

INSURANCE SITUATION AT 'FRISCO IS CLEARING

Some Companies Welching, but Others Paying Up in Good Shape—From Sixty to Seventy-Five Per Cent of Policies to Be Paid.

(Special Dispatch by Leased Wire to The Journal) San Francisco, July 28.—The feature of the past week in insurance circles was the utterance, on Wednesday, of an official statement purporting to be an official statement of the position taken by the Commercial Union, Pacific, Alliance and Norwich Union, commonly known now as the British "earthquake" companies. The earthquake companies, of course, are those whose policies contain an earthquake clause purporting to exempt them from liability for loss occasioned "directly or indirectly" or "by or through" earthquake.

For three months following the San Francisco conflagration these companies maintained absolute silence, the while it was generally rumored that they had decided to claim absolute protection under their earthquake clause. They at last they sent representatives out here to "look over the situation." These men came, saw and concurred in the official statement issued last Wednesday. That has been the subject of much discussion.

Spells All Payments.
The statement in the first place, was not issued from the offices of the companies but from their attorneys and bearing the signatures of the men of law. It was cold and chilly, and sent the spirits of the reader down to zero. It held out little hope, for its one encouraging sentence was hedged and hedged in with qualifications and legal verbiage. The statement started out with the declaration, by these attorneys that the meaning of the so-called earthquake clause was without question and its legality beyond doubt; in a word, that the clause covered the entire situation and rendered the companies liable for not one dollar. Then it went on to say that, notwithstanding the security of their position, the companies proposed to pay in full claims where there was no question as to their legal liability.

The companies proposed, according to this statement, to trace fire back to their origin and wherever the earthquake clause should be found to have played its part they would absolutely deny liability. And so forth and so on.

"We don't owe at all, but will pay where we find we owe. We'll pay and we won't pay; but in the main we won't pay." Such as the substance of this lawyer's document.

May Pay Some Claims.
Since its utterance the Pacific coast manager of the Norwich Union and its New York tributary, the Indemnity, has written to the companies to advise a liberal interpretation of his lawyer's definition of his position. He congratulates his agents that his companies have not taken advantage of the earthquake clause to deny total liability and he announces his intention of recognizing all claims, either by payment in full or by compromise, according to their respective merits, where it does not appear that the earthquake was the direct cause of the fire loss.

This latter has awakened a hope in the hearts of policy-holders that after all the official statement referred to was but a bluff, intended to calm the fears of British stockholders and reinsurers (who have feared that without their intervention the Pacific agents of these companies would throw their money away) and that when it comes to adjusting claims the "earthquake" companies will be no more technical, no more exacting than their associates whose policies lack the protective provision.

Manager Mullins of the Commercial Union, Alliance and Pacific is yet to

be heard from. But he has been 27 years on the coast, has up to the present crisis borne an excellent reputation and is looked to for a square deal when the time comes to act.

Fireman's Fund Failure.
Within the past seven days the great local corporation, the pride of California, the Fireman's Fund, has thrown up its hands.

First of all was announced the failure of the Home Fire & Marine, then, two days later, the parent corporation followed suit. The affairs of the Fireman's Fund are truly in a complicated condition. It has to carry not only its own liabilities, estimated at not less than \$5,000,000, but also those of the Home, placed at \$2,000,000, and those of the Pacific Underwriters, figured at \$1,200,000.

Now, directly after the catastrophe it was announced by President Dutton that there was nothing to fear, that the corporation would settle their liabilities in full, dollar for dollar. Then came the news that the directors had organized a new concern, called the Fireman's Fund Insurance corporation, for the writing of new business. Next followed the announcement that the Fireman's Fund Insurance corporation had taken over the business of the Fireman's Fund insurance company, had reinsured it in fact, and incidentally had taken into itself the old corporation's reinsurance reserves of \$2,400,000. Another announcement was that an assessment of 200 per cent had been levied on the stock of the Home Fire & Marine and that the Fireman's Fund had transferred \$600,000 of its property to help its companion to make good.

Efforts to Save Homes.
Desperate efforts, in a word, were made to save the Home Fire & Marine and at the same time to set the new corporation on its feet, all at the expense of the Fireman's Fund. It now turns out that expectations in the way of salvage, not to speak of reinsurance, have not been realized, and that the creditors of both corporations will be left with the amount of the dollar. It is expected, too, that some pertinent questions will be asked regarding the transfer of \$600,000 from the Fireman's Fund to the Home, and the deal by which the new Fireman's Fund corporation was made possible will be investigated, in all probability.

