

Abstracts of Proceedings

7TH MARCH, 1950

Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting was held in the Society's Room, Tasmanian Museum. In the absence of His Excellency the Governor, President of the Society, Mr. A. L. Meston, Vice-President, presided.

The following Office-bearers were elected for 1950:—Professor S. W. Carey was elected Vice-President for two years in the place of Dr. W. L. Crowther, who retired under Rule 12, Honorary Secretary, Dr. J. Pearson; Assistant Honorary Secretary, Mr. D. Martin; Honorary Treasurer, Mr. S. Angel; Honorary Auditor, Mr. A. M. Hewer.

The following were elected members of the Council for 1950:—Dr. W. L. Crowther and Mr. M. S. R. Sharland were elected for three years in the place of Professor S. W. Carey and Mr. L. W. Miller, who retired under Rule 21.

The following was elected a member of the Society:—Miss M. L. Ibbott.

Mr. K. von Stieglitz delivered an illustrated lecture entitled 'Early Settlement in the Northern Parts of Norfolk Plains'.

4TH APRIL, 1950

A meeting was held in the Society's Room. Professor S. W. Carey, Vice-President, presided.

The following were elected members of the Society:—Mrs. G. Needham, Mrs. F. M. Ruthven, Mr. J. D. Brown, Mr. J. Connor, Mr. G. M. Dimmock, Professor T. Hytten, Mr. N. M. Hudson, Rev. H. M. Maddock, Mr. Malcolm Miller, Mr. H. J. King, Mr. G. S. Norman, Mr. S. Thyne.

Mr. J. Bradley delivered an illustrated lecture entitled 'The Growth of Mountains'.

2ND MAY, 1950

A meeting was held in the Society's Room. Mr. A. L. Meston, Vice-President, presided.

The following were elected members of the Society:—Mr. J. R. Erp, Mr. A. N. Mann, Mr. I. H. Walker.

Mr. John McLean delivered an illustrated lecture entitled 'Adventure Bay and the Early Explorers' of which the following is an abstract:—

The lecturer stressed the desirability of having historic sites marked at Adventure Bay, Bruny Island, because there was a danger of some sites being lost.

No other place on the coasts of Australia has such an interesting 'pre-settlement' history, as the ships of three English and two French expeditions anchored here between the years 1773 and 1802; yet on the fifteen miles of the Bay's coastline there is not a cairn or signpost to denote the sites of the following events: Captain Cook's first and only meeting with the Tasmanian aborigines; the place where Cook made the first presentation of medals in Australia; the site where Captain Cook stepped off Australian soil for the last time before his death; the *Bounty's* watering place and swapit; the place where Captain Bligh planted the first apple and other fruit trees in Tasmania; Bligh's meeting place with the aborigines.

It is not generally known that Adventure Bay was Midshipman Matthew Flinders' first landing place in Australia, and was the only harbour in Australian waters visited by the *Bounty*.

The rediscoveries of the historical sites required research and exploration of slight topographical changes and was accomplished by the lecturer when he became a resident of the district. The various situations mentioned by the illustrious navigators are in almost the same condition as when their ships sailed out of the bay. He strongly urged that eight or nine of these historic sites should be marked by cairns or signs.

6TH JUNE, 1950

A meeting was held in the Society's Room. Professor S. W. Carey, Vice-President, presided.

The following were elected members of the Society:—Dr. J. B. Polya, Mr. E. G. Butler, Mr. R. A. Ferrall.

Mr. H. L. Greener delivered a lecture entitled 'Educating the Whole Man'.

4TH JULY, 1950

A meeting was held in the Society's Room. Mr. A. L. Meston, Vice-President, presided.

The following were elected members of the Society:—Mr. M. L. Conway, Mr. R. L. Phillips, Mr. H. A. Hudson, Mrs. D. Lyle.

Mr. M. S. R. Sharland delivered an illustrated lecture entitled 'Australian Sea Birds'.

1ST AUGUST, 1950

A meeting was held in the Society's Room. Mr. W. H. Hudspeth presided.

