

# ANNUAL REPORT

1926.

## THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA

---

**Patron:**

HIS MAJESTY THE KING.

**President:**

HIS EXCELLENCY SIR JAMES O'GRADY, K.C.M.G.

**Vice-Presidents:**

L. RODWAY, C.M.G.

A. H. CLARKE, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

**Council:**

(Elected March, 1926)

L. RODWAY, C.M.G. (Chairman)

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A. N. LEWIS, M.C., LL.M.

W. E. L. CROWTHER, D.S.O., M.B.

CLIVE LORD, F.L.S.

W. H. CUMMINS, A.I.A.C.

E. E. UNWIN, M.Sc.

**Standing Committee:**

L. RODWAY, W. H. CLEMES, L. F. GIBLIN, C. LORD.

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W. E. L. CROWTHER, D.S.O., M.B.

**Editor:**

CLIVE LORD, F.L.S.

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**Secretary and Librarian:**

CLIVE LORD, F.L.S.

## LIST OF MEMBERS

### Honorary Members:

- David, Sir T. W. Edgeworth, K.B.E., C.M.G., B.A., F.R.S., F.G.S., Emeritus Professor of Geology and Physical Geography in the University of Sydney. "Coringah," Sherbrooke Road, Hornsby, N.S.W.
- Mawson, Sir Douglas, D.Sc., B.E., F.R.S. Professor of Geology and Mineralogy, the University of Adelaide, South Australia.
- Spencer, Sir William Baldwin, K.C.M.G., M.A., D.Sc., Litt.D., F.R.S. Melbourne.
- Wood-Jones, Professor F., M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., F.R.S. Professor of Anatomy, The University, Adelaide.

### Corresponding Members:

- | Year of Election. |   |
|-------------------|---|
| 1901              | Benham, W. B., M.A., D.Sc., F.R.S., F.Z.S. Professor of Biology, University of Otago, Dunedin, N.Z. |
| 1892              | Bragg, Sir W. H., M.A., F.R.S. Director of the Royal Institution, Albemarle Street, London.         |
| 1901              | Chapman, Professor R. W., M.A., B.C.E. The University, Adelaide.                                    |
| 1875              | Liversidge, Professor A. "Fieldhead," Coombe Warren, Kingston, Surrey, England.                     |
| 1923              | Pulleine, R., M.B. 163 North Terrace, Adelaide.   |
| 1902              | Smith, R. G., D.Sc. Linnean Hall, Linnean Society of N.S.W., 16 College Street, Sydney.             |
| 1892              | Thomson, Hon. G. M., M.L.C., F.L.S. 99 Eglinton Road, Dunedin, N.Z.                                 |
| 1901              | Wall, A., Professor, M.A. Canterbury College, Christchurch, N.Z.                                    |

### Life Members:

- 1918 Avery, J. 52 Southerland Road, Annadale, Melbourne.
- 1908 Baker, H. D. American Consular Service, Washington.

Year of Election.

- 1890 Foster, Lieutenant-Colonel Henry. "Merton Vale," Campbell Town.
- 1905 Grant, C. W. "High Peak," Huon Road.
- 1921 Harvey, D. H. "Manresa," Lower Sandy Bay.
- 1894 Mitchell, J. G. Parliament Street, Sandy Bay.
- 1896 Sprott, G., M.D. Town Hall, Hobart.

### Members:

- 1921 Anderson, G. M., M.D., C.M. Clare Street, New Town.
- 1923 Agnew, Miss K. Augusta Road, New Town.
- 1925 Alexander, Miss H. Brown's River.
- 1921 Allen, D. V., B.Sc. Launceston Technical School, Launceston.
- 1924 Allen, F. A. 13 Franklin Street, West Hobart.
- 1925 Ashbolt, Sir Alfred. "Lenna," Battery Point.
- 1926 Atkins, Dr. C. N. Brown's River.
- 1921 Baker, H. S., LL.B. Messrs. Griffiths, Crisp, and Baker, Collins Street, Hobart.
- 1887 Barclay, D. 143 Hampden Road, Hobart.
- 1921 Barr, J. S., M.D. (Glasgow). Lower Sandy Bay.
- 1926 Barrett, Rev. W. R. Cressy, Tasmania.
- 1890 Beattie, J. W. 28 Jordan Hill Road.
- 1918 Bellamy, H., J.P., M.Am.Soc. C.E., M.I.Mech.E., F.R.San. I. Government Hydraulic Engineer, Adelaide.
- 1924 Bennett, Dr. H. W., L.D.S., D.D.S. Brisbane Street, Launceston.
- 1903 Bennett, W. H. Ashby, Ross.
- 1921 Bertouch, V. von. Wellington Square Practising School, Launceston.
- 1921 Bethune, Rev. J. W. Church Grammar School, Launceston.
- 1922 Biss, F. L. U.S.S. Co., Hobart.
- 1909 Blackman, A. E. Franklin.
- 1920 Blaikie, T. W. Practising School, Elizabeth Street, Hobart.
- 1928 Bowling, J. "Barrington," Tower Road, New Town.
- 1924 Booth, N. P. Messrs. Cadbury-Fry-Pascall Ltd, Claremont.
- 1925 Bowden, F. P. Jordan Hill Road.
- 1925 Bowerman, Captain. Marine Board, Hobart.
- 1923 Breaden, J. C. 12 Waverley Avenue, New Town.
- 1923 Brett, R. G. 53a Hill Street, Hobart.

