

Taking the several years 1897–1901, the number of members, total funds, and average capital per member at the end of each were as under :—

Year.					No. of Members.	Total Funds.	Average Capital.
						£	£ s. d.
1897..	..	..	..	..	32,670	637,011	19 10 0
1898..	..	..	..	..	35,501	678,746	19 2 5
1899..	..	..	..	..	38,202	728,249	19 1 3
1900..	..	..	..	..	40,257	766,480	19 0 9
1901..	..	..	..	..	41,236	804,753	19 10 4

The following balance-sheet gives the total funds (including those of the central bodies) as on the 31st December, 1901 :—

Funds.				£	Assets.				£
Sick and Funeral Funds	..	..	..	716,513	Investments at interest	..	..	..	627,883
Special funds out of surplus..	..	..	..	27,575	Value of land and buildings	..	..	..	129,983
Management Funds, goods, &c.	..	..	..	60,665	Cash not bearing interest	..	..	..	31,998
					Value of goods	..	..	..	11,400
					Other assets	..	..	..	3,989
				<u>£804,753</u>					<u>£804,753</u>

At the same date these funds were disposed of as follows :—

Disposition of Funds.					At 31st December, 1901.	
					Amount.	Percentage of Total Assets.
					£	
On mortgage of freehold property	..	..	..	..	504,227	62·66
In land and buildings	..	..	..	..	129,983	16·15
In other banks on deposit	..	..	..	..	49,998	6·21
In Post Office Savings-Bank	..	..	..	..	44,525	5·53
Cash not bearing interest	..	..	..	..	31,998	3·98
In Government and municipal debentures	..	..	..	..	20,066	2·49
Furniture, goods, &c.	..	..	..	..	11,400	1·42
Other investments	..	..	..	..	8,567	1·06
Other assets	..	..	..	..	3,989	0·50
					804,753	100·0

SICKNESS.

The number of members sick during the year was 8,204, equal to 21·40 per 100 members at risk; the sickness experienced was 60,278 weeks 5 days, equal to 7 weeks 2½ days per sick member, and 1 week 4 days for each member at risk. The ratio to the total of the sickness in the first six months was 59 per cent., in the second six months 7 per cent., and after twelve months 34 per cent. These averages and percentages are compared with those for previous years in Appendix I.

Owing in great measure to differences in the proportion of members at the several ages, the averages in the several districts differ considerably; also in the several societies or Orders. The figures for the five larger Orders are found to be as follows :—

Order.				Percentage Sick.	Sickness per Member		Ratio (per Cent.) to Total Sickness.		
					Sick.	At Risk.	First 6 Months.	Second 6 Months.	After 12 Months.
					Weeks.	Wks. dys. hrs.			
M.U.I.O.O.F.	..	..	..	22·75	7·96	1 5 16	54	7	39
I.O.O.F.	..	..	..	18·21	5·42	0 6 22	68	3	29
A.O.F.	..	..	..	19·63	6·32	1 3 23	62	9	29
U.A.O.D.	..	..	..	21·57	5·03	1 0 14	77	7	16
I.O.R.	..	..	..	21·93	6·09	1 2 8	72	3	25
All Societies	..	..	..	21·40	7·35	1 4 0	59	7	34

From the above it will be seen that the percentage of members sick and the average sickness per member at risk was, for the year 1901, highest in the M.U.I.O.O.F and lowest in the I.O.O.F.

DEATHS.

The number of members who died during 1901 was 276, equal to 7·20 per 1,000 members at risk as against 7·00 in 1900 and 7·57 in 1899.

The number of wives who died was 151, equal to 3·94 per 1,000 members as against 3·42 for 1900 and 3·93 for 1899.