### 1900. NEW ZEALAND.

### ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## GOVERNMENT INSURANCE COMMISSIONER

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1899.

Presented to both Houses of the General Assembly pursuant to the provisions of the Acts relating to Government Life Insurance.

Government Insurance Office, Wellington, 4th July, 1900.

I have the honour to submit my report upon the transactions of the Department for the past year. The accounts and usual detailed statement of progress are appended.

### New Business.

During the year 4,704 proposals were dealt with, for the assurance of £987,534; of which 3,565 proposals for life insurance, assuring the sum of £740,828, were completed, and policies issued accordingly. The annual premiums on these new policies amounted to £24,093, in addition to single premiums for £1,702. Sixty-four children's endowments were granted for £7,600, and also 20 immediate annuities, for which the purchase-money was £10,746.

The total number of new policies was 263 in excess of the previous year, and the new sum assured £34,939. The new business was, in fact, larger than at any time during the past

ten years.

There are now in existence on the books of the Department 39,366 policies, for the assurance at death or maturity of £10,341,702 (including bonus additions), and annuities—immediate or deferred—for £23,810 per annum; the total premiums on these policies amounting to £284,517 per annum.

INCOME.

The income of the Department for the year has been £288,101 for premiums, and £133,466 for interest; making, with other receipts, a total of £421,569, which represents an increase of £11,421 upon the total income of the previous year.

### CLAIMS AND EXPENSES.

Two hundred and eighty-two policyholders died during the year, the claims upon their policies amounting to £95,322, which was £13,768 less than was paid on this account in 1898, and considerably less than the amount expected according to the standard table of mortality upon which the operations of the Department are based. The average age of the lives assured under policies becoming claims by death was fifty-one and a quarter, and the average duration of the policies fifteen years.

Two hundred and twenty policies matured during the year, the total claims in this respect amounting to £66,747. This item of outgo is naturally constantly increasing, and, being practically known in advance, it is possible to make the necessary provision for it without any strain whatever on the resources of the Department. Endowment Assurances have become the most popular of all the varieties of life insurance, and a large and increasing amount payable yearly to these policies at maturity is a satisfactory testimony to the permanent nature of a class of business which is growing in favour with the public.

The total amount paid by the Department, since its foundation thirty years ago, in respect

of death claims and matured endowments has been £1,849,125.

The disbursements on account of commission and management expenses show a reduced percentage on the income of the Department, the ratio of expenses (including the land- and income-tax) to total income now standing at 14·15 per cent., as against 14·34 per cent. in r898, and 14·86 in 1897.

ACCUMULATED FUNDS.

The total increase in the funds during the year amounted to £150,547, of which £14,400 was carried to reserve, and the balance of £136,147 added to the Insurance Fund, which now stands at £2,997,681. The Department having now been in existence thirty years, it will be of interest to trace its progress in the accumulation of funds, and in other respects, for each period of ten years, as shown in the following statement:—

1-H. 8.

			Policies i	n Force.		Revenue	Accumulated		
Year.		No.	Sum assured.	Bonuses.	Premium Income.	from Interest.	Funds.	Year.	
1879 1889 1899	• • •	10,223 27,218 39,366	£ 3,726,300 7,326,100 9,558,200	£  274,400 783,500	£ 118,200 218,800 284,500	£ 16,700 81,400 133,500	£ 371,900 1,582,400 2,997,700	1879 1889 1899	

THE BALANCE-SHEET.

On the 31st December, 1899, the total assets of the Department amounted to £3,071,581, and were invested as shown in the following comparative statement:—

At 31st De	ecember,	1898.			At 31st De	cember,	1899.
Amount.		centage of Assets.	Class of Investment.	Amount.		ccentage of 1 Assets.	
£ 1,130,609 827,858 541,474 .150,829 120,938 85,151 47,735 19,770	38·7 I 28·3 18·5 5·2 4·1 2·9 1·6 0·7	per cent. " " " " " " " "	Government securities Loans on policies Local bodies' debentures Landed and house property Miscellaneous assets Cosh on current account		£ 1,333,378 787,887 559,562 138,911 122,650 89,433 33,535 6,225	43'4 25'7 18'2 4'5 4'0 2'9 1'1	per cent
£2,924,364	100.0	"	Total		£3,071,581	100,0	"

It will be seen that there has been a further decrease of £39,971 in Government securities, and of £14,200 in cash in hand. There have also been decreases of £11,918 in local bodies debentures, and £13,545 in properties acquired by foreclosure. The increase in loans on policies -£18,088—is much smaller than usual, and the asset which shows the greatest advance is that of mortgages on freehold property, which has been increased by £202,769.

