

Annual Report, 1953

The Annual Meeting was held in the Society's Room, Tasmanian Museum, on 3rd March, 1953.

Mr. J. W. C. Wyett, Vice-President, presided.

The following Office-Bearers were elected:—

Vice-President: Under the Society's Rules Mr. J. W. C. Wyett retired from the office of Vice-President, and Mr. S. Angel was appointed in his place (retiring 1955).

Hon. Secretary and Librarian: Mr. D. Martin.

Hon. Treasurer: Mr. G. E. Hale.

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

Council: Under Rule 21 Dr. W. L. Crowther and Mr. M. S. R. Sharland retired as members of the Council and Mr. J. W. C. Wyett and Mr. F. C. Wolfhagen were elected in their place for a period of three years.

The names of the full Council for 1953 are given on the previous page.

The Council made the following appointments at its first meeting:—

Standing Committee: Mr. J. W. C. Wyett, Mr. L. W. Miller, Professor H. N. Barber and the Hon. Secretary.

Board of Trustees of the Tasmanian Museum, and Board of Trustees of the Botanical Gardens:

Board of Trustees of Tasmanian Museum: Professor T. Hytten and Professor A. Burn.

Board of Trustees, Botanical Gardens: Mr. S. Angel.

Meetings: Nine ordinary meetings and one special meeting were held during the year. The special meeting was held on 1st December as the Society's contribution in the Sesquicentenary Celebrations of the State. The President, His Excellency the Governor, Sir Ronald Cross, presided, and Mr. Robert Sharman, State Archivist, delivered a lecture entitled "Immigration One Hundred Years Ago". The opportunity was taken to present Dr. Joseph Pearson with a Travelling Clock and cheque for £111 as a token of gratitude and esteem from the members of the Royal Society and from the Friends of the Museum. Supper was served in the Fine Arts Room at the Museum to approximately 260 members and friends. Special guests at the meeting were: Lady Cross, the Hon. State Director of the Sesquicentennial Committee (Mr. G. E. Walch) and Mrs. Walch, the President of the Legislative Council (Sir Rupert Shoo-bridge) and the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress.

Library: During the year 415 volumes were added to the Library in addition to a number of reports and pamphlets from British and Foreign Institutions and learned societies. The number of institutions on the exchange list is 272. The Library now consists of 29,499 volumes.

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Changes in Staff: The transfer of Miss J. Robertson from the staff of the Royal Society to that of the University at the end of 1952 left the Library without a Cataloguer. However, after consultation with the Vice-Chancellor of the University, arrangements were made to continue payment of the salary of a cataloguer by the University and Miss D. Bulman, the Assistant Librarian in the Society's Library, was appointed to that position. Miss Alicia Miller joined the staff as Assistant Librarian in Miss Bulman's place on 30th April. The Council wishes to record its grateful thanks to the University for its continued assistance in the important work of cataloguing the Library.

Retirement of Dr. J. Pearson: Dr. J. Pearson, who had held the position of Hon. Secretary to the Society for 19 years resigned in March and Mr. D. Martin, formerly Assistant Hon. Secretary, was appointed to act in his place. Mention was made at the General Meetings held on 3rd March and 1st December of this year of the outstanding work done by Dr. Pearson during his term of office (see report of Proceedings on these dates for further information).

Mr. S. Angel: At the Annual General Meeting on 3rd March Mr. S. Angel was elected a Vice-President and relinquished the post of Hon. Treasurer of the Society, which he had held since 1933. Mr. Angel's advice on financial matters and the time he has so willingly given have been much valued by the Council and they wish to record their appreciation of Mr. Angel's service to the Society.

Membership: The Society consists of the following members:—

Honorary Members	3
Corresponding Members	1
Ordinary Members:	
Class A	256
Class B	158
	—
	414
Life Members	30
Associate Members	23
	—
TOTAL	471
	—

During the year 31 names were removed from the list of Members owing to deaths, resignations, &c., and 48 new members were elected.

Deaths: The Council regrets having to record the deaths of the following persons:—Mrs. G. H. Butler, Mr. W. H. Clemes, Dr. Stuart Gibson, Mr. H. B. Hood, Miss M. Hookey, Professor G. E. Nicholls, Mr. K. L. Shoobridge, Mr. H. G. Vaughan.

Mr. W. H. Clemes: Mr. Clemes had been a member of the Royal Society for a number of years and had given valuable service in the office of Vice-President and as a member of the Council. He had also contributed papers for publication in the Journal. In Mr. Clemes' passing the Society has suffered a very great loss.

