

NERVIEST DEAL OF THE ENTIRE LOT

President Hegeman of Metropolitan Life Makes a Remarkable Admission.

REBATE ON INTEREST

Nominally Paid Banking Firm 4 1/2 Per Cent. Interest and Received Rebates of 3 Per Cent. in Personal Checks.

New York, Nov. 15.—John A. McCall, president of the Metropolitan Life Insurance company, was called by the committee of investigation of insurance companies and promptly ordered by the committee to demand the return from Europe to this country of Andrew Hamilton, the lawyer who has charge of the legislative matters of the New York Life company. Mr. McCall was further ordered to demand an accounting from Hamilton of the moneys expended by him and of the balance which he owes the New York Life.

Mr. McCall denied that it was the policy of his company to have Mr. Hamilton remain abroad until this investigation had been concluded, and said that on the contrary he would like to have Mr. Hamilton return.

Mr. McCall, replying to Mr. Hughes, counsel for the committee, said he had requested of the company to his testimony relative to Hamilton, and gave Mr. Hughes a copy of his statement, which said that if Hamilton did not re-
\$235,000 by December 15 he would himself pay it to the company.

Mr. McCall said that Hamilton was either in Paris or Nauheim.

Another interesting line of examination was opened up just before the adjournment for the day, when John McGinness, an employee of the Equitable Life, was called. He produced letters, books and memoranda, one of which Mr. Hughes read, and was in the midst of reading another when adjournment was taken. These were instructions of former Comptroller Thomas D. Jordan, of the Equitable Life, to A. C. Fields, relative to the keeping or assisting in the passage of a bill introduced into the legislature that would affect the interests of the insurance company or any of its officers.

This line of examination will be followed out when the sessions are resumed today.

New York, Nov. 13.—John R. Hegeman, president of the Metropolitan Life Insurance company, was on the witness stand again today before the insurance investigating committee. He represented a statement of rebates paid to him on interest on loans on his personal account.

The statement showed that Hegeman paid Vermilye & Co., bankers, interest at the rate of 4 1/2 per cent., and received in person rebates of various individuals of the firm, at different times, a rebate of this interest at the rate of 3 per cent.

New York Life Must Disgorge.

John A. McCall, president of the New York Life Insurance company, was called before the insurance investigating committee today and ordered by the committee to demand the return from Europe to this country of Andrew Hamilton and account for moneys which Hamilton has expended and for which the New York Life holds no vouchers beyond the personal receipts.

Hamilton is believed to be in Europe. McCall said that if Hamilton does not repay the company before December 15 the sum of \$235,000 which Hamilton received from the company and has not accounted for, he, McCall, will pay the amount himself to the New York Life before December 30.

Loaned Money Too Cheap.

It was shown that the Metropolitan Life made loans of \$100,000 to \$200,000 at one-half of 1 per cent. to William Reade, of the firm of Vermilye & Co., on various dates in 1901 to 1903. The market rate for call loans was at the time from 4 1/2 to 5 per cent. Vermilye & Co. were the bankers of the Metropolitan at that time, and when Mr. Reade resigned from Vermilye & Co. and went into business for himself he became the company's banker. Mr. Hegeman's explanation for making these loans below the market rate was that as valuable services had been rendered the company it sought to repay favors where it could. Mr. Hegeman said that through the watchfulness of Vermilye & Co., the Metropolitan life insurance company had now \$3,000,000 or \$4,000,000 that could be burned without impairing the solvency of the company.

On bonds and stocks the Metropolitan had cleared, according to Mr. Hegeman, about \$1,200,000, and syndicates into which Vermilye & Co. instructed the company to participate the company has made about \$650,000.

GOMPERS TO HOLD OVER

National Convention of the American Federation of Labor Holds 25th Meeting.

Pittsburg, Pa., Nov. 15.—The old city hall was crowded today when President Samuel Gompers called the American Federation of Labor to order for the opening session of the silver anniversary of the organization.

All delegates, representing every state in the union, Canada, England and other foreign countries, were in their seats.

