

## EMERGENCY BENEFITS

In cases of hardship a special benefit may be granted at the discretion of the Social Security Commission to any person who is not qualified for any other benefit under the Act, but who by reason of age, physical or mental disability, or for any other reason is unable to earn a sufficient livelihood for himself and his dependants. Emergency benefits may also be granted in lieu of other benefits where it is considered that a course of medical treatment or training in any occupation would be beneficial.

Full and sympathetic use was made of this section, and during the past year 2,735 benefits were granted.

The number of benefits in force decreased from 2,141 as at the 31st March, 1948, to 2,026 as at the 31st March, 1949, and the expenditure for the year was £251,409, as against £227,857 for the previous year, an increase of £23,552.

## FINANCE

### STATEMENT SHOWING THE RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1949

<i>Receipts</i>			<i>Payments</i>		
Balance as at 1st April 1948—	£	£	Monetary benefits—	£	£
Cash .. ..	1,342,701		Universal super-annuation ..	1,850,079	
Imprest .. ..	899,217		Age .. ..	13,790,971	
Investments ..	5,000,000		Widows' .. ..	1,911,134	
		7,241,918	Orphans' .. ..	27,623	
Social security charge on wages and other income .. ..	29,378,385		Family .. ..	14,242,202	
Miscellaneous receipts, interest, penalties, and fines ..	58,651		Invalids' .. ..	1,348,616	
		29,437,036	Miners' .. ..	113,659	
Recoveries under maintenance orders, widows' benefits* ..		63,429	Maori War .. ..	10	
Grants from Consolidated Fund, vote, "Social Security" (Social Security Act, 1938, section 105 (c) )		15,000,000	Unemployment ..	8,948	
			Sickness .. ..	911,107	
			Emergency .. ..	251,409	
					34,455,758
			Medical benefits, &c.—		
			Medical benefits ..	2,306,881	
			Hospital benefits ..	1,997,375	
			Maternity benefits ..	916,120	
			Pharmaceutical benefits .. ..	1,793,159	
			Supplementary benefits .. ..	861,913	
					7,875,448
			Administration expenses: Social Security Department ..		729,259
			Balance at 31st March, 1949—		
			Cash .. ..	533,874	
			Imprests outstanding ..	148,044	
			Investments .. ..	8,000,000	
					8,681,918
		<u>£51,742,383</u>			<u>£51,742,383</u>

\* This item reduces the cost to the Fund on account of widows' benefits by an equivalent amount.