- Year of Election.
- 1917 Brettingham-Moore, E., M.B., Ch.M. Macquarie Street, Hobart.
- 1925 Brigden, Professor J. B., B.A. Tasmanian University, Hobart.
- 1911 Brooks, G. V. Director of Education, Hobart.
- 1922 Brownell, C. C. 117 Hampden Road, Battery Point.
- 1907 Brownell, F. L. "Berwyn," Mercer Street, New Town.
- 1924 Budge, E. A., B.Sc. 302 Argyle Street, Hobart.
- 1918 Burbury, Frederick. "Holly Park," Parattah.
- 1919 Burbury, Charles. "Brookside," Moonah.
- 1925 Butler, A. L. Lower Sandy Bay.
- 1923 Butler, Mrs. G. H. Augusta Road, New Town.
- 1909 Butler, W. F. D., B.A., M.Sc., LL.B. Bishop Street, New Town.
- 1924 Calver, C. W. 112 Brisbane Street, Launceston.
- 1920 Cane, F. B. 90 High Street, Sandy Bay.
- 1913 Chepmell, C. H. D. Clerk of the Legislative Council, Hobart.
- 1920 Clark, W. I., M.B. Macquarie Street, Hobart.
- 1896 Clarke, A. H., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. Domain Cottage, The Domain, Hobart.
- 1918 Clarke, T. W. H. "Quorn Hall," Campbell Town.
- 1910 Clemes, W. H., B.A., B.Sc. Clemes College, Hobart.
- 1922 Collier, J. D. A. The Librarian, Tasmanian Public Library, Hobart.
- 1925 Coogan, W. Lord Street, Sandy Bay, Hobart.
- 1924 Crabtree, R. W. The University, Hobart.
- 1924 Crisp, Cecil C. Lower Sandy Bay.
- 1911 Crowther, W. L., D.S.O., M.B. Macquarie Street, Hobart.
- 1917 Cullen, Rev. John. Macquarie Street, Hobart.
- 1918 Cummins, W. H., A.I.A.C. Manager, *The Mercury* Office, Hobart.
- 1925 Cunningham, Mrs. G. H. Augusta Road, New Town.
- 1925 Cunningham, G. H. 22 Augusta Road, New Town.
- 1922 Davidson, R. Temple Chambers, Macquarie Street, Hobart.
- 1924 Davies, G. B. 111 Patrick Street, Hobart.
- 1919 Davies, H. W. "Abermere," Mount Stuart.
- 1923 Davis, Alfred. Lord Street, Sandy Bay.
- 1923 Davis, Charles. Red Chapel Road, Lower Sandy Bay.
- 1908 Dechaineux, L. Technical College, Hobart.
- 1921 Dryden, M. S. 13 Hillside Crescent, Launceston.
- 1921 Eberhard, E. C. Charles Street, Launceston.

