

The total funds of the societies and branches as on the 31st December, 1922, amounted to £2,593,692, made up as follows: Sick and Funeral Funds (inclusive of amounts transferred to special funds out of surplus), £2,427,973; Medical and Management Funds, goods, &c., £165,719. 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 £32 2s. 2d.

Taking the several years 1913–1922, 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.
1913 .. .. .	681	73,691	1,643,177	22 6 0
1914 .. .. .	717	74,074	1,744,456	23 11 0
1915 .. .. .	728	73,027	1,852,255	25 7 4
1916 .. .. .	727	70,360	1,954,940	27 15 8
1917 .. .. .	730	68,771	2,052,753	29 17 0
1918 .. .. .	731	67,527	2,100,443	31 2 1
1919 .. .. .	735	70,598	2,184,653	30 18 11
1920 .. .. .	732	74,210	2,321,176	31 5 7
1921 .. .. .	731	77,814	2,445,843	31 8 8
1922 .. .. .	746	80,777	2,593,692	32 2 2

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 following statement shows the disposal of the total funds (including those of the central bodies) as on 31st December, 1922:—

Funds.				Assets.			
		£				£	
Sick and Funeral Funds .. .. .	.. .. .	2,308,155	Investments at interest .. .. .	.. .. .	2,228,143		
Surplus Appropriation Funds, &c. .. .. .	.. .. .	119,818	Value of land and buildings .. .. .	.. .. .	230,272		
Management Funds, goods, &c. .. .. .	.. .. .	106,446	Cash not bearing interest.. .. .	.. .. .	87,883		
Widow and Orphans' Funds .. .. .	.. .. .	19,788	Value of goods .. .. .	.. .. .	15,890		
Distress, Benevolent Funds, &c. .. .. .	.. .. .	39,485	Other assets .. .. .	.. .. .	25,304		
			Owing by Management Funds .. .. .	.. .. .	6,200		
Total .. .. .	.. .. .	£2,593,692	Total .. .. .	.. .. .	£2,593,692		

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.
				£	£ s. d.
New South Wales .. .. .	30th June, 1921 .. .. .	2,061	200,534	2,432,651	12 2 7
Victoria .. .. .	31st December, 1921 .. .. .	1,464	143,820	3,375,050	23 9 4
New Zealand .. .. .	" 1921 .. .. .	731	77,814	2,445,843	31 8 8
South Australia .. .. .	" 1919 .. .. .	593	68,542	1,419,167	20 14 1
Queensland .. .. .	" 1921 .. .. .	504	56,574	1,096,791	19 7 9
Tasmania .. .. .	" 1921 .. .. .	179	22,888	290,521	12 13 11
Western Australia .. .. .	" 1921 .. .. .	240	18,945	313,131	16 10 7

#### Sickness.

The number of members sick during 1922 was 12,754, equal to 16·82 per 100 members at risk. The sickness experienced during 1922 was 145,754 weeks, equal to 11 weeks 3 days per sick member, and 2 weeks for each member at risk.