

(as against 1,000), a result lower than that of any other except occupied farmers and other agriculturists in selected districts; while the proportion living at all ages above 65 enormously exceeds the average. Lawyers and barristers come next, and die less rapidly than medical men at all stages of life. The comparative mortality figure of the medical profession is 952. Turning to other occupations, we find much food for reflection in Dr. Tatham's figures. On the whole, the mortality from phthisis has continued to decline steadily. Among woollen manufacturers, potters, stone quarriers, and coal miners in various parts of England and Wales, there has been a marked decrease, as well as a considerable fall in the general mortality from respiratory disease amongst drapers, ironstone miners, printers and potters. It is interesting to note that even clergymen and farmers shared the general fall in phthisis mortality, although previously they had shown an extremely low mortality. The exceptions were found in messengers, menservants, tanners, lace and hosiery workers, lead workers and costermongers, amongst whom the phthisis mortality has been practically stationary; and general shopkeepers, cutlers, ironstone, copper and tin miners, general laborers, manservants in industrial districts and unoccupied males, amongst whom it has considerably increased. Another somewhat disquieting set of facts relates to alcohol. Amongst the occupations which in earlier reports were shown to be addicted to alcohol, all reappear in the present report except the hair-dressers, whose mortality from that cause has decreased by half. Among paper-hangers and wood-turners the mortality from alcoholism has shown a considerable increase, and to a less extent among the newly-introduced occupations of messengers, lead workers, tobacconists, general laborers and general shopkeepers, amongst each of which classes the particular mortality in question has substantially increased, and is now more than double the standard. In many ways Dr. Tatham's report constitutes a supplement of great statistical value to the sixty-fifth annual report of the Registrar-General.—*Medical Press and Circular*.

Opium Consumed in the United States.

During the past four years, 1903-1907, there were imported into the United States 2,436,771 pounds of crude opium (containing 9 per cent. or more of morphine), 783,258 pounds of chandu or smoking opium, and 59,000 pounds of morphine. It is estimated that from 60 to 75 per cent. of this opium is manufactured into morphine, and that 50 to 90 per cent. of the mor-