

The following statement shows the disposal of the total funds (including those of the central bodies) as on 31st December, 1920 :—

Funds.		Assets.	
£		£	
Sick and Funeral Funds	2,036,552	Investments at interest	1,989,311
Surplus Appropriation Funds, &c.	113,250	Value of land and buildings	198,787
Management Funds, goods, &c.	106,196	Cash not bearing interest.. .. .	84,704
Widow and Orphans' Funds	18,506	Value of goods	13,328
Distress, Benevolent Funds, &c.	46,672	Other assets	31,845
		Owing by Management Funds	3,201
Total	£2,321,176	Total	£2,321,176

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 and in the Dominion of New Zealand, according to the latest received statistics, arranged in order of membership :—

State or Dominion.	Date of Return.	Number of Lodges.	Number of Members.	Amount of Funds.	Capital per Member.
New South Wales	31st December, 1919	1,925	184,174	£ 2,217,796	£ s. d. 12 0 10
Victoria	" 1919	1,489	144,280	3,056,666	21 3 9
New Zealand	" 1919	735	70,598	2,184,653	30 18 11
South Australia	" 1918	599	67,047	1,377,149	20 10 10
Queensland	" 1919	476	54,615	980,780	17 19 2
Tasmania	" 1919	182	22,257	270,777	12 3 4
Western Australia	" 1919	249	17,270	278,653	16 2 8

Sickness.

The number of members sick during 1920 was 14,193, equal to 20·54 per 100 members at risk. The sickness experienced during 1920 was 143,937 weeks, equal to 10 weeks 1 day per sick member, and 2 weeks for each member at risk.

Mortality.

The following statement of average mortality experienced during the years 1916-20 is given herewith, but it takes no account of age incidence :—

Year.	Members.		Wives.	
	Number who died.	Number per 1,000 Members at Risk.	Number who died.	Number per 1,000 Members at Risk.
1916	977	13·08	232	3·26
1917	1,287	18·55	260	3·75
1918	1,821	26·85	457	6·74
1919	762	11·45	282	4·24
1920	664	9·17	285	3·94

Sick and Funeral Funds.

The contributions and entrance fees paid to Sick and Funeral Funds in 1920 amounted to £130,265. Divided by the mean number of members the average for 1920 was £1 16s., as compared with £1 14s. 10d. in 1919.

The interest and rent received by the lodges and central bodies amounted to £102,847 in 1920, equal to £1 8s. 5d. per member, as against £1 7s. 6d. for 1919.

The amount of sickness benefit paid was £96,027 in 1920, equal to £6 15s. 4d. per member sick, and £1 6s. 6d. per member, as against £7 6s. 4d. and £1 8s. 10d. respectively for 1919. Viewing the amount paid in relation to the weeks of sickness, the average benefit per week is found to be 13s. 4d. in 1920, as compared with 13s. 8d. in 1919.

The funeral benefit paid amounted to £28,729 in 1920, equal to 7s. 11d. per member, as compared with 15s. 3d. for 1919.

The total worth of the Sick and Funeral Funds of 732 lodges at the beginning of 1920 was £1,923,347, and at the end of the year £2,036,552. The balance of gain for the year was £113,205, or £1 11s. 3d. per member, in 1920, as compared with £49,837, or 14s. 5d., in 1919.

Investment of Funds.

The net income from investments credited to the Sick and Funeral Funds for 1920 amounted to £102,847, the average rate being £5 6s. 8d. per cent., as against £5 2s. 8d. in 1919.