

The Berkshire Archæological Journal.

Berkshire Archæological Society.

ANNUAL MEETING.

THE Annual Meeting of the Berkshire Archæological Society was held at Reading University on Saturday, the 25th April, 1931, when the President, the Rev. Dr. B. H. B. Attlee, presided.

The following officers and members of the Council were elected :—

President :

THE REV. DR. B. H. B. ATTLEE.

Vice-Presidents :

THE VERY REV. THE DEAN OF WINDSOR.

THE VEN. THE ARCHDEACON OF BERKSHIRE.

THE RIGHT HON. THE MARQUIS OF DOWNSHIRE.

THE RIGHT HON. LORD GERALD WELLESLEY.

SIR EDWARD BARRY Bart., F.S.A.

A. E. PRESTON, Esq., F.S.A.

THE PROVOST OF ETON.

THE MASTER OF WELLINGTON.

SIR EDWARD ILIFFE, K.B.

Hon. Secretary and Treasurer :

H. T. MORLEY, B.Sc.(Arch.), F.R.Hist.S., J.P.

Editor of the Society's Journal :

MR. ERNEST W. DORMER.

Assistant Editor :

DR. J. A. P. PRICE.

Librarian :

MR. F. M. BUNCE.

Council :

H. G. W. D'ALMAINE, F.S.A.
MISS BAILY.
J. W. DODGSON, B.Sc.
F. N. A. GARRY, M.A., F.S.A.
A. J. HEELAS.
H. J. HEWITT.
MRS. HOLDEN.
J. E. MORRIS, D.Litt., F.R.Hist.S.
LIEUT.-COL. C. NOEL RIVERS-MOORE.
W. A. SMALLCOMBE, B.Sc.
LL. TREACHER, F.G.S.
FREDERIC TURNER.
J. W. WALKER, F.S.A., O.B.E.
C. B. WILLCOCKS, F.R.I.B.A.
REV. HENRY WILDER, M.A.
PHILIP WILLIAMS, M.A.
LIEUT.-COL. C. J. WEST.

REPORT FOR 1930-31.

For the second year in succession the Society has had to mourn the loss of its President. After a very brief tenure of the office the Rev. P. H. Ditchfield, M.A., F.S.A., passed away on the 23rd September, 1930. He was buried at Barkham on the 27th September, where, amidst a very large concourse of mourners, many of our members attended. An obituary notice by the Editor appeared in the Autumn number of the Journal, and at the first meeting of the Winter session a vote of sympathy with Mrs. Ditchfield was passed on the motion of Sir Edward Barry and carried *sub silentio*, the members standing.

The late President had been the leading spirit in the Society's activities almost since its inception and although the debt which the Society owes to his untiring interest in its affairs has been more suitably expressed elsewhere, it is only fitting that your report should contain some reference to the loss which has been sustained by his death.

Mr. Ditchfield had been Editor of the Society's Journal for over thirty-five years. In October, 1930, the Council extended an invitation to Mr. Ernest W. Dormer, of Reading, to edit the Journal in succession to Mr. Ditchfield, and this Mr. Dormer consented to do as a temporary measure.

We have also to record the deaths of the following members during 1930 :—the Rev. C. H. Hadow, Major J. de Courcy Laffan, Mrs. J. B. Massey, Sir Ernest Moon, K.C., K.C.B., Mr. W. J. Greenstreet, Mr. R. C. Deane and Mr. H. V. Reade, C.B.

At the meeting on the 17th January, 1931, the Council reported that the Rev. Dr. B. H. B. Attlee, F.R.Hist.S., had been interviewed by a delegation of their members, and had accepted the office of President. At the February meeting following, Dr. Attlee expressed his thanks to the members for electing him and assured them he would do all he could to further the interests of the Society.

LECTURES.

The following lectures were given during the Winter session :—
October 25th, 1930.

The Icknield Way : A Study of the Lure of the Downs, by
Mr. J. E. Morris, D.Litt.(Oxon), F.R.Hist.S. (Illustrated).