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W. H. Hudspeth Memorial: The last annual report referred to the decision made at a meeting of subscribers to the W. H. Hudspeth Memorial Fund on 2nd December, 1952, to publish "Profile of a Pioneer" as a memorial volume to Mr. Hudspeth. Mr. R. Sharman, who had kindly consented to edit "Profile of a Pioneer" stated that on going into the matter he felt this was an unsatisfactory memorial as at least two-thirds of the paper dealt with material outside Tasmania and also that the paper was not of sufficiently high historical value to warrant its being published as a memorial. The Committee met and finally decided to recommend to the subscribers that the Hudspeth Memorial Volume should consist of the following:—

- (a) A Memoir of the late W. H. Hudspeth with photographs.
- (b) Mr. Hudspeth's notes on the Knopwood Diary with a picture of Rev. Robert Knopwood.
- (c) A reprint of Mr. Hudspeth's "Leaves from the Diary of a Van Diemen's Land Official" (Mr. Boyes), which has already been published by the Royal Society of Tasmania in the Papers and Proceedings for 1946.

The subscribers, with few exceptions, agreed to the change and the volume is now in preparation for printing.

Bequest: The late Miss Mabel Hookey bequeathed to the Society her copy of "The Diary of Rev. Robert Knopwood, Jan. 1805-April 1806".

Gift: Mr. John Hudspeth presented to the Society the historical papers brought together by his father, the late Mr. W. H. Hudspeth.

Papers and Proceedings: The whole question of the rising costs in printing the Society's Papers and Proceedings was reviewed by the Council during this year and a small deputation waited on the Acting Premier and discussed with him the matter of an increase in the Government Grant for printing. As a result of this interview the Government has decided to make available during the next three years an amount up to £550 per annum to meet the cost of printing the journal. The Council wishes to record their grateful thanks for this generous action.

There was also an outstanding amount of £122 3s. 6d. owing on the 1951 volume. This has been met by an additional amount of £75 being made available by the Government and a contribution of £47 3s. 6d. by the Committee of the Tasmanian Biological Survey. This financial assistance is very much appreciated.

The Council also would record its thanks for the help given by the University in providing the sum of £250 in its Estimates towards the publication of papers in the Papers and Proceedings by members of the University Staff.

Royal Society of Tasmania

Statement of Receipts and Payments for Year Ended 31st December, 1953.

		GENERAL FUND			
RECEIPTS				PAYMENTS	
		£	s. d.		
		£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Balance from last account		19	5 0	Salaries	253 19 8
Subscriptions:				Library	123 3 7
252 @ £2 + £12 12s.	£516 12 0			Lecture expenses	28 9 1
146 @ 30/- + £1 1s	220 1 0			Stationery, printing and advertising	41 16 1
24 @ 15/-	18 15 0			Papers and Proceedings (postage, 1951 and 1952)	44 1 4
1 @ £25	25 0 0			Northern Branch, share subs. (1952)	80 7 6
		780	8 0	Reserve Fund (sale publications, 1952)	51 16 3
Sale of publications		62	4 11	Life Membership Fund, Mrs. Dumaresq,	
Rentals		50	7 6	Life Membership fee	25 0 0
Refunds		30	7 7	Light and power	88 13 5
Purchase of books, 1952:				Miscellaneous	12 15 2
A. N. Lewis Memorial	£6 14 0			Insurance	27 7 6
Clive Lord Memorial	12 15 6			Petty cash (in hand, 31.12.53, £1 1s. 3½d.)	93 0 0
		19	9 6	Balance to next Account	105 3 6
Purchase of books, 1953:					
Morton Allport Memorial	£7 14 5				
A. H. Clarke Bequest	2 19 5				
Milligan Bequest	2 16 9				
		13	10 7		
		<u>£975</u>	<u>13 1</u>		
					<u>£975 13 1</u>

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G. E. HALE, Hon. Treasurer.
A. M. HEWER, Hon. Auditor.

L. W. MILLER, Vice-President.
D. MARTIN, Hon. Secretary.

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Royal Society Funds

Statement of Balances for Year Ended 31st December, 1953.

	£	s.	d.
Reserve Account (includes £100 bequest, W. H. Hudspeth)	200	10	4
Life Membership	312	16	7
Clive Lord Memorial Fund (£200)	8	2	11
R. M. Johnston Memorial Fund (£232)	7	6	1
Morton Allport Memorial Fund (£200)	0	6	3
A. H. Clarke Bequest (£100)	0	7	3
Milligan Bequest (£150)	2	4	1
A. N. Lewis Memorial Fund (£250)	32	10	8

NORTHERN BRANCH

Annual Report, 1953

At the Annual Meeting of the Royal Society of Tasmania (Northern Branch) held at the Museum on April 18th, 1953, the following office-bearers were elected under the rules of the Society:—

Chairman: Mr. K. R. von Stieglitz.

