

TOPPIN WILL RETIRE FROM ROOSEVELT LINE

To Return to His Home in Northern England—No Successor Expected to Be Appointed.

The resignation of Frederick Toppin as vice president of the Roosevelt International Mercantile Marine Company was announced yesterday. Mr. Toppin will retire after nearly fifty years in business and will return to his home in Northern England. In a statement announcing his resignation, P. A. S. Franklin, president of the company, expressed regret at Mr. Toppin's retirement and praise of his "able and helpful service."

Mr. Toppin was born in England and entered the employ of the White Star Line in Liverpool in January, 1885, and was transferred to the New York office in 1892. With the exception of four years, 1906-10, when he was in charge of the affairs of the line in Boston, Mr. Toppin has been at the New York office, serving in various capacities. He was put in charge of the operating department in 1910, and in June, 1917, was elected a vice president of the company.

Mr. Toppin was considered an important factor in linking the White Star Line with the International Mercantile Marine Company, its American agent. He was also for fifteen years chairman of the committee of steamship lines' representatives which negotiated with spokesmen of the International Longshoremen's Association on matters pertaining to the handling of freight on the ship lines' piers. In recent years his committee negotiated several important contracts dealing principally with the wages of longshoremen, length of working days and conditions of labor. He was also a member of the managing committee of the North Atlantic Passenger Conference, through which the various transatlantic ship lines operate in accord between the American ports and European ports north of the Mediterranean.

It is understood that no successor

to Mr. Toppin will be appointed by the I. M. M. and that his work will be divided among several executives. A successor will be appointed shortly to head the committee of negotiations with the longshoremen.