President Amonson, of the Peoples' National Fire, of Philadelphia, has recently arrived in this port.

Manager Wray, of the Commercial Union, and President Henry Evans, of the Continental Insurance Company, have also arrived from abroad.

Among those recently sailing are Vice-President Bissell, of the Hartford Fire; President John R. Bland, of the U. S. Fidelity & Guaranty Company; W. B. Meikle, general manager of the Western and the British America; Ex-President F. C. Moore, of the Continental Fire; and Hon. Darwin P. Kingsley, president of the New York Life, who will spend most of his time recreating in Scotland.

Two cases of appendicitis have recently occurred among prominent insurance men of this city. Elijah R. Kennedy, of the well-known firm of Weed & Kennedy, was recently operated upon for the disease, and it is expected that he will soon recover. E. R. Perkins,, second vice-president of the New York Life, has also recently undergone an operation for the same disease, and is well on the road to recovery.

Nearly all the leading life insurance companies show a gain in new business for the first eight months of this year. According to present appearances the New York Life will be obliged to curb its agents in order to keep within the legal bounds of one hundred and fifty million dollars.

The Detroit Conference of industrial accident underwriters, in which a number of casualty companies of this city and Philadelphia are interested, will be held in Niagara Falls beginning with the 15th inst.

QUERIST.

New York, Sept. 1st, 1909.

MULTIPLICITY OF UNITED STATES LIFE COMPANIES.

Some two Hundred Companies will be Engaged in Business by the End of 1909.

An epidemic of life company promoting seems to have been one of the incidental results of the New York's investigation and "reform" legislation. The cry for "local control of local funds" was made the keynote of the movement in various states—and the result has been a mixture of underwriting and stock-jobbing that has called for the frank disapproval of more than one insurance department. Certainly it would seem that with 188 native life companies (an increase of about 95 in four and one half years) the United States had enough and to spare. But the prospects are that 1909 will go far ahead of any preceding year—as about 20 new companies have already been licensed, and a round dozen more are almost ready to begin.

The Compendium of Official Life Insurance Reports published by The Spectator Company analyzes and summarizes the reports of the 171 companies which transacted business during 1908.

It shows that assets totalled over $3,400,000,000 at the year-end, policy reserves being over $2,825,000,000, with dividends apportioned and set aside, of nearly $250,000,000.

A summary of the 171 companies' accounts follows:

AGGREGATE OF THE FINANCIAL STANDING AND BUSINESS FOR 1908 OF THE ORDINARY AND INDUSTRIAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANIES OF THE UNITED STATES.

	Ordinary Companies.	Industrial Companies.
Number of companies	157	14
Capital Stock	$ 23,560,562	$4,954,070
INCOME.		
New premiums	51,646,192	20,770,340
Renewal premiums ... a	345,706,440	123,859,859
Received for annuities	3,766,784	108,795
Total premium income	401,119,416	144,738,994
Dividends interest, etc ... a	120,992,290	17,612,486
Received for rents	8,312,359	2,343,908
All other receipts	8,386,455	424,241
Total int. and other income.	137,691,104	20,380,635
Total income	538,810,520	165,119,629
EXPENDITURES.		
Paid for death losses	125,056,519	39,641,869
Paid for matured endowments	34,070,186	787,189
Annuities paid	6,862,226	379,562
Paid for surrendered, lapsed and purchased policies	69,008,800	5,463,205
Dividends to policyholders	47,215,855	7,292,514
Total paym'ts. to policyh'ldrs.	282,213,586	53,564,339
Dividends to stockholders	1,351,169	392,900
Commissions, salaries and traveling expenses of agents	44,425,369	29,991,972
Medical fees, salaries and other charges of employees	14,408,822	7,401,258
All other expenses ... a	25,118,983	8,807,148
Total expenses of management	85,304,343	46,593,278
Total expenditures	367,517,929	100,157,617
Excess of income over expenditures	171,292,591	64,962,012
ASSETS.		
Real estate owned	128,046,475	38,828,094
Bond and mortgage loans	841,755,401	145,497,739
Bonds owned	1,236,728,164	216,099,408
Stocks owned	133,794,545	13,274,866
Collateral loans	20,993,902	9,624,398
Premium notes and loans	411,318,484	22,940,825
Cash in office and banks	54,581,745	17,905,849
Net deferred & unpaid premiums	36,901,766	10,503,346
All other assets ... a	35,863,718	5,635,365
Total admitted assets	2,899,984,200	480,309,890
Items not admitted	20,858,815	3,402,259
LIABILITIES.		
Reserve	2,425,267,640	403,389,451
Losses and claims not paid	13,600,648	1,298,051
Claims resisted	1,770,248	150,882
Dividends unpaid, apportioned and set aside	226,427,088	20,211,681
All other liabilities ... a	40,008,223	5,786,933
Total liabilities	2,707,073,847	430,836,998
Surplus to policyholders (including capital)	192,910,353	49,472,892
POLICY ACCOUNT.		
New business written and paid for — Policies	800,684	4,366,063
New business written and paid for — Amount	1,468,934,726	594,141,679
Whole life policies in force	7,800,443,208	....
Endowment policies in force	2,903,108,161	....
All other policies in force ... a	1,146,481,212	....
Total insurance in force — Policies	6,164,730	19,687,675
Total insurance in force — Amount	11,850,032,581	2,668,919,696
Total assets (including non-admitted items)	2,920,843,015	483,712,149
Total surplus (including non-admitted items)	213,769,168	52,875,151

a Where the various items of a few companies' statements have not been classified, the total amounts have been included in these aggregates.