Vice-Chairman: Mr. G. C. McKinley.

Council: Dr. C. Craig, Mr. J. R. Heritage, Mr. R. Smith, Mr. G. Willing, Mr. J. Rex.

Hon. Secretary and Treasurer: Miss I. Thomson.

Upon her marriage, Miss Thomson resigned, and Mr. W. F. Ellis was appointed Acting Hon. Secretary/Treasurer.

Meetings: During the year, seven Council meetings were held, and at the seven General Meetings, the following papers were read:—

May 15: "Yellow Gums and Black Rabbits", by Prof. H. N. Barber.

July 1: "The Hentys and the Colonial Office in the 1830's and 1840's, by Mrs. M. Bassatt.

Aug. 24: "The Australian Aborigine and Linguistics", by Dr. A. Capell.

Sept. 14: "Investigations on Scallops", by Mr. M. Olsen.

Oct. 11: Recordings of broadcasts made by the late W. H. Hudspeth on Tasmanian History.

Nov. 20: "A Journey to Ayers Rock", by Dr. W. Bryden.

Feb. 18: "Vandiemonian Settlers in Port Phillip", by Miss M. Kiddle.

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Membership: The present membership stands at:—13 life members, 126 ordinary members, 13 associate members. Thirty-three new members joined through the year, and six resigned or were transferred to the general body of the Society.

Library: Approximately five books have been added to the Library.

Donations: The following donations were made to this Branch:—

Manuscript of lecture on early Tasmania, by Dr. Kilgour, presented by Mr. H. W. A. Kilgour, Cheltenham, England.

Notes on the history of Launceston prepared and presented by Mr. W. Gellie.

Sesquicentenary Celebrations: To commemorate this occasion, the Northern Branch will shortly be issuing a specially prepared edition of T. J. Lempriere's "Penal Settlements in Van Diemen's Land". This work has been transcribed from the original manuscript held at the Mitchell Library by kind permission of the Trustees.

The Northern Branch have also combined with several other organisations in initiating other commemorative projects. A series of lectures on Tasmanian history are to be presented by the Adult Education Board under the auspices of the Society, beginning in May, but unfortunately other projects such as the memorial to William Collins and the Reserve at Yorktown have not yet been successfully concluded.

It is hoped that some permanent record of this anniversary will be prepared before the end of the centenary year next November.

Abstract of Proceedings

3rd March, 1953

Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting was held in the Society's Room, Tasmanian Museum. Vice-President, J. W. C. Wyett, presided.

The following Office-bearers were elected for 1953:—Mr. S. Angel was elected Vice-President in the place of Mr. J. W. C. Wyett who retired under Rule 12; Honorary Secretary, Mr. D. Martin; Honorary Treasurer, Mr. G. E. Hale; Honorary Auditor, Mr. A. M. Hewer.

The following were elected members of the Council:—Mr. J. W. C. Wyett and Mr. F. C. Wolfhagen were elected for three years in place of Dr. W. L. Crowther and Mr. M. S. R. Sharland, who retired under Rule 21.

The following were elected members of the Society:—Mr. G. H. Hill, Mr. W. E. Senior, Dr. R. J. D. Turnbull.

The Chairman reported the death of Admiral Sir Hugh Binney, who was formerly President of the Society, and Dr. Crowther moved that a message of condolence be sent to Lady Binney from the Society.

Brigadier Dollery delivered an illustrated lecture entitled "The Military Aspect of Tasmanian History with particular reference to Anglesea Barracks", of which the following is an abstract:—

Whenever we delve into the past in an examination of Tasmanian history we should endeavour to create the atmosphere of the period under review. It is only by thus relating events to the laws, customs and general outlook of the times in which they occurred that they can be seen in their true perspective.

This is particularly necessary in a consideration, for instance, of the Convict System as it operated in Tasmania in the early years of the last century.

Colonisation would not have been practicable without the employment of the armed forces of Great Britain. They were called upon to form the administrative backbone of our settlements, in that they were utilised to maintain law and order, provide guards and overseers for the forced labour found from the convict system, protect the community against attack by hostile natives, undertake public works of all natures, and in general to carry out multifarious duties entirely unconnected with and foreign to their normal avocation as professional sailors or soldiers. All these things they somehow managed to do with remarkable success and unexpected ability, always remembering that the standard of education of the man in the ranks in those days was exceedingly low judged by modern standards.

