

The total funds of the societies and branches as at 31st December, 1946, amounted to £6,278,409, made up as follows: Sick and Funeral Funds (inclusive of amounts transferred to special funds out of surplus), £5,777,028; Medical and Management Funds, goods, &c., £501,381. 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 £78 Os. 11d.

The following statement shows the disposal of the total funds (including those of the central bodies) as at the 31st December, 1946:—

| Funds. | | Assets. | |
|-------------------------------------|------------|---------------------------------|------------|
| | £ | | £ |
| Sick and Funeral Funds .. | 5,122,801 | Investments at interest | 5,596,472 |
| Surplus Appropriation Funds, &c. .. | 654,227 | Value of land and buildings .. | 367,043 |
| Management Funds, goods, &c. .. | 283,799 | Cash not bearing interest | 271,451 |
| Distress, Benevolent Funds, &c. .. | 217,582 | Value of goods | 17,742 |
| | | Other assets | 22,438 |
| | | Owing by Management Funds .. | 3,263 |
| Total | £6,278,409 | Total | £6,278,409 |

Sickness

The number of members sick during 1946 was 17,677, equal to 22·3 per 100 members at risk. The sickness experienced during 1946 was 326,494 weeks, equal to 18 weeks 3 days per sick member and 4 weeks 1 day for each member at risk.

Mortality

The number of members who died during 1946 was 1,207, equal to 14·66 per 1,000 members at risk. The number of wives of members who died was 383.

Sick and Funeral Funds

The contributions and entrance fees paid to Sick and Funeral Funds in 1946 amounted to £156,129. Divided by the mean number of members, the average for 1946 was £1 18s. 2d., as against £1 18s. 1d. for 1945.

The interest and rent received by the lodges and central bodies amounted to £217,375 in 1946, equal to £2 13s. 2d. per member, as against £2 10s. 9d. for 1945.

The amount of sickness benefit paid was £184,965 in 1946, equal to £10 9s. 3d. per member sick and £2 5s. 3d. per member, as against £10 11s. 10d. and £2 1s. 6d. respectively for 1945. Viewing the amount paid in relation to the weeks of sickness, the average benefit per week is found to be 11s. 4d. in 1946, as against 11s. 2d. for 1945.

The funeral benefit paid amounted to £60,009 in 1946, equal to 14s. 8d. per member, as compared with 15s. 1d. for 1945.

The total worth of the Sick and Funeral Funds at the beginning of 1946 was £4,955,701, and at the end of the year £5,122,801.

Investment of Funds

The net income from investments credited to the Sick and Funeral Funds for 1946 amounted to £217,375, the average rate being £4 8s. 2d. per cent., as against £4 8s. 11d. in 1945.

PART II.—TRADE-UNIONS

There were three unions on the register at the end of the year.