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 the Colony 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 1904 and the experience of the quinquennial period, as shown in the "Statistics of New Zealand."

The first table shows, for the year 1904, the total number of men who died at each year of age from twenty upwards; the number of married men stated in the registers as having died (a) child-less, (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 the table is shown.

New Zealand, 1900 to 1904.

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.
20 to 30 ...	65	150	218	34	1	...	...	12
30 „ 40 ...	120	651	725	693	318	55	...	88
40 „ 50 ...	148	950	606	992	1,095	976	345	151
50 „ 60 ...	199	1,419	267	659	1,127	1,991	3,199	353
60 „ 65 ...	149	1,018	63	176	397	979	4,014	277
65 and upwards	611	4,029	76	187	473	1,283	18,284	1,167

A table has also been prepared showing, for the year 1904, the number and ages of the youngest orphan children left.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

Subjoined is a classified statement of the deaths of infants under one year during 1904, 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.
			Number of Deaths.				
1904 ... {	Male ...	...	395	141	222	175	933
	Female ...	.	274	119	134	156	683
			Deaths to the 1,000 Births.				
1904 ... {	Male ...	...	33·58	11·99	18·87	14·88	79·32
	Female ...	...	24·90	10·81	12·18	14·18	62·07

Seventy-nine out of every 1,000 of male children born, and 62 of every 1,000 females, are found to have died before attaining the age of one year. The mortality is thus one in thirteen of male children and one in sixteen of females, even in New Zealand, where conditions are far more favourable to infant life than in Australia, at least as far as relates to the cities.

It will be seen from the figures that the chances of living during the first year of age are far greater for female than for male infants. Thus, during the year 1904 there were—

100 deaths of males to	74	deaths of females	under 1 month of age;
100	„	90	„	from 1 to 3 months of age;
100	„	65	„	from 3 to 6 months of age;
100	„	95	„	from 6 to 12 months of age;
100	„	78	„	under 12 months of age.

The rates of infantile mortality—that is, the proportion the deaths of children under one year of age bear to the births—are higher in the Australian States than in New Zealand.

Dealing with the results for ten years, the deaths of infants under one year are in the large proportion of three-fourths of the total deaths under five, as might be expected, the first year being the tenderest period. (See notes to tables.)