

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, 1921.

Name of Society.	Central Bodies.	Branches.
M.U.I.O.O.F.		22
I.O.O.F.		20
N.I.O.O.F.	1	..
A.O.F.	1	11
U.A.O.D.		12
I.O.R.		21
S.D.T.	1	1
H.A.C.B.S.	1	22
I.F.S., &c.		30
	4	139
	143	

STATISTICS OF MEMBERSHIP AND FUNDS.

The following table shows the membership of 732 lodges* of the Dominion for the year 1920 :—

Number of members, 1st January	70,598
Number admitted by—	
Initiation, &c.	7,292
Clearance	751
	8,043
	78,641
Number who died	664
Number left by—	
Clearance	769
Arrears, &c.	2,998
	4,431
Number of members at 31st December	74,210

The above figures show an increase in membership equal to 5·12 per cent., as compared with 4·55 per cent. for 1919.

The total funds of the societies and branches as on the 31st December, 1920, amounted to £2,321,176, made up as follows: Sick and Funeral Funds (inclusive of amounts transferred to special funds out of surplus), £2,149,802; Medical and Management Funds, goods, &c., £171,374. 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 £31 5s. 7d.

Taking the several years 1911–1920, 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.
1911	658	71,771	1,441,853	20 1 8
1912	664	73,243	1,553,339	21 4 2
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

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 as in the various orders.