REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS.

1920.

THE SIXTY-FIFTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (in accordance with Rule XIII) was held at Guildford, in the Society's Rooms, on Saturday, May 8th, 1920: The RIGHT HONOURABLE 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, 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-FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT, together with the Cash Account, and the Statement of Assets and Liabilities, duly audited, for the year ending December 31st, 1919.

The Report will be found to indicate the beginnings at least of a return to more normal conditions than those of the last five years. The loss in Membership during the war has been considerable, but for the first time since 1914, the elections exceed the deaths announced and resignations received. An Excursion has been again carried out. The Library has been enriched by the presentation or loan of a considerable number of MSS. Many publishing societies suspended action entirely during the War; the Surrey Archæological Society has been able to continue its publications, though on a smaller scale; and in spite of the great increase in the cost of printing, and of the diminution in its numbers, is able to show a higher balance at the Bank than at the end of 1914 without having drawn upon its reserve funds. There is no reasonable doubt that if present conditions continue the Society will be able to carry on and to extend its activities upon its income.

Fewer deaths have been announced than in 1918. The Society sustained a great loss by that of Sir Charles E. H. Chadwyck-Healey, Bart., K.C.B., K.C., F.S.A. His great knowledge, legal abilities, and antiquarian interest will be much missed upon the Council, to which he had but recently been elected. He is believed to have left an exhaustive history of Cranleigh Parish nearly ready for publication. Dr. Edwin Freshfield, LL.D., F.S.A., another distinguished antiquary, Sir Walpole Greenwell, Bart., Mr. A. W. B. Drummond, and Mr. J. J. Morrish, old and valued Members, have also died. Some deaths which occurred in 1919, and some resignations intended to take effect at the end of that year, had not been reported to the Society at the date of the Report being drawn up.

The Volume (No. XXXII) will be found slightly larger than the previous one. There has been some delay in the sending out of the Volume. If intending contributors would put their MSS, into the Secretary's hands before July, it might be possible to issue the Volumes in the year to which they really belong. The cost of production has approximately doubled since before the War. Canon Ollard completes his history of Dunsfold Church, which is published as a separate volume by the Author. The Master of Abbot's Hospital gives further extracts from the Inventories of the Hospital. Sir Henry Lambert communicates a most interesting record of an early Recovery in Banstead, which is valuable for legal history beyond our county. Mr. Mill Stephenson continues his List of Monumental Brasses. This is drawing to an end. It will probably be completed in 1921. Mr. P. M. Johnston has printed, with copious illustrations, the exhaustive account of Lambeth Chapel and its Undercroft, which Members had the pleasure of hearing delivered in the summer. Notes and minor articles complete the volume. The subject of pre-historic antiquities is not represented, but the Editor hopes that some discoveries in this field will shortly be recorded.

Last summer, fragments of a Cinerary Urn and of one or two accessory vessels were found in the kitchen-garden at Stoatley Rough, Farnham Lane, Haslemere. Mr. Johnston has made some interesting discoveries at Albury Old Church, indicating an Anglo-Saxon building. Bronze Age remains, of which we hope to hear more, have been found in the Wey, near St. George's Hill. The Anglo-Saxon cemetery at Mitcham has yielded some new finds of interments, with relics. Flints have been brought in to the Haslemere Museum, and to private collectors near Dorking. Some coffins have been discovered near Merton.

Lt.-Col. Heygate Lambert has placed in the Library a large number of deeds and MSS., which will be separately catalogued and made available for examination. Since the end of the year Viscount Hylton has kindly offered to the Society the loan of many family papers connected with the Merstham Manors. Mr. Marks, of Gray's Inn, has presented some 18th-century deeds. The thanks of the Society are tendered to these, and to all other benefactors. The

question of proper accommodation for MSS., with improved facilities for consultation, remains a pressing matter. The room at our disposal is not large enough, nor entirely suitable, nor as safe as it should be from damp and fire.