November 22nd, 1930.

Method in Archæological Research, by the Editor of the
Journal, Mr. Ernest W. Dormer.

December 13th, 1930.

The Order of St. Antoine of Viennois, and its English Commandery, St. Anthony, Threadneedle Street, London, by
Miss Rose Graham, D.Litt.(Oxon), F.S.A. (Illustrated).

January 17th, 1931.

Some Examples of Architecture in Mallorca, by Miss E. M.
Jackson-Mason. (Illustrated).

February 21st, 1931.

The Crusades and Pilgrimages, by Dr. W. E. St. Lawrence
Finny, F.S.A., President of the Archæological Section of
the South-eastern Union of Scientific Societies. (Illustrated).

On 21st March, 1931, the annual meeting of the Berkshire Branch of the Local History Recording Scheme was held, after which Mr. P. M. Johnstone, F.S.A., F.R.I.B.A., gave an illustrated lecture on *Timber Architecture of the Home Counties*.

On April 25th, 1931, after the business of the Annual Meeting was concluded, Mr. V. B. Crowther-Beynon, M.A., F.S.A., M.B.E., lectured on *Historic Stamford*, illustrated by numerous excellent slides.

The grateful thanks of the Society are accorded to the foregoing ladies and gentlemen who have so generously given of their time and expert knowledge to lecture to the Society.

The thanks of the Society are also due to the following who have kindly entertained the members to tea on the occasion of the lectures :—Mrs. Holden and Miss Walter ; Mrs. Saunders ; the Misses de Chaumont ; Mrs. Cabot and Miss Kemble ; Miss Lawes ; Dr. and Mrs. Morris ; Miss Bailly.

EXCURSIONS IN 1930.

On June 23rd over sixty members and friends visited Herriards, Winchfield ; The Vyne ; Basingstoke ; and the Saxon Church at Preston Candover.

On July 24th a half-day excursion was arranged and visits made to " Westcourt " and " Banisters," Finchampstead ; also to Swallowfield House and Church ; about fifty members took part.

On August 19th, between thirty and forty members journeyed by motor coach to London when visits were made to the Charterhouse, Merchant Taylors' Schools, and St. Bartholomew's Church, under the direction of the Rev. Dr. Nairn. The Guildhall Museum and the Barber Surgeons' Hall were also visited.

In accordance with its usual practice the Society have presented prizes to Architectural students for Measured Drawings. The first prize was won by Mr. T. L. J. Chamberlain for " Holybrook House, Reading " ; the second prize by Mr. W. A. L. Hopkins for " Holybrook House, Reading."

THE LIBRARY.

Owing to illness Mr. J. H. Sacret was obliged to resign his office as Hon. Librarian, and the Council in appreciation of his services elected him a Life Member.

Arrangements are now being made to house the Library of the Society at the Central Public Library, Reading, in the care and by permission of the Library Committee of the Town Council, and under the supervision of Mr. Francis M. Bunce, the Chief Librarian, who has kindly agreed to accept the office of Hon. Librarian to the Society. When the arrangements are completed members will be able to borrow books from the Society's Library on application to Mr. Bunce.

The Society continues to receive hospitable accommodation for its meetings and lectures from the Vice-Chancellor and the Council of the University of Reading. We are deeply indebted for this privilege and our thanks have been duly communicated.

BALANCE SHEET.

A copy of the balance sheet has been sent to every member. The statement discloses a balance in hand of £47 19s. 11d., and in addition, there is on deposit with the bank a sum of £80. The cost of printing and publishing the Journal is a heavy strain on the Society's funds and will continue to be so if the publication is to take its proper place among those of similar learned Societies. It is felt by the Council that the membership, which shows a gratifying increase on the previous year, is not a true index of the number of people in the County who are interested in Archæology and its kindred sciences, and the Council appeals to members to try and strengthen the position of the Society and extend its usefulness by obtaining new members. Proposal forms can be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, or they will be forwarded to any whose names may be sent to him.

The report and balance sheet were adopted.