

pational mortality in England and Wales. As might be expected, the general conclusions are written in plainest type in the extremes of the list, which record the highest and the lowest average mortalities. The terrible adverse influence of alcohol upon the length of life is once again illustrated in a striking manner. Brewers exceed the average standard mortality figures by 10 per cent., their deaths being excessive under every heading except that of accidents. The direct effects are registered by a mortality from alcoholism and liver disease of three times the standard. Curiously, the excess from cancer in their case amounts to 75 per cent., a point that is worthy of careful consideration in the investigation of that disease. Indirectly, brewers suffer more severely than the average from intercurrent disease, such as influenza, and there is a marked excess in the fatality from phthisis, from diseases of the circulatory and respiratory systems, and from Bright's disease. As might be expected, these results are greatly multiplied in the case of the publicans, who between the ages of 25 and 65 years show a higher mortality than any other section in what is euphemistically spoken of as "The Trade." Under the heading, "Alcoholism and Liver Disease," the mortality is no less than seven times the standard, while from Bright's disease it is  $2\frac{1}{2}$  times the average; from influenza, phthisis, and diseases of the nervous system there is an excess of 70 per cent., and from diseases of the circulatory and respiratory systems it is somewhat under 50 per cent. The excess of cancer amongst the brewers is to a certain extent discounted by the maintenance of an average standard amongst the publicans, possibly because the latter are the shorter-lived, and succumb at an earlier period to other maladies. Suicide, again, shows more than twice the average of all occupations. The brunt of the sacrifice in the ranks of "The Trade" falls upon the inn-servants, the excess being most marked under the heading of phthisis. Their mortality is greater than that of the publicans from cancer, from circulatory and respiratory diseases, from alcoholism apart from liver disease, and from accident; but from all other causes the servants suffer less than the masters. Emerging from these dismal facts, however, is the ray of light visible in the statement that the figures show a distinct improvement upon those of previous years. In other words, persons engaged in the drink trade have shared in the general diminution of the death-rates of the country. Turning to the opposite extreme, we find that among the professions the clergy of all denominations easily take the first place. Between the ages of 25 and 65 they furnish a comparative mortality of 524