Royal Society of Tasmania.

Annual Report for the Year 1958.

PRESIDENT.

During the year the President of the Society, His Excellency Sir Ronald Cross, completed his term as Governor of Tasmania and returned to Britain. The Society expressed thanks to Sir Ronald for his interest and support, and opportunity was taken to express thanks to him in person before he left Tasmania.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The Annual General Meeting of the Society was held on 5th March, 1958, when the President of the Society, His Excellency Sir Ronald Cross, occupied the Chair.

The following office-bearers were elected:

Vice-President: Under the Society's Rules, Dr. W. E. L. H. Crowther retired from the office of Vice-President and Mr. L. W. Miller was elected to the vacancy.

Hon. Secretary and Librarian: Dr. W. Bryden. Hon. Treasurer: Mr. G. E. A. Hale.

Hon. Auditor: Mr. A. M. Hewer.

Council: Under Rule 21 Dr. Martin and Dr. Teniswood retired from the Council and Dr. E. R. Guiler and Mr. K. D. Nicolls were elected in their places for a period of three years.

Professor Hytten resigned in December, 1957, and Dr. W. E. L. H. Crowther was elected to fill this casual vacancy for one year.

After the general business of the meeting was completed Professor J. McManners delivered a lecture on "Ceremony and belief in provincial France on the eve of the Revolution."

COMMITTEES.

The Council made the following appointments for the year:—

Standing Committee: Mr. L. W. Miller, Mr. G. H. Stancombe (Northern Branch), Dr. E. R. Guiler, Dr. W. Bryden (Honorary Secretary). Representatives on the Trustees of the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery: Professor A. Burn and Mr. G. F. Davies.

Representative on the Trustees of the Botanical Gardens: In March Mr. S. Angel intimated that he would like to be relieved of the appointment and in September Mr. Guy Barrett was appointed in his place.

Representative to the Library Association of Tasmania: Dr. W. Bryden.

Representative on the Nomenclature Board: Mr. E. R. Pretyman.

MR. S. ANGEL-HONORARY MEMBERSHIP.

Council expressed their thanks to Mr. Angel who had represented the Society on the Board of Trustees of the Botanical Gardens for many years.

He had also been a Council member for over 20 years, and Treasurer for about 19 years, and in November Council agreed to submit his name for nomination to Honourary Membership.

CLIVE LORD MEMORIAL LECTURE.

Mr. P. G. Law, Director of the Australian Antarctic Division, Department of External Affairs, was invited to deliver the Clive Lord Memorial Lecture. This was given at the October meeting which was held in the Town Hall. Hobart.

His Excellency, the Administrator (Sir Stanley Burbury) presented the Clive Lord Memorial Medal after which Mr. Law delivered the lecture which was entitled "Current Australian Scientific Research in Antarctica."

GENERAL MEETINGS.

Other meetings held were:-

April: "The Heart of the City" (illustrated), by Professor Peter Scott.

May: "What's in a Name" by Professor J. R. Eliiott.

June: 'Darwin's Century" by Professor H. N. Barber.

July: "Water Resources in Tasmania" by Mr. A. W. Knight.

August: "The History and Significance of the Petroleum Industry in the Middle East" by Mr. N. R. Seddon, Managing Director of BP Australia Ltd.

September: "From Sea Waves to Electric Waves" by Professor Gordon Newstead.

November: Three films—"Wheels across Africa" "Address Antarctica" "As Old as the Hills."

LIBRARY.

Some 395 volumes (books and journals) were added to the library during the year. There are now 310 institutions on the exchange list and the number of volumes in the library has grown to 31,735.

PAPERS AND PROCEEDINGS.

Volume 92 of the "Papers and Proceedings" was published and once again the Society wishes to extend thanks to the Government of Tasmania for financial support in this connection.

ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN.

The Council is indebted to Miss E. M. Geddes for her services to the Society.

THANKS.

The Council extends its thanks to all those who have assisted by donations and by their interest and support.

NORTHERN BRANCH.

In November a number of members from the Northern Branch came to Hobart. On the afternoon of Saturday, 29th November, Battery Point and

ROYAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA.

the Van Diemen's Land Memorial Museum were visited. In the evening films were shown and supper was served, and during this time members from both the North and South were able to meet and discuss matters of mutual interest.

On the morning of Sunday, 30th November, a number of treasures of the Royal Society Library were exhibited.

Council felt the visit was of great value and it is hoped that a similar visit to the North by Southern members may be arranged in 1959.

ROYAL SOCIETY ROOM.

During the year the room was painted and a start was made to rearrange the library. The Council wishes to thank members of the staff of the Tasmanian Museum for their heip in this work.

Statement of Receipts and Payments for year to 31st December, 1958.