One of the interesting fights to be inaugurated at this convention, is a double battle between the plumbers' and steamfitters' unions.

It is said officials of the teamsters' union will make an effort to unseat William J. Spencer, the plumbers' representative in the executive council.

Gompers is out for reelection, and it is generally believed that he will be successful. A majority of the other officers are also candidates for reelection, and it is likely no changes will result, with the exception of Fifth Vice President Thomas L. Kidd, who is not a candidate for another term. W. D. Mahon, president of the Amalgamated Association of Street Railway employees, will probably succeed him.

GIRL IS ASSASSINATED

Six Men Are Under Arrest for a Brutal Crime, Including a Rejected Suitor.

Cleveland, O., Nov. 15.—Six men have been taken into custody by the police in connection with the murder of Miss Eva Meyer, who was shot by an ambushed assassin while she was walking with her lover last night. A rejected suitor is among those under arrest.

BISHOP MERRILL DIES.

Famous Methodist Leader Succumbs to Sudden Attack of Paralysis Last Night.

New York, Nov. 15.—The death of Bishop Stephen M. Merrill, the Methodist Episcopal bishop of Chicago, at Keyport, N. J., was announced here today through a telegram which went west over the concern of this city. The bishop died of paralysis of the heart.

Bishop Merrill had been attending sessions of the general committee of the missionary societies of the Methodist Episcopal church in Keyport, N. J., yesterday morning he preached in Fleet street Methodist Episcopal church, Brooklyn, and in the afternoon went to Keyport to conduct evening services there. This illness came on suddenly during the evening. Physicians, who were hurriedly summoned, were unable to stay the course of paralysis.

Stephen Mason Merrill has been one of the leading bishops of the Methodist church since 1872. He was born in Jefferson, Ohio, in 1825. He entered the Methodist ministry in Ohio when he was 21. He was editor for several years of the Western Christian Advocate and has written and published numerous religious works. Since his election as Bishop he has resided in Chicago.

THINK MOTHER A GHOST

One Man Fainted; One Shook—Identified Dead Woman as Their Parent.

Waterbury, Conn., Nov. 15.—After Thomas and Michael McDonald, of the Methodist ministry in Ohio when he was 21. He was editor for several years of the Western Christian Advocate and has written and published numerous religious works. Since his election as Bishop he has resided in Chicago.

Shortly after noon a woman entered the market to make some purchases and fell dead at a counter. Clerks in the place thought she was Mrs. McDonald. So did the policeman on the beat. Neighbors made the identification apparently positive. Then Thomas and Michael came hurrying from their work at a foundry, and found their mother lying on the floor of the public market this morning and then had made the preliminary funeral arrangements and had telephoned death notices to the newspapers, they went home to find their mother alive and sitting at the window. Thomas fainted. Michael thought he beheld a ghost. This was the end of a most remarkable case of mistaken identity.

When the McDonalds went sorrowfully home the mother asked: "What makes you boys late to dinner?"

Then it was that big Tom fainted and Michael stood dazed with shaking knees.

The McDonalds are a very happy family this evening. The dead woman was later identified as Mrs. Catherine Stickers.

MONEY PANIC STILL ON

Call Money Brings 25 Per Cent. in New York Today, but Relief Is Now Promised.

New York, Nov. 14.—Just before the market closed, call money was loaned at 25 per cent. It was announced that one large Wall street bank was sending funds into the market to be lent at 6 per cent.

Washington, Nov. 13.—Secretary Shaw has not yet decided to come to the relief of the money market. He authorized the statement that he will not interfere unless convinced business interests are likely to suffer. Thus far no business interest has asked it. He will not come to the relief of speculation. Should any business concern be denied desired credit at reasonable rates, the secretary wants to know facts. He believes a majority of the business loans are still made at or below six per cent.

JAP ADMIRAL COMES.

Togo, the Famous Japanese Admiral Will Come with His Fleet to Visit America.

London, Nov. 14.—The Tokio correspondent of the Daily Telegraph sends the following: "It is officially announced that the American legation has been raised to an embassy. It has been definitely decided that Vice Admiral Togo with a squadron will visit the United States and not Australia, as previously announced. Mr. Yono, former president of the diet, and Mr. Otaka, a member of the diet, with other prominent politicians, have been arrested in connection with the recent peace riots."

