

manufacture, so that to develop the production of iron and steel goods, there needs to be a general form of encouragement or of protection given to them, as a specialized or restricted one is likely to defeat its own ends. In winding up the discussion Mr. Fielding intimated that he had reason to think that the Dominion Iron & Steel Company thought the bounties would enable their industry to go on. The resolutions were then carried, and a bill founded on them introduced and read a first time.

#### COMPILATION OF MORTALITY EXPERIENCE.

The Actuarial Society of America at its last annual meeting, appointed a committee, to prepare a report on the results of the mortality experiences of the various companies, a synopsis of which is published in "The Insurance Post." This has been completed, except for the printing of the resultant tables, which will be out before the meeting of the Congress of Actuaries this month. Some very interesting and valuable facts are deduced by the committee from the figures under consideration. The committee, in presenting the results of its investigation, warns the public against thinking that the figures will apply to the general population, as in fact they relate to lives selected for insurance. The group of persons entering upon insurance at ages from 18 to 28 inclusive are called "young entrants;" those entering from 29 to 42 "mature entrants;" those from 43 to 56 "elderly entrants," and those at ages from 57 to 70 inclusive, "old entrants."

Ninety-eight different classes were considered. Class one consisted of persons insured for \$20,000 or more on one application. The result was found to be unfavourable, except upon young entrants, in spite of the care exercised with large applications, increasing with the increase of the age at entry, the old entrants being by far the worst.

Classifications by nationalities show that insurants born in Germany do well for those insured in early life, but badly for those insured at higher ages. Insurants of Irish birth are decidedly unsatisfactory, except that good results are secured after five years on those taken at young ages. Natives of Norway and Sweden give excellent results. The classification of negroes shows well after five years, but badly within the first five years of insurance. The figures under consideration do not show that the colored people have less vitality than whites, as is ordinarily supposed, but the committee calls attention to the fact that unusual care has undoubtedly been taken in the selection of this class of risks.

Considered by occupation, army risks are found to be unsatisfactory, even in time of peace, and naval officers are always unprofitable at all ages of entry, as are other classes of seafaring risks. The experience on civil police officers is unfavourable, except for old entrants, and on members of

paid fire departments is very unfavourable. Physicians show an improvement over earlier statistics, those insured below age 43 being good risks, while the result is unfortunate on physicians insured at ages above 43, both as to the earlier and later insurance.

Of occupations usually regarded as hazardous, those exposed to electricity, those engaged in saw mills, those working in iron and steel at high temperature, house painters, tailors, butchers and meat dealers and traveling salesmen have been found to be good risks. On the others hand, steel grinders and glass workers have been very unprofitable. Potters are satisfactory during the first five years of insurance and unprofitable thereafter. Labourers show heavy mortality, except upon young entrants. Those in theatrical occupations show a very high mortality at all ages.

Liquor dealers are divided into two classes, ordinarily supposed to be good risks, one consisting of hotelkeepers not giving personal attention to their bar rooms, and the other of liquor dealers who guarantee that they are total abstainers. Both show bad results, and still worse is the class of liquor dealers who are not total abstainers, while brewers and their employes show even poorer results. On the other hand, distillers and their employes may almost be regarded as good risks, at least during the early years of insurance.

Among railway men, passenger conductors show a mortality only slightly above the expectation, and railway mail clerks have been excellent risks. Express messengers show favourable results as regards the younger risks, but very unfavourable for those insured later in life. The results for railway passenger train men are uniformly bad for each group of ages. Locomotive engineers show bad results, and firemen are even more unprofitable.

Considered as regards physical condition, those that have been accepted for insurance, notwithstanding an intermittent or irregular pulse, have proved to be good risks when insured at younger ages, but not so good when insured at older ages. Those accepted notwithstanding a pulse rate below sixty per minute, have proved to be extraordinarily good risks at all ages of entry, and all ages for insurance. Bad results are shown on those having insured after having reformed from intemperate habits, notwithstanding the extreme care usually taken in the acceptance of such risks. Considered by weights, all classes of extra heavy risks have proved most unsatisfactory, those having excessive abdominal girth being very bad risks. Persons of ordinary weight having both parents die below 60 show fairly satisfactory results in the younger groups of entrants, and unfavorably in the older groups. Classes of light weight show good results for all ages of entrants and all ages of insurance. Unusually tall men, above 6 feet 3, are good risks at young ages and bad at older. Men below five feet in height are good risks, excepting upon the old entrants.