

1950
NEW ZEALAND

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES AND TRADE-UNIONS

SEVENTY-THIRD ANNUAL REPORT BY THE REGISTRAR OF FRIENDLY SOCIETIES,
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1949

*Presented to Both Houses of the General Assembly Pursuant to the Friendly Societies
Act, 1909, Section 9, and the Trade-unions Act, 1908, Section 16*

The REGISTRAR OF FRIENDLY SOCIETIES to the HON. THE MINISTER.

SIR,—

Wellington, 1st September, 1950.

I have the honour to submit the annual report of this Office for the year ended 31st December, 1949, in accordance with the provisions of the Friendly Societies Act, 1909, section 9, and the Trade-unions Act, 1908, section 16.

I have, &c.,

S. BECKINGSALE, F.I.A.,

Registrar of Friendly Societies.

REPORT

PART I—FRIENDLY SOCIETIES

LEGISLATION

The Friendly Societies Amendment Act, 1949, amends the Friendly Societies Act, 1909, as follows:—

Sections 11 (2) and 51 (1) (as Amended by Section 30 of the Statutes Amendment Act, 1941).—The maximum gross sum of assurance for which a member may contract is increased from £500 to £750.

Section 41 (4) and (6).—The minimum rate of interest for determining excess interest is altered from “5 per centum” to “1 per centum higher than the rate used in the last valuation.”

Section 49 (1) (d).—Powers of investment in Borough and County Council securities are extended to include securities of any local authority issued under the Local Bodies' Loans Act, 1926.

Section 50 (1).—Powers in respect of land are extended to permit societies to provide, equip, furnish, and maintain holiday accommodation for their members and families.

Section 55 (as Substituted by Section 5 of the Friendly Societies Amendment Act, 1948).—Provisions in respect of separate loan funds are extended to enable societies to make loans of unlimited amounts to members on such security as may be provided by the rules. Any loan on personal security only is limited to £50.

Provision is also made to permit a specially authorized society registered for the sole purpose of operating a loan fund to transfer its engagements to a friendly society.

DEFALCATIONS

Two defalcations were disclosed during the year, the total amount involved being approximately £14,000. No prosecutions were made as the secretaries responsible are deceased. Shortages had occurred over a number of years and should have been discovered at the onset by the auditors, who in each case were "lay" auditors.

A list of fully-qualified licensed auditors has been appended to this report for some years, and societies and lodges have been urged to utilize the skilled services of these auditors. The cases of defalcation mentioned above draw attention to the serious consequences that can befall societies and branches with large funds which continue to employ "lay" auditors.

REGISTRATIONS

There were registered during the year nine new societies and two new branches, as follows—U.A.O.D.: Oak of Tauranga Lodge (Grand Lodge of the North Island). H.A.C.B.S.: St. Joseph's Branch, No. 962, Wellington (New Zealand District). I.F.S.: The Westport Waterside Workers' Benefit Society. W.M.C.: The Greymouth Workingmen's Club and Mutual School of Arts, The Reefton Workingmen's Club and Mutual School of Arts, The Brunner Workingmen's Club and Mutual School of Arts, The Runanga Workingmen's Club and Mutual School of Arts, The Hokitika Workingmen's Club and Mutual School of Arts, The Blackball Workingmen's Club and Mutual School of Arts, The Waiuta Workingmen's Club and Mutual School of Arts, and the Newmarket Workingmen's Club.

The following registrations were cancelled by request—I.O.O.F.: Onslow, Ngati Awa, Endeavour, and Waverley Lodges. U.A.O.D.: Myrtle Lodge (Grand Lodge of the North Island). I.O.R.: Hope of Johnsonville, and Star of Woolston Tents (New Zealand Central District). O.S.T.: Helpmate and Resolution Divisions (National Division). H.A.C.B.S.: St. John's Branch, No 866, Methven (New Zealand District).

One amalgamation was registered—M.U.I.O.O.F.: Sister Victoria Lodge with Wanganui Lodge (Wanganui District).

There were 1,031 registrations at 31st December, 1949.

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.

The following statement shows the disposal of the total funds (including those of the central bodies) as at the 31st December, 1949.

