

## LIQUOR AND LIFE INSURANCE.

A Texas actuary, Mr. L. M. Cathles, F.I.A., has lately published the actuarial evidence regarding the influence of alcoholic indulgence on longevity. Among the experiences quoted is that of the Manufacturers' Life of Toronto, which maintains an abstainers' section at rates of premium approximately 5 per cent. lower than those charged to non-abstainers. The comparative rates of mortality reported are as follows:—

Year.	Abstainers' Section.	General Section.
1905.....	36.95%	74.23%
1906.....	35.90	57.33
1907.....	37.81	69.15
1908.....	39.88	81.72
1909.....	333.50	48.45
1910.....	333.34	50.75
1911.....	46.07	77.89
1912.....	46.51	70.90
1913.....	40.42	44.94

The actuary of the Company, in remarking upon the figures given, states that a greater percentage of policies on the lives of abstainers is kept in force from year to year, which, he says, is an important feature of this business and may be accounted for by the fact that those insured in the abstainers' section are more thrifty.

### EXHAUSTIVE STATISTICS.

The most exhaustive statistics on this subject are those compiled from the experience of the United Kingdom Temperance & General Provident Institution and published in 1904. This experience covered a period of 61 years and the conclusions arrived at by Mr. R. M. Moore, the actuary, were as follows:—

(1) That the non-abstainers insured by his institution proved themselves to be good average lives, generally equal to the best accepted standard of insured lives, namely, the British Om. Table.

(2) That the abstainers show a marked superiority to the non-abstainers throughout the entire working years of life for every class of policy and for both sexes, however tested.

(3) That this superiority was not brought about by transferring from the abstainers' section to the non-abstainers those abstainers who, after obtaining their insurance, did not continue to abstain.

The total number exposed to risk in the non-abstainers' section during the 61 years was 466,943, and the deaths 8,947. The deaths which should have occurred according to the standard British table were 8,911, so that it is evident the non-abstainers were standard life insurance risks.

### THE DEATH RATE.

The exposed to risk in the abstainers' section during the 61 years were 398,010, and the number of deaths 5,124. The deaths which should have taken place according to the standard British table amounted to 6,899. The deaths which actually occurred were thus just a fraction over 74 per cent. of those expected, and, of course, the same percentage of the number which would have occurred if the section had been composed of non-abstainers instead of abstainers. That is another way of saying that, out of the same number of abstainers and non-abstainers, only 3 abstainers died to every 4 non-abstainers.

Taking the death rate among non-abstainers as

100, the abstainers' experience at the different ages is as follows:

Ages.		Ages.	
20-24.....	69.9	50-54.....	62.4
25-29.....	70.1	55-59.....	70.6
30-34.....	56.5	60-64.....	78.5
35-39.....	54.8	65-69.....	84.0
40-44.....	57.2	70-74.....	86.5
45-49.....	58.5		

Later statistics given out by the United Kingdom Temperance & General Provident Institute confirm the previously reported experience.

## BRITISH COLONIAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

To the Editor of The Chronicle:

SIR:—In the issue of your paper of April 14th last, you published a statement of fire insurance business for 1915, in which it appears that this Company paid for losses, in that year, \$74,241, being 110.55 per cent. of its premium income.

As we have received enquiries concerning these figures, we wish to draw attention to the following facts:

This Company reinsured the policy liability of the Central Canada Insurance Company on the 22nd December, 1914, and the premium received on that account appears in our statement of 1914, while the expenditures incurred on that business, i.e., return premiums, reinsurance and losses, appear in the 1915 statement. In order to shew the result of the Company's business for last year, it is necessary to compile the 1914 and 1915 figures which are as follows:

Net Income .. . . . \$265,281.06  
" Losses .. . . . 104,217.64

Loss ratio for the two years, 39.2 per cent.

The ratio of losses to premium income since the Company's inception, including 1915, is 37.2 per cent.

Yours truly,

THEODORE MEUNIER.

Managing Director.

Montreal, May 3rd, 1916.

## CANADIAN ACCIDENTS DURING MARCH, 1916.

Trade or Industry.	Killed.	Injured.	Total.
Agriculture.....	4	5	9
Lumbering.....	5	9	14
Mining.....	5	14	19
Railway construction.....	1	2	3
Building Trades.....	—	4	4
Metal Trades.....	6	143	149
Woodworking Trades.....	—	9	9
Textile.....	—	4	4
Food and Tobacco Preparation.....	2	4	6
Leather.....	1	1	2
Transportation:—			
Steam Railway Service.....	23	87	110
Electric Railway Service.....	1	—	1
Navigation.....	3	3	6
Miscellaneous.....	2	18	20
Public Employees.....	—	7	7
Miscellaneous Skilled Trades.....	5	15	20
Unskilled Labour.....	3	7	10
Total.....	61	332	393

P. D. McGregor, a leading Chicago fire underwriter, states that a slight increase in the burning rate might transform the so-called preferred classes into unprofitable classes. He suggests caution, especially on further rate reductions on dwellings and their contents, the largest of the preferred classes.