

pensation in case of accident, sickness and death; old age pensions and the like, all striving for the better protection of those who are employed in mechanical, business or other pursuits. Any plan for its development cannot be perfect at the start. Many obstructions, real or imaginary, may retard its progress, but they are only of temporary nature and it seems to me that as public servants, we should welcome such a measure and join with both employer and employed, with both the insurer and the insured, in all reasonable efforts for its promotion."

In these sentiments I believe we may safely and fully concur.

BE A PHILANTHROPIST.

As the world grows older and civilization advances, the proportion of those who realize that there is more pleasure in giving than in receiving increases. Philanthropists are relatively more numerous now than generations ago, and in this class we include both those who are able to give their millions and those whose benefactions are limited to the widow's mite. We would not detract from the merit, or question the motives, of the rich men of the present day, who out of their abundance give magnificent sums for the uplift of humanity; but in every community there are numbers of persons of whom the world has never heard who (comparing their little with the abundance of the rich) "give more than they all."

Among such we include those who stint and deny themselves, from the beginning of the year to the end, to pay the premiums on a life insurance policy; for of all benevolent actions this is the most unselfish, involving, as it does in most cases, constant self-denial in order to provide benefits for others in which the giver himself can never share.

Among those whom we would term philanthropists are the persons who help men to help themselves. This they may do by kindly advice or counsel, and by pointing out to men opportunities for bettering their condition; or, in the prosecution of their own business, they may all the while be leading others to benefit themselves. The life insurance agent prosecutes his calling primarily for his own benefit, as do other men; but one of his greatest sources of satisfaction is the knowledge that in the prosecution of his own business he is doing more for others, perhaps, than are the members of any other profession or calling. The life insurance companies of this continent pay to policyholders, their widows and orphans, more than four hundred million dollars every year. Had it not been for the persistent labors of the life insurance agent, probably less than ten per cent. of this money would have been saved at all. Life insurance premiums in general represent small sums that, but for this systematic method of saving, would have gone for current expenses, as the earnings of most men go.

But there is another class of philanthropists of whom the public seldom takes notice, and it is larger than might be supposed. We refer to those who, without expectation of profit or gain for themselves, advise people who have confidence in them to provide for their dependents by means of life insurance. The reader is probably in that class. He has often noted the improvident ways of the average man, who, however benevolent his intentions, constantly defers making provision for the future.

That man may be in your employ; he may be a

friend or acquaintance, in whom you feel an interest and who has confidence in your judgment; he may be your brother or your sister's husband. He is industrious and capable; he is devoted to his wife and children; but he is laying up nothing for their maintenance in the event of his death. He needs life insurance first of all things. He needs to cultivate habits of thrift and saving; but if he depends upon the slow methods of the savings bank he may be taken away before more than a pittance has been accumulated. He can carry life insurance, but have you advised him to do so? He will listen to you and be guided by your counsel, when he might be very loath to talk with the life insurance agent at all. You are in a position to help him to help himself merely by giving friendly counsel and advice. Among our readers are many who have seen the widow and the orphan provided for through their own intervention, when this involved nothing more than urging the deceased husband and father to take out life insurance for their protection.—*Mutual Interests.*

NEW YORK'S NEW COMPENSATION LAW.

In view of the sympathetic effect which the new workmen's compensation law in New York State is likely to have on similar legislation, it is of interest to note the principal points of the laws. These are as follows:—

Provides definite payments for specified periods to injured employes, with a basis rate of 66-2-3 per cent. of the average weekly wages earned.

Affects only so-called hazardous industries divided into forty-two groups and will in effect apply to about 90 per cent. of the employes in the State.

Law makes employer liable for compensation to injured workmen without regard to cause of accident. Entirely supersedes old common law defenses.

To be administered by commission of five to be appointed by the Governor and provides four alternatives for insuring compensation.

Commission to be appointed after January 1, 1914, but employers not to become liable for compensation as provided until July 1, 1914.

Employers made liable for cost of medical attendance and hospital service for injured employes during period of sixty days. Penalties are provided for failure to meet the obligations of the law, and employers, who fail to pay compensation are liable to suit for lump sum payment over period of years plus 50 per cent.

Employers who do not insure are to be held liable to negligence suits and also fine of \$1 a day for each employe.

Disability rates are provided on graduated scale of time and amount, according to extent of injury or disability. Percentage basis generally higher than nearby States, such as New Jersey, Massachusetts and Connecticut.

The new workmen's compensation law means that after July 1 next practically every employer in the State will have to insure. The law is so phrased that unless he insures he is subjected to the severest penalties. He has four ways of insuring open to him—with the stock liability companies, with newly formed mutual liability companies, with the State fund, or has the opportunity to insure himself if his solvency is unquestioned.