

Local History Recording Scheme : Berkshire Branch.

TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL REPORT.

22.3.47.

THIS TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL REPORT of the Committee of the Berkshire Branch of the Local History Recording Scheme covers the period from January 1st to December 31st, 1946.

From our Local Correspondents during the year 14 records have been received, and, up to the end of 1946, 666 approved records have been sent in relating to 150 parishes in the county. Two new Correspondents were enrolled and our Local Correspondents now number 167, representing 155 parishes. We much regret to report the deaths of several Correspondents during the past year, including Mr. Arthur L. Humphreys, the well-known local historian, who was a member of the original Committee. Other Local Correspondents have left the district and can no longer give us active help. In spite of difficulties, however, it is encouraging to note that interest in the Scheme is being well maintained and that useful records have been sent in during the year and others are being compiled.

The important collection of Berkshire Local History Records which is being formed is proving of considerable value to students of local history and will be of increasing value in the future. More active help, however, is required and the Committee appeals to all Local Correspondents to bring to the notice of friends interested in local history the Local History Recording Scheme, which links together those anxious to study and preserve the records of the past. The local annals of the present also must not be forgotten and the Committee wishes to stress once again the importance of collecting in each parish in the county all obtainable records of the effect of the war in the district. As mentioned in the last Report, the history of their own village, town or district is of great interest to many people, but for such histories to be made generally available all qualified must assist in the compilation of the records.

Three lists of Monumental Inscriptions have been received during the year. Up to the end of 1946 lists of Inscriptions in 147 parishes had been received, or promised.

The balance to the end of 1946 was £10 7s. 8d.

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