### TRIENNIAL INVESTIGATION.

The triennial valuation of the liabilities has been completed, and the report of the Department's Actuary is appended. Before the basis of valuation was finally adopted, the advice of the Department's well-known Consulting Actuaries in London was sought, and these gentlemen (Messrs. Ralph P. Hardy and George King) acquiesced in the view here held that the valuation should be made upon the basis of  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. interest. The valuation was accordingly made upon that basis, the resulting surplus of £126,600 being converted into reversionary bonuses, and the certificates have been forwarded to the policyholders. Although, by valuing at  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent., and also making strong reserves in connection with the investments, the bonuses suffer a slight temporary reduction, it is felt that undoubted security is the first thing to be considered; and, under existing circumstances, the course now adopted must inevitably tend to develop the best interests of the policyholders.

### GENERAL REMARKS.

During the last session of Parliament a short Amending Act was passed, making better arrangements for dealing with property of the Department, and enabling the Commissioner to delegate certain duties to subordinate officers for the more efficient conduct of business.

An Act was also passed enabling the Department to transact Accident Insurance, and the

preliminary arrangements necessary to give effect to the Act are receiving attention.

A further reduction in the rate of interest charged on loans to policyholders upon the security of their policies was made, the change coming into effect immediately after the 31st December, 1899.

The war in South Africa compelled the Department to face, for the first time, the question of war risks, as many of its policyholders were likely to engage in the war, and applications for insurance were received from those actually proceeding to the front. In such cases temporary assurances for two years were granted, at a uniform rate of £6 ros. per cent. per annum, the policies being limited to £250, but no restrictions whatever were imposed upon those already insured; and I am happy to say that, up to the date of this report, the Department has had only two claims directly traceable to the effects of the war.

After consultation with the London Actuaries, and a thorough consideration of the matter in all its bearings, it was decided to place the premium rates upon a 3½-per-cent. basis. Complete new tables of premiums were consequently formed, and applied to all new business after the 31st December, 1899. Now that the valuation of existing business and the premiums for new business are both placed upon a 3½-per-cent. basis, the Department's financial position is greatly strengthened, and I confidently anticipate the best results for the policyholders.

I H RICHARDSON.

J. H. RICHARDSON,
Government Insurance Commissioner.

REVENUE ACCOUNT of the Gov		e Insurance Department for the mber, 1899.	Year ended
	£ s. d.	1	£ s. d.
Amount of funds at 1st January, 1899 Renewal premiums — Assurance, An-		Death claims under policies, Assurance, including bonus additions	95,322 5 0
nuity, and Endowment	253,429 19 4	Endowment Assurances matured, in- cluding bonus additions	65,074 10 0
of first year's premiums falling due in the year)	22,222 10 9	Endowments matured	1,672 7 11 11 9 10
Single premiums—Assurance and En-	,	Bonuses surrendered for cash	1,354 17 10
dowment	1,702 4 5		10,823 8 11 $18,937$ 3 7
Consideration for Annuities	10,746 0 1	Loans released by surrender	18,187 3 11
Fees		Commission, new£12,605 17 2	20,20, 0
	•	" renewal 1,945 5 0	
		Land- and income-tax	14,551 2 2 $9,284 13 0$
		Expenses of management—	5,204 15 0
		Salaries-	
		Head Office £11,533 7 5	
		Branch offices and	
		agents 6,417 15 11 Extra clerical assistance 1,480 0 0	
		Medical fees and ex-	
		_ penses 5,008 0 7	
		Travelling-expenses 1,014 9 8	
		Advertising 877 0 10 Printing and stationery 1,104 11 8	
		Rent 2,290 6 8	
		Postage 1,546 18 1	
		Telegrams 451 17 11	
		Exchange 90 2 1 Office furniture depre-	
		ciation 362 11 10	
•		General expenses 2,068 18 8	
		Triennial expenses 1,557 7 1	
		Investment Fluctuation Reserve	35,803 8 5 14,400 0 0
			2,997,681 0 4
		-	
	£3,283,103 10 11	£	3,283,103 10 11

BALANCE-SHEET of the GOVERNMENT LIFE INSURANCE DEPARTMENT on 31st December, 1899.

