his warrant in the policy of Jefferson, who annexed Louisiana, and of Jackson, who annexed Texas. If party lines trammeled him on a quest this, he would break them asunde had done before. There could be no par iganship in Americanism. He concluded: Speaker, my span of life has not much longer to run; yet I hope to live to see the star of the republic of the Pacific

add its tropical splendor to the star of the Western hemisphere." McCreary closed the debate, and in the ourse of his remarks denied that Mr. Cleveland had ever indorsed a proposition

ay such a cable The vote was then taken on Hitt's mo-tion that the house agree to the senate amendments. Hitt demanded the ayes and noes, and the roll was called. His motion was lost, 114 to 152. The vote was practi-cally a party one. The republicans and populists voted for building the cable, and the democrats against it. The following

democrate voted for the cable: Bartlett, Ryan and Sickles, of New York; Maguire, Caminetti, English, Geary and Cannon, of California; Cockrell of Texas, Harris of Kansas, Ikert of Ohio, Livingn of Georgia, McGann of Illinois, O'Neill Missouri, Snell of South Carolina, and Whiting of Michigan.

Without division, the house, on motion of McCreary, non-concurred in the amendncurred in the amend-

Ellis of Gregon presented the conference report on the bill to provide for the ex-amination and classification of certain mineral lands in the Northern Pacific grants in Idaho and Montana. Caminetti opposed the report, because it did not in-clude California and other states entitled to similar relief. The report was agreed to, and the house went into committee of the whole and considered the general deficiency bill. Breckinridge, who was in charge of the bill, made a preliminary statement of the appropriation carried, which aggregated \$6,519,522. An amendment was agreed to transferring to the Columbian Museum at Chicago certain portions of the state department exhibit at the world's fair. Breckinridge also offered an amendment to pay Great Britain \$15,000 on account of the Behring sea. awards of the Paris tribunal, which went over without action. After completing is of the 53 paragraphs of the bill, under a special order made some days ago, the house listened to eulogies on the life and public services of the late Senator Stockoridge, and then, as a further mark of re-

The Cable Will Be Built.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 21 .- The defeat of the bill appropriating \$500,000 for a Union Pacific under its present manage-United States cable between this city ment, and the Central Pacific will come and the Hawaiian islands will not inter- into the hands of the government, a prac-

sailed today on the wheat ship Lydgate, bound for Great Britain. The Port Townsend police have been requested to board CHURCH AND STATE for with the enterprise of the International Pacific Cable Company. This comsend police have been requested to board ter to build a line from this city to the Hawaiian islands, and thence to Japan, and its request will be duly granted. The Japanese government will encourage the cable company by the gift of a subsidy, and the cable will pay well. The proper estimates have been made, and the cable enterprise is in far better shape than most

Upon the Reilly Measure.
WASHINGTON, Feb. 31.—The house nended by Chairman Reilly. The committee voted not to make the new bill oublic until it could be printed. An out-ine is as follows:

Section 2 provides that if the Union Pacific, the Central Pacific or the central branch of the Union Pacific shall, within 12 months, pay to the United States an cetary of the treasury shall convey to the company, or its trustees, so much of the indebtedness of the company to the United States, as will be equal to the sum paid to the United States, together with the lien and mortgage of the United States on the railroad, so far as it shall be required to secure to the as signee the payment of the portion of the indebtedness to be assigned, "but without recourse to the United States in any event," and all the moneys and securi-ies in the sinking fund shall be delivered to the company or trustees, providng the indebtedness so assigned shall be xtended not more than 50 years at a rate f interest not exceeding 5 per cent. balance of the indebtedness to the United States, being the interest due to the date of the payment of the principal, shall be exfor the construction of a Hawaiian cable by the government. He had merely favored the incorporation of a company to pany shall issue bonds to the govern tended for 50 years, and paid in semi-anment. Such company may lesue to the purchasers of such claims its negotiable bonds payable in 15 years, at interest at 5 per cent; that is, the purchasers of the

