

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR YEAR 1939-40.

1. MEMBERSHIP.

	<i>Honorary</i>	<i>Life</i>	<i>Ordinary</i>	<i>Total</i>
March 31st, 1939 ..	I	I	416	418
March 30th, 1940 ..	I	I	395	397

2. OBITUARY.

We have to record with regret the deaths of the following members :—Dr. Holden, Mr. J. Wesley Walker, Mr. Philip Williams, Mrs. K. Taylor, Miss M. de Chaumont.

3. ANNUAL MEETING.

The Annual Meeting of the Society was held at Reading University on Saturday, April 1st, 1939. The President, Mr. A. T. Loyd, presided over a large attendance. 13 new members were elected. The Report and Statement of Accounts were approved and adopted. The Vice-Patrons and Vice-Presidents were re-elected.

On the proposition of Mr. P. S. Spokes, seconded by Miss Baily, the following members of the Council, Col. C. J. West, O.B.E., M.D., Miss Swadling, Mr. Ll. Treacher, F.G.S., Mr. A. T. Marcon, and Mr. C. H. Inge (who were due to retire), were re-elected.

The following were elected Officers of the Society :

President : A. T. Loyd, O.B.E., J.P., Lord Lieutenant of Berkshire.

Hon. Treasurer : F. M. Underhill.

Hon. Editor : Stuart Piggott, F.S.A.

Hon. Librarian : F. M. Bunce.

Hon. Secretary : H. T. Morley, F.S.A. Scot., F.R. Hist. S., J.P.

4. FINANCIAL POSITION.

The Society's finances show an improvement over 1938, due to the increase in membership and rise in subscription, but this has been totally offset by the resignations and curtailment of activities due to the War. The publication of the Journal is our major expense, and in order that the Society's position in 1940 can be foreseen, it is of the utmost importance that subscriptions should be paid promptly. Members whose subscriptions are in arrears would help the Hon. Treasurer by making their payments forthwith. The new form of Banker's Order, introduced in 1938, could be used more generally. During the year we record with regret the closing up of the affiliated Society, the Windsor & Eton Scientific Society, and we acknowledge with thanks a Special Donation of £2 17s. 6d. from this body. We also acknowledge most gratefully donations from various members totalling £5 9s. 6d.

5. SUMMER MEETINGS.

Visits were made to the following places of historic interest :

- 1939
 May 10-11-12th. Northampton, Wellingboro, Kettering, Kirby Hall, Apethorpe Hall, Exton, Oakham Castle, Rockingham Castle, Brixworth, Sulgrave, Daventry, Broughton Castle.
 June 3rd. Hinton Waldrist, Buckland, Burford, Stanton Harcourt, South Leigh.
 June 17th. Hambleden Museum and Church, Turville Park and Church, Tea at "Benhams" Fawley Green, by kind invitation of Mrs. S. L. Lock.
 July 1st. Bray, Ockwells Manor, Jesus Hospital.
 July 12th. Silchester, Sherborne St. John, The Vyne, Bramshill.
 July 22nd. Ashbury, Shrivenham, Faringdon, Charney Bassett.
 Sept. 20th. Abandoned on account of the war.

Thanks are due to Col. Rivers-Moore, Messrs. P. S. Spokes, E. T. Long, F. M. Underhill, and Hon. Secretary, for making the arrangements and carrying through the above excursions.

6. LECTURES.

The following Lectures were given during the Winter Session :

- 1939
 Oct. 14th. "*Hampton Court, Its History and Romance*" by Edward Yates, Esq., F.S.A.
 Nov. 11th. "*The Evolution of the English Windmill*" by John Salmon, Esq., B.A.
 Dec. 9th. "*The Treasures of an Ancient Abbey*" by J. H. Dodgson, Esq., B.Sc.
 1940
 Jan. 15th. "*Rural Timber Industries of England*" by W. A. Seaby, Esq.
 Feb. 10th. "*Archaeology in Berkshire*" by F. M. Underhill, Esq.
 Mar. 16th. "*A Collector's Scrap Book*" by H. T. Morley, F.S.A. Scot., F.R. Hist. S.
 The Annual Meeting of the Berkshire Branch of the Local History Recording Scheme was also held on this date.

7. EXCAVATIONS.

The Council had made arrangements for some research in the field during the year, and all plans had been completed to commence excavation at Blewburton Hill on Sept. 4th. Owing to the outbreak of War, this work had to be deferred for the time being, and a sum of money that would have been used has been set aside.

The Council made a special donation of £5 to the Seacourt Excavation Fund. Col. Rivers-Moore's work on the site of Hurley Priory continued during the year, whilst other members of the Society did much valuable work in excavation at Ram's Hill, Cherbury Camp, Wallingford, Reading, Maidenhead, Hatford and elsewhere.

