

The above table gives only proportions, not actual death-rates. No comparison between death-rates in 1861-70 and in 1881-90 can be based upon it. It will be observed that in both decades the female death-rate from pneumonia is higher at the age-period 10-15 than the male. At all other ages the male is considerably higher than the female death-rate. At the age-group 5-10, the death-rate in the two sexes is nearly equal, but at ages under 5 there is a difference between the two sexes of about 20 per cent., and at ages over 20 there is a difference varying from about 60 to 20 per cent. It will be noted, furthermore, that the disproportion is, on the whole, fairly well maintained in each age-period in the two separate decades. At age-periods in which the difference is great or small in 1861-70 it remains so in 1881-90. The only exception to this rule is in the age-period 15-20.

Question of Transference between Pneumonia and Phthisis and Bronchitis.—I am not prepared with an explanation of the discrepancy at this particular age-period (15-20), any more than I can explain the exceptional excess of female over male mortality from pneumonia at the next preceding age-period, 10-15. Does it represent a real change in the age-incidence of this disease, or a transference to some other disease, *e.g.*, phthisis or bronchitis? Some light may be thrown on this point by a comparison with these two diseases. This can best be made by taking the death-rate at each age-period from each of these three diseases in 1861-70, and contrasting it with that for 1881-90, the former being stated as one hundred. This is done in the following table:

PROPORTIONAL DEATH-RATE FROM EACH DISEASE IN 1881-90, AMONG PERSONS
AT THE FOLLOWING AGE-PERIODS.

(The death-rate in the corresponding age-period, in 1861-70, being stated as 100.)

	All ages	0-	5-	10-	15-	20-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75 and upwards
Pneumonia	99	69	110	116	129	138	164	186	185	175	166	155
Bronchitis.	122	158	111	80	69	65	69	86	98	101	109	123
Phthisis...	70	56	64	63	59	59	68	78	82	82	85	97

The preceding table shows that the death-rate from pneumonia at all ages has declined to the extent of 1 per cent. between 1861-70 and 1881-90. This decline, however, is confined to the first quinquennium of life, the decline of registered mortality at this point amounting to 31 per cent. At all other ages there has been an increase of registered mortality, varying from 10 per cent. at ages 5-10 to 86 per cent. at ages 35-45. Compare this with the experience as to bronchitis. The total