The following were elected members of the Society:—Mr. D. E. Kurth, Miss I. Thomson, Mr. S. H. Butler, Dr. H. M. Fisher, Dr. L. A. Langley, Dr. A. M. McArthur, Mr. E. S. Padman.

The Chairman explained that this meeting arose out of discussions which had taken place with the Miniature Camera Club in connexion with a scheme which has been considered both by the Council of the Royal Society and the Trustees of the Museum to build up a collection of photographs of historic buildings in the Hobart district. Two members of the Miniature Camera Club, Mr. G. Cramp and Mr. R. Hope-Johnstone, showed slides of old buildings and of photographs taken during a trip to Lake Pedder.

8TH SEPTEMBER, 1950

A meeting was held in the Society's Room. His Excellency the Governor, President of the Society, presided.

The following were elected members of the Society:—Miss M. T. Noall, Mr. H. B. Boss-Walker, Mr. J. N. Elliston, Mr. G. E. Hale.

His Excellency presented the R. M. Johnston Memorial Medal to Professor J. T. Wilson, Professor of Geophysics in the University of Toronto, Canada, who then delivered a lecture entitled 'The Development of Continents and Oceans'. (see p. 85.)

3RD OCTOBER, 1950

A meeting was held in the Society's Room. Professor S. W. Carey, Vice-President, presided.

The following were elected members of the Society:—Miss H. F. Gulline, Mr. R. H. Hardman, Mrs. W. E. Cameron, Miss L. M. Gonon, Miss M. M. Godfrey, Mrs. K. E. Graves, Mr. A. T. Abbott, Mr. H. W. Askeland, Mr. W. E. Cameron, Mr. R. J. Foot, Mr. A. E. Garrott, Mr. A. M. Graves, Mr. E. Hart, Mr. P. J. Payton, Mr. S. V. Sydes, Mr. G. L. Wymond.

Professor H. N. Barber delivered a lecture entitled 'Scientific Freedom in the Soviet Union'.

14TH NOVEMBER, 1950

A meeting was held in the Society's Room. Mr. A. L. Meston, Vice-President, presided.

The following was elected a member of the Society:—Mr. J. A. Cardno.

The following papers which had been submitted for publication in the Society's Journal were tabled and it was agreed to submit them to the Standing Committee:—

- (1) New Phorocidiinae and the affinities of the New Zealand spider *Atkinsonia nana* Cambridge, by V. V. Hickman.
- (2) The Identity of Spiders belonging to the Genus *Amaurodioides* Cambridge, by V. V. Hickman.
- (3) Notes on the intertidal ecology of the Freycinet Peninsula, E. R. Guiler.
- (4) The intertidal ecology of Pipe Clay Lagoon, by E. R. Guiler.
- (5) The Distribution of the pea crab, *Fabia hickmani*, by E. R. Guiler.
- (6) A list of the marine algae of Tasmania, by E. R. Guiler.
- (7) The distribution of certain intertidal animals, by E. R. Guiler.
- (8) The female urogenital system of the dasyurid sub-families Phascogalinae, Dasyurinae and Thylacininae, by Joseph Pearson and J. M. de Bavay.
- (9) Observations on the Surface Structure of the Hairs of Tasmanian Monotremes and Marsupials, by A. G. Lyne and T. S. McMahon.

Professor T. Hyten delivered a lecture entitled 'The Dollar Problem', of which the following is an abstract:—

The Dollar Problem was caused by maladjustments resulting from two world wars and the uneasy peace between these wars. The national self-sufficiency aimed at by most nations after the first world war was costly in that it reduced efficiency and decreased the volume of world trade, ultimately causing the depression of the 'thirties. After the last war there was a shortage of manpower, materials and capital equipment, in addition to the destruction of our whole pre-war system of production and a comparatively free enterprise, which was now being hampered by the difficulty of abandoning controls and restrictions.

America had shown her willingness to help first, by the Lend-lease system during the war, and Marshall Aid after the war, but America had apprehensions in regard to countries that went much further than she herself was prepared to in regard to social legislation, and also because the American, on the whole, works longer hours, and rather more effectively, than workers in the countries for which she was providing aid. There was also the fact that there were in America few fugitive funds from the countries she was aiding, notably France.

