

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL OF THE SOCIETY FOR YEAR 1938-39.

1. MEMBERSHIP.

The number of members again shows an increase, the figure being as follows:—

		<i>Honorary</i>	<i>Life</i>	<i>Ordinary</i>	<i>Total</i>
March 31st, 1938	..	2	1	404	407
March 31st, 1939	..	1	1	416	418

2. OBITUARY.

We have to record with regret the death of the following members:—Mr. F. J. Lawes, Sir Arthur B. Lowry, Mrs. Keyser, Capt. W. Godsall and Miss Moxhay.

3. ANNUAL MEETING.

The Annual Meeting of the Society was held at Reading University on Saturday April 9th, 1938. Mr. P. S. Spokes presided. The Report and Statement of Accounts were approved and adopted. The Vice-Patrons and Vice-Presidents of the Society were re-elected on the proposition of Col. C. J. West, seconded by Mr. P. S. Spokes.

On the proposition of Mr. P. S. Spokes, seconded by Mr. C. B. Russell, the following members of the Council were re-elected viz.:—Mrs. E. Holden, Col. C. N. Rivers-Moore, Miss E. Beach, Mrs. Rivers-Moore and Mr. E. T. Long.

The following were elected Officers of the Society:—President, Mr. A. T. Loyd, O.B.E., J.P.; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. F. M. Underhill; Hon. Editor of the Society's Journal, Mr. Stuart Piggott, F.S.A.; Hon. Librarian, Mr. F. M. Bunce; Hon. Secretary, Mr. H. T. Morley, F.S.A., Scot., F.R. Hist. S., J.P.

On the proposition of the Rev. Owen Williams, seconded by Mr. T. B. Russell, the following resolution was carried:—

The Annual Subscription of Members (due on January 1st), shall be a minimum of 12/6 to include one copy of the Journal. Two members at one address shall be 20/- with one copy of the Journal. Ladies shall be eligible for election on payment of 7/6 per annum.

The names of persons newly elected shall not be entered on the list of Members, until their subscription have been paid.

4. FINANCIAL POSITION.

The Society's Finances show an improvement since 1937. As the result of the appeal made by the Council and the alteration to

Rule 5, there has been an increase in the revenue from subscriptions; the full effects of these factors should be more apparent in 1939. The desirability of increasing the reserve fund for the purposes outlined in the 1937 Report is a matter still requiring greater support. The Council are considering sponsoring some excavation in the field during the year and will be glad of extra donations towards this end. A new form of Banker's Order has been issued, and it would greatly assist the work of the Hon. Treasurer if this method of payment of subscriptions was more widely used by members.

We have to record with thanks various donations amounting to £4 13s. od. *See Statement of Account.*

5. LECTURES.

The following Lectures were given during the year:—

- 1938
- Oct. 8th. "*Berkshire Archaeology in Retrospect and Prospect*,"
by Stuart Piggott, Esq., F.S.A.
- Nov. 5th. "*Norman Domestic Architecture*," by Miss Margaret
Wood, M.A.
- Dec. 3rd. "*The Calendar and our Diaries*," by F. S. Richard-
son, Esq.
- 1939
- Jan. 7th. "*The Chained Library of Hereford Cathedral*,"
by James Poulter, Esq.
- Jan. 28th. "*Lachish, a city of Judah*," by C. H. Inge, Esq.
- Mar. 4th. "*Mediaeval Domestic Architecture in Berkshire*,"
by E. T. Long, Esq.

(The Annual Meeting of the Berkshire Branch of the Local History Recording Scheme was also held on this date).

6. SUMMER MEETINGS.

Visits were made to the following places of historic interest:—

- May 27-28th. Romsey, Southampton, Bitterne Manor, Titchfield Abbey, Porchester Castle, East Meon Court House, Alton, &c., Arranged by Col. C. N. Rivers-Moore.
- June 22nd. East Hendred, Wantage and Lockinge.
On this occasion the President and Mrs. Loyd kindly provided Tea at Lockinge House for over 100 members.
- July 9th. Sutton Courtenay, Abingdon and Harwell,
Arranged by Messrs. P. S. Spokes and E. T. Long.
- July 23rd. Fyfield, Ducklington, Witney and Minster Lovell.
Arranged by Messrs. P. S. Spokes and E. T. Long.
- Sept. 17th. Ruins Old Basing House and Pamber Priory.
Arranged by the Hon. Secretary.

7 We offer our congratulations to two members of our Council, Miss Lily Chitty and Mr. E. T. Long, who have been elected Fellows of the Society of Antiquaries.

8. CHURCH GUIDES.

During the year Church Guides have been published for Caversham, Cholsey, Finchampstead and East Hagbourne.

9. ARBORFIELD OLD CHURCH.

It has been decided, as suggested by our Society, to demolish the Memorial Chapels to save the expense of maintaining them as they are of no architectural interest. The beautiful Standen memorial, which was in the Eastern Chapel, has been taken down and re-erected in the new Church. Mr. C. B. Willcocks has supervised this work for the Society. The interesting wooden font has also been moved to the new Church and several fittings, etc., in the Memorial Chapels will be preserved when the Chapels are demolished.

