The following statement shows the disposal of the total funds (including those of the central bodies) as on 31st December, 1926:—

Funds.		Assets.				
Sick and Funeral Funds Surplus Appropriation Funds, &c Management Funds, goods, &c Widow and Orphans' Funds Distress, Benevolent Funds, &c	£ 2,907,435 196,038 153,867 24,166 56,177	Investments at interest Value of land and buildings Cash not bearing interest Value of goods Other assets Owing by Management Funds		£ 2,884,30 314,22 90,61 20,020 20,32: 8,01		
Total	£3,337,683	Total	••	£3,337,688		

The next table shows the number of members of friendly societies, the amount of their accumulated capital, and the average capital per member in each of the Australian States and in the Dominion of New Zealand according to the latest received statistics, arranged in order of membership:—

State or Dominion.			į	Date of Return.			Number of Lodges.	Number of Members	Amount of Funds.	Capital per Member.
27 G (1 YY)				0041 T.:	1005		0.014	200 550	£	£ s. d.
New South Wales	• •	• •	• •	30th June,	1925	••	2,214	226,576		13 8 6
Victoria	• •	• •	• •	"_	•	••	1,470	155,378		26 3 4
New Zealand				31st Dec.,	"		817	91,358	3,136,237	34 6 7
South Australia				,,	1924		643	74,078	1,842,133	24 17 5
Queensland					,,		634	61,571	1,297,852	21 1 7
Tasmania				,,	,		184	24,410	326,515	13 7 6
Western Australia	• •			30th June,	1925		314	21,350	378,753	17 14 10

Sickness.

The number of members sick during 1926 was 17,827, equal to 21·1 per 100 members at risk. The sickness experienced during 1926 was 177,240 weeks, equal to 10 weeks per sick member, and 2 weeks 1 day for each member at risk.

Mortality.

The following statement of average mortality experienced during the years 1922-26 is given herewith, but it takes no account of age incidence:—

				Mem	bers.	Wives.		
	Y	ear.	 	Number who died.	Number per 1,000 Members at Risk.	Number who died.	Number per 1,000 Members at Risk.	
1922	 		 	649	8.18	296	3.73	
1923	 		 	684	$8 \cdot 29$	328	3.98	
1924	 		 	674	8.09	295	3.54	
1925	 		 	648	$7 \cdot 22$	328	3.66	
1926	 		 	748	8.02	323	3.46	

Sick and Funeral Funds.

The contributions and entrance fees paid to Sick and Funeral Funds in 1926 amounted to £172,189. Divided by the mean number of members the average for 1926 was £1 17s. 1d., as compared with £1 16s. 10d. in 1925.

The interest and rent received by the lodges and central bodies amounted to £159,103 in 1926, equal to £1 14s. 3d. per member, as against £1 13s. 5d. for 1925.

The amount of sickness benefit paid was £117,083 in 1926, equal to £6 11s. 4d. per member sick, and £1 5s. 2d. per member, as against £7 2s. 8d. and £1 3s. 4d. respectively for 1925. Viewing the amount paid in relation to the weeks of sickness, the average benefit per week is found to be 13s. 3d. in 1926, as against 12s. 11d. for 1925.

The funeral benefit paid amounted to £35,227 in 1926, equal to 7s. 7d. per member, as compared with 6s. 4d. for 1925.

The total worth of the Sick and Funeral Funds of 843 lodges at the beginning of 1926 was £2,724,840, and at the end of the year £2,907,435. The balance of gain for the year was £182,595, or £1 19s. 4d. per member, in 1926, as compared with £106,514, or £1 3s. 10d., in 1925.

Investment of Funds.

The net income from investments credited to the Sick and Funeral Funds for 1926 amounted to £159,103, the average rate being £5 16s. 3d. per cent., as against £5 14s. 11d. in 1925.