Situation Clearing.
For all these and other drawbacks the insurance situation is regarded as clearing. There are a number of quitters, and the action taken by the American Phoenix and the Trans-Atlantic, neither of which has any excuse to deny liability, save that, in their estimation, the conflagration was caused by the "act of God," against which no provision can be made, has aroused a storm of indignation. But the big businesslike corporations are paying up, and big losses are being settled every day. It is prophesied that in the main the tide of the insurance crisis in San Francisco will be told in the fire insurance lists, in which the financial statements of the companies are given; in a word, that settlement is a question of surplus on hand.

The prophecy is also made that when the last claim has been settled it will be found that from 65 to 75 per cent of the insurance has been paid. Opinions vary as to the amount involved. Some insurance men place it as high as \$250,000,000. But we calculate men, who figure by blocks and averages, do not estimate the total loss at above \$175,000,000. It is a well-known fact that San Francisco was underinsured.

Of the most prominent colonists of the Rhode Island watering places have been assigned to booths.

Optimists who arranged the preliminary details by cable, but her enthusiasm in the work was such that she could not wait until the America docked to complete them. She made the wireless message to the wireless station and then rested, content that the success of her worthy project was assured.

CROP PROSPECTS ARE GOOD NEAR GERVAIS

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.) Gervais, Or., July 28.—Threshing will begin Monday actively. Machine men have gotten their threshing machines ready but have not yet threshed enough to tell how much fall wheat will turn out to the acre. They claim, however, that the outlook is over average of past years. Cows especially promise a large yield and so the outlook is going to be excellent. Spring grain may not be as high average as the fall sown grain.

MAN HURT IN MILL DIES FROM INJURIES

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.) Bismarck, N. D., July 28.—Wesley J. Wycoff, who received serious injuries Tuesday morning at the Hyland Lumber company's sawmill at Mabel, died in the Eugene hospital this morning without having regained consciousness after the accident. The injury, which necessitated the removal of the frontal bone of the head and a part of the brain, was so serious that the doctors scarce hoped for recovery.

AMBITIOUS BUTLER IS A BANKER

Servant of Millionaire Hathaway Poses as Captain of Industry and Financier.

PLANS ROAD BETWEEN SIBERIA AND AMERICA

While Walking About Employer's Grounds Talks Freely of Series of Tracks and Tunnels Under Bering Straits.

(Special Dispatch by Leased Wire to The Journal) New York, July 28.—Cosius W. Swensen, a butler in the magnificent country home in East Orange, New Jersey, of Charles Hathaway, the Wall street broker, many times a millionaire, and head of the firm of Charles Hathaway & Co., is under investigation by the post-office authorities. Swensen is president of the Cosius Banking company and the Washington-Alaska Transcontinental Railway company, which latter concern has ambitions that might arouse the envy of the captains of finance throughout the United States. The butler freely admitted today that the banking company title was named for him.

A well-known mercantile agency, about a year ago, reported most unfavorably concerning the Cosius company, recently reported again in the same vein to a public man in Orange, and since then the agency has been asked by an Orange bank for a special report. Swensen denied, however, today, that he was engaged in anything but legitimate enterprises.

During a walk about his employer's grounds Swensen talked freely of his ambitions to have the railway company build a series of tracks and tunnels across Alaska and over an under-lying straits and thence into Siberia, forming a through means of communication between the eastern and western hemispheres.

Printed matter of the railroad and banking concerns mentions 107 West Twenty-seventh street as the offices. At least one prospective subscriber for stock in the railroad company was told that the home office was at 117 West Twenty-fourth street. Swensen is not known in either place. The West Twenty-seventh street building is a three-story and basement residence structure. On the first floor is the real estate and insurance office of J. Guislin. He knows nothing about Swensen or his companies. A Mrs. Giovanni keeps boarders on the other floor. Her boarders, about 25 in number, are French waiters and butlers out of employment, with occasionally a Swede or Dane among the number. She says she never heard of Swensen, but men in the secret service of the post-office department say that he had dressed to Swensen at 107 West Twenty-seventh street reaches him.

ONE KILLED, SCORE INJURED IN TROLLEY WRECK

Los Angeles Suburban Car Is Struck by Southern Pacific Train Near Oneonta.

(Special Dispatch by Leased Wire to The Journal) Los Angeles, Cal., July 28.—The Sierra Madras car leaving Los Angeles at 1:10 o'clock this afternoon was struck by the Southern Pacific train from Pasadena at Oneonta Park Junction at 1:40. An unknown woman passenger was killed and a score injured, several seriously. The wrecked car, in response to the conductor's signal, started to proceed across the track when the Southern Pacific train, running at a terrific rate of speed, down hill, shot around a sharp curve and struck the electric car squarely in the center. The engine, the tender and the first car were derailed.

The engine went into the ditch, falling across the car. The accident happened so quickly that none had time to escape. The motorman was badly injured. The conductor was able to assist in taking care of the injured, among whom are Edna Hederly and Miss Mabel Spencer.