END OF 'TAINTED MONEY'

Dr. Washington Gladden Is Confident That No Further Trouble Will Arise.

Columbus, O., Nov. 15.—The Rev. Dr. Washington Gladden, moderator of the Congregational church of the United States, announced Sunday from his pulpit that the controversy over "tainted money" had been definitely settled so far as the Congregational church is concerned.

He quoted the resolution which he offered at Seattle as follows: "Resolved, That the officers of the board should neither invite nor solicit donations to its funds from persons whose gains have been by methods morally reprehensible or socially injurious," and added:

"The principle for which we contended was not voted down at Seattle, the board simply declined to take action upon it. I am now satisfied that the principle will be respected in the future action of the board. There need be no fear that moral issues will be raised hereafter in the solicitation of money."

A DONATION BY CARNEGIE

Ironmaster Sends \$10,000 for Relief of Sufferers in Russia.

New York, Nov. 15.—It was announced last night that Andrew Carnegie has contributed a check of \$10,000 for relief of Jews in Russia. The gift was attached to a letter sent to Viktor Straus, of this city, in which Mr. Carnegie says:

"I am only too glad to send you the enclosed as a contribution to the fund for the relief of your co-religionists in Russia. The terrible crimes being committed there are such as might lead one to lose faith in humanity, had not the history of the past shown us scenes equally demoralizing.

Do not be discouraged, however. Under the law of evolution we must steadily, though slowly, march upward, and finally reach the true conception of the brotherhood of man."

CAVE-IN KILLS 68 MEN.

Accident in Johannesburg Mine in a Vertical Shaft Has Appalling Results.

Johannesburg, Transvaal, Nov. 13.—A vertical shaft in Dris-Fontein mine collapsed today. One white man and sixty-seven natives were killed.

'INQUIRY PROVES THE STUDENT WAS TIED

Stuart Pierson Was Bound to Track; Frat Members Responsible for His Death.

NINE D. K. E.'S INVOLVED

Evidence Turned Over to County Prosecutor by Coroner, Who Will Push Charges of Manslaughter Against Kenyon Boys.

Mt. Vernon, O., Nov. 15.—Stuart L. Pierson, the Kenyon college student who was killed by a train on the night of October 28, while being initiated into the Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity, was declared by Coroner Scarborough either to have been tied to the track or bound in such a manner that he could not free himself from his perilous position, and while lying helpless to have been run over by the engine.

The coroner says in his findings that because the body was taken out of the county before he could see it, the bridge where the death occurred was washed, and all evidence scrupulously destroyed, he was compelled to rely upon the testimony of witnesses, and under the peculiar circumstances of the case it is impossible for him to determine the names of the persons responsible for Pierson's death. He accordingly submits his findings for action by the prosecuting attorney, who will lay the case before the Knox county grand jury, which convenes in Mt. Vernon today.

D. K. E.'s May Be Indicted.

It is probable that indictments for manslaughter will be brought against members of the D. K. E. fraternity, who admit that Pierson met death as he fell dead at a counter. Clerks in the place thought she was Mrs. McDonald. So did the policeman on the beat. Neighbors made the identification apparently positive. Then Thomas and Michael came hurrying from their work at a foundry, and found their mother lying on the floor of the public market this morning and then had made the preliminary funeral arrangements and had telephoned death notices to the newspapers, they went home to find their mother alive and sitting at the window. Thomas fainted. Michael thought he beheld a ghost. This was the end of a most remarkable case of mistaken identity.

The active members of Lambda chapter, D. K. E. fraternity, of Kenyon college, are: F. K. Tschan, La Grange, Ill.; E. A. Duncan, Clarksburg, W. Va.; Alfred K. Taylor, Quincy, Ill.; E. York, G. Conover, Utica, O.; W. C. Russell, Mt. Vernon, O.

