

a business in every respect beyond reproach."

e Insurance Co.

NEW YORK, STOCK COMPANY

the People, FOR the People."

Announcement for 1907

December 8th, 1906

plus to about ten per cent. of our assets by annual distributions of the excess of surplus earned to the policyholders who contributed to it. Public opinion has changed and now cares more for death benefits than endowments. We are in business to please the public. We have a good deal of evidence that Ordinary Life and Limited Payment Life contracts are thought preferable to Endowments. We have resolved therefore to discontinue our Increasing Life and Endowment policies, which were designed to meet the public demand formerly existing, and which were, we believe, the first tables ever really scientifically constructed for Industrial policies. Our new Industrial policies will therefore be Whole Life contracts. But we think that as these there are signs of a belief on the part of the public that payment of premiums ought to cease with old age. It is hard for people to see what to any mathematician is self-evident, that in life insurance the companies are enabled to pay the policies in full on lives of those who die soon after insurance only by the receipt of premiums from those who live out and beyond their expectations; and that the apparent hardship upon those who live long is only the contribution to the unfortunate which is the essential basis of life insurance. However, it is possible of course to make tables for limited payments, and the problem is therefore to fix an age that shall not be so young as to raise the premiums or (what is the same in Industrial insurance where the unit is the premium and not the amount of insurance) to reduce the benefits unduly; and on the other hand to fix the age not so old that the benefits of the years of payment of premium shall be lost. We have fixed age 75 as the limit of payment of premiums because at that age we are enabled to only slightly reduce the benefits during life and because we have not received many complaints of the necessity of paying premiums up to that age. In the occasional complaint that "people never live so long old age," we may answer that in 1906 we shall have approximately, as matter of grace, paid about 2,700 claims as endowments on policies issued as **Whole Life** on persons reaching age 80 after paying premiums for 15 years or over.

Constructing a table of benefits upon these four principles—Whole Life instead of Endowments; our recent mortality experience instead of our old; a loading proportioned to our reduced expenses; and the payment of premiums increasing after age 75—we shall put forth for 1907 new tables in the Industrial department which are better than any company has heretofore issued and better than we have ever before this felt it safe to issue.

The most striking change is in the Infantile table, because there we substitute Life tables with payment of premiums limited to age 75 for our comparatively short Increasing Endowment tables now in use; and are therefore enabled to pay in benefits what we have been compelled to hold as reserve liability upon the endowment features.

Our new Infantile tables will pay nearly as much death benefits for a weekly premium of five cents as we have heretofore paid for a weekly premium of

ten cents. It is of course understood that the law fixes a maximum of benefits payable upon children and this we cannot exceed. We have therefore increased the benefits at the later ages for persistence. Thus at age two at entry the benefit in case of death at age nine is \$173, while the benefit at age three at entry dying at age nine is \$169, and the benefit at age four at entry dying at age nine is \$165, and so on. This is a recognition of the additional years for which premiums have been paid by those entering at earlier ages when death occurs at the same age. It follows from this large increase of benefits for five cents that hereafter no policy will be issued under the Infantile tables for a total premium of more than five cents. And to meet a desire for less insurance, especially in large families, we have a table with proportionate benefits for a weekly premium of three cents.

Our Adult tables show an increase of benefits for the same premium based strictly upon our tables of mortality. At age ten the increase is 12½ per cent. over our present Life tables and nearly 18 per cent. over our Increasing Life and Endowment table. At age 20 the increase is over nine per cent. and over 23 per cent. respectively; at age 30 the increase is nearly six per cent., and nearly 20 per cent. respectively; at age 40 the increase is two per cent. and over 13 per cent. respectively; and so on. And in comparing these tables with our present Whole Life tables (and with those of most of the other Industrial companies) it must not be forgotten that these old tables provide for payment of premium during the whole of life, while under our new tables payment of premiums ceases at age 75.

We have increased the **immediate benefits under all of these policies** in accordance with the rule we made retroactive this year, to half-benefits during the first six months and full benefits thereafter.

We have introduced into all of these policies new features in the way of surrender values. Paid-up policies will be granted after three years instead of five; extended insurance will be granted after three years at the option of the holder; and cash surrenders will be paid after ten years. The policies will be in new and attractive forms, with three pages instead of two, in order to set forth all of the concessions, making the rights of the policy-holders so plain that any one will be able to tell what he is entitled to. And the whole contract will be expressed in the policy, doing away entirely with the necessity of a copy of the application, using the form in this respect for all policies which we adopted many years ago for policies under \$300.

ORDINARY DEPARTMENT.

One of the most striking results of the Armstrong Investigation was the adoption of a provision restricting expenses for the first year of the life of the policy. And what is most interesting as well as complimentary to the **Metro-politan** is the fact, which appeared in the newspaper dis-

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