

hand to show that several of them have been doing an unusually large business.

The scale of licenses is as follows: For a business of less than \$5,000 a quarter, \$10; up to \$10,000, \$25; up to \$25,000, \$50; up to \$50,000, \$75; all over \$50,000, \$100.

The following companies have indicated decrease in business, as reduction of licenses will show; Aetna Indemnity Company, from \$50 to \$10; Alliance Insurance Corporation, Ltd., of Berlin, from \$50 to \$10; Fire Assurance of Philadelphia, from \$25 to \$10; Provident Life & Trust Co., from \$75 to \$10.

These are companies that show an increase: Liverpool & London & Globe, from \$50 to \$100; North British Mercantile Co., from \$50 to \$75; Atlas Assurance Co., from \$25 to \$50.

Insurance Commissioner Wolf, will later on be called upon to explain before that body about a certain newspaper article in which he is quoted as saying that he could get \$50,000 from certain insurance companies for favours. He will be asked to tell who these men are, and what they expected of him for the \$50,000 which he alleges was offered him.

C. F. Mullins, local manager of the Palatine, Commercial Union and Alliance Insurance companies, and Messrs. E. Roger Owen and Douglass Owen, who are here from London, looking over the situation, were still awaiting to-day a reply to their cable sent to the home office last Thursday afternoon. Until this reply is received, say the Owens, there will be no further information given out. "We are now simply waiting for certain instructions from our home office in London," said E. Roger Owen, and we believe that our statement to the public will be ready about next Tuesday. There has been no change in the situation, but I may say once more that because settlements have been negotiated on a 75 p.c. basis in certain individual cases it does not follow that this will apply to others. Let me assure you that there will be no horizontal cut by our companies."

During the investigation of methods employed by certain insurance companies by the Grand Jury, facts startling in some particulars were revealed. Testimony of H. C. Quimby, a New York attorney, sent here by the Eagle as its representative, and R. R. Manners, an adjuster from New York, would go to show that some companies have agreed to a considerable cut in settling losses. When Mr. Quimby took the stand he refused to answer the questions put to him, but Superior Court Judge Graham was called in and threatened to jail him for contempt, and he changed his mind. Mr. Quimby stated that he arrived in San Francisco on April 25, from New York, to represent the Eagle Company. He admitted the company was pursuing a questionable

policy with its clients by scaling its policies and using fake photographs to compel the policy-holders to accept a small percentage on the dollar. He stated that he was employed by eight other companies at a fee of \$500 to act as attorney for them, and was advised by these companies to pursue the same course for them as for the Eagle. He did not remember all the companies he represented, but mentioned among them the Phenix of Brooklyn, Transatlantic, Federal, Hanover and Milwaukee Mechanics'.

The testimony given by Mr. Manners was as startling and sensational as that given by Mr. Quimby. He was questioned for an hour. The inquiry will be continued by the Grand Jury with much vigour and members of that body seem determined to send to prison any insurer who is found to be using illegal tactics in settling claims. Mr. Quimby will be before the body again at its next meeting.

Details of a number of disputes are given in the local papers, the litigation arising from which will occupy months and in most cases cost as much as the claims, some of which are for quite small amounts.

REMARKABLE LENGTH OF SERVICE HONOURED BY THE PHOENIX ASSURANCE COMPANY.

Hon. G. T. Rendell has just received a handsome and valuable grandfather clock as a present from the Phoenix Assurance Co., of London, in recognition of his long service as agent of the company in Newfoundland. Mr. Rendell is the oldest individual agent of the company, it being nearly fifty-seven years since he commenced work in that capacity. During that long period the firm of W. & G. Rendell have, exclusive of the fire of 1892, adjusted and paid claims for losses to amount of over \$700,000. The clock bears a suitable inscription, and with the present the directors send him good wishes personally and an expression of continued confidence in the firm's future management of the agency, assisted as he now is by his son Mr. Frank E. Rendell. The clock is an exceedingly handsome one, standing 7½ feet high, the case being of beautifully polished mahogany, the dial plate of embossed gilt, the hands and numbers of gold and the face fitted with a circle for seconds and another which shows if the chimes are active or silent. The chimes are rich and pure and sound every fifteen minutes, the clock striking likewise every hour. The trophy is valued by connoisseurs at about \$250 and bears this inscription:

"Presented by the Directors of the Phoenix Assurance Company, of London, to the Hon. George Thomas Rendell, in recognition of his valuable services to the company, as the general agent of Newfoundland, during a period of over fifty-six years.—London, June, 1906."

The hosts of friends whom Mr. Rendell has made during his long and honoured business career will warmly congratulate him on this well deserved recognition of his meritorious work in this capacity.