

BENEFITS

UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

The following figures show the number of applications for unemployment benefits dealt with during the years ended 31st March, 1945, and 31st March, 1946, respectively :—

	1944-45.			1945-46.		
	Males.	Females.	Totals.	Males.	Females.	Totals.
Persons granted benefit	1,151	99	1,250	1,149	85	1,234
Number of applications declined ..	316	642	958	402	746	1,148
Number of persons whose applications were declined, but who were granted emergency benefits on the ground of hardship	238	568	806	210	502	712
Totals	1,705	1,309	3,014	1,761	1,333	3,094

SICKNESS BENEFITS

The following figures show the number of sickness benefits dealt with during the years ended 31st March, 1945, and 31st March, 1946, respectively :—

	1944-45.			1945-46.		
	Males.	Females.	Totals.	Males.	Females.	Totals.
Persons granted benefit	18,489	8,433	26,922	22,493	8,154	30,647
Number of applications declined ..	1,455	895	2,350	2,159	1,076	3,235
Number of persons whose applications were declined, but who were granted emergency benefits on the ground of hardship	135	390	525	111	331	442
Totals	20,079	9,718	29,797	24,763	9,561	34,324

EMERGENCY BENEFITS

Under the provisions of section 58 of the Social Security Act, 1938, the Social Security Commission may, in its discretion, grant a special benefit on the grounds of hardship to any person who is not qualified for any other benefit under the Act, but who, by reason of age or of physical or mental disability, or for any other reason, is unable to earn a sufficient livelihood for himself and his dependants. Full and sympathetic use is made of this section, and emergency benefits granted during the year totalled 1,547.

OTHER MONETARY BENEFITS

Details regarding other monetary benefits under the Act are included in the table on page 9.

RECIPROCAL AGE AND INVALIDS' BENEFITS

Under the Age-benefits and Invalid's Benefits (Reciprocity with Australia) Act, 1943, the Social Security Commission is empowered to make grants of age and invalids' benefits to persons living in the Dominion who have also had residence in Australia.