All over Tasmania may be found roads and bridges and buildings constructed under the supervision of officers of Line Regiments with little or no previous experience or training in this type of work.

Finally, many of these men took their discharge in the Colony and took up land or went into business in the growing settlements throughout the Island, founding families whose descendants remain to this day.

ABSTRACTS OF PROCEEDINGS

The first impact of the armed forces of the Crown on the history of Van Diemen's Land is provided by the settlement at Risdon in 1803, when a young Naval officer, Lieut. John Bowen, landed with but eight men of the New South Wales Corps to assist him in controlling the convicts allotted to his force, and in the many problems associated with the founding of a community in a virgin country. This small coterie was later augmented from Sydney, but it should be remembered that their calibre was not particularly high, the New South Wales Corps possessing the unenviable reputation of being probably the worst set of men ever gathered together into one of His Majesty's Regiments.

Next we find the Royal Marines arriving with Lieut. Colonel David Collins in 1804, as his backstop in the new settlement at Sullivan's Cove. This now famous Corps had but recently been raised in 1802.

From that time our Military History falls into three main eras, the British Garrisons 1803-1870, the Local Volunteer Forces 1860-1901, and the Commonwealth Military Forces from 1901 to the present time.

During the 67 years in which the Mother Country provided the garrisons throughout the Island, no less than twenty-one Regiments of the Line served here, many of them amongst the most famous in British history. To these we must add the Royal Marines and the Royal Engineers.

There are many highlights of those early days on which I could dwell if time permitted, some of them fascinating, some most amusing, some distinctly of a disastrous nature.

I quote just a few examples from records. The first which comes to mind is the firing of two cannon at Risdon in 1803 at a party of natives and the resultant unwarranted killing of several of them. This incident was doubtless born of a panic decision, which was the commencement of the hostility between the original inhabitants of this Island and the white settlers which dragged on for many years until ended by the extinction of the former.

In 1806 the news of Trafalgar filtered out to the infant colony, and the victory was duly celebrated by the hoisting of the flag and the firing of guns.

1807 saw Lieut. Laycock, of the N.S.W. Corps, make his epic journey on foot, with four men, from Launceston to Hobart and back, the forward journey taking only seven days.

In 1815 we find the first declaration of Martial Law by Lieut. Governor Thomas Davey, directed against the bushrangers, who had become a menace to life and property. This was to be followed in 1826 by a similar campaign of greater scope, under Governor Arthur's direction.

Then the notorious and humiliating so-called "Black War" of 1830, when 1,000 soldiers of four regiments and 1,500 armed civilians under Arthur's personal leadership, entirely failed to round up the few remaining natives in the Island.

The temporary absence of all troops on this fortuitous task led to the raising of Volunteer Guards to protect the communities in Hobart Town and Launceston. This is the first instance of an armed Militia in the Island's history.

Arthur's scheme for a model convict settlement at Port Arthur, 1830-1878, would not have been practicable but for the employment of soldiers as administrators and guards.

In 1836, Capt. William Turner, of the Royal West Kents, completed the well known stone viaduct bridge at Ross.

1853 brought the long sought cessation of transportation, leading to a considerable reduction in the military strength of the Colony.

And in 1870 the last British Regiment to serve in Tasmania, the Royal Irish, marched to their ship at Princes Wharf with the band playing "The Girl I left Behind Me". The first Regiment to be stationed here was the 73rd, afterwards the famous Black Watch, which was, incidentally, Macquarie's Regiment.

ABSTRACTS OF PROCEEDINGS

Finally, there is the incident involving the officers of the 46th Regiment (1814-1818) who were somewhat autocratic and over-bearing, notably when, having received an invitation to dine with the Governor (Davey), they neglected to tender their acceptance of the courtesy. On the morning of the dinner party the Governor's Private Secretary called to enquire why no answer had been received, and was informed that the Governor was not worth the purchase of a new pair of white gloves. Macquarie wrote the War Office to the effect that a taste of active service might have a salutary effect on these gentlemen, and in due course the regiment was ordered to India.

The first Volunteers were raised in Tasmania in 1860, under an Act passed in 1858, and consisted initially of Artillery and Infantry Companies in the South and North of the Island. Their uniforms were most colourful and most unsuitable, and they received no pay for their services. For some years they had the benefit of instruction and training by the British garrisons, and some of the Regular Officers remained in the Colony to take over this duty. The Volunteers suffered many vicissitudes, and in the 70's were shockingly neglected by the Government, leading to almost complete extinction. The Russian scares of 1878 and 1885 led to a revival in the Volunteer movement, and by the end of the century there was a relatively small but efficient body of men available for transfer to Commonwealth control. Tasmania was at this time first represented in war by a detachment of Mounted Infantry known as Imperial Bushmen, which served with credit in South Africa, gaining two Victoria Crosses.

