**5.11. The Monmouthshire and South Wales Miners' Permanent Provident Society, Statement of Membership, Income and Expenditure, 1881-1920.**

Note: Permanent relief or provident funds were established in various coalfields in the second half of the nineteenth century and were intended to provide benefits to the widows and ‘orphans’ of miners killed in their work, disablement benefits for miners who suffered injuries or occupational disease, and, in some cases, payments to old and infirm miners no longer able to work. These were ‘permanent funds’ because, unlike friendly societies or other agencies, they paid benefits indefinitely. Varying proportions of the mining workforce in different coalfields joined these funds and, in some cases, such as in south Wales, membership involved ‘contracting out’ of the statutory benefits provided by the Employers’ Liability and Workmen’s Compensation Acts. The Monmouthshire and South Wales Permanent Provident Society was less consensual than other such organisations in other coalfields and was the cause of disagreement between employers and the labour movement in the region; workers’ leaders attempted to extricate workers from the Society in the years after the Workmen’s Compensation Act of 1897, and a further Workmen’s Compensation Act in 1906 led to a further fall in membership, so that the Society did little but provide for those on long-term benefits after 1906.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Year** | **No. Of members** | **No. Of widows** | **No. Of children** | **Old Age Allowances** | **No. Of Disabled Members** | **Workmen’s Contributions (£.s.d.)** | **Proprietors’ Contributions** | **Honorary Members’ Subscriptions** | **Funeral allowances** | **Relief to Widows** | **Relief to Children** | **Old Age Allowances** | **Relief to Disabled Members** | **Total Relief Paid** |
| 1881 | 3084 | 5 | 5 |  | 552 | 1885.19.11 | 429.8.8 | 206.10.6 | 25.0.0 | 35.11.0 | 18.15.0 |  | 774.5.7 | 853.11.7 |
| 1882 | 14303 | 32 | 47 |  | 2510 | 6109.7.0 | 1444.8.7 | 327.0.0 | 285.0.0 | 231.14.8 | 182.8.9 |  | 3247.18.5 | 3947.1.0 |
| 1883 | 22541 | 55 | 88 |  | 4399 | 11925.6.8 | 2812.0.1 | 483.14.0 | 687.0.0 | 527.3.8 | 414.19.2 |  | 7085.8.7 | 8714.11.5 |
| 1884 | 30151 | 93 | 157 |  | 6207 | 16203.11.7 | 4100.3.3 | 291.0.0 | 724.0.0 | 819.5.10 | 778.16.3 |  | 9741.3.0 | 12183.10.7. |
| 1885 | 37450 | 140 | 273 |  | 7505 | 21365.0.0 | 5117.12.0 | 685.9.6 | 1557.0.0 | 1349.15.9 | 1261.9.9 |  | 1433.10.0 | 17032.5.3 |
| 1886 | 41117 | 211 | 422 |  | 9705 | 24447.15.4 | 5938.14.5 | 276.2.2 | 1155.0.0 | 2319.6.4 | 2103.12.0 |  | 74304.4.0 | 23142.3.8 |