In addition to these, two alumnus members of Lambda chapter were present on the night of the tragedy. They were N. L. Pierson of Cincinnati, father of the corpse had been taken in a roundabout way, but finally Dr. Workman of Gambier called him up on the telephone and told him that a college boy had been killed by accident and the body had been shipped away.

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ARRESTED FOR FRAUDS

Large Number of Bench Warrants Are in Hands of Officers in New York Today.

New York, Nov. 15.—A large number of indictments in New York election fraud cases were issued by the grand jury today. Immediately afterwards bench warrants were issued.

TO DEFEND MERIWETHER

His Friends Say Evidence Will Put Case in Better Light.

Annapolis, Md., Nov. 14.—Midshipman Minor Meriwether, Jr., was placed under arrest Sunday to await his trial by court martial for engaging in a fictitious combat with Midshipman James R. Branch, Jr., who died of his injuries.

The arrest of young Meriwether occurred shortly after the receipt of the order from the navy department. He is confined to his room under what is known in the service as a "military arrest."

Mr. Meriwether, sr., arrived in Annapolis last night and had a talk with his son. It is said that evidence will be adduced before the court that will place Meriwether's case in a better light than has been indicated.

REQUESTED AUTONOMY HAS BEEN DENIED

Russian Government Returns Its Final Answer to Attempt to Wrest Autonomy.

POLES ARE EXASPERATED

Declaration of Martial Law on Charge of Revolt, May Prove Signal for Renewal of Disturbances.

Odessa, Nov. 13.—The death list of Jewish victims in the recent outbreak has been increased by 114 who succumbed to injuries.

St. Petersburg, Nov. 15.—The formal proclamation of martial law throughout Russian Poland and the promulgation of the government's intention to suppress the Polish movement to secure autonomy almost created a panic on the bourse today. Imperialists again fell to 86 cents. Industrialists seem to have no bottom.

The city is full of rumors to the effect that the imperial cause was issued over Count Witte's head at the instigation of the reactionaries, which is equivalent to the count's retirement, but it can be stated with positiveness that the action was taken up on the premier's advice. Count Witte favored and impressed upon his majesty the advisability of restoring Finland's constitution and reversing the policy of the russification of the grand duchy, but to surrender autonomy to Poland after all the old grievances of the Poles had been redressed and they had been placed upon an equality with Russians, the count would not do. He would prelude to an attempt to set up the ancient kingdom as a separate entity and would involve ultimately either the dismemberment of the empire or the necessity for bloody suppression such as marked the revolutions of 1831 and 1863.

It was regarded as wise, therefore, to take the bull by the horns and let the Poles understand that the separate movement would not be tolerated, and that until they came to their senses further efforts to place in operation the reforms of the manifesto would be suspended. It is generally believed that both Germany and Austria have given Russia assurances of support, but of what nature cannot be learned.

Whether or not this is true, Germany and Austria naturally are opposed, each of them having a Polish problem on their hands, and in not raising the Polish hopes of a restoration of the ancient kingdom of Poland the present movement in Poland certainly will not receive the sympathy of the governments beyond the western border.

Warsaw, Nov. 13.—In Ostrowiecka street at 11 o'clock last evening an infantry patrol without provocation fired into a crowd of Jews, seriously wounding eight.

Relief for Peasants.

London, Nov. 13.—The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Daily Telegraph says that an imperial manifesto will shortly be issued granting relief to the peasantry by the cancellation of some twenty million roubles of arrears of the land redemption tax which has been levied since the emancipation of 1861, together with the extension of the operations of the peasant banks.

No Liberty for Poland.

St. Petersburg, Nov. 13.—Poland is not to be permitted to become a second Finland. The Russian government, in a strongly worded communication published this morning, serves notice on the Polish nation that for good or ill the ancient kingdom of Poland has become an integral part of the Russian empire and that while the government intends to fully observe the national rights of Poland any attempt to wrest Polish autonomy from the empire would be considered an act of revolt and would lead the Poles into the paths trodden by them in 1831 and 1863.