Batteries, all now abandoned, built to defend Hobart were Mulgrave (Castray Esplanade), Queen's (Domain), Alexandra (Sandy Bay), Bluff (Bellerive) and Fort Nelson (Mt. Nelson).

In 1878 occurred the only instance of armed Militia Forces in Tasmania being called out for the maintenance of law and order. This was on the outbreak of the Chique Riots, when the Local Forces, 300 strong, were mobilised with five rounds of ammunition on each man.

The Headquarters of the Military Forces in Tasmania, Anglesea Barracks, has a unique history, dating back to 1811. It is one of the two oldest existing barracks in Australia, the other being the Lancer Barracks at Parramatta, N.S.W.

During the time of Collins, the troops were quartered very uncomfortably in wattle and daub huts in the town, in an area now roughly bounded by Macquarie, Murray, Collins and Harrington Streets, and known as Marine Square.

When that indefatigable and efficient administrator, Governor Lachlan Macquarie, arrived from Sydney in 1811 to make an inspection of his infant Colony, he was immediately concerned with the sub-standard nature of the military quarters, and set about correcting this with his usual enthusiasm and drive.

On 2nd December that year he rode out in the morning with his A.D.C., Capt. Antill, from Government House, then situated in Franklin Square, and mounting to the top of a small rise about one and a half miles south-west of the settlement he stopped and surveyed the magnificent all round view it afforded. "This", he said, "is the spot for a Barracks". Thus, was Anglesea Barracks first conceived, and the hill was called Barrack Hill from that day.

The garrison at that time was formed by a detachment of the 73rd, Macquarie's own regiment, so his concern for their welfare would be all the more natural.

Macquarie ordered the Inspector of Works to commence the assembling of the necessary materials for constructing a barrack to house 150 men, with officers' quarters and a small hospital, and on his return to Sydney he followed this up with written instructions and specifications and repeated enquiries as to what progress was being made. History is not clear as to the exact dates these buildings were begun, and the first authentic record is found in

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Knopwood's diary for 17th August, 1814, where he describes the laying of the foundation stone of the officers' quarters by the Lieut. Governor, Col. Thomas Davey. This building is still in use, and is known as "K" Block. Incidentally, Knopwood notes that the ceremony was attended by the Masons. These would be members of the "Lodge of Social and Military Virtues", attached to the 46th Regiment, and it was from this lodge that the present Grand Lodge of Tasmania took its rise, representing the dawn of Freemasonry in Tasmania.

On 5th November, 1814, Knopwood records the holding of Divine Service at the Barracks, and on other subsequent occasions, prior to the building of a Church in the township.

It is thought that the Barracks was named by Governor Arthur after Henry William Paget, Marquis of Anglesey, later Earl of Uxbridge, who was a personal friend of Arthur's and Master-General of the Ordnance during the 1820's. "Anglesea" is an alternative spelling for the Island of that name in the United Kingdom.

At the Barracks there is that most interesting feature, the 99th Regiment Monument. It is the only memorial in Australia erected by British troops to the memory of their comrades who fell on active service. The 99th, now the Wiltshires, were serving in New South Wales when the Maori War broke out in 1845. They sent a contingent to New Zealand, which served with distinction. The 99th was moved later to Tasmania, where they served from 1848 to 1856, and in the year 1850 this freestone pillar was set up by subscriptions from members of the Regiment. Its centenary was celebrated in 1950, and the Wiltshire Regiment sent out a plaque which is affixed to the base of the column.

14th April, 1953

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

The following were elected members of the Society:—Dr. A. M. Thynne, Mr. W. Ellis Cox, Mr. K. W. Dillon, Brigadier G. E. Hurley, Mr. H. H. McFie, Mr. L. E. Murray, Mr. I. Rowley, Mr. G. Hale, Mrs. E. Cleaver, Mr. F. Ikin, Mr. P. Mercer, Mr. A. Smith, Mr. W. A. Wright, Mrs. W. A. Wright.

