dishonesty of witnesses in an insurance suit, it simply explains why evidence in support of an exaggerated claim is often so positive and so effectual in influencing a jury. As to interpretations of a policy when left to a jury, this can be said : members of a common jury have very rarely such technical knowledge of insurance terms, or any class indeed of terms of a legal nature, as to enable them to distinguish between two readings or interpretations. Jurors practically say : "Well, if it comes to such fine points as making a policy read this way or that, it is not for the likes of us to decide when these lawyers differ about it, but, any way, the insurance company can stand the loss better than the poor fellow who is suing for what they promised to pay." In nine cases out of ten jury verdicts against insurance companies are based upon this style of argument. To ensure an unbiassed decision, sound equally in law as in fact, cases in which insurance companies are interested should be tried by a superior court judge.

THE NEW YORK TRUST COMPANIES.

We give a table showing the details of the business of 17 of the trust companies of New York. These corporations have acquired an aggregate business which is amazingly large. The whole of these organizations have resources which aggregate over a thousand million dollars. The rapid growth of their business is shown by following data, giving their total resources in past years and at the end of June last :

1902.........	$1,078,212,685	1895.........	$365,419,829
1900.........	672,190,672	1893.........	332,707,780
1898.........	483,739,926	1891.........	280,688,769

Increase of resources since 1891......$797,523,916.

NEW YORK TRUST COMPANIES.

Compiled from Statement in New York Commercial Bulletin.

ASSETS.

Name of Institution.	Capital Stock.	Surplus Fund.	Bonds and Mortgages.	Stocks Held	Loaned on Collaterals.	Loaned on Personal Securities.	Cash on hand and Deposit.	Other Assets.	Total Resources.
North American	$2,000,000	$2,500,000	$ 26,489	$3,508,433	$10,135,234	$ 748,662	$1,684,203	$ 892,756	$16,995,777
†Van Norden	1,000,000	1,000,000	....	1,043,958	2,330,651	218,720	524,340	182,004	4,299,673
Mercantile	2,000,000	5,000,000	190,355	6,565,605	43,230,160	71,128	12,626,132	338,310	68,016,257
Kings County	500,000	1,000,000	299,983	459,714	8,181,853	704,378	579,433	62,558	10,529,578
City	1,000,000	1,000,000	634,027	2,883,272	14,471,472	171,246	3,010,845	88,176	21,259,038
Equitable	1,000,000	500,000	403,250	753,593	5,745,862	110,662	587,750	56,417	7,657,734
N. Y. Life Insur. & Trust Co.	1,000,000	4,083,853	3,562,957	11,092,818	6,680,551	12,078,387	3,381,636	2,341,290	39,925,310
Holland	500,000	21,745	11,734	611,016	111,167	....	7,780	37,101	1,009,473
Trust Co. of the Republic	1,000,000	500,000	....	1,023,766	2,751,788	100,350	626,824	39,536	4,542,264
Title Guarantee & Trust Co.	2,500,000	3,500,000	8,691,220	1,048,750	....	....	456,928	541,727	10,781,560
Guaranty	2,000,000	4,500,000	69,000	12,268,518	24,434,835	457,314	5,862,582	2,682,300	45,928,677
‡Broadway	700,000	350,000	64,165	849,588	1,012,062	628,895	677,582	26,240	3,263,532
Merchants'	500,000	1,000,000	....	1,439,729	6,671,466		2,816,246	20,113	10,447,554
United States	2,000,000	10,000,000	4,338,000	7,873,050	57,696,362	....	6,445,791	1,089,441	87,300,776
U. S. Mortgage & Trust Co.	2,000,000	3,000,000	9,956,069	6,017,533	11,585,347	8,857,927	3,840,748	735,341	32,240,846
People's (Brooklyn)	1,000,000	1,000,000	565,988	3,455,290	7,099,055	105,808	1,607,902	131,874	13,748,824
Brooklyn	1,000,000	....	60,750	6,143,318	7,193,290	655,315	1,909,018	195,607	16,813,505

LIABILITIES.

Name of Institution.	Deposits in Trust.	Deposits Payable on Demand.	Other Liabilities.	Total Liabilities.	Profits During the Six Months	Expenses.	Dividends Declared.	Deposits Bearing Interest.	Rate of Interest.	Quoted Prices.
North American	....	$12,127,807	$ 67,950	$16,995,777	$521,825	$ 79,499	$ 70,000	$8,370,884	2 to 4	260
*Van Norden	....	1,950,872	327,559	4,299,673	71,297	16,552	....	2,204,564	2 to 3½	235
Mercantile	....	*55,236,450	451,850	63,016,257	1,246,242	92,334	50,000	51,057,358	1 to 4	1100
Kings County	$ 256,263	8,321,533	185,569	10,529,578	244,751	41,379	25,000	8,276,533	2 to 4	....
City	602,773	17,552,251	559,284	21,259,038	379,048	51,732	40,000	17,759,320	2 to 3½	400
Equitable	....	6,024,987	123,853	7,657,734	160,611	38,306	30,000	6,001,422	1½ to 3	350
N. Y. Life Insur. & Trust Co.	32,123,322	....	2,667,329	39,925,310	959,064	64,948	200,000	32,123,322	1 to 5	1200
Holland	36,046	123,906	327,776	1,009,473	9,588	16,368	....	98,800	2 to 3	....
Trust Co. of the Republic	139,650	2,745,171	34,294	4,542,264	161,229	38,512	....	2,745,171	2 to 3½	260
Title Guarantee & Trust Co.	55,496	2,804,030	1,634,507	10,781,560	1,075,497	417,733	300,000	3,827,195	1½ to 5	....
Guaranty	1,959,667	36,538,647	329,543	45,928,677	1,153,104	138,481	160,000	36,657,990	1½ to 4	750
†Broadway	....	2,178,466	30,777	3,263,532	27,540	8,874	....	2,131,112	2 to 3	175
Merchants'	....	8,548,168	24,671	10,447,554	355,575	96,727	....	8,523,168	1½ to 4	410
United States	71,927,243	....	1,278,573	87,300,776	1,965,910	73,061	500,000	71,119,261	1 to 3	1750
U. S. Mortgage & Trust Co.	441,485	17,203,828	9,254,488	32,240,846	1,030,660	105,865	140,000	16,725,987	1 to 4	475
People's (Brooklyn)	435,617	10,394,710	428,479	13,748,824	294,062	37,099	60,000	10,323,251	2 to 4	....
Brooklyn	781,521	13,091,888	92,875	16,813,505	354,530	46,109	80,000	13,647,151	2 to 3	....

†From March 31 to July 1.
‡From May 5 to July 1.
*Including deposits in trust.