

The Society of Antiquaries

OF

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

REPORT OF COUNCIL FOR 1920.

It is a welcome augury that 34 new members have been elected during 1920. A quarter of a century has elapsed since an equal accession took place. The net increase for the year is 15, after deducting those lost by death (6), resignation (11), and other causes (2). This makes the present membership 366 and appears to indicate that the benumbing influences of the war are passing away. During the last 25 years our numbers have fluctuated between a minimum of 327 in 1903 and a maximum of 380 in 1914. In this period the local population has largely increased. It would not be reasonable to expect a proportionate expansion of our membership, because our objects are in many ways 'caviare to the general.' Nevertheless the recent influx of visitors to the Keep and Black-gate may denote a widening interest in antiquarian subjects. The Council therefore deems this an opportune time to urge each individual member to use his or her influence to gain and keep more colleagues. Previously we have expressed regret at the loss of those who drop out of our midst after only a short term of membership. The Council again invites suggestions as to how such withdrawals can be minimized. The privileges of membership are numerous and may profitably be recounted. Members are entitled to receive



the annual volume of *Archaeologia Aeliana*, wherein are printed the more important papers brought before the Society, and to receive the frequent issues of the *Proceedings* which contain reports of the meetings and the shorter papers contributed thereto, besides miscellaneous matter, obtained from various sources, relative to local antiquities and history. These publications are copiously illustrated by reproductions of photographs, drawings and engravings. Members have free access to the Keep and Black-gate and the museums housed therein; also the free use of the library at the Black-gate where the books and manuscripts can be consulted under comfortable and quiet conditions, and most of the books can be taken away for study at members' own homes. The library and museums are the fruit of 108 years growth and are constantly extending. In addition to all these benefits, monthly meetings are held at which interesting objects are exhibited and described, papers are read, and upon them and upon current antiquarian topics discussions take place. There are also occasional out-door meetings when places of historic interest are viewed under expert guidance and it often happens that buildings not usually accessible to individual visitors are then thrown open, by the courtesy of their occupants, for the inspection of members and friends accompanying them.

At the last anniversary meeting there was remitted to the Council the question of considering whether the amount of the annual subscription should or should not be increased. The Council have come to the conclusion that for the present the Society ought to persevere in its endeavours to carry on its work at the existing subscription. It seems better to aim at a large membership at this rate than to risk a diminution by raising it.

During the year the death of one of our honorary members was announced to have taken place in 1919; namely, Dr.

Hulsebos of Utrecht, who was elected during the Roman Wall 'pilgrimage' of 1886 at which he was present. At the dinner held in the Keep on the occasion of that pilgrimage he presented to the Society a bronze medal struck by the Netherlands government in commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the University of Utrecht. In 1887 he contributed a paper to *Archaeologia Aeliana* (2 ser. xii) 'On a Roman tombstone in the Carlisle Museum,' and in 1896 he sent us an account by himself of excavations carried on in 1892-4 at a Roman site near Utrecht.

The Council has lost one of its members, the Right Reverend Monsignor Matthew Culley, who died very suddenly at his residence, Coupland castle, on August 19th, 1920, in his sixtieth year. He contributed to *Archaeologia Aeliana*, accounts of Coupland castle (2 ser. xxv), and of Akeld tower (3 ser. ix). He also edited in 1906 under our auspices *The Letters of Cadwallader J. Bates*, his kinsman and our vice-president. The connexion of Mr. Culley's family with our Society goes back to the year of its birth, 1813, when his grandfather, bearing the same name, became a member. The other ordinary members whom death has removed are :—Dr. William Murray (elected 1886) ; Dr. J. R. Baumgartner (elected 1893) ; the Rev. F. G. Wesley (elected 1910) ; Thomas Walter Coning (elected 1915) ; and George Bell (elected 1918).

In September the well in the Keep was emptied in the expectation that some medieval antiquities might be discovered at the bottom, but the objects actually found there failed to realize anticipations, and the cost of the investigation exceeded them. Several members accordingly raised a supplementary fund so that the Society's normal income might be less seriously encroached upon.

The usual ten indoor meetings have been held during the year at which donations to the library and museum were made

with laudable frequency, few meetings passing without one or more gifts. In particular may be mentioned : (1) a sumptuous volume presented by our president, the duke of Northumberland, being reproductions of portions of the Sherborne missal (1396-1407), preserved at Alnwick castle ; (2) an extra-illustrated copy, in two volumes, of Mackenzie's *History of Newcastle*, formerly in the library of the old Mansion house, presented by our member, Mr. Thomas Reed ; (3) fifty-one photographic transparencies of Border Holds, formerly belonging to the late Mr. C. J. Bates, presented by the Throckley Lodge of Good Templars ; (4) The copper plate of Bucks' View of Berwick-upon-Tweed, presented by Mr. Parker Brewis, one of our curators. To all the donors our thanks have been and are now again accorded.

The first out-door meeting held beyond the bounds of Newcastle since the outbreak of war took place on August 7th, when Morpeth church and castle and Newminster abbey were visited ; the last by the kind invitation of our member, Mr. George Renwick, M.P.,* who hospitably entertained the party at his residence, Springhill, which over-looks the ruins of the abbey.

The Roman Wall ' pilgrimage ' took place in September. It was abbreviated, as suggested in our last report, both in time and the extent of country traversed. It occupied three days, September 1st, 2nd and 3rd, and covered the line of the Wall from Apple-tree, a little west of *Amboglanna*, eastwards to *Cilurnum*, and terminated with a visit to *Corstopitum*. It was organized in connexion with the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society, the secretary of which (Mr. Edward Wilson, of Kendal) undertook the arduous task of arranging details. The pilgrims exceeded 150 in number and came from

* Now Sir George Renwick, bt.

practically all parts of the kingdom, evincing the wide-spread interest taken in the Wall, the Vallum and their unsolved enigmas.

The ordnance survey of Northumberland is under revision in preparation for a new edition of the maps, and our Society was applied to for information as to sites and objects of antiquarian interest. So far as the Roman Wall was concerned, our member Mr. F. Gerald Simpson, whose knowledge of its existing remains is unrivalled, devoted himself enthusiastically to the task and the Director-General of the Ordnance Surveys has officially expressed the department's appreciation of Mr. Simpson's valuable services, and in token thereof has promised to present to our library a set of the maps (to the scale of six inches to the mile) showing the line of the Wall from end to end, as soon as issued.

During the year a proposal was made to remove the Scotch-gate in the town wall of Berwick-upon-Tweed in order to provide a site for a war memorial. The Society entered its protest in support of the opposition to the project, which was successful in securing the abandonment of the scheme, the corporation of Berwick deciding in favour of the retention of the gate.

The Record Committee mentioned in our last report was duly constituted and has published its first volume entitled *Extracts from the Newcastle-upon-Tyne Council Minute Book 1639-1656*, transcribed, with an introduction and index, by Miss M. Hope Dodds, under the editorship of Mr. A. M. Oliver, both members of our Society. Another member, Brigadier-General Surtees, M.P., has privately printed *The History of the Castle of Brancepeth* and has presented us with a copy. Professor Allen Mawer, also a member, has written *The Place-names of Northumberland and Durham*, published by the Cambridge University Press.

The unprecedented sales of the *Guide to the Keep* having

exhausted the edition of 1000 copies printed only this year, another edition of 2000 copies has been ordered and the author Mr. Parker Brewis has prepared it for the press.

Mr. Robert Blair's revised catalogue of 'Inscribed and Sculptured Roman Stones in the Society's possession,' forecasted in our last report, was issued early in the year in time for the visit to Newcastle of the Classical Association. It also appears in the volume of *Archaeologia Aeliana* (3 ser. xvii), now in course of delivery to members, the publication of which has been delayed owing to various circumstances outside the editor's control. Besides the aforesaid catalogue the contents comprise eight items by as many authors, and extend to approximately as many pages as any of the volumes published in the years 1907 to 1917 inclusive.

The ninth volume of the third series of *Proceedings* has just been completed, except the index and frontal pages which will follow forthwith. The commencement, with the new year, of the tenth volume affords a fitting opportunity for new members to start filing the numbers regularly as they are issued so as to be ready for binding into volume form, when the time comes for doing so two years hence.

The libraries of two deceased members have been sold by auction during the year in Newcastle. The sale of Mr. Richard Welford's books extended over four days. The catalogue, compiled and annotated by the owner himself, is a valuable record of local literature and was printed in accordance with his special instructions to his executors. The large collections of Mr. Matthew Mackey were sold in three sections, occupying six days in all.

For some years the operation of our statute vi (regulating the re-election of members of Council) has been tacitly suspended mainly on account of the exceptional conditions prevailing during

and since the war. The Council is of opinion that after 1921 the statute should be observed, so as to discourage lax attendance at the meetings of the Council.

Dr. Hardcastle, by force of extended professional duties, finds himself obliged to retire from office as one of our curators which position he has filled for seven years. We gratefully acknowledge the services he has rendered to the Society in that capacity, for which his practical experience as a connoisseur eminently qualifies him. We hope still to enjoy the benefit of his valuable advice and assistance as a member of Council.

It is noteworthy that in a course of twelve lectures on North-umbrian History, Literature and Art, announced for delivery before the Newcastle Literary and Philosophical Society during the early part of 1921, no fewer than seven are to be given by members of our Society.

