

For the year ended 31st May, 1937, forty-two insurance concerns gave the prescribed notice to undertake business under the Act, and carried on business accordingly. The following table shows the experience of the scheme during the seven years ended 31st May, 1936. The figures for claims do not represent the amount paid during each year, but refer to accidents happening during each particular period.

Year ended 31st May,					Revenue from Premiums.	Claims paid and Estimated Liability for Claims outstanding at 31st May.	Claim Ratio.
					£	£	Per Cent.
1930	..	..	..	..	235,007	202,380	86·12
1931	..	..	..	..	242,864	186,379	76·74
1932	..	..	..	..	233,731	161,217	68·98
1933	..	..	..	..	229,133	137,013	59·80
1934	..	..	..	..	221,734	165,743	74·75
1935	..	..	..	..	211,709	232,394	109·77
1936	..	..	..	..	230,696	280,938	121·78
1937	..	..	..	..	257,559	344,777	133·86
Totals	..	..	..	..	1,862,433	1,710,841	91·86

B. ANNUAL REVIEW OF PREMIUM RATES.

Section 16 of the Act provides that the amount of the premiums to be paid in respect of third-party insurance may be fixed from time to time by Order in Council.

In accordance with the usual practice, the financial operations of the companies undertaking this class of insurance were carefully examined, and it was decided to make the following alterations to the premiums for the year 1937-38 :—

Class.					Old Premiums.			New Premiums.		
					£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Class 2	..	..	..	..	1	16	0	2	0	0
Class 4	..	..	..	..	0	17	0	1	0	0
Class 5	..	..	..	..	2	5	0	2	8	0
Class 8A	..	..	..	..	6	0	0	7	10	0
Class 10	..	..	..	..	0	18	0	1	0	0

C. " HIT AND RUN " DRIVERS.

The table hereunder indicates the number of claims and the amounts paid out under the agreement gazetted on the 29th October, 1931, at page 3023, and relating to third-party insurance to cover the damage resulting from death or injuries due to the negligence of such drivers.

It is gratifying to note that, possibly as a result of the increased penalties operative since August, 1936, the number of claims still continues to drop in spite of the likelihood that claims are now lodged following nearly all the " hit-and-run " accidents.

In the earlier years the provisions of the agreement were not generally known, but steps have now been taken so that the police advise the injured parties of their rights under the agreement.

Table of Claims.

Year ending 31st May,					Number of Accidents for which Claims made.	Amount paid to Claimants.	Expenses incurred in handling Claims.
						£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1932 (five months only)	..	..	..	..	5	595 0 0	145 3 6
1933	..	..	..	..	11	885 8 0	144 8 7
1934	..	..	..	..	12	720 2 6	151 10 10
1935	..	..	..	..	29	1,661 11 4	327 8 4
1936	..	..	..	..	38	1,224 9 6	517 5 2
1937	..	..	..	..	37	1,730 14 0	247 5 3
1938	..	..	..	..	25	228 19 4*	66 4 2*
Totals	..	..	..	..	157	7,046 4 8	1,599 5 10

*Incomplete