Mr. K. D. Nicholls delivered an illustrated lecture entitled "Soil Formation on Dolerite", of which the following is an abstract:—

The first part of the address dealt in a general way with the fundamental principles of pedology and introduced the concepts involved in the second part. If one of the factors of soil formation is constant over a range of soils, attention can be more easily focussed upon the remaining factors to study their effects. In Tasmania this can be done by considering the range of soils formed on one parent material, dolerite, which is widespread in a number of different environments. Five groups of soils, their distribution over the State, and the environments in which they are found were discussed and the profiles of typical soils were illustrated with colour photographs. These groups, arranged in order of increasing severity of leaching are the black earths, brown earths, grey-brown podzolics, red loams, and high moor peats. In alpine areas deep soils formed on glacial and periglacial deposits of material derived from dolerite are widespread, and may or may not have a surface horizon of peat. The grey-brown podzolic soils and the alpine soils are the most extensive.

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12th May, 1953

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

The following were elected members of the Society:—Mr. B. G. Dent, Mr. J. W. Lyne, Dr. A. E. Stuart, Mrs. N. P. K. Lyne.

Professor K. G. Brill delivered an illustrated lecture entitled "Cliff Dwellers of South Western United States" of which the following is an abstract:—

The Cliff Dwellers were a group of North American Indians which lived in and around Mesa Verde in what is now south western Colorado. They attained the highest cultural development of any pre-Columbian Indian tribe in the present area of the United States.

A rather remarkable cultural evolution took place over a period of about 500 years. These Indians first made their homes in rock shelters in the sandstone cliffs of Mesa Verde. Later they moved to the top of the Mesa where they built homes of timbers and adobe (sun-dried mud). They cultivated maize, squash and yams. At a still later date, presumably as a measure of defence, the tribe moved back to the rock shelters. Here they built rather elaborate walls and buildings of stone and timbers plastered with adobe. Some of the buildings are four storeys high. The subterranean ceremonial chamber (kiva) is characteristic of the ruins.

The tribe lived in these cliff dwellings for about 40 years, but abandoned them about 1299 A.D. Mesa Verde was abandoned by the Indians because a 27-year drought made the area unsuitable for the cultivation of crops. It was never reoccupied by Indians.

The movements of the tribe can be dated rather accurately by means of tree-ring chronology.

This paper is not the product of the writer's field research.

9th June, 1953

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

The following were elected members of the Society:—Mr. P. Scott, Miss M. B. Record, Miss G. T. Thirkell, Mr. C. F. M. Green, Mr. B. H. Travers.

Mr. A. M. Olsen delivered an illustrated lecture entitled "Some Facts about Scallops from Diving Investigations", of which the following is an abstract:—

Scallops are not peculiar to Tasmania for they support extensive fisheries in U.S.A., Canada, Japan, British Isles and France. Tasmania's total catch of scallops (160 tons in 1952) is greater than that for the British Isles and France, but it is only 1/50 of that of the annual American production of 20 million lbs. weight. In the U.S.A. only the muscle is sold and the roe which represents approximately 25 per cent of the edible portion of the scallop is discarded.

There are three species of scallops in the Tasmanian catch, the predominant species being *Notovola meridionalis*, the commercial scallop, the other two species being the Queen, *Equichlamys bifrons* and the Doughboy scallop, *Mimachlamys asperimus*. The various overseas scallop fisheries operate on different species.

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In Tasmania it has been found that the scallops require at least five years to reach the minimum legal size although they attain sexual maturity in their third year. Contrary to general opinion scallops rest on their curved shell. When making their peculiar swimming movement water is ejected forcibly from the slits between the two valves near the hinge and they are thus propelled forward. Their jet propelled swimming action has the appearance of a series of biting movements through the water. At each bite they move forward about the equivalent of their own length. They have been observed to travel a maximum distance of 15 feet and to rise as high as 6 feet off the bottom.

The scallops are randomly distributed in any one area though the concentration per square yard may fluctuate. The maximum concentration observed was 30-36/sq.yd. among juveniles whilst 6-8 adults/sq.yd. was considered to provide very profitable fishing. Two scallops to the square yard is the lowest concentration which can be worked economically provided a high return of meat from each scallop may be obtained.

The diving methods and techniques used for assessing the population of scallops were described and an actuality sound recording of the diver's reports made by the Australian Broadcasting Commission was played to the meeting.

7th July, 1953

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

The following members were elected:—Mr. W. H. Furness, Mr. F. J. W. Swann.

The Chairman reported that representatives of the Council had interviewed the Acting Premier concerning the grant for the printing of the Papers and Proceedings. As a result the Government had agreed to contribute a sum of up to £550 for the next three years. Appreciation was expressed of the Government's generous action.