Funds.	Assets.
	£
Sick and Funeral Funds	Investments at interest
Surplus Appropriation Funds, &c. ..	Value of land and buildings
Management Funds, goods, &c. ..	Cash not bearing interest
Distress, Benevolent Funds, &c. ..	Value of Goods
	Other assets
	Owing by Management Funds
£6,706,713	Total
	£6,706,713

Sickness

The number of members sick during 1949 was 14,744, equal to 19·8 per 100 members at risk. The sickness experienced during 1949 was 321,329 weeks, equal to 21 weeks 5 days per sick member and 4 weeks 2 days for each member at risk.

Mortality

The number of members who died during 1949 was 1,147, equal to 14·9 per 1,000 members at risk. The number of wives of members who died was 356.

Sick and Funeral Funds

The contributions and entrance fees paid to Sick and Funeral Funds in 1949 amounted to £160,077. Divided by the mean number of members, the average for 1949 was £2 1s. 10d., as against £2 1s. 8d. for 1948.

The interest and rent received by the lodges and central bodies amounted to £224,994 in 1949, equal to £2 18s. 9d. per member, as against £2 17s. 6d. for 1948.

The amount of sickness benefit paid was £168,883 in 1949, equal to £11 9s. 1d. per member sick and £2 4s. 1d. per member, as against £11 8s. 6d. and £2 5s. 3d. respectively for 1948. Viewing the amount paid in relation to the weeks of sickness, the average benefit per week is found to be 10s. 6d. in 1949, as against 10s. 10d. for 1948.

The funeral benefit paid amounted to £63,521 in 1949, equal to 16s. 7d. per member, as compared with 16s. 9d. for 1948.

The total worth of the Sick and Funeral Funds at the beginning of 1949 was £5,324,018, and at the end of the year £5,252,029.

Investment of Funds

The net income from investments credited to the Sick and Funeral Funds for 1949 amounted to £224,994, the average rate being £4 6s. 11d. per cent., as against £4 6s. 7d. in 1948.