In this connexion, the Council may intimate that new developments in the custody of local Records are possible. A Royal Commission upon the Custody of Records, sitting from before the War till 1918, has recently issued its third and last Report. It was specially concerned about the inadequate state of the present arrangements for the care of County, Diocesan and Parish Records. Though it is an ill time to approach the Treasury with any scheme involving expenditure upon Local Record Offices, the matter is not to be allowed to drop. An influential committee is in existence, trying to induce action by the Treasury, or county councils, or private munificence.

Matters with which the Society may be concerned in the future, are the printing of a book on Surrey local Etymologies, by a Member; the preparation of a Bibliography of Surrey Maps; systematic excavation at Farley Heath, and at Albury Old Manor House in Merstham.

By the kindness of His Grace, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Society was enabled to visit Lambeth Palace on June 26th. There was a numerous attendance. Mr. P. M. Johnston explained the history of the buildings, and the Rev. Claude Jenkins, the Librarian, had kindly arranged an exhibition of MSS. and other objects in the Library. In the unavoidable absence of the Archbishop and Mrs. Davidson, Miss Tait entertained the Society at tea. The thanks of the Society are hereby given to all who so effectually contributed to the success of the meeting.

It is intended to arrange an excursion in the course of the summer. The idea of local meetings, suggested in the last Report, has been taken up. Some lectures have been organised, which, though actually given in the present year, may be mentioned now as an outcome of the last Report.

The Membership of the Society, as shown by the list at the end of 1919, was 450, as against 416 at the date of the last Report. Five deaths and one resignation were announced and two names were removed from the list. Forty-two new Members were elected. This brings the nominal Membership to nearly the same figure as in 1917, 451. As mentioned above, deaths and resignations really belonging to 1919, but not communicated, reduce the actual Membership. Still, the tide has begun to flow again, and the number of elections is very gratifying.

At the Annual Meeting in 1920, when this Report is presented, the eight Members of Council, retiring in rotation under Rule XII, are Dr. W. E. St. L. Finny, Lt.-Col. F. A. Heygate Lambert, H. E. Malden,

R. Garraway Rice, Lt.-Col. Godwin-Austen, A. F. Charrington, Lt.-Col. C. A. Gordon-Clark, and G. C. Druce, who are eligible for re-election. There is a vacancy by the death of Sir Charles Chadwyck-Healey.

A Statement of Accounts is appended. The Council has put £150 on Deposit Account, and has invested Life Compositions in 5 per cent. War Stock.

By a bank amalgamation the Society's Bankers have become the Bank of Liverpool and Martin's (Cocks, Biddulph Branch), at the same address, 43, Charing Cross, S.W. 1.

The Report was adopted.

The following gentlemen were re-elected Members of Council:—Dr. W. E. St. L. Finny, Lt.-Col. F. A. Heygate Lambert, H. E. Malden, R. Garraway Rice, Lt.-Col. Godwin-Austen, A. F. Charrington, Lt.-Col. C. A. Gordon Clark, and G. C. Druce.

A vote of thanks to the President and Council of the Society for their services during the past year was moved, seconded, and carried.

The meeting received, with great regret, the resignation of the President, the Right Honourable Lord Ashcombe. The Chairman proposed the election in his place of the Right Honourable the Earl of Onslow, who was unanimously elected.

On the retirement of Mr. Vernon Cocks from business, Mr. Arthur Bonner, F.S.A., was elected Honorary Treasurer; a vote of thanks for his services being accorded to Mr. Cocks.

Mr. Hilary Jenkinson, M.A., F.S.A., was re-elected Honorary Secretary, and Mr. R. L. Atkinson, B.A., Assistant Honorary Secretary; and a hearty vote of thanks was passed to Mr. H. E. Malden, M.A., for officiating as Honorary Secretary during the War period.

The Honorary Auditors were re-elected, with a vote of thanks for their services.

The question of the renewed danger of destruction to Whitgift's Hospital at Croydon was raised, and, after discussion, the following Resolution was passed:—

- "That this Meeting has heard with the greatest regret that the destruction of Whitgift's Hospital at Croydon has again been proposed:
- "That the Meeting desires to express its opinion, in the interests of both national and local History and Archeology, that such

"destruction would be a calamity; and therefore urges the Council

- "of the County Borough of Croydon to use all possible means to preserve this building, one of the most interesting in the Ancient County of Surrey:
- "That copies of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor and Council of the County Borough of Croydon, to the Surrey Photographie Survey at that place, to the Surrey County Council, and to the Ministries of Health and of Transport."

A vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the proceedings.

After the Meeting, Abbot's Hospital was thrown open to Members' inspection, the Master conducting parties over the building. Tea was provided by the hospitality of the President, the Right Honourable the Earl of Onslow; who was unfortunately prevented from being present by official duties abroad.

The custom of the Annual Excursion, which had not been held since 1914, was revived on Thursday, July 15th. A large number of Members and their Friends assembled at Redhill and drove thence in motor omnibuses to Blechingley, stopping on the way to inspect Place Farm at Brewer Street; the history of the place was detailed by Mr. H. E. Malden, a Manuscript Map, kindly lent by Mr. Jarvis Kenrick, being exhibited in illustration. At Blechingley the party visited the Church, a paper upon which was contributed by Mr. Uvedale Lambert. Lunch was taken at Godstone, where many Members also had time to inspect the Church. The party then went on to Crowhurst Church, which was explained by Mr. Philip M. Johnston. The fine timbered and moated house, Crowhurst Place, was next visited, by kind permission of Her Grace the Duchess of Marlborough; explanations being given by Mr. Malden and Mr. Johnston; the beautiful gardens were also inspected and much admired. From Crowhurst the party returned to Blechingley, where tea was provided by the kind hospitality of Mr. and Mrs. Uvedale Lambert, whose house and antiquarian collection were subsequently examined. The return was then made to Redhill Station.

An Afternoon Excursion to Clandon Park was planned for Saturday, October 23rd, on the kind invitation of the President. Members were to meet Sir Martin Conway, M.P., F.S.A., who was to deliver a lecture on War Museums. Unfortunately this had to be cancelled owing to the Coal Strike.

SURREY ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—Cash Account for the Year ending December 31st, 1919.

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SURREY ARCH #OLOGICAL SOCIETY.—Statement of Assets and Liabilities, December 31st, 1919.

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for 1 year's Subscriptions are 4

Total, from 3 Members, 5 Subscriptions.

The Reserve Fund is £316: 4s. 8d. $2\frac{1}{2}$ per Cent. Consols (nominal), and £10: 7s. 2d. War Stock (Life Compositions).

CECIL T. DAVIS, A. FORBES SIEVEKING, Hon. Auditors.

EDITORIAL NOTE.

With this Volume we reach the final instalment of Mr. Mill Stephenson's "List of Surrey Brasses," a few numbers of which will be available with a separate Index. It is a work which, for its completeness, minuteness of detail, and regularity of treatment, will bear comparison with any other treatise on a like subject, and one which the Society may be very content to have published. As will be seen in the Report of Council for the year 1920, it is proposed to make a policy of dealing in a similar authoritative and final way with any branches of County Archæology which seem susceptible at the present time of such treatment, and in two places in the present Volume attention is called to subjects of this kind—those of Surrey Maps and the Inscriptions in Surrey Churches and Churchyards. The Honorary Secretary will be very glad to receive information upon either of these points.

The policy referred to above had been mentioned before the war in these *Transactions*, and in one or two other respects the present Volume marks a return to more normal conditions: it contains, for example, an account of the first whole-day Expedition made by the Society since 1914, and a revival of a former feature of the *Transactions*—the noticing of Surrey publications. The Honorary Secretary will be grateful if all Members will notify him from time to time of the publication of volumes or articles, large or small, by Surrey Archæologists or upon Surrey matters.

In two other matters the present Volume shows signs of the late War: first, there is the President's Article on Local War Records, and, secondly, there is the form of the Volume itself; it is smaller than former Volumes and issued in paper wrappers. Unless there is a very marked diminution in the present costs of labour and materials, or an equally marked increase in the Society's numbers, these conditions must be permanent; but cloth cases, at least, will be available upon payment.

H. J.

SURREY ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

Council Room, -CASTLE ARCH, GUILDFORD.

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THE DUCHESS
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