

Taking the several years 1906-1915, the number of lodges whose returns were tabulated, the number of members, total funds, and average capital per member at the end of each year were as under :—

Year.	Number of Lodges tabulated.	Number of Members.	Total Funds	Average Capital.
			£	£ s. d.
1906	500	53,759	1,057,821	19 13 6
1907	516	56,817	1,118,217	19 13 7
1908	505	58,517	1,123,886	19 4 1
1909	567	64,428	1,266,297	19 13 1
1910	609	68,006	1,367,282	20 2 1
1911	658	71,771	1,441,353	20 1 8
1912	664	73,243	1,553,339	21 4 2
1913	681	73,691	1,643,177	22 6 0
1914	717	74,074	1,744,456	23 11 0
1915	728	73,027	1,852,355	25 7 4

The above figures include the latest statistics received from lodges.

The following statement shows the disposal of the total funds (including those of the central bodies) as on 31st December, 1915 :—

Funds.	Assets.
	£
Sick and Funeral Funds	1,641,479
Surplus Appropriation Funds, &c.	58,311
Management Funds, goods, &c.	89,166
Widow and Orphans' Funds	14,538
Distress, Benevolent Funds, &c.	48,861
Total	£1,852,355
	£
Investments at interest	1,558,231
Value of land and buildings	197,129
Cash not bearing interest.. .. .	63,062
Value of goods	14,075
Other assets	16,785
Owing by Management Fund	3,078
Total	£1,852,355

The next table shows the number of members of friendly societies, the amount of their accumulated capital, and the average capital per member, in each of the Australian States and in the Dominion of New Zealand, according to the latest received statistics, arranged in order of membership :—

State or Dominion.	Date of Return.	Number of Lodges.	Number of Members.	Amount of Funds.	Capital per Member.
				£	£ s. d.
New South Wales	31st December, 1914	1,874	182,223	1,784,931	9 15 10
Victoria	1914	1,524	159,741	2,644,216	16 11 1
New Zealand	1914	717	74,074	1,744,456	23 11 0
South Australia	1914	578	66,532	1,189,218	17 17 6
Queensland	1914	550	52,247	747,844	14 6 3
Tasmania.. .. .	1914	209	23,399	241,387	10 6 4
Western Australia	1914	296	19,903	236,935	11 18 1

Sickness.

The number of members sick during 1915 was 11,864, equal to 16·44 per 100 members at risk. The sickness experienced during 1915 was 113,682 weeks, equal to 9 weeks 4 days per sick member, and 1 week 4 days for each member at risk.

Mortality.

The following statement of average mortality experienced during the years 1911-15 is given herewith, but it takes no account of age incidence :—

Year.	Members.		Wives.	
	Number who died.	Number per 1,000 Members at Risk.	Number who died.	Number per 1,000 Members at Risk.
1911	475	7·10	210	3·14
1912	471	6·80	241	3·48
1913	523	7·38	158	2·28
1914	506	7·02	238	3·30
1915	767	10·63	240	3·33

Sick and Funeral Funds.

The contributions and entrance fees paid to Sick and Funeral Funds in 1915 amounted to £112,815. Divided by the mean number of members the average was £1 10s. 7d., as compared with £1 10s. 10d. in 1914.