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PRELIMINARY NOTE.

I AM asked to write a few lines about a number of changes in the arrangements for carrying on the work of the Society, which seem to call for some remark. To the difficulties experienced by all Societies in bringing their publications up to date after the War and in meeting the greatly increased costs of printing has been added in our case that of filling a rather unexpected gap caused by the resignation of Mr. A. E. Whitley from the position of Honorary Secretary. The Council has now decided definitely to separate the Editorial duties from those of the Honorary Secretary and has been fortunate in securing the help of Mrs. R. Grenside, who, with the assistance of a small Committee, will in future carry on the work of preparing the *Collections*, and has prepared this issue for the press. To meet the difficulty of publishing a volume which shall be within the financial means of the Society and at the same time not (as has of late been the case) too slim to be really suitable for cloth binding, the Council has decided for the present to revert to the Society's original practice and make two yearly parts constitute a single volume with a single Index; and the present publication marks the beginning of that scheme. This should make feasible some other minor economies, and it may be possible to issue with each second part a cloth case for the binding: certainly such cases will be provided for those Members who order them.

The problem of bringing and keeping the Society's publications up to date is not only one of money. One effect of the War which seems to have remained is a congestion of work in the case of most of our habitual contributors. Members cannot be too strongly urged to secure, if they wish to aid in the task of bringing publications back to their

former size and punctuality, not merely New Members but New Contributors, and themselves to offer any work they can to the Honorary Editor in the form either of Notes or of Articles. From a Membership of nearly 600 Archæologists it should not be difficult to obtain material for many volumes: but the fact remains that it is proving so at present. The Editor, who at the time this is issued has another part already in preparation, will be delighted to consider any contributions submitted to her.

Finally, it remains to express regret that the long promised volume on *Stained Glass in Surrey Churches* is still not complete. The coloured plates, provided by local subscription as a memorial to the late Dr. A. V. Peatling, F.S.A., have all been prepared: but it has proved necessary to examine practically all the specimens *in situ* for the purposes of the text; and this very heavy work the Editor, who has many other calls upon his time, has not yet succeeded in completing. We can only express by way of consolation the belief that the volume will be, when it appears, a particularly complete and scholarly production.

H. J.