

## ANNUAL RETURNS OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE, ETC.

The Friendly Societies Act requires these returns to reach me on or before the 31st March in each year. The number outstanding at that date in the respective societies was as follows :—

*Annual Returns outstanding at 31st March, 1937.*

Name of Society.	Central Bodies.	Branches.
M.U.I.O.O.F. .. .. .	1	8
I.O.O.F. .. .. .	..	11
A.O.F. .. .. .	3	16
U.A.O.D. .. .. .	..	7
I.O.R. .. .. .	..	4
H.A.C.B.S. .. .. .	1	12
P.A.F.S.A. .. .. .	1	10
G.U.O.O.F. .. .. .	1	2
I.F.S. &c. .. .. .	..	25
	7	95
	102	

## STATISTICS OF MEMBERSHIP AND FUNDS.

The following table shows the membership of 945 lodges\* of the Dominion for the year 1936 :—

Number of members, 1st January .. .. .	103,612
Number admitted by—	
Initiation, &c. .. .. .	9,558
Clearance .. .. .	1,226
	10,784
	114,396
Number who died .. .. .	951
Number who left by—	
Clearance .. .. .	1,284
Arrears, &c. .. .. .	4,102
	6,337
Number of members, 31st December .. .. .	108,059

The above figures show an increase in membership equal to 4.29 per cent., as compared with 2.88 per cent. for 1935.

The total funds of the societies and branches as at the 31st December, 1936, amounted to £4,956,948, made up as follows: Sick and Funeral Funds (inclusive of amounts transferred to special funds out of surplus), £4,571,363; Medical and Management Funds, goods, &c., £385,585. 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 £45 17s. 5d.

Taking the several years 1927–1936 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.
1927 .. .. .	864	98,251	3,526,717	35 17 11
1928 .. .. .	885	100,928	3,728,087	36 18 9
1929 .. .. .	900	105,154	3,927,433	37 7 0
1930 .. .. .	906	107,167	4,130,117	38 10 9
1931 .. .. .	912	105,660	4,277,715	40 9 9
1932 .. .. .	912	102,052	4,398,158	43 1 11
1933 .. .. .	918	100,237	4,538,095	45 5 6
1934 .. .. .	929	100,708	4,676,427	46 8 9
1935 .. .. .	936	103,612	4,812,787	46 9 0
1936 .. .. .	945	108,059	4,956,948	45 17 5

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 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.