The Russian authorities recognize the gravity of the movement in which the Polish nation has attempted to gain all the ancient kingdom of Poland has become an integral part of the Russian empire and that while the government intends to fully observe the national rights of Poland any attempt to wrest Polish autonomy from the empire would be considered an act of revolt and would lead the Poles into the paths trodden by them in 1831 and 1863.

An Ultimatum to Poles.

An official communication issued this morning recalls the fact that the imperial ukase of December 25 last established bases for the gradual reversion of the civil rights of Russian subjects and points out that the measures adopted in pursuance of that ukase affected equally the Polish people. The ukase says:

"In accordance with the ukase, the exceptional laws hindering the free development of the nation were abrogated and the Poles were given the same rights as the Russians. Educational, municipal, and judicial reforms were introduced, as stipulated by the decisions arrived at by the committee of ministers on June 18, and by the ukase of April regarding religious liberty. The general measures adopted by the government were extended to Poland, which also was given the right of participation in the douma and freedom of meeting.

Finally on October 30 the Poles were fully recognized as free citizens, thereby obtaining full opportunity to prove their capacity. By participating in a great creative work they would consequently have gradually attained the ulterior progress of the Polish nation with the aid of the electoral institutions, which naturally would have sympathized with their fate.

"Forgetting the painful lessons of the past, the politicians who are directing the national movement in the kingdom of Poland are making attempts as dangerous for the Polish population as they are insolent toward Russia to bring about the separation from the empire.

"The government will not tolerate attacks on the integrity of the empire, insurrectionary plots or acts of violence, or declarations of a decisive nature that as long as the troubles in the Vistula districts continue, and as long as that part of the population adhering to political agitators continues its present sway, these districts shall receive none of the benefits resulting from the manifesto of August 18 and October 30, 1905.

"There could obviously be no question of realizing pacific principles in a country in revolt. Therefore, for the restoration of order, all the districts of the Vistula are temporarily declared to be in a state of war.

BANKER GETS EIGHT YEARS.

St. Paul, Nov. 13.—Thomas B. Clumert, president of the First National bank of Fairbault, Minn., convicted of embezzling funds of the bank, causing its failure, was today sentenced to eight years in jail.

ACTOR NATHAN FREED.

Grand Jury Indicts Others for the Suit Case Murder, but Ignore Nathan.

Boston, Mass., Nov. 14.—The grand jury today reported an indictment against Dr. Percy D. McLeod, the charge being accessory after the fact to the abortion which resulted in the death of Susanna A. Geary, a Cambridge chorist girl who confessed illicit relations with her.

Indictments were also returned in the Geary case against Louis W. Crawford and William E. Howard, alias Hunt, now under arrest in New York.

The grand jury failed to indict Morris Nathan, the suitor of the Geary girl, a fellow actor who confessed illicit relations with her.

The police this afternoon began a systematic raid on all illegal medical establishments in the city.

AUTO FOILS LYNCHERS

Sheriff Dashes Through Mob in Fast Car and Rescues Negro, Who Had Rope About Neck.

Atlanta, Ga., Nov. 14.—By a spectacular automobile dash into the midst of a crowd of men who already had fastened the rope around the neck of John Walker, the negro charged with assaulting Mrs. Moore, and were on the verge of pulling him up, Sheriff Nelms of Fulton county frustrated the plans for a lynching near this city. The sheriff's automobile crashed through the mob of lynchers, knocking the men right and left and running over several, and reached the scaffold in the nick of time for the sheriff to cut the rope suspending the negro.

The negro assaulted Mrs. Moore, a prominent Atlanta woman, some days ago and was caught at Fairburn, Ga., and brought to the outskirts of Atlanta, where he was identified by Mrs. Moore. The Atlanta police refused to go to Brookwood, where the negro was held, as the place was outside the city. The sheriff then set out with a posse in his fast motor car.

NEW YORK SHY OF CASH

National Banks There Are Far Below the Legal Reserve and Can Loan No More.

New York, Nov. 14.—New York clearing house banks hold \$2,428,300 less cash than the legal requirement of 25 per cent. of deposits. This is exclusive of government deposits, on which the government has decided it is not necessary to hold a reserve. Counting in government deposits, cash holdings are \$293,550 less than the legal reserve.

