

M.U.I.O.OF. BRISBANE DISTRICT MEETING.

ROSEWOOD. January 28,.

The annual meeting of the Brisbane district of the Manchester Unity Independent Older Of Oddfellows was well attended. In the absence of the Provincial Grand Master (Bro. Betts), Bro. W Watson (deputy) presided, and welcomed the delegates on behalf of the Rosewood Lodge.

The balance sheet showed a debit of £49/14/7 in the management fund The funeral fund showed a credit of £38,559/1/6. During the year 98 full claims were paid, one half benefit, 10 members' wives, and 21 children making a total for death claims of £3,303. The war was responsible for the death of 40 members. The membership now totalled 4963, an increase of 138 for the year. A total of 687 members had enlisted from the Brisbane district. The investments made by the trustees showed a return of over 5 per cent. The trustees were accorded hearty thanks for their excellent services.

The election of officers for the coming year resulted -PGM, Bro. W. Watson; DPGM, Bro. E. H. Heselhurst; treasurer, Bro. W. S. Austin; auditor Bro. W. McCosker. A sub-committee consisting of Bros. W. S. Austin, E. H. Heselhurst, S. A. Barker, W. Minter, and A. Shearer which had been appointed to consider three alternative proposals for fixing the salary of the secretary, recommended that Bro. Floyd (Pro. C.S.) be appointed secretary at a salary of £250 per annum, Bro Floyd having agreed to devote all his time to lodge work in the district. An amendment to the effect that before appointing a district organiser the matter be referred to the various lodges in the district for approval or otherwise was lost by a large majority, and the recommendation was adopted. The salary of the treasurer was fixed at £3/3/.

The following were selected deputies for the A.M.C. - Bros W. Watson, E. H. Heselhurst, A. Shearer, F. J. Connolly, W. Strickland, A Craig, F. G. Woodward, J. Christie, J Floyd, H. Parker, Sister F. Warnes, Bro. R. A. Field, and J. B. Lugg. The election of directors resulted-Bros. C. J. Walker, W. Strickland, T. J. Connolly, A. Messenger, T Dangerfield and J. Jack.

The management fund levy was fixed at 1/9 per member, and the funeral fund levy at the minimum rate. The allocation of officers travelling expenses was fixed at the same as last year.

Bulimba was chosen as the place for holding the next district meeting.

A motion was carried expressing thanks to Almighty God for the complete and glorious victory gained by the Allies in the great war, and expressing sympathy with all who suffered in any way to attain that victory.

A vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Watson for his valuable services to the Order during the past year.

On the motion of Bro. Austin. Rules 58 and 60 were amended with a view to reducing contributions or levies until a £5 per member basis was reached for the funeral fund.

The matter of a suitable memorial for the MU soldiers who had enlisted was referred to a special committee to be appointed at the A.M.. A suggestion was made by Bro. Heselhurst that such memorial should take the form of a University Scholarship, open to the children of MU members.

It was decided to refer to a special committee the matter of Bro. Floyd's long and faithful services for 21 years to the order.