

ORPHANHOOD OF CHILDREN.

New Zealand statistics give detailed information on this subject, which appears to be unique. In a paper read by Mr. H. W. Manly, actuary of the Equitable Life Assurance Society, on the 27th April, 1903, before the Institute of Actuaries at London, under the heading "Children's Benefits," he stated that in order to ascertain the ages and the number of children left by a married man at his death he had to go to the same source as Mr. King did when he constructed his table of "Family Annuities"—viz., the Statistics of New Zealand. And, further, after announcing his intention of making very considerable use of the information, he gave the tables, grouping five ages together. ("Journal of the Institute of Actuaries," October, 1903.)

Although the subject is not one of general interest, as the Year-book is more often referred to than a statistical volume, it may be excusable to draw attention here to the tables published for the year 1907 and the experience of the quinquennial period, as shown in the "Statistics of New Zealand."

The first table shows, for the year 1907, the total number of men who died at each year of age from twenty upwards; the number of men stated in the registers as having died (a) childless, (b) leaving children; and the number and ages of the children living at the time of the father's death. The next is a similar table, but giving five years' results for all ages of the fathers. A condensation of this table is shown here.

New Zealand, 1903 to 1907.

Ages of Married Men at Death.	Number of Married Men who died		Number and Ages of Living Issue.						
	Childless.	Leaving Children.	Under 5.	5 to 10.	10 to 15.	15 to 21.	21 and over.	Not specified.	Totals.
20 to 30 ...	91	155	250	24	...	...	...	13	287
30 " 40 ...	173	655	886	565	213	32	...	67	1,763
40 " 50 ...	162	918	714	919	968	770	293	226	3,890
50 " 60 ...	196	1,415	332	650	1,157	1,591	3,244	346	7,320
60 " 65 ...	126	1,057	71	180	419	854	4,323	242	6,089
65 and upwards	711	4,806	82	207	591	1,280	22,870	1,181	26,211

A table has also been prepared for the statistical volume showing, for the year 1907, the number and ages of the youngest orphan children left by married men who died. The results of five years' experience in this matter are expressed below in tabular form.

Number and Ages of Youngest Living Children left by Married Men who died, 1903-7.

Ages of Married Men at Death.	Number of Married Men who died leaving Children.	Number and Ages of Youngest Living Children.					
		Under 5.	5 to 10.	10 to 15.	15 to 20.	21 and over.	Not specified.
20 to 30	155	148	2	..	..	..	5
30 " 40	655	503	101	22	2	..	27
40 " 50	918	416	236	132	60	23	51
50 " 60	1,415	226	280	329	284	226	70
60 " 65	1,057	49	89	168	276	434	41
65 and upwards	4,806	56	99	281	498	3,648	224

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

Subjoined is a classified statement of the deaths of infants under one year during 1907, with the ratio of the deaths in each class to the 1,000 births during the year:—

Year.	Sex.	Under 1 Month.	1 and under 3 Months.	3 and under 6 Months.	6 and under 12 Months.	Total under 12 months.
<i>Number of Deaths.</i>						
1907 ... {	Male ...	430	269	257	286	1,242
	Female ...	333	177	243	233	986
<i>Deaths to the 1,000 Births.</i>						
1907 ... {	Male ...	33·50	20·96	20·02	22·28	96·76
	Female ...	27·16	14·44	19·82	19·01	80·43