Washington, Nov. 11.—Comptroller of Currency Ridgely, being shown the New York bank statement today, said the statement is one made to the clearing house and is entirely unofficial. He has no knowledge of it except that which comes through newspapers. (The fact that the reserve of national banks is below the legal requirement is nothing very unusual, he said. A bank is not required to suspend payment for the purpose of maintaining a legal reserve. The law provides that the bank shall not make any further loans until the reserve is made good.)

ANTI-SUICIDE SCHEME.

Cleveland's Mayor Takes an Original Method to Check Epidemic of Self-Slaughter.

Cleveland, O., Nov. 14.—Mayor Tom Johnson, alarmed at the official report that there have been eighty-six suicides in Cleveland in the last nine months, has taken steps to check the carnival of self-destruction.

He has appointed a commission, whose duty it will be to attempt to dissuade would-be suicides from taking their own lives.

The commission is made up of Director of Charities Cooley, W. A. Greenland, a member of the charity bureau, and State Senator-elect E. C. Hays.

Every man or woman in Cleveland, who is contemplating suicide, is invited to write a letter to the anti-suicide commission and tell their troubles. The members of the commission will then make an effort to remove the trouble.

For people despondent from non-employment, the commission endeavors to obtain employment, while the needs and wants of others seeking aid are looked after. All three methods are experienced in such work, and their labors so far have proved satisfactory.

KING WAS REALLY WED

Papers Opened Telling of Marriage of George IV. to Mrs. Fitz-Herbert After Seventy Years.

London, Nov. 14.—In a permission of King Edward VII., the Daily Chronicle asserts, a package of papers consigned to the care of the Courts bank by Mrs. Fitz-Herbert under the stipulation that it was not to be opened for a long period, has now after seventy years been opened and proved to contain the marriage certificate and other indisputable proofs that George IV. was actually married to Mrs. Fitz-Herbert.

Mrs. Fitz-Herbert became the wife of the prince in 1785, and her husband, George IV., in December 1785. The marriage of the prince was invalid under English law, though it was sanctioned by the Roman Catholic church, of which Mrs. Fitz-Herbert was a member. It was expected the papers in the Courts bank would settle a question which has agitated the British public for over a century as to whether there was issue from the marriage, but there is nothing in the foregoing to indicate that the question has been solved. It had long been reported that there was a male child, and that this child emigrated to the United States and settled in Washington, when he died some years after living very quietly, but in good circumstances.

SHOT DEAD FROM AMBUSH.

Sharon, Wis., Nov. 11.—Frank Lucas of Menominee was murdered while driving along the state road north of here, a rifle bullet entering his heart. A coroner's jury found Lucas died by a shot fired by unknown persons. It was at first believed the shot was accidental, but an investigation showed there was a clearing on each side of the road, giving a view of some distance, and the shot was fired from a clump of bushes near the road.

IS DIVORCED FROM COUNT.

Detroit, Mich., Nov. 11.—Countess Louisa May de Salazars was granted a divorce here from Count Gyula de Salazars of Austria on the grounds of desertion and non-support. The countess was Miss Hecker, daughter of Colonel Frank J. Hecker of this city, former member of the Isthmian canal commission.

The couple were married December 22, 1888, when the groom was secretary of the Austrian legation at Washington. Not many months afterward stories of her unhappiness began to come to the friends of the countess here and later her father went to Austria, where he had a stormy interview with the count.

FRENZIED INSURANCE

How the Metropolitan Company, Insuring the Poor, Receives Rates Twice as Large as Those Paid by the Rich to Other Companies—Nearly Half of Policies Lapse and Many of the Insured are Mere Babies.

From the New York American.

Among the insurance mysteries being developed by the legislative investigating committee, is the disappearance of a billion dollars of insurance from the books of the Metropolitan company.

John R. Hegeman, president of the Metropolitan, was on the stand during the greater part of Saturday afternoon, and was subjected to a constant fire of questions as to the business of his company by Charles E. Hughes, counsel of the committee. Mr. Hegeman admitted that he had but a slight knowledge of the matters on which he was being questioned as he left all such details to his actuary.

