

follows:—The grand factors in the causation of obesity are over-eating and deficient exercise, acting either singly or, more often, in combination. In short, the fat man starts off as an insurance risk with small lungs (poor oxidation), weak heart (imperfect circulation), and a big stomach (overfeeding). Take these facts in connection with the excessive deposit of fat in various tissues of the body, and we can readily decipher the danger to the fat man. Forming a thick cushion under the skin, the non-conductor fat interferes with heat-radiation and the normal heat-regulating mechanism of the body; hence the easy chilling of the surface and the proneness to catarrh of the respiratory and alimentary mucous membranes. This man "catches cold," develops a bronchial pneumonia, and his naturally weak heart is overtaxed, and sudden death ensues. Remember too, that alcoholic drinks often play a prominent part in the causation of obesity. And yet our fat brother has no difficulty in getting all the accident insurance he wants.—"Insurance Herald," Louisville.

LIFE COMPANIES IN GERMANY.

Mr. Ernest L. Harris, of Eibenstock, Germany, consular agent of the United States, says in his address to the State Department:

The twenty seventh annual report on the condition of German life insurance companies shows how steadily these institutions have been gaining ground. I give the following information and statistics for the year 1898: Of the 42 German life insurance companies, 20 are joint stock companies and 22 have the mutual-benefit plan. During the year 1898, 188,873 applications representing a capital of \$179,003,010.38, were made to the companies as a whole. From this number, the 20 joint-stock companies received 108,033 applications, representing \$95,482,304.65. The 22 other companies received 80,840 applications, covering a capital of \$83,520,705.73. Of this number of new applications the following were accepted: The 20 joint-stock companies accepted 83,616 applications, representing a capital of \$72,011,771.38; the 22 mutual-benefit companies accepted 64,611 applications, covering a capital of \$65,687,537.09. The aggregate number was thus 148,227, representing a capital of \$137,699,308.47. The joint-stock companies, therefore, rejected 24,417 applications, and the mutual-benefit companies 16,229, being a total of 40,646 or 21 per cent. of the entire number of applications. During the year 1898, the joint-stock companies transacted business of \$6,324,234.29 more than the mutual-benefit companies.

During the last five years, namely, 1894-'98, the 42 companies did a combined business as follows:

Year.	Number of policies.	Insurance.
1894	131,248	\$112,076,592 28
1895	134,934	118,807,234 75

1896	139,045	125,259,624 20
1897	143,970	132,791,436 23
1898	148,227	137,699,308 47
Total	607,424	\$626,634,195 93

This shows a gradual increase of 8.1 per cent. in the number of applications and an increase of 8 per cent. in the actual business done during the five years above mentioned.

The mortality for 1898 of those carrying life insurance policies was very favourable to the companies. The outlay for deaths and other expenditures fell \$4,593,400 short of the amount allowed for such matters. At the close of the year 1898, the 42 companies had 1,625,299 policies in force. The assets of all the companies represented a capital at the close of the year of \$1,482,449,042.

ACTUARIES IN SCOTLAND.

What Admission to the Faculty Means—New Regulations.

A revised syllabus of examination giving the regulations governing the admission of associates has been issued by the council of the Faculty of Actuaries in Scotland. The conditions, which will be interesting to actuaries in this country, are as follows:

1. Any gentleman desirous of prosecuting his studies in connection with the Faculty of Actuaries may be enrolled as a student on the recommendation of two fellows of the faculty and on the approval of the council. A form of application may be obtained from the acting secretary.

2. Any student of the faculty who shall have attained the age of twenty-one, and shall have passed, to the satisfaction of the council, three examinations, at such intervals and on such subjects as the council may prescribe, shall be admitted an associate.—Law 4.

3. Any gentleman who shall have taken a degree in arts at one of the universities of Great Britain or Ireland, being twenty-one years of age, and enrolled as a student of the faculty, and who shall have passed to the satisfaction of the council, the second and third examinations prescribed by them under the foregoing rule, shall be admitted an associate.—Law 5.

4. Students on each occasion of being examined shall pay to the funds of the faculty a fee of 10s. 6d.

Students on being enrolled shall pay to the funds of the faculty a fee of 10s. 6d. Thereafter on the first day of January, annually, they shall pay a fee of 2s. 6d., which, however, shall be refunded each year in which an examination fee of 10s. 6d. is paid.—Law 25.

5. The examinations take place annually in the month of April and extend over two days, five hours being allowed each day.

6. At least one month's public notice is given of the days on which the examinations are to take place.

7. Candidates are required to give the acting-secre-