Miss Hederly is seriously injured, but Miss Spencer escaped with scratches. All the injured are being brought to the Sisters' hospital on special trolley cars sent to the scene of the accident by the Pacific Electric company.

Relief cars carrying physicians, nurses and surgical appliances were sent from Pasadena immediately after the news of the accident was received there.

IRON DYKE MINES WILL BE OPERATED

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.) Salem, Or., July 28.—The following articles of incorporation were filed this morning in the office of the secretary of state: The Dorrance Lumber company of Newberg; capital stock, \$5,000; incorporators, D. W. Dorrance, R. L. David, M. H. David. Portland & Sandy River Electric company, of Portland; capital stock, \$100,000; incorporators, M. F. Donohoe, Dan J. Malarky, Charlotte Oile. The Iron Dyke Copper company; incorporated under the laws of Pennsylvania, with a capital stock of \$500,000, filed a declaration of intention to do a general mining business at Homestead, Baker county, Oregon. A power of attorney was given to Frank E. Pearce to manage the business in Oregon.

Exclusive of insurance companies, 149 corporations have been formed up to date, to do business in Oregon. This does not include corporations organized under the laws of other states, doing business in Oregon.

GERVAIS HARDWARE STORE BURGLARIZED

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.) Gervais, Or., July 28.—Thieves entered the hardware store of B. A. Nathman Friday night and stole an assortment of knives and razors valued at over \$50. Entrance was effected through a window in the rear. There is no clue to the perpetrators.

Gervais Thunder Storm.
Gervais, Or., July 28.—A heavy thunder storm visited this section at four a. m. It was accompanied by little rain. No damage was done to the crops nor did it interfere with harvesting.

PRICES

You Are Welcome to Credit

Our Regular Prices are as Low or Lower than those of any Sales now going on.

No merchant who wishes to continue in business will sell things at a loss; we wouldn't do it, and neither would you—but we do claim to sell lower at all times than any one in the city. Comparison of prices and values is what we invite. Nothing pleases us better than to get a customer who has looked through every store in town. The result is always the same—another name is added to our long list of satisfied customers.

Monarch Ranges \$1.00 Down \$1.00 a Week

Arminster Rugs, \$1.75
27x54 inches. They come in floral and oriental patterns and are made of an exceptionally good grade of axminster that would easily sell for \$2.50.

Carving Set 25 Cts.
Regular 50c value, made of polished steel with ebony handles. The knife is 13 inches long and the fork has an adjustable guard, the same as the \$5.00 kind.

Massive Morris Chair Frame \$8.50
Exceedingly well made of highly polished golden quarter-sawn oak, with patent self-adjusting ratchet back. A fine chair at any time and especially so when you come home tired at night. Cushions come at all prices: Verona velours, tapestry, brocaded velours and Spanish leather, from \$4.00 to \$20.00.

Cream Pitcher 5 Cents
Prettily modeled Cream Pitcher in mottled cream and blue. It will hold 10c worth of cream, and usually sells for that much. While they last 5c.

Tabouret \$1.50
A handsome one made of polished golden oak in a pleasing oriental design octagonal in shape, the favorite pattern with the Moore and Turks, and is easily worth again as much as we ask for it.

WILTON RUGS
You know the kind—thick, soft, rich-looking Rugs, in exclusive designs and colorings, orientals and plain reds and greens with handsome borders. Rugs that will give constant service for 20 years, and then look good. We have the largest assortment in the city at prices that cannot be equaled, and are always pleased to show them whether you wish to buy or not.

11-3x15	\$60.00	5-3x10-6	\$40.00
10-5x12	\$45.00	6x9	\$25.00
9-3x12-6	\$44.50	3x6	\$ 9.00

VANDERBILT STEERED CLEAR OF JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER

Reggie and Wife Return—Arrange in Midocean for Holding Charity Bazaar.

(Special Dispatch by Leased Wire to The Journal) New York, July 28.—Mr. and Mrs. Reginald Vanderbilt who arrived from Europe today on the American liner America, did two things during the voyage over that gives them added distinction. First, Vanderbilt got off the beaten track of the usual todayism by intentionally avoiding John D. Rockefeller. Neither he nor his wife were introduced to the much-sought man—the richest in the world. To those who were cognizant of the situation it was profoundly interesting, this avoidance by the son of one of the wealthiest men of his time of the man who is today the lord of lucre.

The second thing which made the trip of the Vanderbilts notable was the use of the wireless telegraph by Mrs. Vanderbilt in arranging, probably for the first time in midocean, for her bazaar in aid of St. Mary's orphanage in Providence, Rhode Island. The affair is to be held in Sandy Point farm, Portsmouth, New Hampshire, the Vanderbilts' estate, and it doubtless will be the largest and most successful charitable movement ever aided by the society women who affect Newport. Already more than \$10,000 worth of articles have been contributed, and some

About the Celebrated

SO EASY

EYE GLASS MOUNTING

They are free from the pinching sensation to the nose, and give splendid ease and comfort. This is brought about by a simple, but well-contrived spring, whereby they will never drop off. The appearance is greatly improved also by their modern and up-to-date construction.