The statistics called forth by Mr. Hughes showed that the insurance written by the Metropolitan company during 1901-1904 amounted to \$1,600,000, which, added to the \$23,877,917 in force in 1904, aggregated \$25,477,917. In 1904 the official figures of the company showed only \$1,470,000 insurance.

"So," said Mr. Hughes, "about \$1,000,000 of insurance has gone off your books in some way."

Much Insurance Lapses.

"Yes," said Mr. Hegeman, "but a great deal of it has come back." "That which has come back undoubtedly has been set off by other insurance going off," said Mr. Hughes. "A great deal must have come to maturity, but a good deal must have lapsed." Investigated and developed this line showed that industrial insurance in the Metropolitan, paid for in pennies in weekly instalments, costs twice as much as insurance in the ordinary life insurance companies where payments are made quarterly. It was shown that a man of 22 years can obtain a Metropolitan life insurance policy for \$1,000 for \$16.55 a year, while a policy for \$884 in the Metropolitan costs \$31.20 a year, or 60 cents a week.

It also was admitted that children of tender age are developed as insurance risks by the Metropolitan without medical examination, being merely subjected to an examination by a physician, who receives only 25 or 50 cents for each risk inspected or examined.

Pennies of the Poor.

The great profits of the Metropolitan were merely indicated yesterday, but sufficient was developed to show that this company, existing on the pennies of the poor, is by far the richest insurance mine yet brought to light by the insurance investigation. With its \$2,000,000 capital and \$500,000 paid up, the majority of the stock owned by President Hegeman and the Metropolitan had added millions to its income yearly, and has paid out an infinitely small sum in comparison.

The returns made by the actuary of the Metropolitan Life for his own use showed that policies written in one week in 1903, 35.40 per cent. lapsed in three months; 45.77 per cent. in six months; 48.28 per cent. in nine months, and 51.46 per cent. in twelve months.

At the end of a year less than half the policies written in that week were in force. More than 50 per cent. of those insured had made presents to the Metropolitan of the pennies, dimes and quarters they had paid in.

Insurers Give Up Policies.

Of all the policies issued in 1901 32.16 per cent. lapsed in the first year and 19.83 per cent. in the second year. Of those issued in 1902 33.90 per cent. lapsed in the first year and 19.33 per cent. in the second year. Of those issued in 1903 35.95 per cent. lapsed in the first year and 19.82 per cent. in the second year. Of those issued in 1904 35.35 per cent. lapsed in the first year.

These statements and figures are added to the record by Mr. Hughes without comment. In its way this was as sensational a development as anything that has been brought out with regard to the other companies, with the difference that while the companies of the "three C's" combine and wrote large policies on yearly premiums, paid quarterly, and made their profits out of deals engineered with the great mass of money coming into their hands, the Metropolitan received a constant supply of millions of dollars, paid in pennies weekly, and made its profits out of no obligation, as they lapse at the end of the second year.

IT ACKNOWLEDGES MUCH

Asphalt Company Makes Confession, but Seeks to Shift Blame Upon Castro.

New York, Nov. 15.—Allegations that high officials in the Venezuelan government have been attempting to export from the company's actual assets of \$400,000 are made in a statement given out by the New York and Bernudez Asphalt company in reference to the suit brought by the Venezuelan government for \$1,000,000 against it for aiding the Matos rebellion.

The means used by the officials, according to the allegations, included blackmail, confiscation of the company's property, the manufacture of false testimony and the making of decrees without regard to law. The allegations made in the statement are based upon letters which it is declared, were received from A. P. Carber, now receiver, holding the company's property for the Venezuelan government, but who in 1900 was the company's agent at Caracas and the representative of Colonel Victor M. Backus, who was sent to Venezuela in 1900 as an independent agent by the asphalt company.

The statement concludes with an exhaustive review of what it describes as "the asphalt company's actual relations to the revolution."

In this connection it is explained that \$100,000 was given to General Matos by the officials of the National