

The interest and rent received by the lodges and central bodies amounted to £79,238 in 1915, equal to £1 1s. 6d. per member, as against 19s. 10d. for 1914.

The amount of sickness benefit paid was £76,554 in 1915, equal to £6 9s. 1d. per member sick, and £1 0s. 9d. per member, as against £6 9s. 11d. and £1 0s. 11d. respectively for 1914. Viewing the amount paid in relation to the weeks of sickness, the average benefit per week is found to be 13s. 6d. in 1915, as compared with 13s. 9d. in 1914.

The funeral benefit paid amounted to £19,701 in 1915, equal to 5s. 4d. per member, as compared with 4s. 4d. for 1914.

The total worth of the Sick and Funeral Funds of 728 lodges at the beginning of 1915 was £1,546,937, and at the end of the year £1,641,479. The balance of gain for the year was £94,542, or £1 5s. 8d. per member in 1915, as compared with £90,791, or £1 4s. 5d. in 1914.

Investment of Funds.

The net income from investments credited to the Sick and Funeral Funds for 1915 amounted to £79,238, the average rate being 5·10 per cent. (say, £5 2s.), as against £5 0s. 8d. in 1914.

TABLE SHOWING THE TOTAL WORTH OF THE SICK AND FUNERAL FUNDS OF 728 LODGES AS ON THE 1ST JANUARY, 1915, AND THE 31ST DECEMBER, 1915, INCLUSIVE OF THE ACCUMULATIONS HELD BY THE CENTRAL BODIES; ALSO THE AMOUNT AND AVERAGE RATE OF INTEREST EARNED.

Name of Society.	Total Worth of Sick and Funeral Fund as on		Amount of Interest.	Average Rate per Cent.
	January 1, 1915.	December 31, 1915.		
	£	£	£	£
M.U.I.O.O.F.	659,590	708,199	33,939	5·11
I.O.O.F.	98,290	102,792	4,791	4·88
N.I.O.O.F.	4,975	5,181	218	4·39
B.U.O.O.F.	3,154	3,327	164	5·19
A.O.F.	372,125	389,595	18,705	5·04
A.O.S.	1,151	1,191	60	5·26
U.A.O.D.	226,338	247,379	11,668	5·05
I.O.R.	77,482	81,762	4,044	5·21
S.D.T.	20,465	21,411	1,114	5·47
H.A.C.B.S.	31,327	33,524	1,573	4·97
P.A.F.S.A.	21,604	22,975	1,193	5·50
Other societies	30,436	29,143	1,774	6·14
Totals	1,546,937	1,641,479	79,238	5·10

TRADE-UNIONS.

The following registrations were cancelled: By request—The Picton Waterside Workers' Union and the Millerton Mine Workers' Union.

There were 32 unions on the register at the end of the year.

Complete amendment of rules: West Coast Workers' Trade Union.

Partial amendments of rules: Waihi Trade Union of Workers.

INCORPORATED SOCIETIES ACT.

During 1915 there were 58 societies, clubs, or associations incorporated under this Act, and amendments of rules of 43 societies were accepted. One society was wound up and 2 dissolved. On the 31st December, 1915, there were 1,014 incorporated bodies on the register. A classification of these societies gives: 423 sports clubs; 274 automobile, social, and musical clubs; 174 professional, commercial, industrial, &c.; 67 public-hall societies; and 76 miscellaneous.

EXPLANATORY NOTE OF TERMS USED IN REPORT.

A.O.F.	Ancient Order of Foresters.
A.O.S.	Ancient Order of Shepherds.
B.U.O.O.F.	British United Order of Odd Fellows.
E.T.B.F.S.	Eden Temperance Benefit Friendly Society.
H.A.C.B.S.	Hibernian Australasian Catholic Benefit Society.
I.F.S.	Isolated friendly society.
I.O.G.T.	Independent Order of Good Templars.
I.O.O.F.	Independent Order of Odd Fellows.
I.O.R.	Independent Order of Rechabites.
M.U.I.O.O.F.	Manchester Unity Independent Order of Odd Fellows.
N.I.O.O.F.	National Independent Order of Odd Fellows.
P.A.F.S.A.	Protestant Alliance Friendly Society of Australasia.
S.A.S.	Specially authorized society.
S.D.T.	Sons and Daughters of Temperance.
U.A.O.D.	United Ancient Order of Druids.
W.M.C.	Working-men's Club.