

basis. \* \* \* What healthy man would want to join a wide-open society, and put up his well-filled purse to be drawn upon for its abnormal death losses? But that is precisely what every healthy man does who goes into an assessment society, be it called Mutual Reserve Fund or any other name, which collects too little in the earlier years—as all such societies do—and is compelled to assess the survivors more and more heavily to fill the gap thus created.

A few years ago the Association claimed that owing to its low mortality the then rates charged would be sufficient to carry the contracts for fifteen years, and that no increase would be made. Insurance experts were roundly abused because they stated, that it would surely be necessary to increase the rates of the Association to keep it alive. The following table of rates of the Association forcibly illustrates that the experts understood their business and that at last the officers of the Mutual Reserve are aroused to the necessity of making an effort to save their Association. An interesting query is: How many members will pay the increased rate? The result will be watched with much interest.

### Rates of the Mutual Reserve Fund Association.

Age.	Average Cost per annum, 1881-2-3.	Rates 1890.	Rates for 1896
25	5.67	13.80	13.98
30	6.03	14.22	14.52
35	6.55	14.94	16.32
40	7.28	16.20	19.44
45	8.01	17.94	23.52
50	9.33	21.36	30.90
55	13.92	32.46	43.02
60	18.50	43.68	63.00