

Employers Liability Assurance Corporation to Absorb Important Life Office

The announcement is made, that a provisional agreement is made, subject to shareholders sanction whereby the Employers Liability Assurance Corporation will absorb the Clerical Medical and General Life Assurance Society of London, Eng.

The latter was established nearly 100 years ago and has assets of nearly \$40,000,000. The Employers Liability now becomes a composite office, covering all classes of insurance. The Corporation has been gradually increasing its sphere of usefulness, and the latest move, is one of the most important insurance events chronicled for some time.

UNIONIZATION OF FIREMEN

In connection with the recent firemen's strike in Memphis, Tenn., the Mayor of that city (Mr. Paine) issued a statement to the press as follows:—

There can never be a union fire department in Memphis again. Not because unionism is wrong, but because it has no place in a city government. This was clearly demonstrated by the action of the former firemen in resigning in a body and leaving the city of Memphis without fire protection.

The question of pay is a just one in so far as the amount is concerned and the city administration is willing to concede that the firemen were inadequately paid, but we had gone to the limit permitted by the city charter and we made every suggestion that we could to appease the men by suggesting that we purchase their equipment. This was declined and the men resigned.

The very proposal which was submitted to us on Friday again demonstrates that the question of increased pay is not the main issue, for the firemen, by accepting the proposal, abandoned their demand for increased pay until the next session of the Legislature. Their action only shows clearly that because the union said so they could and would leave the city unprotected, and because of this we have determined that there must never again be a union fire department.

It appears that after a long period of wrangling over wages the firemen resigned in a body. Fortunately it was possible to organize an efficient volunteer department and fires up to last reports were promptly extinguished.

After the strike had been in effect three or four days the editors of three daily newspapers volunteered to act as mediators and try to bring it to an end. They recommended that the firemen return to work, without prejudice, and that they accept such relief as could be given lawfully by the city, depending upon the Legislature for more adequate measures. This recommendation was submitted to executive committee of the Trades and Labor Council, representatives of the railroad brotherhoods and to the firemen. The firemen accepted the plans. They were then submitted to the Mayor and Commissioner of Fire and Police and rejected by these officials for the reasons set forth in the above statement in which it was set out that the city "cannot acknowledge the claimed right of any set of men charged with the duty of protecting life and property, to combine for any purpose other than the performance of their duty."

COLUMBIA
INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW JERSEY

Annual Statement as of December 31st, 1920

ASSETS	
Government and Municipal Bonds . . .	\$ 790,488.00
Railroad and Miscellaneous Bonds . . .	563,890.00
Cash in Banks	175,145.60
Premiums in course of Collection and other Assets	267,431.48

\$1,796,955.08

LIABILITIES	
Cash Capital	\$ 400,000.00
Unearned Premium Reserve	390,134.38
Losses in process of adjustment	105,426.82
All other claims	88,000.00

983,561.20

Surplus over all Liabilities **813,393.88**

\$1,796,955.08

Head Office for Canada
Montreal

R. MacD. Paterson }
J. B. Paterson } Joint Managers

A. McBEAN & CO.
GENERAL AGENTS FOR MONTREAL
LEWIS BUILDING, MONTREAL