LIABILITIES.	•			Assets.	
Total Assurance, Annuity, and En		s.	đ.	£ s. d. £ s. d. Loans on policies	
dowment Funds (as per Revenue Account)	2,997,681	Λ	4	Government securities— Consolidated stock 625,900 0 0	
Claims admitted, proofs not yet com-				Treasury bills 120,000 0 0	
pleted Annuities	15,353 15	8 1	0	Railway debentures (guaranteed by Go-	
Commission	522	4	1	vernment) 40,000 0 0	
Medical fees	528 3,146		7	Debentures issued under "The Immi-	
Fire-insurance moneys in suspense	50	0	0	gration and Public	
Tontine Savings Funds Investment Fluctuation Reserve*	17,987 36,296		8	Works Act, 1870" 1,987 5 11 787,887 5 11	
			·	Municipal Corporation debentures 98,410 15 1	
				County securities 1,000 0 0 Harbour Board debentures 39,000 0 0	
				Town Board debentures 500 0 0	
				Landed and house property 122,650 0 2 Office furniture (Head Office and	
				agencies) 2,946 18 8 Mortgages on property 1,333,377 13 4	
				Properties acquired by foreclosure 6,225 10 0	
				Overdue premiums on policies in force 6,157 19 0	
				Outstanding premiums	
				due but not overdue 32,914 17 10  39,072 16 10	
				Overdue interest 605 2 5	
	•			Outstanding interest due but not overdue 4,370 14 7	
			- 1	Interest accrued but not due 37,786 2 5	
				42,761 19 5	
				Agents' balances	
				Cash in hand and on current account 33,535 4 6	
	£3,071,581	0	4	£3,071,581 0 4	

Government Life Insurance Department, 11th May, 1900.

J. H. RICHARDSON,

Commissioner.

W. B. Hudson,

Secretary.

Audited and found correct.

J. K. Warburton, Controller and Auditor-General.

<sup>\*</sup> Including Reserve for possible depreciation in freehold and mortgage securities.

