

The following statement shows the disposal of the total funds (including those of the central bodies) as at the 31st December, 1936 :—

Funds.			Assets.		
	£			£	
Sick and Funeral Funds	4,116,121		Investments at interest	4,224,633	
Surplus Appropriation Funds, &c. ..	455,242		Value of land and buildings	526,122	
Management Funds, goods, &c. ..	219,260		Cash not bearing interest	142,685	
Widow and Orphans' Funds	33,484		Value of goods	22,551	
Distress, Benevolent Funds, &c. ..	132,841		Other assets	35,706	
			Owing by Management Funds	5,251	
Total	£4,956,948		Total	£4,956,948	

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 according to the latest received statistics and in the Dominion of New Zealand as at the 31st December, 1935, arranged in order of membership :—

State or Dominion.	Date of Return.	Number of Lodges.	Number of Members.	Amount of Funds.	Capital per Member.
				£	£ s. d.
New South Wales	30th June, 1935 ..	2,429	204,626	4,442,027	21 14 2
Victoria	" ..	1,444	177,348	5,713,954	32 4 4
New Zealand	31st Dec., " ..	936	103,612	4,812,787	46 9 0
South Australia	30th June, " ..	868	89,889	2,653,475	29 10 4
Queensland	" 1934 ..	604	66,077	1,811,159	31 9 2
Tasmania	31st Dec., " ..	186	24,231	447,328	18 9 3
Western Australia	30th June, 1935 ..	342	23,377	566,015	24 4 3

Sickness.

The number of members sick during 1936 was 22,049, equal to 22·4 per 100 members at risk. The sickness experienced during 1936 was 267,614 weeks, equal to 12 weeks 1 day per sick member, and 2 weeks 4 days for each member at risk.

Mortality.

A statement of the average mortality experienced during the years 1932-36 is given below, but it takes no account of age incidence :—

Year.	Members.		Wives.	
	Number who died.	Number per 1,000 Members at Risk.	Number who died.	Number per 1,000 Members at Risk.
1932	834	8·00	393	3·77
1933	352	8·39	363	3·57
1934	935	9·26	326	3·23
1935	887	8·64	364	3·55
1936	951	8·95	373	3·51

Sick and Funeral Funds.

The contributions and entrance fees paid to Sick and Funeral Funds in 1936 amounted to £196,804. Divided by the mean number of members the average for 1936 was £1 17s. 2d., as against £1 16s. 7d. for 1935.

The interest and rent received by the lodges and central bodies amounted to £181,279 in 1936, equal to £1 14s. 3d. per member, as against £1 13s. 4d. for 1935.

The amount of sickness benefit paid was £163,343 in 1936, equal to £7 8s. 2d. per member sick, and £1 10s. 10d. per member, as against £7 7s. 1d. and £1 11s. 4d. respectively for 1935. Viewing the amount paid in relation to the weeks of sickness, the average benefit per week is found to be 12s. 2d. in 1936, as against 12s. 4d. for 1935.

The funeral benefit paid amounted to £44,253 in 1936, equal to 8s. 4d. per member, as compared with 8s. 1d. for 1935.

The total worth of the Sick and Funeral Funds at the beginning of 1936 was £3,993,566, and at the end of the year £4,116,121. The balance of gain for the year was £122,555, or £1 3s. 2d. per member, in 1936, as compared with £110,009, or £1 1s. 6d. in 1935.

Investment of Funds.

The net income from investments credited to the Sick and Funeral Funds for 1936 amounted to £181,279, the average rate being £4 11s. 5s. per cent., as against £4 8s. 3d. in 1935.