ALLEGHANY CORP /DE Form 8-K February 29, 2012

UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE

SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): February 23, 2012

ALLEGHANY CORPORATION

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)

1-9371

51-0283071

ration) (Commission File Number)

(IRS Employer Identification No.)

 $7\ Times\ Square\ Tower,\ 17^{th}\ Floor,\ New\ York,\ New\ York\ 10036$

(Address of principal executive offices)(Zip Code)

(212) 752-1356

(Registrant s telephone number, including area code)

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Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- " Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- " Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- " Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- " Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

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Item 5.02 Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers.

(b) At a meeting of the Board of Directors (the Board) of Alleghany Corporation (the Corporation) on February 23, 2012, Dan R. Carmichael notified the Board that he will retire as a director of the Corporation effective as of the 2012 Annual Meeting of Stockholders of the Corporation, currently scheduled to be held on April 27, 2012, and thus that he will not stand for re-election as a director of the Corporation.

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SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

ALLEGHANY CORPORATION

Date: February 29, 2012 By: /s/ Roger B. Gorham

Name: Roger B. Gorham

Title: Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer