

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS.

1918.

THE SIXTY-THIRD ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (in accordance with Rule XIII) was held in the Society's Library, Guildford, on Saturday, April 20th, 1918: The RT. HON. LORD FARRER, VICE-PRESIDENT, in the Chair.

The Honorary Secretary read the Notice convening the Meeting.

The MINUTES of the last Annual General Meeting were read and adopted.

The ACCOUNTS and REPORT for the year 1917, being printed and in the hands of Members, were taken as read.

REPORT OF COUNCIL.

THE COUNCIL OF THE SURREY ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY has the pleasure of presenting this, its SIXTY-THIRD ANNUAL REPORT, together with the Cash Account, duly audited, and also the Statement of Assets and Liabilities for the year ending December 31st, 1917.

The Report, the Council hopes, will be found fairly satisfactory considering the nature of the times. The number of resignations has increased. As was intimated in the last Report, a certain number of resignations were received by the Secretary to take effect at the end of the year 1917. Consequently, the actual number of Members at the date of the presentation of the Report is less than the number appearing in the List, which represents the numbers in 1917. A few names of Members who have made no response to appeals for arrears for three years were removed by order of the Council in November, 1917, but their names remain on the List until the end of the year 1917. The Members who resign at the end of 1917 receive Volume XXX of Collections, and this Report, as due for their 1917 subscriptions. It is gratifying to add that the number of subscriptions in arrear from Members who have not resigned is smaller than in some past years. This is chiefly owing to the assistance which the Secretary was empowered to engage, at a nominal remuneration, and it serves to emphasise the recommendation made in last year's Report, that, at some not distant date, the business of the Society would be better done by dividing the work of the Secretary and the Treasurer.

Several resignations were received "for the duration of the War." By the Rules there is no provision for suspending a subscription. If,

after the War, it seems desirable to amend the Rules so as to admit those who have resigned during the War to re-election without an entrance fee, the Council may recommend such a course.

No Excursion has been possible, for reasons sufficiently obvious, and set out already in previous Reports. The Council, however, has arranged a small exhibition at Abbot's Hospital, on the day of the Annual Meeting, due notice of which will have reached Members when this Report is in their hands.

The Volume, No. XXX, for 1917, which has been distributed, is considerably smaller than usual. The very great increase in the cost of printing, of paper, and of binding, made a reduction of size imperative. This has been partly met by a reduction in length of the articles. One or two long articles would have taken up a disproportionate space in a thin volume. But so soon as the volumes of the future can return to their normal size, some long and interesting articles will not be wanting.

To turn to the articles in Volume XXX, Mr. Turner brings his knowledge of the Egham neighbourhood to bear upon a correction and supplement to the current pedigrees of some Egham families.

The almost inexhaustible mine of the Loseley MSS. is used by Mr. Theodore Craib, in a paper upon Musters and a Loan of the 16th century, in times of stress not unlike our own. Mrs. More-Molyneux again merits the thanks of the Society for allowing her family papers to be so used.

Miss Wheeler contributes an interesting account of the topography, or, rather, of the hydrography, of Chertsey.

A most interesting Inventory of Abbot's Hospital is contributed by the Master, Mr. Palmer. Surrey and other archæologists are to be congratulated upon the appointment to the post of Master of the Hospital of so competent a custodian of its Records. More interesting matter still remains to be investigated and in due course printed in the collections.

Mr. Uvedale Lambert supplements his paper upon the Churchwardens' Accounts of Blechingley, in Vol. XXIX, by a study of the meaning of one *item* in them. The article is an example of how the investigations made in one county illustrate, or are illustrated by, the work done in another.

Lastly, Mr. Stephenson continues his exhaustive account of the Monumental Brasses of the county, which, when completed, will be itself a monument of lasting value, and will be issued, it is hoped, by itself as a volume.

The Notes contain no records of important discoveries, except that of the early window at Witley, already mentioned in the last Report, and of a dedication cross formerly existing at Chipstead. Even in war time it can scarcely be that no finds of any sort have been made in the county, but they have not been reported to the Society. The Council

ventures to impress upon Members that the real work of such a Society is very much in their hands, and that it lies with them to draw attention to discoveries, or to threatened dangers to antiquities, which are matters of local knowledge before they can be heard of by the officers of the Society. One instance of possible damage was reported, to the earthworks on St. George's Hill; but it is hoped that the intrusion upon priceless remains of those who still have time to play golf is not so serious as was feared.

The County Council has taken in hand the protection of a right of way upon the course of the Stone Street, in the southern part of its course in the county, where, between Ockley and the Sussex border, it is not now the line of the main road.

The Notes include some matter from Parish Registers, those of Abinger. Here, again, is a field for action of Members who have time and ability to make transcripts. By the industry of a Member of the Society the Registers of two groups of parishes round Guildford and Dorking: Holy Trinity, St. Mary's and St. Nicholas, Guildford, part of the last of which had become quite illegible since the transcript was made some time ago; Shalford and Bramley; and Dorking, Capel, Ockley and Abinger, have been transcribed. Womersh has been done by a lady, not a member. East Clandon, by a gentleman, now deceased. Cranleigh is also done. There is being printed in "Miscellanea Genealogica et Topographica." Each of these parishes has now a reserve copy of their Registers, accurately made, and there is no reason why the same should not be done in many other places. Printing may wait for better times.

Another sphere of action, previously recommended, but not much attended to, it is feared, is the transcription of sepulchral inscriptions before they become illegible by weather. This needs merely time, method and industry. The special skill in reading old MS., needed for transcribing early Registers, is not required.

The making of really good parish histories is a matter of more skilled labour. Banstead and Haslemere have been done in a way which points the road out for others. These two are in print. A history of Dunsfold will, it is hoped, soon appear; and the late Mr. Cooper had made great progress with an exhaustive history of Chiddingfold. The history of Blechingley parish—the most important, historically, of the parishes of the eastern part of the county—is approaching completion. The history of Cranleigh also is in progress. Materials exist for one of Dorking and Capel; and of Faruham, where the Town documents are now in the custody of the Urban Council. The County Collections, and, possibly, in the future, the local Collection of Records at our headquarters, may also be consulted with advantage for parish histories.

The Library already contains a considerable number of valuable local MSS., as well as printed books, and some books of reference. It is seriously hampered by want of room, and some expansion of the Library, and of the Museum, is to be desired.

The Library Catalogue, made some years ago, is becoming out of date. It has been thought well to print in the last volume the names of books added recently to our shelves. In connexion with the Library the Council notes with regret the resignation of Mr. Lasham, of Guildford, an old and valued Member, of his place on the Library Committee, and as a Member, and Secretary, of the Joint Museum Committee. Mr. A. Bonner has felt obliged to resign his position as joint auditor to the Society. The Council desires to proffer to Mr. Lasham and to Mr. Bonner its hearty thanks for their past services.

The dangerous position of Abbot's Hospital, exemplified by the fire next door to it in 1916, has not been yet remedied. The Council wishes to record, with the utmost emphasis, its sense of the importance of more stringent rules for the preservation of such national possessions.

By death the Society, in 1917, lost Mr. A. J. Style, F.R.I.B.A., a Member of the Council. Mr. Style had been a Member of our Council for thirty years, and conspicuous for the regularity of his attendance. His uniform courtesy, business-like capacity, and sound common-sense, will make him greatly missed. Mr. E. W. Oliver, Member of Council, also died in December, 1917.

In 1917, also, Mr. Edwin Waterhouse, a very old Member of the Society, died; also Mr. J. Charlesworth, the Rev. H. M. Harke, and Mr. H. L. Phillips. The name of Colonel Malthus, an old Member, who died in 1916, was accidentally omitted from the last Report.

On January 10th, 1918, died the Rev. T. S. Cooper, M.A., F.S.A., to the very great sorrow of all who knew him, and of all supporters of archaeological interests in the county and neighbourhood. Mr. Cooper had been connected with the work of the Society for a long time. He was Joint Honorary Secretary, first with Mr. Stephenson and then with Mr. Giuseppi, from March 20th, 1890, to March 17th, 1900, afterwards serving on the Council till his death. From 1891 to 1901 his "Catalogue of the Church Plate in Surrey" appeared in the Transactions. The papers were subsequently published as a separate volume. Of great importance, too, were his services in connexion with the excavations, in 1898 onwards, which restored the ground plan of Waverley Abbey, the premier Cistercian House in England, the recovery of which was a key to the plans of all the others. Mr. Cooper personally superintended the work, and did a great deal towards paying for it, as well as busying himself to raise money for the object. It would not have been carried through so successfully without his unwearying exertions, helped by the late Mr. Horncastle. Previously, in 1883, he discovered the site of a small Roman house at Pockford, near Chiddingfold, from observation of some stones which were being removed from the foundations of an old barn. The foundations proved to be Roman, the plan was recovered, and the results communicated to the Society of Antiquaries. Subsequently Mr. Cooper discovered, at Chiddingfold, the remains of glassworks, Roman and Mediæval, crucibles, and a great quantity of fragments of glass. He was able

to make up a church window, at Chiddingfold, from the fragments. This discovery, upon which he was still working up to the time of his last illness, was of the greatest interest, elucidating the progress of an industry which existed under the Romans, was no doubt interrupted, but was going on in the 13th century, and was flourishing up to Elizabeth's reign. The Museum at Haslemere loses in him a zealous supporter. Such a worker would have been a credit to any Society, and his loss is one not to be easily supplied. He had been F.S.A. since 1894. Mr. Cooper was a Surrey man by education, under the Rev. H. G. Merriman, at Guildford Grammar School, then, in the early sixties of last century, a classical school. His first curacy, 1875-77, was at Chiddingfold, where he afterwards resided upon his own property. His funeral took place at Chiddingfold on January 14th, 1918.

The Membership of the Society is 423, as against 451 at the date of the last Report. 9 Members have died, 21 resigned, 4 been removed, and 6 elected.

The decrease is matter for regret more than for surprise in the circumstances. Members may be reminded that they are themselves the best recruiting officers for the Society, and are able to introduce new Members whose interests, and very existence, are unknown to the Council.

The Members of Council, retiring in rotation under Rule XII, are Mr. A. F. Charrington, Lt. Col. C. A. Gordon Clark, Mr. G. C. Druce, the Rev. J. K. Floyer, Mr. M. S. Giuseppi, Mr. Mill Stephenson, Mr. E. A. Chandler, and are eligible for re-election.

The Report was adopted.

The Members of the Council, named above, who retired in rotation, were re-elected.

On the proposal of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Giuseppi, The Rt. Hon. the Earl of Onslow, Sir C. E. H. Chadwyck-Healey, K.C.B., K.C., &c., and the Rev. J. E. Jagger, were elected to the Council, to fill the places of the Rev. T. S. Cooper, Mr. A. J. Style, and Mr. E. W. Oliver, deceased.

The re-election of the Auditors, Messrs. Cecil Davis and Mr. A. Forbes Sieveking, proposed by Mr. Pilcher, seconded by Mr. Gibson, and of the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Malden, proposed from the Chair, was carried.

Votes of thanks to the Officers, and to the Chair, were proposed by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Roberts, and carried.

The Chairman replied, reviewing the position of the Society.

After the Meeting Members adjourned to Abbot's Hospital, where the Master, Mr. P. Palmer, had arranged an interesting collection of deeds and various objects belonging to the Hospital, which were explained by him.

SURREY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—Statement of Assets and Liabilities, December 31st, 1917.

LIABILITIES.

| | £ | s. | d. |
|--|------|----|----|
| To Printing Circulars, Envelopes and Stationery | 10 | 16 | 0 |
| „ Printing and Posting Vol. XXX of <i>Col- lections</i> | 75 | 5 | 0 |
| „ Clerical assistance for 1917 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| „ Illustrations to Vol. XXX | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| „ Librarian's Salary and Petty Cash, 1917 ... | 5 | 16 | 0 |
| „ Rent due Christmas, 1917 | 6 | 0 | 0 |
| „ <i>(The above have been discharged, March, 1918.)</i> | | | |
| „ Binding Vol. XXX of <i>Collections</i> | 21 | 8 | 9 |
| „ Index to ditto (estimated) | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| „ Balance of Assets over Liabilities | 129 | 5 | 9 |
| | 87 | 17 | 8 |
| Total | £217 | 3 | 5 |

The ARREARS for 3 years' SUBSCRIPTIONS are 2
for 2 years' SUBSCRIPTIONS are 7
for 1 year's SUBSCRIPTIONS are 9

Total, from 11 Members, 18 SUBSCRIPTIONS.

The RESERVE FUND is £316 : 4s. 8d. 2½ per Cent. Consols.

ASSETS.

| | £ | s. | d. |
|--|------|----|----|
| By Balance, 31st December, 1917 | 206 | 6 | 10 |
| „ In hands of Honorary Secretary | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| „ One Quarter's Rent due Christmas, 1917 ... | 2 | 10 | 0 |
| „ Arrears of Subscriptions recoverable (estimated) | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | £217 | 3 | 5 |

H. E. MALDEN,
Hon. Secretary.

SURREY ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

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Council Room,—CASTLE ARCH, GUILDFORD.  
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THE DUCHESS
OF ALBANY.



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H. E. MALDEN, M.A., 22, Russell Square, W.C. 1.

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G. C. DRUCE, F.S.A.

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