

Local History Recording Scheme : Berkshire Branch.

SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT.

THIS seventeenth Annual Report of the Committee of the Berkshire Branch of the Local History Recording Scheme covers the period from January 1st to December 31st, 1940.

From our Local Correspondents during the year 22 records have been received and, up to the end of 1940, 565 approved records have been sent in relating to 140 parishes in the county. Three new Local Correspondents were enrolled during 1940 and our Correspondents now number 213, representing 179 parishes. We again regret to report the death of several valued Correspondents, while some are serving with H.M. Forces, or are engaged on Civil Defence, or other war-time activities and can no longer help us, and others have left the district. It is hoped that Local Correspondents still able to do so will give all possible assistance in chronicling the interesting happenings of the past, and also of the present, in their own districts and will interest others in the work. Under prevailing conditions much local information will be lost unless it can be recorded without delay for the benefit of happier times to come.

A war-time problem which still causes anxiety is that of the preservation of old deeds, etc. The demand for waste paper is an ever present danger to deeds and similar records. This Committee wishes to urge again on all concerned that careful examination be made of any accumulations of papers which might contain valuable information.

With regard to Monumental Inscriptions, three more lists have been received during the year, and three more promised, and up to the end of 1940 lists of Inscriptions in 127 parishes had been received or promised.

The Committee has learnt with interest of the formation of the Berkshire Architectural Records Committee. It is hoped that those of our Local Correspondents who are photographers will give the new Committee all possible help.

With reference to finance, the Hon. Treasurer reports that he now has a balance of £1 1s. od.

The Committee again wishes to thank the various affiliated Societies for their constant interest and support and also the Chairman, the Hon. Director, the Hon. Secretary and the Hon. Treasurer, and to express its gratitude to the various Correspondents who have sent in records during the year and in other ways have furthered the work of the Scheme.