8. PRIZES FOR MEASURED DRAWINGS.

A prize of £1 1s. od. was awarded to Mr. J. Caudle for drawings of "Interior Details, Garrard House." A second prize of 10s. 6d. was awarded to Mr. A. T. Frost, for drawings of "Wellington Chambers, Friar Street."

9. ACCOMMODATION AND HOSPITALITY.

The Society is greatly indebted to the Vice-Chancellor and Council of Reading University for the continued provision of accommodation for the meetings of the Society. Grateful thanks are also accorded to the Ladies and Gentlemen for providing hospitality during the past season. (*See Balance Sheet*).

H. T. MORLEY,
Hon. Secretary.

Receipts and Expenditure for the Year Ending 31st December, 1939.

RECEIPTS.		£	s.	d.
To Balance from 1938		53	18	3
„ Subscriptions		176	17	9
„ AFFILIATION FEES—				
Berk. Society of Architects	3	3	0	
Windsor & Eton Scientific Society	10	6		
Ditto	2	17	6	
„ DONATIONS—				
Mrs. Anderson	2	6		
Miss Baily	5	0		
Rev. E. J. Day	2	6		
Mr. Hallam	7	6		
Mrs. Holden	7	6		
Mrs. Jackson	2	6		
Mr. & Mrs. A. T. Loyd	2	2	0	
Mr. A. E. Preston	10	0		
Mr. V. Martin	7	6		
Miss M. Spokes	10	0		
Mr. P. S. Spokes	5	0		
Miss Walter	7	6		
„ CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARDS COST OF TEAS—				
Miss Farnhill	13	0		
Miss Harrison Jones	12	6		
Mrs. Hardy	13	0		
Miss Lawes	13	0		
Mr. Hamersley, Canon Inge, and the				
Misses La Trobe-Bateman	2	12	6	
Miss Beach	17	6		
Miss Lockhart	17	6		
Mrs. Penyston	17	6		
Miss Dawson	17	6		
Mrs. Ditchfield	2	12	6	
„ EXCURSIONS TO PLACES OF HISTORICAL INTEREST—				
Northampton (3 days)	57	18	6	
Buckland, Burford, etc.	19	7	0	
Hambleton, etc.	14	6	6	
Bray, Ockwells, etc.	13	3	0	
Silchester, etc.	21	2	6	
Ashbury, Charney Bassett	19	2	6	
„ Sale of Journals				
„ Bank Interest				
„ Printing Account				
		145	0	0
		8	6	9
		1	5	0
		3	8	6
		£412	3	3

EXPENDITURE.		£	s.	d.
By PRINTING—				
General Account	37	9	3	
Journal Account (including postages)	104	3	11	
„ University Buttery for Teas				141 13 2
„ SUBSCRIPTIONS & DONATIONS—				14 5 3
University of Reading	6	6	0	
Ditto, Porter	1	1	0	
Local History Recording Scheme	4	4	0	
English Place-name Society	15	0		
Council for the Preservation of Rural England	10	6		
British Records Association	1	0	0	
S.E. Union of Scientific Societies	1	10	0	
Excavations at Seacourt	5	0	0	
Society for Protection of Ancient Buildings	1	1	0	
„ EXCURSIONS—				21 7 6
Northampton	53	12	6	
Buckland, Burford, etc.	16	6	0	
Hambleton, etc.	9	17	3	
Bray, Ockwells, etc.	12	6	6	
Silchester, etc.	14	10	0	
Ashbury, etc.	16	9	9	
„ Prizes				123 2 0
„ Working Epidiascope				3 2 3
„ Lecturers' Expenses				5 5 0
„ Postages				4 4 0
„ Rent, Watlington House (to 31.12.39)				4 8 6
„ Photography				15 0 0
„ Cheque Books				5 0
„ To Deposit Account (Excavation Fund)				10 0
„ Balance of Receipts over Expenditure, 1939				25 0 0
				54 0 7

Balance Sheet as at 31st December, 1939.

LIABILITIES.		£	s.	d.
Balance from Receipts & Expenditure Account		54	0	7
Reserve Capital carried forward from last Balance Sheet		150	0	0
Excavation Fund		25	0	0
Accrued Interest		9	12	10
		£238	13	5

ASSETS.		£	s.	d.
Current Account, Barclay's Bank		23	12	9
Current Account No. 2, Midland Bank		30	7	10
Deposit Account, Barclay's Bank		75	0	0
Deposit Account, Reading Savings Bank		54	11	7
Ditto		55	1	3
		£238	13	5

We have examined the Accounts, together with the vouchers submitted, and in our opinion they are correct. (Signed) MINNIE M. SWADLING.
25th February, 1940. SYDNEY ABSOLON.