# Statement of Business

										AS	SURAN	CES.		
<b>Y</b> !	EAR:					TC	TAL.		Who	le-life ar	ıd Tern	n Assura	nce	.8.
	899.			No.	Sum Assured.	Rever- sionary Bonus.	Annual Premium.  1. Ordinary. 2. Extra.	Annuities.  1. Immediate. 2. Deferred.	No.	Sum Assured.	Reversionary Bonus.	Annu Premi 1. Ordin 2. Extre	um.	<del></del>
								POLICI	ES IS	SSUED	AND	DISCO		
Policies in force at	t 31st ]	December,	1898	37,848	£ 9,304,742	£ 819,485	£ s. d. {271,723 3 1 3,977 15 2	£ s. d.	18,352	£ 5,347,623	£ 584,369	£ {132,477 3,225	s. 0 4	d. 7 7}
New business, 189	9		••	3,649	748,428	11	{ 24,230 4 4 133 14 8	984 16 4) 3,161 4 2)	856	214,582	11	$\left\{\begin{array}{c} 5,664\\72\end{array}\right.$	4 5	$\left\{ egin{array}{c} 2 \\ 4 \end{array} \right\}$
Total	••	••		41,497	10,053,170	819,496	1 295,953 7 5 ( 4,111 9 10	11,972 <b>o</b> .9) 13,079 15 5	19,208	5,562,205	584,380	${138,141 \atop 3,297}$		9) 11 j
Policies discontinu	aed du	ring 1899		2,131	495,004	35,960	15,527 18 7 278 3 II	687 17 5 553 14 2	939	240,440	20,257	$\left\{\begin{array}{c} 6,222\\211\end{array}\right.$		9 7}
Total Policies in f ber, 1839	orce a	t 31st Dece	•m- }	39,366	9,558.166	783,536	{ 280,425 8 10 3,833 5 11	$\begin{bmatrix} 11.284 & 3 & 4 \\ 12.526 & 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$	18,269	5,321,765	564,123	{131,918 3,085		
							P	ARTICULA	RS O	F POLI	CIES	DISCO	N-	
How Di	scontir	ued.		 			( 0017 5 77	68= == =)				/ 1 609	10	
By Death	••	••		326	82,389	10,871	2,341 7 11 70 17 10 2,629 8 0	687 17 5	232	64,674	9,245	$\left\{\begin{array}{c}1,683\\64\end{array}\right.$		10
Maturity	••	••		220	55,269	9,926	17 13 5	<b>∦</b> ••			••		_	
Surrender	••	• •		340	78,245	4,873	2,510 18 8 38 1 6	412 5 6	138	83,761	3,026	899 34		11 10
Surrender of F	3onus	••				2,360	• •			••	1,685	••		
Lapse				1,244	279,001	7,930	{ 7,796 9 8 103 14 2	141 8 8	568	141,905	6,301	$\begin{cases} 3,409 \\ 75 \end{cases}$	15 4	$\{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5,$
Expiry of Poli	сy	••		ı	100		0 18 9		1	100		0	18	9
Expiry of Pren	nium	• •	}				{ 220 3 3 1 13 4 7	}				220 13	3 4	$\binom{3}{7}$
Miscellaneous	••	••	••		••	••	28 12 4 34 12 5	<b> </b>		••			15 18	1) 0)
Total		••		2,131	495,004	35,960	$\left\{\begin{array}{ccc} 15,527 & 18 & 7 \\ 278 & 3 & 11 \end{array}\right.$	$\begin{bmatrix} 687 & 17 & 5 \\ 553 & 14 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$	939	240,440	20,257	6,222 211		9 7}
			PRO	ogri	ess of	BUSIN	ESS OF TH	E GOVERI	MEI	T LIF	E INS	URAN	Œ	
Total issued		• •		78,159	19,698,696	1,375,600	{596,896 16 3} [13,442 11 7]	31,241 1 4	39,561	11,684,683	973,270	${308,002 \atop 10,627}$		
Total void	••	••		38,793	10,140,530	592,064	$ \begin{cases} 316,471 & 7 & 5 \\ 9,609 & 5 & 8 \end{cases} $	7,430 16 9	21,292	6,362,918	409,147	(150,000	6	8) 4)
Total in force	,			39,366	9,558,166	783,536	280,425 8 10 {	11,284 3 4) 12,526 1 3)	18,269	5,321,765	564,123	{131,918 3,085		0)
Extra Pre Reduction		ns remium by	Bon'	ns. &c.			3,833 5 II ` 258 I5 O	ļ <del></del> -	The Ord	inary Prem	ium is th			<u>_</u>
	101	<u> </u>		Ab, C			£284,517 9 9	J				-		

Wellington, 19th February, 1900.

SIMPLE ENDOWMENTS, INVESTMENTS, &c.

ANNUITIES.

Annuity Assurances.

## at end of Year 1899.

Endowment Assurances.

ASSURANCES.