10. OLD HOUSES, FRIAR STREET, READING.

The Society has learnt with regret that it is proposed to demolish 16, Friar Street, Reading, together with the adjoining building on the West, to clear the site for a new office building. 16, Friar Street was originally two houses and is one of the best eighteenth century buildings in the town. It has a typical doorway, a good staircase and some panelled rooms. A suggestion made by a member of our Society that the panelling might be used in the new building has been sympathetically received and it is understood that some of the panelling may be used in the Hall of the new offices.

The Georgian Group of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings has been communicated with concerning the building.

11. PRIZES FOR MEASURED DRAWINGS.

The First Prize of £2 2s. od. was awarded to Mr. A. I. Cripps for drawings of the Chapel, Rycote Park, Oxfordshire. The Second Prize of £1 1s. od. was awarded to Miss B. E. Buss for drawings of Hall Place, Hurley, Berkshire.

12. ACCOMODATION AND HOSPITALITY.

The Society is greatly indebted to the Vice-Chancellor and Council of Reading University for the continued provision of accomodation for the meetings of the Society. Grateful thanks

are also accorded to the following Ladies and Gentlemen for providing hospitality after the Lectures during the past Session :—
Medames Russell, Hardy, Dawson, Pennyston and Morley.
Misses Baily, Beach, Harrison-Jones, Lawes, Farnhill, La Trobe
Bateman and Lockhart. Canon and Mrs. Inge and Mr. and Mrs.
Hamersley.

P. S. SPOKES,
Chairman of Council.

The Badge shown below has been designed for the use of
the Society.



Receipts and Expenditure for the Year Ending 31st December, 1938.

RECEIPTS.				£	s.	d.
To Balance from 1937				29	9	7
„ Subscriptions				166	11	9
„ AFFILIATION FEES—						
Berks. Society of Architects				3	3	0
Windsor & Eton Scientific Society				10	6	
„ DONATIONS—						
Mr. Dryland Haslam				5	0	
Misses Fryer & Hopkins				1	2	0
Mrs. Holden				7	6	
Miss Monckton Jones				2	6	
Mr. D. McMillan				7	6	
Col. and Mrs. Rivers-Moore				10	0	
Miss M. Spokes				1	11	0
Miss Walters				7	6	
				4	13	0
„ CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARDS COST OF TEAS—						
Miss Baily				8	5	0
Mrs. Ditchfield				2	12	6
Miss Monk-Smith				2	12	6
Mrs. Morley				13	6	
Mr. T. B. Russell				17	6	
Mrs. Holden, Miss Amphlett, Mr. Grayson and Dr. Girling				2	12	6
				17	13	6
„ EXCURSIONS TO PLACES OF HISTORICAL INTEREST—						
Southampton, etc.				39	12	9
Hendred, etc.				28	17	0
Sutton Courtenay, etc.				19	2	9
Fyfield, etc.				21	6	0
Old Basing, etc.				13	16	0
				122	14	6
„ Sale of Journals				6	15	1
„ Excess on Prize				2	6	
„ Bank Interest				18	6	
				£352	11	11

EXPENDITURE.				£	s.	d.
By PRINTING—						
General Account				29	12	9
Journal Account, including Postages, etc.				102	18	11
				132	11	8
„ SUBSCRIPTIONS TO—						
University of Reading				3	3	0
Ditto Porter				10	6	
Berkshire Branch Local History Recording Scheme				2	2	0
English Place Name Society				15	0	
Society for Protection of Ancient Buildings				1	1	0
Council Preservation Rural England				10	6	
S.E. Union of Scientific Societies				1	10	0
British Records Association				1	0	0
				10	12	0
„ University Buttery for Teas, etc.				25	15	0
„ EXCURSIONS—						
Southampton				32	13	1
Hendred				21	16	3
Sutton Courtenay				16	19	3
Fyfield				20	3	0
Old Basing				11	15	7
				103	7	2
„ Prizes				3	5	6
„ Working Epidiascope				6	0	0
„ Lecturer's Expenses				2	2	0
„ Postage Account				2	16	4
„ Rent, Watlington House				12	0	0
„ Cheque Book				4	0	
„ Balance of Receipts over Expenditure, 1938				53	18	3
				£352	11	11

Balance Sheet as at 31st December, 1938.

LIABILITIES.				£	s.	d.
Balance from Receipts & Expenditure Account				53	18	3
Owing to Hon. Secretary				7	16	0
Sundry Accounts				3	13	9
Reserve Capital & Accrued Interest				50	0	0
Ditto				53	5	1
Ditto				53	12	1
				£222	5	2

ASSETS.				£	s.	d.
Current Account at Barclays Bank				46	17	8
Ditto, Midland Bank				16	3	10
Ditto, Uncleared items				2	6	6
Deposit Account, Barclays Bank				50	0	0
Ditto, Reading Savings Bank				100	0	0
Ditto, Interest				6	17	2
				£222	5	2

We have examined the accounts together with the vouchers submitted and in our opinion they are correct.

(Signed) MINNIE M. SWADLING.
S. BILLIMORE.

25th February, 1939.