RECEIPTS.		_	-1	PAYMENTS.						
Balance brought forward from 1957 Bank interest Subscriptions:—		s. 15 10		Salary Superannuation		s. 17 13	d. 0 0	£	s.	d.
1958. 263 @ £2 10s £657 10 0 181 @ £2 362 0 0 19 @ £1 5s 23 15 0				Less Government Grant		10 0	0	3 9 4	10	0
1956. 1 @ £2 2 0 0 1957. 12 @ £2 10s 30 0 0 4 @ £2 8 0 0	 			Northern Branch share of subscriptions 1957 Books Journals	$\frac{16}{121}$	11 2	_	119	7	
Baiances) 			Less Repayment of sub. to		14				
Miscellaneous receipts	1,103 - 1,103 	14	3	Meetings. Attendants, films, &c 53 5	8	127	2	6		
				Less Rent for Royal Society Room	92 88	7 10	_	વ	17	4
				Petty cash: Postage re subs. Miscellaneous		12 6			18	
				Window cleaning Electricity Insurances Telephone and post box Subscription to Library Asso Equipment Stationery Postage on Papers and Proc Miscelianeous expenditure Transfer to Reserve Account Balance to next Account	ciat	ion		6 83 25 16 1 11 87	18 5 13 0 18 5 16 4 0 3	0 0 9 0 0 0 11 9

A. M. D. HEWER, Auditor.

J. W. C. WYETT, Vice-President. G. E. A. HALE, Hon. Treasurer.

Northern Branch.

Annual Report, 1958.

The Annual General Meeting of the Northern Branch of the Royal Society of Tasmania was held at the Queen Victoria Museum on 21st March, 1958, when the following were elected to the Branch Council:

Chairman (1958-1959): Mr. G. H. Stancombe. Vice-Chairman (1958-1959): Dr. C. Craig. Hon. Secretary/Treasurer (1958): Mr. W. F. Ellis.

Past Chairman (1958-1959): Mr. G. H. Crawford (ex officio).

Members of Council: Mr. R. S. Smith, Mr. R. H. Stewart, Mr. John Lord.

The following members of the Branch Council continued in their term of office for 1958: Mrs. I. J. Mead, Dr. J. H. Wilson.

Owing to a transfer from Tasmania, Dr. Wilson resigned in May and Mr. J. R. Rex was elected in his place.

Mr. Justice G. H. Crawford represented the Branch on the Cradle Mt.-Lake St. Clair National Park Board.

ACTIVITIES DURING 1958.

Nine General Meetings and two Special Meetings were held during the year at which the following papers were presented:

General Meetings:

- 21st February: "National Parks in Canada" by Mr. F. N. Lakin, Dip. Mech. Eng., A.M.I.E. Aust.
- 21st March: "Legal Life in Launceston a Century Ago" by Mr. Justice G. H. Crawford, LL.B. 2nd May: "Pioneering in Tasmania" by Mr. J. R.
- Skemp, B.Sc.

 19th May: "The Study of Floods and their Control" by Professor C. H. Munro, B.E., A.M.I.E. Aust.
- 20th June: "Old Tasmanian Engravings" by Dr. C. Craig, C.M.G., M.D., M.S., D.D.R.
- 25th July: "The Problem Buttercup" by Dr. F. J. F. Fisher M.Sc., Ph.D.

- 29th August: "The Story of Fine China" by Mr.
- Edward Shaw. 19th September: "The Royal Society of London and its relation to the Royal Society of Tasmania" by Dr. W. Bryden, B.A., M.Sc., Ph.D., F.R.S.E.
- 21st November: "By cance from Lake Pedder to Macquarie Harbour" by Mr. O. Truchanas.

Special Meetings:

- 26th April: "Earthquakes in Tasmania" by Prof. S. W. Carey, D.Sc. (in conjunction with the University of Tasmania).

 9th October: "Current Scientific Research in the
- Antarctic" by Mr. P. G. Law, M.Sc.
- Four Excursions were held as follows:
- 20th April: Campbell Town, led by Mr. G. H. Stancombe.
- 1st June: Launceston Filtration Plant, led by Mr. W. F. Ellis.
- 28th September: Lefroy, led by Mr. Justice G. H. Crawford.
- 29-30th November: Hobart, led by Mr. G. H. Stancombe.

Some of the recommendations of the Sub-Committee concerned with the improvement of the Branch activities were implemented during 1958 although lack of finance necessitated many limitations. Unfortunately, for the same reason, the promising work in locating and preserving historical material had to be suspended, it is hoped but tem-

The first section of the transcription of the diaries of John Helder Wedge with notes and biographical study were submitted to the Standing Committee of the Society for publication and the remaining portion of the diaries are in preparation.

The Branch Council wish to record its appreciation of the services and facilities provided by the Queen Victoria Museum, without which it would be unable to maintain the present standard of activities.

Statement of Accounts at 31st December, 1958.

RECEIPTS.	£	s.	d.	Expenditure.	£	S	. d.
Balance at 1.1.1958 Share of subscription Bank interest Sales of publication Bus fares received (see contra) Sundry receipts	119 4 27 40		6 3 7	Lectures Library Printing, stationary, advertising Postages Hire of transport (see contra) Purchase of projector Sundries Balance in bank Cash in hand	12 33 38 45 44 3 87	10	9 8½ 0 4
	£312	13	1		£312	13	1

W. F. ELLIS, Honorary Secretary,

H. C. A. PITT, Honorary Auditor.

