

has an expectancy of 29 years. These should be charged such premiums as make each pay for what he gets. It is radically wrong that a man of 40 should pay the same as a man of 20. A graded assessment does not meet the difficulty. The very next year the grade is wrong. There are only two ways to make each pay equally, firstly, to adopt the level premium rates, either on the Legal Reserve or the Lapse or Decrement Reserve plan. These rates may be divided into twelve portions, and paid monthly. It is still a level premium, however. Or, secondly, to charge the natural premium rates and change from year to year, as the members advance in age. By this plan a member in his eightieth year would be paying about \$140 a year.

It will not do for members to make light of the fundamental errors that exist in these organizations. Take a member, aged 20 when he joins. Grant that he remains a member for 40 years. Allow that he paid on an average \$10 a year in assessments to carry his \$1000 of insurance, which is a low estimate to make, for, while his first few years may be under this, his latter years will be above this estimate. At the end of this forty years, when he is 60 years of age, the society suspends operations. A high death rate, and frequent assessments, brought it to an end. Now, allow only 4 per cent. on the money he has paid in during these years, at \$10 a year, and it will be found that he has contributed to the defunct concern \$988.27. All this he does for the satisfaction of belonging to a fraternity, and seeing his money going to assist others, whom he never saw, and in whom he has no other interest than that they are members of the same society. But this member is not contributing his money on this understanding. Had he been informed when he joined that after paying in for forty years, and contributing, in principal and interest, \$988.27, the society would become defunct, and leave him, an old man of sixty, out in the cold, he certainly would not have joined. In the meantime he may have become uninsurable; but, even if still in good health, and he seeks new insurance, he finds his premiums are very high on account of his age.

Thus it is that under the guise of fraternity, a vast amount of injustice has been perpetrated. The members often do not know any better, and, taking the statements of the leading spirits in the order, look upon their insurance as perfectly good. Mr. Neison, the distinguished British actuary, condemned such societies in the strongest language. While it must be admitted that the good fraternities have done in many ways is immense, it must be also admitted on the other hand, that very much injustice has been done through their agency, as shown by the example just given, which is only one of many that have happened, and that must still happen under the present method of managing these societies.