

bined were 973 in excess. That is to say, the deaths due indirectly to alcohol were apparently ten times more numerous than those caused directly. This estimate differs widely from the former one, and all that we can conclude with safety is that the indirect effects of alcoholic excess are much greater than the direct effects specified on death certificates, and are probably more than three times as great.

This means that *probably* more than 3 per cent. of all males over fifteen years of age died from alcoholism, and *possibly* more than 10 per cent. It is to be remembered, however, that the figures recorded concern the pre-war years 1910-12. Since then the number of deaths has greatly decreased, and the mortality of men and women in 1925 from alcoholism and liver cirrhosis was only 38 per cent. as great as in 1913.*

ALCOHOLISM IN VARIOUS SOCIAL CLASSES.

Evidence concerning the death rate from alcoholism of men of various occupations and social classes is afforded by the reports of the Registrar-General. In the 1910-12 report the various occupational groups are divided up into eight social classes, but five of them (*viz.*, 3, 4, 6, 7, and 8) may conveniently be classified together as "skilled and semi-skilled workmen," though it is best to put the groups of men engaged in the production and sale of alcoholic liquors into a separate class by themselves. The other three social classes consist of "unskilled workmen," "upper and middle classes," and "intermediate," these latter consisting for the most part of shopkeepers. Some

* "Alliance Year Book," 1927, p. 212.