

following classes: 1) widow; 2) children (legitimate, natural, and foster-children); 3) parents and foster-parents; 4) brothers and sisters whom the deceased supported. Each of these classes excludes the following ones from the right to compensation, and if deceased leaves no relatives belonging to any of them, all liability for compensation ceases.

In 1927 the premiums paid in to the Seamen's Department amounted to 146 thousand krónur, besides a grant of 7600 krónur from the treasury, paid for fishermen on small boats. The sums granted in compensation during the year amounted in all to 83 thousand krónur (of which 63 000 kr. went to dependants of deceased persons; invalidity compensations amounted to 6000 kr., while 14 000 kr. were paid out in the form of sick-relief).

In the Industrial Department the premiums amounted to 53 000 krónur; compensations to 29 000 krónur (i. e. in case of death 12 000 krónur, invalidity compensations 1000 krónur, and 16 000 krónur by way of sick-relief).

*Sickness Insurance.* Insurance against sickness did not begin in Iceland till 1909, when a Sickness Benefit Society was formed in Reykjavík. Under an act passed in 1911 any sickness benefit society has the right to be registered, if it is not affected with any of the disabilities enumerated in the act; and it is only by registration that a sickness benefit society becomes entitled to a financial support from the State.

Into these societies (and enjoying all the privileges of members) people are admissible at any age between 15 and 40 years, if they are not suffering from any chronic diseases which reduce their working capacity, and provided also their annual income (in towns and villages with a resident doctor) does not exceed 4500 krónur, plus 500 krónur for every child under 15 years. A further condition is that they do not own property exceeding 10 000 krónur in value.

In the event of sickness the societies give free medical attendance and medicines (of which latter the patient has however to pay one-fourth), free hospital treatment, and a cash payment amounting per day to at least 50 aurar and at the highest to two-thirds of the patient's daily earnings. This daily cash payment is, however, restricted to members of 18 years and over, and obligatory only in cases where illness involves loss of employment.

The government grant to the societies is 2 krónur a year for every member in towns and villages with a resident doctor; 2.25 krónur