Mr. C. Bisdee delivered an illustrated lecture entitled "Some Recent Astronomical Developments" of which the following is an abstract:—

One of the most important discoveries made in recent years was a satisfactory explanation of how our sun and stars are able to give out such tremendous amounts of energy. We now know that this energy is produced from thermonuclear reactions based on a cycle called the Carbon-Nitrogen cycle. Briefly the cycle consists in the transformation of four protons into one alpha particle plus kinetic and radiation energy. The Carbon and Nitrogen atoms are recovered in their original form and are used as catalysts only. The mass lost in the transformation is given out in energy in accordance with Einstein's fundamental expression Energy, equals Mass multiplied by the velocity of Light squared.

Another very important discovery was radio waves coming in from interstellar space from the annihilation of atoms in stars and nebulae. More recently radio waves have been picked up from the wave energy given out by the annihilation of the hydrogen floating around in interstellar space. Large radio telescopes are now built to pick up the direction and intensities of these radiations coming in on very short wave lengths. Australia is one of the world's leaders in this field.

The development of large reflecting telescopes up to 200 inches diameter and the Schmidt telescope for very fast photographic work on faint stars and nebulae were also discussed, and were followed by two films, one on the 200-inch telescopes on Mt. Palomar, U.S.A., and the other on Radiophysics from the C.S.I.R.O. in Sydney.

ABSTRACTS OF PROCEEDINGS

4th August, 1953

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

The following were elected members of the Society:—Capt. R. J. Downie, Mr. H. A. Bartlett, Miss E. D. Dumaresq, Mr. I. Headlam, Mrs. M. Northey, Mr. H. McLeod Ferguson, Mr. K. T. Headlam, Rev. W. E. Northey.

Mr. E. R. Pretyman delivered a lecture entitled "Pirates of Recherche Bay". (See p. 119.)

1st September, 1953

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

The following were elected members of the Society:—Mrs. M. A. Wilson, Mr. P. H. Wilson, Mrs. P. M. Archer, Mrs. M. Gatenby, Mr. F. W. Needham, Mr. L. E. Bath, Mr. R. M. Green, Mr. R. C. Kershaw, Mr. D. F. Wicks.

The following exhibits were shown:—

- (a) Diary of Rev. Robert Knopwood, Jan. 1805—April 1806; bequeathed to the Society by Miss Mabel Hookey.
- (b) Silver Salver, formerly the property of Hon. G. T. Gregson; bequeathed to the Tasmanian Museum by Miss M. Hookey.

Mr. D. H. Borchardt delivered a lecture entitled "Some Aspects of Early Printing and the Advancement of Learning", of which the following is an abstract:—

A short survey of the earliest known types of printing and their spread from China to Europe. The relation between manuscript and print from 1450 to 1500 as evidenced by printer's notes in the Mainz Psalter and in the Catholicon. The material and didactic advantages of print and the attitude of the contemporaries of printing to the new invention. The economic position of authors and printers before 1500. Data concerning scientific incunabula: 3,000 of these, or one book in every twelve published before 1500. List of twelve best sellers and of the twelve most popular authors with brief evaluation of their relative means from the scientific point of view. Brief survey of copyright and privileges and the effects of religious persecution.

5th October, 1953

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

The following was elected a member of the Society:—Mr. B. C. Clark.

The following exhibits were shown:—"The Story of Launceston and surrounding Districts in Tasmania", gift from Alderman W. Gellie, Launceston.

ABSTRACTS OF PROCEEDINGS

Diary of James Belbin, 1808-1810: Gift from Mr. L. S. Rogers.

Mr. P. Scott delivered an illustrated lecture entitled "Some Aspects of Apartheid in Southern Africa", of which the following is an abstract:—

Among the important independent nations South Africa stands alone in the racial composition of her population. At the 1951 census, only 2,643,187 out of a total population of 12,646,375 belonged to the dominant European group, whereas no less than 8,535,341 were returned as Africans, 1,102,323 as Cape Coloureds, and 365,524 as Asiatics. Although each group exhibits considerable ethnic admixture and is difficult to define ethnologically, it is symptomatic that Europeans, however defined, are outnumbered by about four to one. In an attempt to solve a domestic problem for which there is no precedent elsewhere, the South African Nationalist Government has adopted a policy of apartheid, or complete segregation, territorial, social, and political, of white from non-white. Such a policy has found favour among many white South Africans because of the progressive deterioration in the numerical relationship of Europeans to non-Europeans during the past two decades—a deterioration which has been especially marked in urban areas as a result of increasing industrialization and the consequent influx of non-Europeans from rural areas.

However, the principle of racial segregation, if not the present apartheid policy, has long held the support of most white South Africans, English-speaking and Afrikaans-speaking alike. For more than half a century it has found expression in rural areas in the pattern of native reserves and in urban areas in the growth of housing estates and municipal townships designed exclusively for Europeans, or Coloureds, or Africans. The Indian community, virtually synonymous with the group designated "Asiatic" in the census, is the one element in the multi-racial population of South Africa which has not congregated to form distinct ethnic quarters in most towns and cities, largely because of its role as small-scale traders and dealers.

