ACCIDENT INSURANCE BRANCH OF THE STATE FIRE INSURANCE OFFICE

(ANNUAL REPORT ON THE) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1942

Presented to both Houses of the General Assembly pursuant to Section 22 of the Government Accident Insurance Act, 1908

State Fire Insurance Office, Wellington, 30th March, 1943.

I HAVE the honour to submit the forty-second annual report of the Government Accident Insurance Office for the year ended 31st December, 1942, together with the Revenue Account and Balance-sheet.

The following comparison with the previous two years shows the position briefly:—

	1940.	1941.	1942.
Income—	££	££	££
Premiums from all classes of accident insurance Interest	259,399 $20,557$	268,775 $19,771$	$232,241 \\ 22,364 \\ 10$
Profit on realization of securities	279,956 	288,546 	18 254,623
Outgo-			
Bonus and sums accrued under profit-sharing			
schemes	4,000	6 , 920	3,746
Claims	138,000	134,208	122,826
Working-expenses (exclusive of income-tax)	42,185	42,442	38,172
Carried to reserve for unearned premiums		3,826	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •
Income-tax	52,018	65,087	68,930
National and social security tax	13,063	12,784	13,797
Loss on realization of securities	249,266	$\frac{2,146}{267,413}$	247,471
Surplus, apportioned as follows:—			
Investment Fluctuation Reserve	10,000		
Reserve Fund	$\frac{20,690}{30,690}$	21,133 $21,133$	$\frac{7,152}{}$ 7,152
Total	${279,956}$	288,546	
Reserves and funds as at 31st December	554,966	579,925	587,077
Ratio of claims (all classes of business) to premium	Per Cent. 53 · 2	Per Cent. 49.93	Per Cent. 52 · 89
income	99.7	49.90	<i>⊎</i> 4.09
Ratio of working-expenses (exclusive of income-	$16 \cdot 26$	15.79	$16 \cdot 43$
tax) to premium income	9.68	5.66	·21
Ratio of underwriting surplus to premium income	9.00	5.00	- 21

The reduction in premium income is due entirely to the fall in premiums derived from motor-vehicles insurance. Owing to an alteration in the registration date, the income for 1941 covered thirteen months' premiums under the Motor-vehicles Insurance (Third-party Risks) Act, 1928, whereas the income for 1942 from the same source is for a normal period of twelve months. Also, due to war conditions there has been a lessened demand for motor-vehicle cover, and in addition greatly-reduced premiums have been charged both for comprehensive and third-party insurances.

The comments made in the Fire Branch annual report as regards staffing difficulties and extra duties arising out of the administration of war measures apply with equal force to the Accident Branch, and I once again desire to thank all officers for their helpful co-operation under unavoidably difficult conditions.