No.	Sum Assured.	Rever- sionary Bonus.	Ann Premi 1. Ordi 2. Exti	ium. inary	y.	No.	1. Sum Assured. 2. Rever- sionary Bonus.	Deferred Annuities		Annu Premi		No.	Annual Premium.	1.	Annuit Imme Deferr	diate.	No.	Sum As- sured.	Anr Pren	ual nium	
TI	INUED	DUR	ING T	HE	Y]	EAR	1899.														
18,638	£ 3,893,183	£ 234,818			<b>d.</b> 8) 7	199	$\{ egin{array}{c} \pounds \ \{ 25, 800 \} \ 298 \} \end{array}$	£ s. 9,397 14	d. 3		. d.	{ 256 10	£ s. d.	110		s. d. 4 5) 17 0)	393	£ 38,136	£ 1,458	s. 6	
2,649	518,096	••	{ 17,868 61	11 9	9) 4)	60	8,150	3,161 4	2	426 10	0	20	••		984	16 4	64	7,600	270	18	5
21,287	4,411,279	234,818	{154,209 {813	2 19	5) 11)	259	(33,950) (298)	12,558 18	5	1,794 1	l 4	$\left\{ egin{array}{c} 276 \ 10 \end{array}  ight.$	79 0 8		1,972 520	0 9) 17 0)	457	45,786	1,729	5	3
1,129	250,088	15,683	{ <b>9,0</b> 79 66	3 11	1 }	10	$\left\{\begin{array}{c} 1,500 \\ 20 \end{array}\right\}$	553 14	2	79	5 8	19	••	{	687	17 5	34	2,976	146	19	1
20,158	4,161,191	219,135	$\begin{cases} 145,129 \\ 747 \end{cases}$	19 8	4) 7}	249	$\{32,450\}\ 278\}$	12,005 4	3	1,715	3 8	$\left\{egin{array}{c} 257 \ 10 \end{array} ight.$	} 79 0 8	<b>1</b> 1	1,284 520	3 4) 17 0)	423	42,760	1,582	6	2
TI	INUED	DUR	ING TI	Œ	YE	AR	1899.			one recent to the second											_
75	17,715	1,626	{ 657 6	15 13	2)			••				19	••	{	687	17 5		••			
196	53,596	9,926	$\left\{\begin{array}{c} 2,530 \\ 17 \end{array}\right.$		9)								. ••		•••		24	1,673	99	7	3
188	42,581	1,835	1,523	1	5) 81	8	$\left\{egin{array}{c} 1,100 \ 12 \end{array} ight\}$	412 5	6	56 19	8		••				6	803	31	18	8
	•,	675	•••				••						••					••	٠.		
670	136,196	1,621	4,348	8 9 1	6)	2	$\left\{ \begin{array}{c} 400 \\ 8 \end{array} \right\}$	141 8	8	22 13	0						4	500	15	13	2
	••				-0,			••													
								••													
	••		{ 19 9	$\begin{array}{c} 17 \\ 14 \end{array}$	3) 5)	••	••	• ••					••		• •					••	
1,129	250,088	15,683	9,079	3 11	1)	10	$\{ \begin{array}{c} 1,500 \\ 20 \end{array} \}$	553 14	2	79 5	8	19		{	687	17 5	34	2,976	146	19	1
DI	EPARTI	MENT	SINC	e i	<b>L</b> AC	Œ (	OF EST	rablisi	TE	MENT	T	31:	st <b>DEC</b> E	MI	3ER,	189	9.				_
,	7,857,099		${281,229 \atop 2,815 \atop 136,099}$	3 3 1 4	$\begin{bmatrix} 8 \\ 11 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$	273	$\{ \begin{array}{c} 36,150 \\ 325 \\ 3,700 \end{array} \}$	13,235 9	4	1,912 19		399	203 11 11		3,005			120,764	·		
15,714	3,695,908	182,870	2,067		4.	24	47	1,230 5	1	197 8	4	132	124 11 3	- 6	5,200	11 8	1,631	78,004	3,967	1	10
20,158	4,161,191	219,135	145,129 747	19 8	4)	249	${32,450 \choose 278}$	12,005 4	3	1,715 8	8	∫ 257 10	79 0 8		,284 520		423	42,760	1,582	6	2

J. H. RICHARDSON, Commissioner. MORRIS FOX, Actuary.

# REPORT BY THE ACTUARY

ON THE

# TRIENNIAL VALUATION,

31st December, 1899,

Made under Section 45 of "The Government Insurance and Annuities Act, 1874," and Section 8 of "The Government Life Insurance Acts Amendment Act, 1890."



Wellington, 7th June, 1900.

In accordance with instructions I have made a valuation of the Department's liabilities under its life assurance and annuity contracts as at the 31st December last, and I now beg to report the

### PROGRESS OF BUSINESS.

The new business of the triennium showed a considerable improvement, and the following statement sets forth the business actually completed (exclusive of annuities) as compared with that of the preceding three years:—

NEW BUSINESS (exclusive of Annuities).