principal of the government debt. Section 3 provides the government lien shall remain in full effect, but enforcable s security for the payment of indebted-ess due the United States. Section 4 provides for the payment of

the first mortgage bonds by renewing them by a new issue to run 50 years, with interest at a rate not exceedings per cent, and secured by the first mortgage, the as are the bonds they are issu Section 6 prohibits the companies from

oaying dividends so long as the bonds authorized by the act are outstanding, inless they have been actually earned, or the company has paid all its obligations to date under the bill, or unless the earn-ngs, after deducting all interests accrued. out not payable at the time of the declato co-operate in making track condition with all roads that join them, and exchange traffic on equal shares and devices to evade this shall be unlawful. Section 7 provides the companies, when required in writing by the department of justice, shall institute suits at law or equity against any parties for misappro priation of assets, the sults to bucted by the attorney-general name of the companies, and the sums reovered to be applied to the payment of onds, and any excess to be paid to the empanies. The remaining sections provide for foreclosure by the govern case of default under the terms of the

The bill met with greater favor in com mittee than its predecessor. The minority members say they will contend in their report that the outcome of the plan, if adopted, will be the continuance of the

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS.

One by Squire of Washington and Another by Mitchell of Oregon. WASHINGTON, Feb. 21.-Several proposed amendments to the pending appro-priation bills were introduced in the senate, without much prospect of passage people imagine.

PACIFIC RAILROAD LEGISLATION.

A New Bill to Be Reported Based

Linon the Belliv Measure.

Control of the Commercial and gold resources of Alaska. Perkins of California gave notice of an amendment to the sundry civil bill appropriating \$500 for an investigation of the commercial and gold resources of Alaska. Perkins of California gave notice of an amend-WASHINGTON, Feb. 21.—The house ommittee on Pacific roads today decided or report a new bill based on the Reilly of cost being fixed at \$700,000. Mitchell of Oregon gave notice of an amer to the same bill which provides that any officer, while within the retiring age of 62 years, who has been transferred from the active to the retired list, for disability possibly curable, shall be subject to exam ination at the navy department's tion as to ability to resume the his existing commission, and if mount equal to the principal of the sub-criptions of the United States, the secsity for his continuance as a supernumer-ary officer, he shall be ordered back to the active list, according to his existing com-

mission, when the next vacancy occurs. To Improve the Service. WASHINGTON, Feb. 21.-The senate committee on commerce today, through
Frye, made a favorable recommendation
to the committee on appropriations on an amendment to the naval bill, which authorizes the president to convene at any me he may deem proper a board, to omposed of three surgeons of the marihospital service, to report upon all offlcers in the revenue cutter service who. through no vicious habits of their own, have become or may hereafter become incapacitated to perform their respective offices. It is provided that such officers as may be permanently incapacitated shall be placed on waiting orders out of the line of promotion, and the vacancy thus created in the active list is to be filled by promotion in the order of seniority.

Credentials of Butler and Tillman WASHINGTON, Feb. 21 .- Two of the senators-elect from the Carolinas-ex-Governor Tiliman, of South Carolina, and Marion Butler, of North Carolina-made their first appearance on the floor and their credentials were presented for terms beginning March 4 next.

THE USUAL CLAIMANT. An Alleged Contract Wife After the James Estate.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. IL-Charles A James, a practitioner of medicine, and who also kept a lodging-house on Howard street, died last month. He left an estate valued at \$50,000, of which \$30,000 is cash in bank. He left no will, and was supposed to have no relatives here. To friends he had talked of relatives living some-where in the East. Living in James' house was a Dr. Melin, his wife and two ration of the dividends, warrant it. And no dividends over 4 per cent are to be death of James, who was 75 years old, paid unless an equal amount of excess of 4 per cent is paid upon the principal of that she able to engaged to marry the the government debt. The companies are trator Freese applied for letters of admir istration over the James estate, the girl, who has heretofore been known as Laura Melin, appeared in court in widow's weeds and asserted her claim to the estate as widow of the deceased. She declared that they had been married by contract, but confessed her inability to produce the con-tract. She said it had been lost. Ex-At-torney-General Hart, who secured the Blythe millions for Florence Blythe, appeared as her attorn

