

## Proceedings of Societies.

### BUCKS ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

#### THE ANNUAL MEETING.

The past year has been a record in many respect for the Bucks Architectural and Archæological Society. The membership of 390 is higher than in previous years, while the Society is sounder financially than it has ever been, and during the year several interesting objects have been secured for the Museum.

This was the satisfactory position reported to the Annual Meeting which was held in the Museum, Aylesbury, on Friday week. Major Coningsby Disraeli was in the Chair, and others present were Lady Smyth, Miss A. D. Grinnell, Miss K. S. Grinnell, Miss Cicely Baker, Mrs. C. Baker, Major S. S. Flower, the Rev. P. F. L. Cautley, Col. James Wyness, Dr. W. Bradbrook (Hon. Secretary), Messrs. G. Eland, F. W. Reader, T. R. Pratt, M. Longmer Edkins, and W. J. Barnes (Assistant Hon. Secretary).

The report of the Council, which was submitted by the Hon. Secretary and adopted, showed that the membership of the Society was 390, a record. During the year the Museum had been visited by 6,500 adults, which was about 100 more than during the previous year. The 6,500 did not mean the whole number of visitors, because at least an equal number of children must have paid visits. Among the most notable acquisitions to the Museum as a thirteenth century Limoge enamelled disc, presented by the executors of Mr. Powell; two iron spear heads from the Thames, near Marlow, given by Mr. Rowe; a walnut cabinet and collection of flint implements from Ickenham; Egyptian objects and some maps, given by the late Mrs. Sturge, Great Missenden; and Egyptian figures given by Lady Smyth.

During the year 194 volumes had been borrowed from the Library, and three County Council teachers had taken advantage of the Library to write their theses. At the request of the County Education Committee Mr. Hollis, the Curator of the Museum, had lectured at the summer conference on Local Law.

He prepared cases of pottery of different ages for the schools. The cases contained specimens of pottery and other objects of the Palæolithic age, well arranged on boards, which were going round the elementary schools of the County. Most of the new members elected during the year were the direct result of fresh visits to the Museum and impressed with the work of the Society. It had been suggested that strong rooms should be provided at the Museum for the preservation of manorial records of Bucks and other ancient documents relating to the history of the County. There would shortly be issued an index to the first 10 volumes of the records of the interesting works of the Bucks County Museum of the United States. The Society, continued Dr. Bradbrook, was in a better financial position than it had ever been before in its history. £535 was received last year, and at the end of December there was a balance in the bank of £87.

The Earl of Rosebery was unanimously re-elected as President of the Society. The Vice-Presidents, Lord Boston, Viscount Hambleton, Lady Smyth, Bishop Shaw, the Bishop of Buckingham, Sir James Berry, and Major Coningsby Disraeli were re-elected with the addition of Lord Cottesloe. The following members of the Council were re-elected: The Rev. R. F. Bale (Brill), the Rev. F. W. Bennitt (Bletchley), Lt.-Col. F. T. H. Bernard, Mr. W. Crouch, Mr. E. M. Corner (Beaconsfield), and Major S. S. Flower (Tring). The Hon. Secretary and the Assistant Hon. Secretary were re-appointed, with Mr. C. G. Watkins, subject to his consent, as Hon. Treasurer. Mr. W. Crouch and Col. J. Wyness were elected as Auditors, with Mr. G. Eland as the Editor of the Records. The delegates to the Central Council of Archæological Societies, Mr. F. W. Reader and Mr. E. Hollis, were re-appointed.

The Chairman referred in commendatory terms to the work of Mrs. Baker, who had stepped into the breach when both the curator and the doorkeeper were away from their duties owing to illness.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the meeting.