| 1887 | 42108 | 232 | 543 |  | 10801 | 20175.1.8 | 6305.12.5 | 836.2.0 | 1641.4.4 | 3214.17.11 | 3146.19.5 |  | 19320.11.11 | 27523.13.7 |
| 1888 | 39218 | 285 | 560 |  | 9020 | 20808.18.1 | 6795.0.3 | 525.5.6 | 931.19.4 | 3377.18.4 | 3440.3.0 |  | 14003.6.5 | 21782.7.1 |
| 1889 | 45932 | 314 | 619 |  | 10935 | 30594.6.11 | 7445.15.4 | 355.3.0 | 1242.15.3 | 3678.18.7 | 3767.1.4 |  | 13495.13.9 | 22115.8.11 |
| 1890 | 52774 | 431 | 909 |  | 10164 | 35716.16.1 | 8620.11.0 | 360.10.11 | 3930.10.2 | 5685.17.11 | 5704.17.8 |  | 12825.8.4 | 28140.14.1 |
| 1891 | 57590 | 532 | 1044 |  | 8591 | 40414.19.6 | 10101.10.4 | 1237.11.11 | 1253.6.3 | 6411.7.1 | 6202.10.0 |  | 14183.7.8 | 25080.11.0 |
| 1892 | 59091 | 610 | 1192 |  | 10222 | 43018.5.1 | 100573.2.0 | 3300.2.11 | 3692.3.11 | 65857.17.0 | 6504.14.2 |  | 10911.10.8 | 31696.5.9 |
| 1893 | 63182 | 653 | 1233 |  | 11260 | 42683.1.10 | 10383.18.11 | 1048.2.1 | 1303.17.0 | 7796.2.1 | 7437.9.4 |  | 21538.7.0 | 38185.6.5 |
| 1894 | 68010 | 839 | 1650 |  | 12917 | 48550.5.0 | 11943.12.1 | 798.19.6 | 5109.18.7 | 9247.9.10 | 8416.16.2 |  | 22993.1.11 | 45737.0.6 |
| 1895 | 71113 | 895 | 1606 |  | 14503 | 51003.5.1 | 13095.7.5 | 2041.7.8 | 1817.7.6 | 10708.10.2 | 9659.9.10 |  | 27452.2.1 | 49707.15.7 |
| 1896 | 73417 | 953 | 1645 |  | 15041 | 52885.4.3 | 12584.15.11 | 2318.0.0 | 2485.8.10 | 11477.2.5 | 10029.10.11 |  | 31234.8.9 | 56236.16.2 |
| 1897 | 76801 | 973 | 1659 |  | 19280 | 55597.17.10 | 14718.17.4 | 1926.7.0 | 1926.7.0 | 11786.7.2 | 10049.12.0 |  | 33220.9.1 | 52258.14.1 |
| 1898 | 29717 | 970 | 1572 |  | 10473 | 27423.18.0 | 8411.10.7 | 738.1.0 | 1092.8.0 | 11932.17.10 | 9751.15.2 |  | 28681.12.4 | 51258.14.1 |
| 1899 | 30260 | 981 | 1530 |  | 8302 | 30788.19.0 | 23458.12.7 | 929.3.4 | 1038.11.3 | 11800.14.4 | 9861.13.0 |  | 23838.14.3 | 45789.13.4 |
| 1900 | 32258 | 964 | 1413 | 103 | 6078 | 20823.11.30 | 28769.5.10 | 716.2.4 | 905.0.0 | 11737.17.5 | 8497.19.3 | 833.11.8 | 21016.0.0 | 43030.8.4 |
| 1901 | 29612 | 970 | 1340 | 176 | 6832 | 20942.14.2 | 25276.15.0 | 621.4.0 | 918.0.0 | 11876.17.2 | 7803.19.11 | 1802.11.8 | 10850.16.3 | 42413.5.0 |
| 1902 | 21507 | 988 | 1210 | 251 | 5780 | 16907.7.1 | 19041.6.9 | 608.14.0 | 747.10.9 | 11893.14.11 | 7192.6.4 | 2851.2.0 | 17680.8.11 | 40374.2.8 |
| 1903 | 18952 | 947 | 1065 | 317 | 4892 | 13570.1.11 | 13836.0.3 | 605.12.0 | 513.15.0 | 11720.4.3 | 6221.10.11 | 3721.1.0 | 1562.16.10 | 37714.16.10 |
| **Totals** | 208349 | 653685.8.11 | 246250.6.0 | 2508.15.11 | 33013.2.4 | 156727.17.6 | 125007.17.2 | 9811.6.10 | 405511.1.6 | 734257.5.4 |

Source: *Report of the Departmental Committee Appointed to Inquire into the Law Relating to Compensation for Injuries to Workmen, Vol II: Report and Appendices* (1904).