PART II—TRADE-UNIONS

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

A LIST OF PUBLIC AUDITORS OF FRIENDLY SOCIETIES

Name.	Place.	Name.	Place.
Algie, R. F.	Waimate.	Jordan, N. V. R.	Timaru.
Allen, P. E.	Auckland.	Johnson, G.	Timaru.
Allott, F. S.	Christchurch.	Kelleher, H. W.	Wellington.
Anderson, A. M.	Wellington.	Kember, O. G.	Wellington.
Angus, J. M.	Hastings.	Lang, J. F.	Dunedin.
Austin, F. O.	Wellington.	Latham, V. S.	Hawera.
Bamfield, F. W.	Dunedin.	Lewis, H. N.	Ashburton.
Barnett, J. H.	Wellington.	Litchfield, F. C.	Palmerston North.
Battley, C. H.	Auckland.	Low, A. D.	Masterton.
Beaumont, B. W.	Auckland.	Mackersey, I. J.	Wellington.
Bellringer, N. B.	New Plymouth.	Mackley, C.	Auckland.
Berry, G. Y.	Wellington.	Masters, W. H.	Dunedin.
Boardman, M. J.	Dunedin.	Meltzer, I.	Auckland.
Boddy, H. W.	Dunedin.	Mogridge, F.	Blenheim.
Bolton, H.	Wellington.	Morrison, L. A.	Christchurch.
Booth, C. H.	Auckland.	Morpeth, R. C.	Wellington.
Brett, R. A. E.	Auckland.	Mullaney, H. W.	Palmerston North.
Buddle, J. H.	Rotorua.	McCombie, W. H.	Auckland.
Bull, H.	Napier.	McDonald, C. P.	Auckland.
Burckin, H. B.	Wellington.	McDougal, J. W. A.	Kaipoi.
Bush, E. G.	Wellington.	McKecrory, J. H. A.	Dunedin.
Button, G. E.	Auckland.	Neale, J. B.	Christchurch.
Carlaw, J.	Auckland.	Neilsen, N. I.	Palmerston North.
Carr, J. T.	Petone.	Penman, C.	Dunedin.
Carter, G. A.	Stratford.	Perkins, C. H.	Christchurch.
Coleman, J. G.	Waihi.	Perkins, J. A.	Christchurch.
Collingwood, P. H.	Auckland.	Phillips, C. E.	Auckland.
Cook, G. W. R.	Waipukurau.	Pike, A. L.	Auckland.
Cooke, F.	Balclutha.	Plank, V. D. M.	Hastings.
Corbin, F. H.	Hastings.	Porteous, J.	Huntly.
Cork, G. G.	Auckland.	Priest, P. J.	Hastings.
Cox, C. T.	Wellington.	Quirk, W. G.	Christchurch.
Cunningham, F. McN.	Masterton.	Reynolds, T. G.	Hamilton.
Dalzell, D. E.	Christchurch.	Robson, J.	Wellington.
Davidson, G.	Dunedin.	Rosen, A.	Wellington.
Dearing, C. G.	Devonport.	Ross, G.	Dunedin.
Dillon, G. W.	New Plymouth.	Ross, R. C.	Wellington.
Dobson, W.	Dannevirke.	Sandmann, J. W.	Napier.
Duff, V.	New Plymouth.	Satterthwaite, L. McK.	Dunedin.
Edgar, G. S.	Dunedin.	Seaman, A. M.	Auckland.
Farmer, K. S.	Nelson.	Sellar, W. R.	Dunedin.
Feist, F. E.	Wellington.	Sharr, C. H.	Christchurch.
Felton, A. C.	Christchurch.	Shenkin, C.	Auckland.
Finlayson, R. M.	Wanganui.	Sladden, D. B.	Marton.
Fippard, N. B.	Hastings.	Smart, L. H.	Carterton.
Frear, J. G.	Auckland.	Smeaton, J. W.	Dunedin.
Gay, W. E. L.	Westport.	Smillie, D. F.	Palmerston North.
Gentles, J. A.	Auckland.	Smith, E. W.	Christchurch.
Glendinning, K. S.	Palmerston North.	Smith, W. A.	Christchurch.
Good, C. W. G.	Whakatane.	Spring, D. T.	Palmerston North.
Gray, A. L.	Christchurch.	Stewart, A. C.	Milton.
Gray, W. L.	Napier.	Stichbury, C. P.	Auckland.
Gregory, A. R. W.	Auckland.	Talbot, W. G.	Wellington.
Gribble, C. R.	Auckland.	Thomson, E. H.	Nelson.
Griffin, J. L.	Wellington.	Thomson, V. E. D.	Dunedin.
Hall, R. H. D.	Wellington.	Tunbridge, A. J.	New Plymouth.
Harding, J. W. J.	Hawera.	Tyrrrell, H. W.	Dunedin.
Harker, H. L.	Wairoa.	Veitch, S. R.	Hawera.
Harvey, E. J.	Blenheim.	Walton, O.	Eketahuna.
Harvey, H. P.	Dunedin.	Warren, F. R.	Whangarei.
Heath, J.	Nelson.	Watters, F. R.	Napier.
Hickson, F. E. L.	Wellington.	Watts, W. G.	New Plymouth.
Hobbs, S. M.	Wellington.	Webb, F. A.	Invercargill.
Hogg, S. G. H.	Pahiatua.	Webb, O. A.	Blenheim.
Holland, L. H.	Wanganui.	Webb, N.	Dunedin.
Holloway, W. G.	Dannevirke.	Webbly, N.	Dannevirke.
Hoskins, S. F.	Wellington.	Wellington, W. P.	Dunedin.
Hudson, W.	Tahape.	West, H. G.	Nelson.
Hunt, B. W.	Wellington.	White, W. R. T.	Blenheim.
Hunter, J.	Nelson.	Wicks, H. J. F.	Grey-mouth.
Hyde, A. C. A.	Hastings.	Wills, A. J.	Christchurch.
Jackson, C. A.	Auckland.	Wilson, C. D.	Napier.
Jennings, E. B.	Palmerston North.	Wise, F. H.	Wellington.
		Young, W. A.	Dunedin.

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