Tries	ınium.		Number of Policies.	Sums assured	Annual Premiums.
1897–99 1894–96			10,126 8,927	£ 2,127,815 1,943,047	£ s. d. 69,263 1 9 61,602 13 9
Increa	ıse	••	1,199	£184,768	£7,660 8 0

The increase in the total business in force is seen from the following figures:-

TOTAL BUSINESS IN FORCE (exclusive of Annuities).

Date.		ı	Number of Policies.	Sum assured.	Reversionary Bonuses.	Annual Premiums.
31st December, 1899 31st December, 1896			39,099 34,531	£ 9,558,166 8,754,804	£ 783,536 660,889	£ s. d. 284,438 9 1 258,757 10 9
Increase	••		4,568	£803,362	£122,647	£25,680 18 4

The substantial increase to the business in force arose almost entirely from endowment assur-

ances, whole-life assurances remaining nearly stationary.

Including annuities, there were 39,366 policies for valuation, assuring the sum of £9,558,166, with reversionary bonus additions of £783,536—making the total amount payable at death or maturity £10,341,702—and £23,810 annuities per annum, immediate and deferred; in respect of which ordinary premiums amounting to £280,684 are receivable annually. The Department also receives £3,833 per annum, representing additions to the tabular premiums, imposed when assurances are accepted on lives which are estimated to fall below the requisite standard for any reason; these extra premiums are held to cover the current extra risk, and are not brought into the valuation.

#### CONSOLIDATED REVENUE ACCOUNT.

The Consolidated Revenue Account of the Department for the past three years compares with that for the preceding triennium as follows:—

	_		<del></del>	Previous Triennium.					Previous Triennium.
			£	£				£	£
Funds at beg	inning	of tri-	2,591,342	2,128,590	Death claims			297,188	276,064
ennium					Matured claims			182,262	76,677
Premiums		• •	808,821	743,191	Annuities			32,245	25,885
Annuities			27,916	47,765	Surrenders			94,754	115,503
Interest			393,078	359,499	Cash bonuses			20,373	21,891
Fees			24	20	Commission			43,854	39,674
					Taxes			26,050	20,105
					Expenses			107,724	101,424
					Investment reser	ves		19,050	10,500
					Funds at end of	trienniu	ım	2,997,681	2,591,342
Total			£3,821,181	£3,279,065	Total			£3,821,181	£3,279,065

In commenting on the foregoing comparative statement of revenue and expenditure, it may be noted in the first place that the funds have been increased by £406,339 during the period under review. The income from premiums showed a satisfactory increase; but the consideration received for the purchase of annuities was considerably less, doubtless owing to the rates having been more stringent for new annuities since 1896.

There was, of course, an increase in the revenue from interest, but the average rate of interest realised has fallen from £5 8s. 2d. per cent. in 1891 to £4 11s. 1d. per cent. last year, as will be seen from the following:—

		£	s.	d.				£	s.	d.			£	s.	đ.	
1891	 	5	8	<b>2</b>	1894	 	٠.	5	5	0	1897	••	 4	16	7	
1892	 	5	5	2	1895	 • •	٠.	5	2	3	1898		 4	13	11	
1893	 	5	5	3	1896	 		4 ]	19	0	1899		 4	11	1	

It will be evident what an adverse influence on the bonus-earning power of any life insurance office must be the result of such a continuous fall in the rate of interest earned, but it should be borne in mind that the Department's experience in this respect has been shared generally by other offices.

Referring to the outgo of the triennium, it may be pointed out that the amount paid in death claims increased very slightly, especially when the development of the business is taken into consideration; there was, indeed, a large profit from favourable mortality. The actual decrease in the amounts paid for surrenders and cash bonuses is also a favourable feature, as is the very large increase in the payments for matured claims, both items indicating a satisfactory improvement in the permanent nature of the Department's business.

The increases in commission and expenses are not large, and, although the amount paid in taxes is considerably greater than for the preceding period, the ratio of the total expenses (including taxes) declined from 21.9 per cent. in 1897 to 21.1 per cent. in 1898, and still further in 1899 to 20.7 per cent., of the premium income.

