1911. NEW ZEALAND.

ACCIDENT INSURANCE BRANCH OF GOVERN-THE INSURANCE DEPARTMENT MENT

(ANNUAL REPORT ON THE) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1910.

Laid before Parliament pursuant to Section 22 of the Government Accident Insurance Act, 1908.

Government Insurance Office, Wellington, 15th July, 1911.

I HAVE the honour to submit my report on the business of the Accident Insurance Branch of the Department for the year ended 31st December, 1910, together with the Revenue Account and balance-sheet.

The premium income amounted to £21,364, as against £26,337 in 1909, a decrease of £4,973. The business for 1909 was swelled by a large number of mining risks having been placed with the Department for reasons mentioned in my last report, but, as there anticipated, much of this business has now reverted to the companies which formerly held it.

The income from interest was £2,544, an increase of £365 on that for the previous year.

The claims (including those in course of settlement at the close of the year) amounted to £12,522. Since commencing business on the 7th June, 1901, the sum of £108,631 has been paid by the Branch in compensation for accidents.

The total expenses (including taxes and commission) were £6,620, as against £7,182 in the

previous year.

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The financial position is most satisfactory, but the changes that are made from time to time in the legislation regarding compensation to workmen, which constitutes the chief business of the Branch, render it difficult to get the premiums on a scientific basis, and, with the exception of those for the more important industries, they are still in a more or less experimental stage. The position is also complicated owing to the fact that the intense competition obtaining in the business has in several important trades occasioned the reduction of the rates to a basis that is unprofitable.

> J. H. RICHARDSON, Government Insurance Commissioner.

REVENUE ACCOUNT of the ACCIDENT BRANCH of the GOVERNMENT INSURANCE DEPARTMENT for the Year ended 31st December, 1910.

					£	8.	d.	£	٤.	đ.
Amount of	Accident	Funds,	1st Jan	uary,				Claims 12,52	2 8	6
1910					6,264			Commission 2,56	2 4	8
Premiums					21,363			Land and income tax 27	30	0 (
Interest					2,543	15	11	Salaries 3,15	10	0 (
									4 0	8 (
								Amount of Accident Funds, 31st Decem-		
								ber, 1910 11,02	99	0
					£30,172	2	10	£30,17	2 2	10
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