

The position of the various orders in respect of registrations during 1949 is as follows :—

Name of Order.	Registrations at 1st January, 1949.	Established.	Closed.	Registrations at 31st December, 1949.
Manchester Unity Independent Order of Odd Fellows	255	..	1	254
Independent Order of Odd Fellows	195	..	4	191
National Independent Order of Oddfellows	1	..	..	1
Ancient Order of Foresters	147	..	..	147
United Ancient Order of Druids	143	1	1	143
Independent Order of Rechabites	62	..	2	60
Order of Sons of Temperance	10	..	2	8
Sons and Daughters of Temperance	1	..	..	1
Hibernian-Australasian Catholic Benefit Society	80	1	1	80
Protestant Alliance Friendly Society of Australasia	12	..	..	12
Grand United Order of Oddfellows	10	..	..	10
Isolated friendly societies	69	1	..	70
Working-men's clubs	15	8	..	23
International Order of Good Templars	11	..	..	11
Specially authorized societies	20	..	..	20
Totals.. .. .	1,031	11	11	1,031

#### AMENDMENTS OF RULES

The rules of fifty-three societies and branches were amended during 1949.

#### STATISTICS OF MEMBERSHIP AND FUNDS

The following table shows the membership of 865 lodges\* of the Dominion for the year 1949 :—

Number of members, 1st January	..	..	..	..	77,134
Number admitted by—					
Initiation, &c.	..	..	..	..	2,322
Clearance	..	..	..	..	478
					2,800
					79,934
Number who died	..	..	..	..	1,147
Number who left by—					
Clearance	..	..	..	..	488
Arrears, &c.	..	..	..	..	2,278
					3,913
Number of members, 31st December	..	..	..	..	76,021

The above figures show a decrease in membership equal to 1.44 per cent., as compared with 1.75 per cent. for 1948.

The total funds of the societies and branches as at 31st December, 1949, amounted to £6,706,713, made up as follows: Sick and Funeral Funds (inclusive of amounts transferred to special funds out of surplus), £6,134,348; Medical and Management Funds, goods, &c., £572,365. 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 £88 4s. 5d.

\* 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.