

## RULES.

The rules of eighty-five societies and branches were amended during 1940, two by complete amendment, and eighty-three by partial amendment.

## ANNUAL RETURNS OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE, ETC.

The Friendly Societies Act requires these returns to reach me on or before the 31st March in each year. The number outstanding at that date in the respective societies was as follows:—

*Annual Returns outstanding at 31st March, 1941.*

Name of Society.	Central Bodies.	Branches.
M.U.I.O.O.F.—		
Marlborough District .. .. .	.. .. .	3
Motueka District .. .. .	.. .. .	5
United Westland District .. .. .	.. .. .	1
Lyttelton District .. .. .	.. .. .	1
South Canterbury District .. .. .	.. .. .	5
Otago District .. .. .	.. .. .	36
I.O.O.F. of New Zealand .. .. .	.. .. .	23
A.O.F.—		
Auckland District .. .. .	.. .. .	2
Taranaki District .. .. .	.. .. .	2
Wellington District .. .. .	.. .. .	2
South Canterbury District .. .. .	.. .. .	1
Courts out of district .. .. .	.. .. .	2
U.A.O.D.—		
Grand Lodge of North Island .. .. .	.. .. .	8
Grand Lodge of Otago and Southland .. .. .	.. .. .	1
I.O.R. : New Zealand Central District .. .. .	.. .. .	2
O.S.T. : National Division .. .. .	.. .. .	1
H.A.C.B.S.—		
Northern (N.Z.) District .. .. .	.. .. .	6
New Zealand District .. .. .	.. .. .	10
I.F.S., &c. .. .. .	.. .. .	26
	5	136
	141	

## STATISTICS OF MEMBERSHIP AND FUNDS.

The following table shows the membership of 953 lodges\* of the Dominion for the year 1940:—

Number of members, 1st January .. .. .	109,059
Number admitted by—	
Initiation, &c. .. .. .	2,474
Clearance .. .. .	1,015
	3,489
	112,548
Number who died .. .. .	1,074
Number who left by—	
Clearance .. .. .	1,058
Arrears, &c. .. .. .	5,970
	8,102
Number of members, 31st December .. .. .	104,446

The above figures show a decrease in membership equal to 4.23 per cent., as compared with 4.09 per cent. for 1939.

The total funds of the societies and branches as at the 31st December, 1940, amounted to £5,534,368, made up as follows: Sick and Funeral Funds (inclusive of amounts transferred to special funds out of surplus), £5,048,239; Medical and Management Funds, goods, &c., £486,129. 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 £52 19s. 9d.

Taking the several years 1931–40 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.
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
1939 .. .. .	964	109,059	5,407,601	49 11 8
1940 .. .. .	953	104,446	5,534,368	52 19 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 word "lodge" when applied to all societies is to be understood as embracing the synonymous terms "court," "tent," &c., as used in the various orders.