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Mass. Auto Committee Split

Divided on the question of reporting the bill in its present form, the Massachusetts legislative committee on insurance has held two executive sessions to consider the so-called Curley-De Celles bill to reduce coverage in the statutory policy under the compulsory auto liability law. There is a desire on the part of several members of the committee to have the matter referred to a special recess commission for further investigation.

policy writing borough agents, 14 per cent.

"Regional agents and supervising special agents, 10 per cent.

"Brokers, local agents, office agents and district agents, 8 per cent."

Talked With Producers

Announcement of the new commission scale followed a meeting of the Conference on Acquisition and Field Supervision Cost for Casualty Insurance yesterday morning. At that meeting, it was unofficially reported, the company representatives weighed statements made to them on Tuesday by representatives of various brokers' organizations and by spokesmen for the local and State agents' organizations at separate conferences. Both classes of producers, it was reported, insisted that the old commissions should not be reduced.

Spokesmen for the agents held that the 17½ per cent was an "absolutely irreducible" minimum for writing workmen's compensation. They also said that the portion of the commission allotted to the broker and to the agent was too little for the competent producer, and too much for the non-service giving policy writer. The ideal way to remunerate agents and brokers, it was urged, would be on the basis of actual service to the assured and the company, but this ideal, it was admitted, could not be put into practical effect.

Walter H. Bennett, secretary-counsel of the National Association of Insurance Agents, expressed the view that the intrusion by the State Insurance Department into the payment of commissions was an unwarranted one. The company representatives were urged to resist the Insurance Department's action.

Conference on Silicosis Attracts Expert Audience

Medical, Legal and Insurance Representatives Survey the Problems of Toxic Dusts

A thorough survey of the medical, claim and engineering aspects of occupational disease, with particular emphasis on dust diseases, characterized The Third Conference on Occupational Diseases, held on June 20 and 21, at the National Bureau of Casualty and Surety Underwriters, New York City. The conference, which was divided into two morning and two afternoon sessions, was attended by more than 225 special representatives of insurance companies and interested observers in the medical and legal professions, the limited space available being filled to capacity.

While the nature of the conference demanded a careful treatment of subject matter by experts in medical and legal technique as well as in insurance, it is worthy of comment that coverage of the conference subjects was handled for the most part by insurance representatives, only four of the sixteen speakers being non-insurance representatives. As in the case of the two preceding conferences, this third conference was made notable by the presence of everybody of importance in the field of occupational disease. As Dr. Anthony J. Lanza, assistant medical director with the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co., commented: "The conference represented the best medical, legal and insurance aspects of the occupational disease problem."

The sessions of Thursday morning and afternoon, June 20, and the morning session of Friday, June 21, were open forums. Frank discussion of the ramifications of silicosis and kindred occupational diseases, including research, laboratory procedure, control of toxic dusts and examination of blood, sputum and urine in the diagnosis of silicosis, occupied the attention of the insurance fraternity. The concluding session of Friday afternoon was restricted to insurance company representatives only. During this session acceptance and rejection of risks in industries exposed to the occupational

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Hart Darlington President of Norwich Union Company

Chairman of the Board Will Succeed President H. L. Callanan, Who Is To Retire From Office on June 30

At the meeting of the board of directors of the Norwich Union Indemnity Co., of New York, held on May 31, Hart Darlington, chairman of the board, was elected president of the company, succeeding H. L. Callanan, who retires from that position as of June 30, according to an announcement made last week. E. P. Smith, secretary of the Norwich Union Fire Insurance Society, also becomes treasurer of the indemnity company.

H. L. Kidder, vice-president and secretary, and C. A. Barkle, vice-president, who have long been associated with the company, will continue and assume direct charge of operations.

After a period of service of fifteen years with the company, during the last five of which he has been president and general manager, Mr. Callanan leaves with the regret of the stockholders and the members of the staff.

Albert Whitney Tendered Birthday Party at Bureau

A lighter, social touch was added to weighty casualty affairs in the day's routine of Albert W. Whitney, associate general manager of the National Bureau of Casualty and Surety Underwriters, when he emerged from the conference rooms at the National Bureau on June 20 and passed into his own office, there to be surprised by business friends and associates who presented him with a huge cake in honor of his birthday anniversary.

Silicosis Conference Attracts Expert Audience

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disease hazard were discussed at length by Dr. Roscoe Gray, Aetna Life Insurance Co., John B. Lamenzo, Hartford Accident & Indemnity Co. and Sanford B. Perkins, Travelers Insurance Co.

The keen interest and enthusiasm manifested during the two-day session have led to the conviction that a repetition of the conference in November would aid materially in solving the difficulties generated by this increasingly important industrial problem.

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