It could be contended that there was no actual dollar shortage in the world providing these funds could be mobilized and used for dollar imports to the countries earning them.

The remedies were to use Marshall Aid for developing productive enterprise rather than for consumption, and to develop the export trade of the Sterling Area as well as to substitute imports as far as practicable from the rest of the Sterling Area for imports from the dollar area.

Northern Branch.

Annual Report for 1950

5TH APRIL, 1950

The Annual General Meeting of the Royal Society of Tasmania, Northern Branch, was held at the Museum on the 5th April, 1950.

The Annual Report and Balance Sheet were adopted.

Mr. J. E. Heritage presided.

Under the rules the following Office-bearers were elected:—

Chairman: Dr. C. Craig.

Vice-Chairman: Mr. J. E. Heritage.

Council: Rev. J. C. Jones, Mr. G. C. McKinlay, Dr. W. K. McIntyre, Mr. C. G. Ryan.

Acting Secretary: Miss I. Thomson.

A lecture was given by Mr. D. Martin, Officer-in-Charge, C.S.I.R.O., Hobart, on 'Tasmanian Eucalypts in the British Isles'.

Mr. Martin said that the introduction of Tasmanian eucalypts into the British Isles had begun when the early voyagers took back plants with them. These early introductions were sporadic and it was not until Baron von Mueller became Government Botanist of Victoria that the eucalypt was to be found in many places overseas. In Britain a number of collections of eucalypt species were planted on estates and although trees were still living on many of these, the plantations were now largely neglected.

MEETINGS

During the year four Council meetings and five General meetings were held.

27TH JUNE, 1950

A meeting was held at the Museum, Mr. J. E. Heritage presiding.

Mr. C. L. Speedy, M.Sc., cosmic ray physicist to the Macquarie Island Expedition, 1948, gave a lecture on 'Life on Macquarie Island'.

He told of the purpose of the Expedition—to establish a weather station that would be useful on long range weather predictions, and spoke of the personnel. He illustrated his talk with studies of the fauna and marine life of the Island.

22ND AUGUST, 1950

A meeting was held at the Museum, Mr. J. E. Heritage presiding.

Mr. K. R. von Stieglitz spoke on 'Early Pioneers of Norfolk Plains'.

This area extended from Henrietta Plains (Powranna) to Devonport and Port Sorell and was defined in 1811. The area attracted the London capital of two Companies:—The Cressy establishment and the V.D.L. Company. The V.D.L. Co. however, later moved to the N.W. Coast being granted land there. Interesting incidents of these times were related by the Speaker.

26TH SEPTEMBER, 1950

A meeting was held at the Museum, presided over by Dr. C. Craig.

Mr. W. Gellie gave a talk on 'Early Days in Launceston'.

He gave a resumé of the visit of Collins and of Paterson's settlement at York Town. He related incidents in the early life of Launceston dealing with early inns, mail services, water supplies, shipping and buildings.

7TH NOVEMBER, 1950

A meeting was held at the Museum. Dr. C. Craig presided.

The speaker was Mr. W. Sutherland, M.A., who spoke on 'Linguistic Changes in name in Tasmania with special reference to those of Scottish origin'.

He dealt with changes in pronunciation and in forms of words. He pointed out that Scottish surnames have not survived as English principally because—

- (1) there are more English, (2) Scotch becomes modified abroad, and (3) Scottish influence on language abroad has never been strong although sometime it has been asserted as when Governor Macquarie named so many places after those in Scotland.

Mr. Sutherland said that Scots were slaves to spelling and believed that words themselves had value; they always wanted to pronounce all letters. England's tradition was a spoken, not a written one. The speaker illustrated his points with many examples.

HISTORICAL EXPEDITIONS

Historical Expeditions were held to York Town, Cypress Street, Cemetery, Longford, and George Town.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA.

NORTHERN BRANCH.

Statement of Accounts at February 28, 1951.

RECEIPTS.	£	s.	d.	EXPENDITURE.	£	s.	d.
Balance at March 1, 1950	54	0	11	Petty cash	34	3	2
Subscriptions	71	4	8	Balance forward	91	11	5
Bank interest	0	9	0				
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£125	14	7		£125	14	7