

According to these statistics our working population is divided as follows:—

Farming class.....	662,630	
Servant do	74,830	
Learned professions.....	52,974	
		790,434
Commercial class.....	107,646	
Industrial class.....	287,296	
*Not classified	205,228	
		600,170
		<u>1,390,604</u>

On the other hand, the total number of deaths by accident has been 1,752.

The number of persons between the ages of eleven and sixty-one years killed by accident in 1881 was 1,019. Accordingly, we will be certainly above the possible maximum of the premium, if we attribute the total of these deaths to the three last classes—that is to say, if we place the total losses upon 44 per cent. of the total number of workmen. In these conditions to pay to the heirs of each of the 1,019 victims a sum of \$1,000 it would have sufficed to levy previously on each workman a premium of less than \$1.70 per year.

In calculating insurance, what is true for a thousand persons is true for the mass, and *vice versa*. We can then say that in 1881 the State could have insured citizens against death by accident at a mean annual premium of \$1.70.

The realization of the project of insurance against death by accident is most easy.

The limit of assurance which a citizen may contract for will be fixed at \$1,000.

Assurance could be either \$500 or \$1,000.

Pass-books, like savings bank books, will be delivered by post offices, and the premiums contributed will be there inscribed, with the date of their payment. They could be made by means of stamps issued by the State, and of which the mode of obliteration will be indicated by the administration.

The State ought to issue two kinds of stamps—one of a fixed value, representing a month's assurance; the other representing the value of an insurance of one, two three, four, five or six working days.†

Those are the conditions, as we understand it, of the assurance management:

A workman would insure for one year for \$500 to pay his heirs in case of death by accident, and for that it would suffice him to make one payment of 85 cents (if we take for basis the calculation above), or to pay either directly to the post office or by the aid of insurance stamps a premium of 8 cents per month.

The employer would have power to assure his workmen for another sum of \$500, and for that it would suffice him to paste in his workman's insurance book one of the stamps representing the insurance premiums of a certain number of days. The pasting and obliteration of this day assurance stamp, are only questions of detail useless to consider at this moment.

In this way the workman will be insured for a fixed sum of \$1,000.

It will be permissible to him to complete his \$1,000 of insurance by stamps, whenever his employer may not be willing to insure him, or whenever he shall be without work.

* Apprentices and laborers are included in those not classified.

† For the clearness of our statement we speak only of one premium, although in practice it will be necessary to establish classes of risks, as in ordinary insurance.