

“(2) A registered branch of any friendly society may in accordance with the provisions of the last preceding subsection, with the necessary modifications, transfer so much of any surplus of a branch fund as can be safely used to any deficient fund of the society of which it is a branch.”

Section 51 of the same Act validated payments made from the funds of friendly societies or branches thereof to public funds established for the relief of distress or hardship due to the earthquakes which occurred in New Zealand in the month of June, 1929, provided such payments were not made out of a benefit fund.

REGISTRATIONS.

There were registered during the past year eighteen new branches, as follows:—M.U.I.O.O.F.: Progress Lodge (North Canterbury District) and Geraldine Lodge (South Canterbury District). I.O.O.F.: Rangi Rebekah Lodge, Otahuhu Lodge, Lily of Devonport Rebekah Lodge, Iti Rebekah Lodge, Kupe Lodge, Kotiro Rebekah Lodge, Ngati Awa Lodge, Alpine Rebekah Lodge, Haeremai Lodge, and Mangaroa Lodge. A.O.F.: Court Star of Swanson (Auckland District). U.A.O.D.: Turanga Lodge and Waverley Lodge (Grand Lodge of the North Island of New Zealand). I.O.R.: Morrinsville Tent (New Zealand District). G.U.O.O.F.: Ellerslie United Branch and Pride of the Valley Branch. There were also five isolated friendly societies registered.

The following registrations were cancelled by request: M.U.I.O.O.F.: Star of Edendale Lodge (Southland District). I.O.O.F.: Kao Lodge, Rua Tamaki Lodge, and Hui Mai Rebekah Lodge. A.O.F.: Court Pride of Waikato (Auckland District). H.A.C.B.S.: St. Columbkille's Branch (Denniston) and St. Joseph's Branch (Port Chalmers). I.F.S.: The Auckland Hospital Patients' Benevolent Fund.

The following amalgamation was registered:—I.O.R.: Hope of South Invercargill Tent with Murihiku Tent (New Zealand Central District).

The following change of name was approved:—I.F.S.: “The Auckland City Tramways Club” to “The Auckland Transport Club.”

The position of the orders in respect of registration is shown by the following summary as at the beginning and end of 1929:—

Name of Order.	Registrations at 1st Janu- ary, 1929.	Established.	Closed.	Registrations at 31st De- cember, 1929.
Manchester Unity Independent Order of Oddfellows	246	2	1	247
Independent Order of Odd Fellows	196	10	3	203
National Independent Order of Oddfellows	3	..	..	3
British United Order of Oddfellows	1	..	..	1
Ancient Order of Foresters	166	1	1	166
Ancient Order of Shepherds	1	..	..	1
United Ancient Order of Druids	144	2	..	146
Independent Order of Rechabites	68	1	1	68
Order of Sons of Temperance	10	..	..	10
Sons and Daughters of Temperance	1	..	..	1
Hibernian-Australasian Catholic Benefit Society	71	..	2	69
Protestant Alliance Friendly Society of Australasia	15	..	..	15
Grand United Order of Oddfellows	11	2	..	13
Isolated friendly societies	61	5	1	65
Working-men's clubs	16	..	..	16
International Order of Good Templars	11	..	..	11
Specially authorized societies	16	..	..	16
Totals	1,037	23	9	1,051

A complete list of societies and branches on the register as at the end of 1929 is given in Appendix I.

RULES.

The rules of seventy-four societies and branches were amended during 1929.

Complete Amendments of Rules registered.

Complete amendments for the following were registered during the year, viz.:—

M.U.I.O.O.F.—Motueka District; and Roxburgh Lodge (Otago District).

A.O.F.—Court Captain Cook (Hawke's Bay District); and Court Victoria (Canterbury United District).

U.A.O.D.—Grand Lodge of the North Island of New Zealand.

O.S.T.—National Division of New Zealand.

I.F.S.—Brunner Miners' Sick Fund; and the Auckland Transport Club.

W.M.C.—The Palmerston North Cosmopolitan Club; and Ashburton Club and Mutual School of Arts.

S.A.S.—Hawke's Bay United Friendly Societies' Dispensary.