### THE VALUATION.

The liabilities under life policies have been valued, as before, by the Institute of Actuaries' Healthy Males Table of Mortality, but the rate of interest assumed was  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent., instead of 4 per cent., the rate adopted for the last three valuations. The valuation has been made on a strictly net-premium basis, extra reserves have been made for limited-premium policies and for the immediate payment of claims, and allowance has been made for the actual incidence of the premium income.

The annuities have been valued by the 1884 Government Annuitants' Experience, with 3½ per cent. interest, a special reserve being made for annuities granted since the 20th May, 1896, at increased rates, bringing up their reserves to a 3 per cent. standard. A special analysis of the annuities showed a profit for the triennium on that class of £3,581, which is merged in the general surplus.

A valuation upon the foregoing basis resulted in a net liability of £2,871,081, as will be seen from the appended Valuation Summary; and, the assurance and annuity funds at the close of the triennium amounting to £2,997,681, there resulted a surplus of £126,600, as shown by the following valuation balance-sheet:—

### VALUATION BALANCE-SHEET, 31st DECEMBER, 1899.

To Net liability, as per attached Valuation Summary 2,871  " Surplus £2,997	,600
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9; H.—8.

In addition to the above surplus, £7,478 was paid as interim bonus, and £29,935 was absorbed in completing the transition from a 4 per cent. to a  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. basis of valuation, thus making the total profit for the three years £164,013.

### ALLOTMENT OF SURPLUS.

The results of the valuation made in the manner described being reported to the Department's Consulting Actuaries in London—Messrs. R. P. Hardy and George King—those gentlemen approved of their adoption, and acquiesced in the proposal to divide the surplus of £126,600 among the policyholders. The principles guiding the distribution were those recommended by Messrs. Bailey, Hardy, and King, and adopted by the Department on the occasion of its 1890 valuation. The approximate profit from favourable mortality in the General and Temperance Sections respectively was ascertained and divided among the members of the two sections, with the result that General and Temperance policies, which were alike in all other respects, received equal reversionary bonuses.

#### GENERAL REMARKS.

The immediate result of the adoption of a 3½ per cent. interest basis will be a slight temporary reduction in the bonuses to policyholders. This is, of course, unfortunate, but the rate of interest has everywhere fallen very considerably during recent years, and there is a remarkable unanimity of expert opinion as to the necessity for strengthening life insurance reserves. A recent issue of the *Economist* states that, out of eight British companies reporting on their valuations last year, five have decreased their bonuses and five have strengthened the bases of their reserves. It concludes by saying that, "these facts faithfully reflect the inevitable effect of present financial conditions on life assurance funds, and no greater benefit can accrue to the British policyholder than that the companies should have the wisdom and courage to make their position stronger, even at the contributing less by way of profit."

It is probable, indeed, that the necessity may eventually arise for still further strengthening the reserves, and, with this ultimate object in view, I think it will be well to consider the advisability of making a Valuation Reserve Fund, by retaining a certain proportion of the surplus of each triennium. The reserve so formed will lower the virtual rate of interest in future valuations, and, while still further strengthening the position of the Department, will tend to prevent fluctuations in the periodical bonuses.

Now that the valuation has been placed on a  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. basis, and such reserves have been made in connection with the investments that there is little likelihood of any further considerable demands upon the profits in this connection for some time to come, I consider the prospects of larger bonuses in the future are much improved; and, in conclusion, I beg to recommend that interim bonuses be allotted to participating policies becoming claims during the present triennium at the rate of 20s. per cent. per annum upon the sums assured and existing bonuses in the case of death claims, and 24s. per cent. per annum in the case of claims by maturity.

Respectfully submitted,

Morris Fox,

The Government Insurance Commissioner.

Actuary.