Oculists' Prescriptions Accurately Filled

A. & C. Aldenheimer

COR. THIRD AND WASHINGTON STS.
Manufacturing Jewelers. Diamond Importers.

185-191 FIRST ST EDWARDS CO HOUSE FURNISHERS

A GOOD PLACE TO TRADE

FLAMES THREATEN YACOLT AGAIN

Forest Fires Break Out With Renewed Energy and Town Is in Immediate Danger.

WEYERHAEUSER LUMBER CAMPS ARE DESTROYED

Number Four Has Already Been Consumed, Two More Are Partially Burned and a Fourth is in Path of the Flames.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.) Vancouver, Wash., July 28.—A forest fire that first broke out on last Tuesday and which was thought to be extinguished broke out again last evening and if the present strong wind continues it is feared the logging town of Yacolt, in the northern part of Clark county, will be completely destroyed. Since early last evening the entire populace of Yacolt has been fighting the fire, which is slowly creeping toward camp number 4 of the Weyerhaeuser Timber company was the first place to be consumed by the flames. Camps 3 and 6 have been partially burned and Camp 5 is threatened. Residents of the threatened district fear a repetition of the fires of four years ago this summer, when hundreds of lives were lost and hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of timber and buildings were destroyed.

Yesterday a small brush fire fanned by a strong wind got into the timber belt near Yacolt and soon the woods were a raging furnace. The wind went down on Wednesday and the fire was thought to be out. But last evening a few smoldering logs were soon fanned into a blaze by a strong north wind and the fire was worse than ever.

The operating officials of the Yacolt branch of the Northern Pacific have given orders to hold in readiness two locomotives in case it becomes necessary to remove the populace from danger. The people of the Yacolt district have learned from their experience with the fire of four years ago that where there appears to be little fire may in a few hours become a deathtrap. Last evening an engine of the Weyerhaeuser

It Makes You Jump WHAT?

A Drop of Ice Water in the Cavity of Your Tooth

And then what a toothache. It will spoil your vacation if you are trying to enjoy one and make you sour and ill natured. Why don't you get the tooth filled? Carelessness perhaps. It is a great mistake to allow teeth to go from bad to worse without consulting a dentist. How many people there are wearing plates that if they had given their teeth the slightest attention could have saved them. We can work wonders with bad teeth or teeth that seem almost hopeless. Call and see us. Examination will cost you nothing.

THE COOLEST OFFICES IN THE CITY

DR. B. E. WRIGHT

THE PAINLESS DENTIST
342 1/2 Washington Street, Corner Seventh
OFFICE HOURS—8 A. M. TO 5 P. M.; 7:30 TO 9:30 P. M.; SUNDAYS 9 TO 1. PHONE MAIN 819.

DAY BOAT FOR ASTORIA

CONNECTIONS WITH BOATS AND TRAINS FOR OCEAN BEACHER.

THE Vancouver Transportation Co.'s

Steamer Lurline

LINE DAILY (EXCEPT SUNDAY)

Between Portland and Astoria
AND WAY POINTS.

LEAVING TAYLOR STREET DOCK AT 7 a. m.
Phone Main 613

BOYS GET LIQUOR.
Grand Jury Started in Vancouver Against Sales to Minors.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.) Vancouver, Wash., July 28.—The police and city council of Vancouver are determined that the practice of selling liquor to minors shall be stopped. Late in the afternoon several boys in their teens have been able to procure liquor have been reported. The last case of this kind resulted in the arrest and conviction of two boys upon the charge of disorderly conduct.

Friday night Bob Snodgrass and Tom and Joe Kinney secured liquor from Mauretsky and became intoxicated to such an extent that the three became mixed up in a small riot. Snodgrass and Tom Kinney were arrested and will spend a term in the county jail. Joe Kinney will probably be taken in charge and tried Monday. All three boys are under 21 years of age. Joe Kinney is but 17 years old.

Mauretsky, the saloon-keeper, was arrested and fined \$25. He was warned that if he was caught selling liquor to minors again his license would be taken from him. So wrought up are the members of the city council that it is likely at the next meeting of that body further action in Mauretsky's case may be taken and it is barely possible that he may yet lose his right to dispense liquor for his act of Friday night. Several of the councilmen are known to be in favor of such action.

It was stated by a well-known local citizen today that it was possible for minors to secure liquor in a half dozen different saloons of the city.

Genuine Bargains.
\$79.50 Linen Suits for \$5.95, colors and white, Monday at LE PALAIS ROYAL, 475 Washington street.