> Charles Fair Will Contest. SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 21.—Reuben H. Lloyd, attorney for Mrs. Herman Oelrichs and Miss Virginia Fair, announced positively today that his clients would not be parties to any contest of the will of their father, the late James G. Fair. Charles Fair will contest the will, however. The question of admitting the will to probate was to have come up in the superior court

TO REGULATE SPIRITS

COMBINATION OF ALL THE LARGER DISTILLERIES.

The Combine Decided to Sell at Actual Cost, an Advance of Two Cents a Gallon.

CHICAGO, Feb. 21.-The conference called by the receivers of the whisky trust resulted today in the combination of all he larger distilleries in the United States revent the overproduction of The entire producing capacity of the United States, with the exception of about 3½ per cent, is represented in the com-bine, which has been named the Spirits Distilling Association. The promoters of the new organization have been given to understand that the smaller operators will

o-operate with them, and it is expected

that the only firm of any size which was not represented, the Indiana Distilling Company, of Terre Haute, Ind., will agree to the terms which have been imposed As a starting point, which led to the action taken, it was determined to sell pirits at actual cost of manufacture for the present. After much calculation it was decided to fix the price at 14 cents a gallon, or two cents in advance of the present rate. This rate will go into effect will raise the price of spirits to \$1.24 a gallon. The principal object of the con ference, it was given out, was to pre-vent the overstocking of the market and prevent a loss to the manufacture rather

than to decide upon a price. General McNulta, chief receiver of the Distilling & Cattle Feeding Company, was named as chairman. The following sched-ule of basing prices for under-proof goods was given out by the executive committee: Chicago spirits, \$1 28; St. Louis and Cin-

The Whisky Trust's Statement. CHICAGO, Feb. 21.—The receivers of the whisky trust submitted a report of ex-parts to Judge Grosscup teday, giving a letailed statement of the affairs of the trust. The report declares the concern has \$5,178,000 above all indebtedness. The balance sheet submitted shows quick assets of \$1,075,000 in excess of all liabilities. amount of rebute certificates is \$158,021, after deducting all disputed certificates. In Olmstead's criginal bill for a receiver it was stated that over \$1,000,000 in such

certificates would fall due in February. BREACH-OF-PROMISE SUIT.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 21.-Dr. V. J. Stearns, a wealthy physician, has been sued for \$16,000 for breach of promise by Mrs. Bridget Ramage, a well-to-do widow. lioth are prominent socially. Mrs. Ramage is the widow of the Japan agent of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, who died four years ago, leaving Mrs. Ramage property worth \$100,000. Dr. Stearns' first wife was 25 years his senior, but had \$40,000, which she left to him. Mrs. Ramage says that she became engaged to Stearns soon after his first wife's death. She told him that she would manage her own property after their marriage. According to Mrs. Ramage, Dr. Stearns has been leading a dual life, and, while engaged to her, was maintaining intimate relations with other women. Twice the marriage ceremony was postponed by him Finally Mrs. Ramage, becoming sus-picious, met another of Stearns' inamoratas. The two women had a stormy ending by each slapping Stearns

Reduction in Binder Twine. MONTREAL, Quebec, Feb. 21. - The inder-twine manufacturers have decided non a considerable reduction in price owing to a reduction in raw material. Ef-forts are being made to induce the Dominion government to close the twine

factory at the Kingston penitentiary. The works were established by the late Sir John Thompson for special reasons, and this morning. Young Fair was present works were established by the late ready to file his protest, but the whole matter was finally continued until March 2.