

The total funds of the societies and branches as at the 31st December, 1938, amounted to £5,280,472, made up as follows: Sick and Funeral Funds (inclusive of amounts transferred to special funds out of surplus), £4,867,291; Medical and Management Funds, goods, &c., £413,181. Dividing the total funds by the number of members at the end of the year it is found the average capital per member is now £46 8s. 9d.

Taking the several years 1929–38, 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.
1929 .. .. .	900	105,154	3,927,433	37 7 0
1930 .. .. .	906	107,167	4,130,117	38 10 9
1931 .. .. .	912	105,660	4,277,715	40 9 9
1932 .. .. .	912	102,052	4,398,158	43 1 11
1933 .. .. .	918	100,237	4,538,095	45 5 6
1934 .. .. .	929	100,708	4,676,427	46 8 9
1935 .. .. .	936	103,612	4,812,787	46 9 0
1936 .. .. .	945	108,059	4,956,948	45 17 5
1937 .. .. .	960	112,888	5,120,125	45 7 1
1938 .. .. .	966	113,709	5,280,472	46 8 9

These sums are, of course, held against the societies' liabilities under their sickness and funeral insurances, and the actuarial reports issued from time to time indicate how far they are sufficient or otherwise.

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 at the 31st December, 1938:—

Funds.	Assets.
	£
Sick and Funeral Funds .. .. .	4,396,280
Surplus Appropriation Funds, &c. .. .. .	471,011
Management Funds, goods, &c. .. .. .	234,533
Widow and Orphans' Funds .. .. .	35,485
Distress, Benevolent Funds, &c. .. .. .	143,163
Total .. .. .	£5,280,472
	£
Investments at interest .. .. .	4,597,892
Value of land and buildings .. .. .	494,954
Cash not bearing interest .. .. .	126,274
Value of goods .. .. .	22,134
Other assets .. .. .	34,000
Owing by Management Funds .. .. .	5,218
Total .. .. .	£5,280,472

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 according to the latest received statistics and in the Dominion of New Zealand as at the 31st December, 1937, 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 .. .. .	30th June, 1937 ..	2,429	208,979	4,733,247	22 13 0
Victoria .. .. .	" " ..	1,459	191,732	5,989,854	31 4 10
New Zealand .. .. .	31st Dec., " ..	960	112,888	5,120,125	45 7 1
South Australia .. .. .	30th June, 1936 ..	740	89,886	2,668,315	29 13 9
Queensland .. .. .	" " ..	603	69,333	1,878,645	27 1 11
Western Australia .. .. .	30th June, 1937 ..	352	25,443	621,309	24 8 5
Tasmania .. .. .	31st Dec., 1936 ..	193	25,068	463,396	18 9 9

#### Sickness.

The number of members sick during 1938 was 28,682, equal to 26·9 per 100 members at risk. The sickness experienced during 1938 was 304,773 weeks, equal to 10 weeks 4 days per sick member, and 2 weeks 5 days for each member at risk.