Under the Group Areas Act of 1950, aimed primarily at regulating the racial pattern in urban areas, each ethnic group may reside or own property only within specified districts. Although the enforcement of this Act will cause much personal hardship, owing to the present intermingling of white and non-white in areas marginal to compact ethnic quarters, it merely accelerates the trend towards residential segregation that has been increasingly evident so far this century. But far more important in the long run may be the check it provides to the spread not of non-Europeans into European districts but of non-European slums outwards from the residential zones surrounding the centres of South African cities. For the urban distribution of white and non-white closely resembles that of wealthy and poor in Western cities, but it is accompanied by far greater contrasts in the density and growth of population and hence in standards of living and health. A policy of crystallizing ethnic areas may thus help to improve race relations by controlling, if not reducing, the extent of slum and vice in South African cities; on the other hand, it may add to the mounting racial tensions by accentuating the already marked contrasts in the residential conditions of white and non-white.

3rd November, 1953

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

The following were elected members of the Society:—Dr. W. Bryden, Mr. J. Palmer, Miss R. E. Royle, Miss J. C. Williams.

ABSTRACTS OF PROCEEDINGS

Dr. W. Bryden delivered an illustrated lecture entitled "A Trip to Ayers Rock, Central Australia", of which the following is an abstract:—

The purpose of a trip to Ayers Rock in Central Australia was outlined. The party included geologists, botanists, zoologists, and ethnologists and the object was to collect specimens from the area and to explore the district. Drawings in many of the caves were copied and photographed.

The talk which was of a general rather than of a scientific nature was accompanied by a colour film.

1st December, 1953

A Special meeting was held in the Society's Room. The President, His Excellency the Governor (Sir Ronald Cross), presided.

The following was elected a member of the Society:—Mr. A. W. G. Powell.

Advantage was taken of the occasion to make a presentation to Dr. J. Pearson, who had filled the position of Hon. Secretary of the Society for 19 years. Sir Ronald Cross outlined Dr. Pearson's association with the Royal Society and the Museum and then called on Dr. W. L. Crowther and Mr. S. Angel (representing the Royal Society and The Friends of the Museum respectively) to speak. Sir Ronald Cross then presented Dr. Pearson with an inscribed travelling clock and a cheque for £111 as tokens of gratitude and esteem for his outstanding services.

Sir Ronald Cross mentioned that the present meeting was in the nature of a special meeting designed as the Royal Society's part in the Sesquicentenary Celebrations of the State. Accordingly it had been resolved to ask the State Archivist, Mr. R. Sharman, to address the meeting, Mr. Sharman gave an interesting address on "Immigration One Hundred Years Ago", of which the following is an abstract:—

This paper attempted to analyse the schemes by which migrants were assisted in settling in Van Diemen's Land in the period of Lieutenant-Governor Sir William Denison (Jan., 1847-Jan., 1855). The occupations, literacy, habits and expectations of those coming here as settlers in those years were examined, and the routine followed on board ship was studied by means of a description of the diet and other conditions of travel on board the *Panama*, which arrived here in April, 1853, and for whose passage some interesting particulars were available in official correspondence in the State Archives.

Transportation was, up to 1853, the prime means of "inducing" new people to take up permanent or long-term residence in the Colony, and was especially significant in helping to establish colonial families in view of the practice, revived in 1847, of bringing out the wives and children of well-behaved transportees. This practice did little to adjust the disproportion of the sexes, however, and the Tasmanian Female Immigration Association was formed early in the period to encourage the introduction of unmarried young women, who were mostly drawn from the workhouses of England and Ireland.

ABSTRACTS OF PROCEEDINGS

The discovery of gold in California in 1849 and on the Mainland two years later resulted in a big stimulus to the production of foodstuffs and the breeding of livestock for export, bringing about conditions which temporarily called for the employment of more of the type of labour so easily gained by an immigration policy. However, the drift of breadwinners to the Mainland states in the last three years of the period reached such alarming proportions that Denison was prepared to go to any lengths to secure migrants.

The *Australasia*, the *Beulah* and the *Calcutta* arrived late in 1851, and these were the first of many ships which brought out migrants with their wives and families to found homesteads and develop farms in rural Tasmania. In many cases these people were proved to possess those qualities of enduring courage and initiative which admirably equipped them for the task of pioneering rural areas in the North West, North East and South East of Tasmania in the later years of the Nineteenth Century.