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1920.

The number of members on the roll on the 31st December, 1920, was 366, five of whom are life members. During the year eleven members resigned, six were lost by death, and two were removed from the roll by order of the Council under statute III. In the same period thirty-four new members were elected, thus showing an increase of fifteen in the membership for the year.

The net income for the year has been 83*l.* 19*s.* 5*d.* The balance brought from the previous year was 17*l.* 9*s.* 0*d.*, and 50*l.* was transferred from the Post Office Saving Bank to current account, thus giving a total of 90*l.* 4*s.* 2*d.* with which to meet our liabilities. The expenditure has been 873*l.* 16*s.* 2*d.*, leaving a balance in hand of 27*l.* 8*s.* 0*d.* on the year's accounts. The amount received for members subscriptions was 18*l.* 18*s.* 0*d.* more than in the previous year. The receipts at the Castle show an increase of 45*l.* 11*s.* 10*d.* and at the Black-gate an increase also of 16*l.* 19*s.* 11*d.*, but un-

fortunately the expenditure at both places has been exceptionally heavy being a combined increase of 72*l.* 19*s.* 1*d.* Included in this amount is 15*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.* for installing the electric light in the guardroom and chapel of the Castle, and 8*l.* 8*s.* 0*d.* for renewal of electric fittings at the Black-gate. The amount received for books sold (including guides to the Keep and the Black-gate) was 60*l.* 1*s.* 3*d.* as against 4*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.* for the year 1919. It will be noticed that the amount paid for printing *Archaeologia Aeliana* is for two volumes, viz. : 104*l.* 15*s.* 0*d.* the balance for volume xvi, and 190*l.* on account of volume xvii. There will be a further sum still to pay for the latter volume, the complete account for which has not yet been received.

An exceptional item of expenditure which appears in the accounts this year is that of 69*l.* 2*s.* 0*d.* paid for clearing out the well in the keep, which is referred to in the report of the Council. As a set off against this, we received 28*l.* 12*s.* 0*d.* from the ' Well Exploration Fund,' which makes the net cost to the Society 40*l.* 10*s.* 0*d.*

Our investments remain the same as they did a year ago, viz. : 992*l.* 17*s.* 3*d.* at cost price, a schedule of which is appended herewith, together with full details of the whole of our expenditure. The amount in the P.O. Saving Bank on 31 Dec., 1920, was 71*l.* 6*s.* 11*d.*

SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR YEAR ENDING
31ST DECEMBER, 1920.

				<i>Receipts.</i>	<i>Payments.</i>
		£	s.	£	s.
		d.		d.	
Balance from 31st December, 1919	17	4
Members' subscriptions :—				9	
For year 1920	£375 18. 0		
Arrears	14 14 0		
			<hr/>	390	12
				0	

	Receipts.			Payments.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Transferred from Post Office Saving Bank ..	50	0	0			
Interest on deposit account	4	11	2			
Receipts at Castle	280	13	10			
Receipts at Blackgate	69	9	2			
Books sold :—	£	s.	d.			
Guides to Keep	31	2	0			
Guides to Blackgate	7	19	4			
Catalogues of Roman In-						
scriptions, &c.	3	10	0			
Other Publications	17	9	11			
	60 1 3					
From the ' Well Exploration Fund *	28	12	0			
Castle expenses				132	7	4
Blackgate expenses				89	0	5
Printing :—						
<i>Archaeologia Aeliana</i> , vol.						
xvi, balance	104	15	0			
do. on account of						
vol. xvii	190	0	0			
<i>Proceedings</i>	72	18	0			
	367 13 9					
Illustrations				7	13	0
Museum				14	10	1
Books bought, subscriptions to societies, book-						
binding etc.				25	6	0
Sundry expenses, general printing, stationery,						
postage, etc.				128	3	7
Editor for clerical assistance				40	0	0
Expenses for clearing the well in keep				69	2	0
Balance on 31st December, 1920 :—						
Cash in bank	10	1	9			
Cash in hand	17	6	3			
	27 8 0					
	£901 4 2			£901 4 2		

* See page xix, for list of subscribers.

INVESTMENTS AND DETAILS OF EXPENDITURE FOR 1920. xvii

SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS AT COST ON 31ST DECEMBER, 1920.

412l. 14s. 11d. War Stock 1929-47	392	2	3
130l. War Savings Certificates	100	15	0
100l. 5 per cent. National War Bonds 1928	100	0	0
500l. 4 per cent. Funding Loan 1960-1990	400	0	0
	<hr/>		
	£992	17	3

POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANK 31ST DECEMBER, 1920.