# SUMMARY AND VALUATION OF THE POLICIES OF THE

As at 31st

DESCRIPTION OF TRANSACTIONS.	Number	1			
	of	Number Sums assured of and		OFFICE YEARLY PREMIUMS.	
	Policies.	Bonuses.	Annuities.	Ordinary.	Extra (not valued).
ASSURANCES.			C _ 3	ć a	( 0 4
I. WITH PARTICIPATION IN PROFITS.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£. s. d.	£ s. d.
Whole-life Assurances: Uniform Premiums Whole-life Assurances: Limited, Single, and Commuted Premiums	. 17,348 - 899	5,405,466 5 0 471,393 12 2		128,058 12 1 3,696 0 0	3,022 6 9 36 I I
Endowment Assurances		4,017,580 6 0 362,745 12 0	••	134,229 6 4	745 6 7
Double-endowment Assurances	1	362,745 12 0 5,988 9 0		11,009 10 3 245 10 11	4 3 8
Survivorship Assurances		597 5 0 18,610 8 0	6,413 17 6	16 10 0 922 6 0	2 10 0
Annuity Assurances: Whole-life Assurance, with De	- 113	14,117 5 0	5,591 6 9	793 2 8	••
ferred Annuity Reserve for Extra Premiums		••	•••	••	
Additional Reserve of Loading		••			••
TOTAL ASSURANCES WITH PROFITS .	38,666	10,296,499 2 2	12,005 4 3	278,970 18 3	3,812 10 1
II. WITHOUT PARTICIPATION IN PROFITS.			-		·
Whole-life Assurances (transferred from Temperanc to Non-profit)	e 7	1,591 18 0	. ••	39 13 4	
Industrial Assurances	. 13	254 2 0		6 10 o	
Temporary Assurances		850 0 0	- •	12 5 5	20 15 10
Total Assurances without Profit		2,696 0 0		58 8 9	20 15 10
Total Assurances	. 38,689	10,299,195 2 2	12,005 4 3	279,029 7 0	3,833 5 11
ENDOWMENTS.					
WITHOUT PARTICIPATION IN PROFITS.					
Endowments with Return of Premiums	0.	39,759 o o 2,747 8 8	••	1,474 18 2 100 18 0	··
Total Endowments .	410	42,506 8 8	• •	1,575 16 2	
ANNUITIES.					
WITHOUT PARTICIPATION IN PROFITS.				-	
Immediate	257		11,284 3 4	••	
Reversionary	. 1		300 0 0		
Deferred			220 17 0	79 <b>o</b> 8	
Total Annuities	267		11,805 0 4	79 0 8	••
Total of the Policies Results Annuitie	s 39,099 267	10,341,701 10 10	23,810 4 7	280,684 3 10	3,833 5 11

# NEW ZEALAND GOVERNMENT LIFE INSURANCE DEPARTMENT,

DECEMBER, 1899.

		VALUATION: {Assurances by the Institute of Actuaries Hm Table;   Interest   3½ per cer						
Net Yearly Premiums.	Reduction of Premiums.	Sums Assured and Bonuses.	Annuities.	Office Yearly Premiums.	Net Yearly Premiums.	Reduction of Premiums	NET Liability	
£	£ s. d.	£	£	£	£	£	£	
110,242.0 3,162.4	146 3 2 3 14 7	2,755,337 276,879	••	1,737,445 24,784	1,472,870 20,812	1,693	1,284,160 256,100	
115,674.7 9,874.6 206.0 13.7 861.0	108 17 3	2,441,434 158,778 3,598 124 3,582	13,697	1,499,622 148,528 2,661 51 15,574	1,277,528 132,535 2,209 42 14,599	901	1,164,807 26,243 1,389 82 2,680	
760.4		4,645	10,841	13,688	13,161		2,325	
••		953		Deduct	2,933,756 9,516	Add	953 2,73 <sup>8</sup> ,739 9,516	
240,794.8	258 15 0	5,645,330	24,538	3,442,353	2,924,240	2,627	2,748,255	
33.8		773		573	483		-290	
		75 7 16	•••		•••		75 7 16	
33.8	.,	871	••	573	483		388	
240,828.6	258 15 0	5,646,201	24,538	3,442,926	2.924,723	2,627	2,748,643	
••		13,143					13,143	
		15,348			••		$\frac{2,205}{15,348}$	
						-		
			103,035 1,298 1,660 1,097				103,035 1,298 1,66c 1,097	
			107,090	•••	••		107,090	
240,828.6	258 15 0	5,661,549	131,628	3,442,926	2,924.723	2,627	2,871,081	