Balance as at 1st January, 1920	..	..	80	13	10	
Transferred to current account	..	..	50	0	0	
			<hr/>			30 13 10
Dividends received from investments during 1920	..	..				39 12 2
Interest received from Post Office	..	..	..	..		1 0 11
			<hr/>			£71 6 11

Examined with vouchers and found correct,

HERBERT M. WOOD.

Newcastle, 21 January, 1921.

DETAILS OF EXPENDITURE FOR 1920.

LIBRARY ACCOUNT.

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO SOCIETIES—	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Parish Register Society	1	1	0			
National Trust Society	1	1	0			
Surtees Society	1	1	0			
Harleian Society	1	1	0			
Archaeological Congress	1	0	0			
Museums' Association	2	2	0			
Durham and Northd. Parish Register Society	0	10	6			
	<hr/>			7	16	6
BOOKS BOUGHT AND BINDING—						
Rev. W. L. Taylor, <i>History of Sadberge</i> ..	1	1	0			
Hill, <i>Oxford English Dictionary</i> , vol. x, pt. v.	0	12	6			
C. Graham Botha, <i>French Refugees at the Cape</i>	0	5	0			
	<hr/>					
Carried forward	1	18	6	7	16	6

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward	1	18	6	7	16	6
C. Griffin & Co., Ltd., <i>Year Book of Scientific Societies</i>	0	12	6			
Maclehose, Jackson & Co., <i>Scottish Historical Review</i> , xvi, 65-6	0	17	0			
T. & G. Allan, <i>Notes and Queries</i>	2	1	6			
D. Munro & Co., for bookbinding	11	10	0			
Fire insurance premium, 'Brooks Collection'	0	10	0			
				17	9	6
				£25	6	0

EXPENDITURE ON CASTLE—

	£	s.	d.
Attendant's Wages ..	92	15	0
do. Gratuity ..	5	0	0
do. substitute during holiday ..	2	5	0
Electrical installation in guard-room and chapel	15	13	0
Electric fittings (Robson & Coleman)	2	2	6
Electric current ..	4	19	1
Electric lamp ..	0	7	0
Rent, Newc. Corpn. ..	0	2	6
Water Rate ..	0	6	0
Services of 2 constables	0	15	0
Coal ..	1	12	6
Repairs ..	3	4	9
Glass, putty and sundries	1	10	0
Health Insurance stamps	0	17	4
Unemployment stamps	0	2	8
Fire insurance premium	0	15	0

£132 7 4

EXPENDITURE ON BLACKGATE—

	£	s.	d.
Attendant's Wages ..	39	15	0
Inhabited house duty and income tax ..	1	8	6
Rent, Newc. Corpn. ..	1	0	0
„ N.E.R. Compnay	3	0	0
Water rate ..	1	0	0
Electric current ..	2	9	10
Gas ..	1	15	6
Coals ..	11	16	9
Way-leave for electric cable ..	0	2	6
Renewal of electric fittings ..	8	8	0
Removing inscribed stones and refixing ..	8	15	7
Window cleaning ..	1	10	0
Brushes and sundries ..	1	8	4
Health insurance stamps	0	17	4
Unemployment stamps	0	2	4
Fire insurance premium	5	10	9

£89 0 5

DETAILS OF EXPENDITURE FOR 1920.

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SUNDRIES :—

	£	s.	d.
Titus Wilson & Son general printing and stationery ..	39	19	3
do. for postage on circulars, etc. ..	17	0	9
do. 1000 <i>Guides to Keep</i>	23	2	0
do. 1000 <i>Guides to Blackgate</i>	28	18	0
Andrew Reid & Co. Ltd., stationery, etc.	4	11	8
Carriage on books and postage from Castle	2	14	6
Carriage on empty case to Kendal	0	6	6
Cheque book	0	10	0
G. Hughes for framing photograph	0	15	0
B. H. Brown, emptying the well in keep	69	2	0
Treasurer, for clerical assistance, postages, etc. ..	4	2	6
Editor, petty disbursements	6	3	5
	<hr/>		
	£197	5	7
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SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE 'WELL EXCAVATION FUND.'

	£	s.	d.
An Anonymous Donor (per W. P. B.)	15	0	0
W. Hardcastle	1	1	0
W. H. Knowles	1	1	0
Joseph Oswald	1	1	0
Robert Blair	1	1	0
W. Parker Brewis	1	1	0
Robert S. Nisbet	1	1	0
G. R. B. Spain	1	1	0
F. W. Dendy	1	1	0
N. Temperley	1	1	0
Thomas Taylor	1	1	0
John Oxberry	1	1	0
J. E. Hodgkin	1	1	0
W. W. Gibson	0	10	0
C. H. Hunter Blair	0	10	0
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	£28	12	0
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