- Year of Election.
- 1923 Edwards, Hon. F. B., M.L.C. Ulverstone.
- 1919 Elliott, E. A., M.B., Ch.M. Main Road, New Town.
- 1918 Ellis, F., M.A., B.E. Education Department, Hobart.
- 1921 Emmett, E. T. Railway Department, Hobart.
- 1921 Erwin, H. D. Hutchins School, Hobart.
- 1918 Evans, L. Secretary Agricultural Department, Hobart.
- 1921 Eyre, H. Manual Training School, Launceston.
- 1902 Finlay, W. A. 11 Secheron Road, Hobart.
- 1918 Fletcher, C. E. Education Department, Hobart.
- 1921 Forward, J. R. Mechanics' Institute, Launceston.
- 1921 Fox, Miss. Ladies' College, Launceston.
- 1918 Gatenby, R. L. Campbell Town.
- 1922 Giblin, A. V. King Street, Sandy Bay.
- 1925 Giblin, Miss Ella. 326 Macquarie Street, Hobart.
- 1908 Giblin, Major L. F., D.S.O., B.A. Davey Street, Hobart.
- 1926 Giblin, R. W. 77 Harrington Gardens, London, S.W. 7.
- 1924 Giblin, W. W., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. Macquarie Street, Hobart.
- 1923 Gorringer, J. A. Kempton, Tasmania.
- 1923 Gould, H. T. Liverpool Street, Hobart.
- 1924 Gray, H. 93 Macquarie Street, Hobart.
- 1923 Green, Dr. A. W. 30 Parliament Street, Sandy Bay.
- 1921 Hall, E. L. 38 Lyttleton Street, Launceston.
- 1922 Halligan, G. H., F.G.S. "Alameda," Challis Avenue, Turramurra, N.S.W.
- 1918 Harrap, Lieutenant-Colonel G. Launceston.
- 1924 Hawker, Mrs. J. F. 204 Davey Street, Hobart.
- 1919 Hay, Rt. Rev. R. S., D.D. Bishop of Tasmania, Bishops court, Hobart.
- 1924 Henry, Dr. C. C., M.B., F.R.C.S. St. John Street, Launceston.
- 1924 Heritage, F. W. Collins Street, Hobart.
- 1921 Heritage, J. E. Frederick Street, Launceston.
- 1921 Heyward, F. J., F.R.V.I.A. 43 Lyttleton Street, Launceston.
- 1915 Hickman, V. V., B.Sc. Mulgrave Crescent, Launceston.
- 1914 Hitchcock, W. E. Moina, Tasmania.
- 1921 Hogg, W. Public Buildings, Launceston.
- 1918 Hogg, G. H., M.D., C.M. 37 Brisbane Street, Launceston.
- 1922 Hood, F. W. Customs House, Hobart.

- Year of Election.
- 1921 Horne, G., V.D., M.D., M.S., Ch.B. Lister House, Collins Street, Melbourne.
- 1923 Hudspeth, W. H. "The Nook," Lower Sandy Bay.
- 1923 Hungerford, Mrs. "Red House," Fern Tree.
- 1923 Hungerford, Miss. "Red House," Fern Tree.
- 1909 Hutchison, H. R. 1 Barrack Street, Hobart.
- 1922 Huxley, G. H., M.A. Kent Avenue, West Hobart.
- 1913 Ife, G. W. R., LL.B. Mortimer Avenue, New Town.
- 1925 Irby, L. G. Conservator of Forests, Forestry Department, Hobart.
- 1898 Ireland, E. W. J., M.B., C.M. Launceston General Hospital, Launceston.
- 1919 Jackson, George A. 79 Collins Street, Hobart.
- 1906 Johnson, J. A., M.A. Training College, Hobart.
- 1922 Johnson, W. R. Clemes College, Hobart.
- 1922 Johnston, J. R. Murray Street, Hobart.
- 1921 Judd, W., M.A. College Street, Launceston.
- 1911 Keene, E. H. D., M.A. Burnie.
- 1922 Kemp, Andrew. Stoke Street, New Town.
- 1922 Kennedy, J. 96 Montpelier Road, Hobart.
- 1924 Kennedy, Mrs. J. 96 Montpelier Road, Hobart.
- 1910 Kermode, R. C. Mona Vale, Ross, Tasmania.
- 1918 Knight, C. E. L., B.Sc. Claremont.
- 1919 Knight, H. W. National Mutual Buildings, Hobart.
- 1913 Knight, J. C. E. Claremont.
- 1924 Legge, R. W. Cullenswood, Tasmania.
- 1919 Lewis, A. N., M.C., LL.M. "Werndee," Augusta road, New Town.
- 1887 Lewis, Sir N. E., K.C.M.G., M.A., B.C.L., LL.B. Augusta Road, New Town.
- 1912 Lindon, L. H. "The Lodge," Park Street, Hobart.
- 1926 Lindon, Mrs. "The Lodge," Park Street, Hobart.
- 1900 Lines, D. H. E., M.B., Ch.B. Archer Street, New Town.
- 1921 Listner, W. P., M.A., LL.B. Augusta Road, New Town.
- 1912 Lord, Clive E., F.L.S., Director of the Tasmanian Museum. "Cliveden," Sandy Bay.
- 1921 Lord, Raymond. "Handroyd," 6 Franklin Street, Hobart.
- 1924 Lord, Ronald. Derwentwater Avenue, Sandy Bay.
- 1922 Low, H. M. "The Gables," Pottery Road, New Town.
- 1893 McAulay, Professor A., M.A. The University, Hobart.
- 1923 McAulay, A. L., Ph.D. The University, Hobart.
- 1921 McClinton, Dr. R. 70 St. John Street, Launceston.

- Year of Election.
- 1922 Macleod, Mrs. L. H. High Street, Sandy Bay.
- 1919 Mackay, A. D. 83 Patterson Street, Launceston.
- 1926 Mackenzie, D. C. Manager, Catamaran Coal Mine, Catamaran, Tasmania.
- 1918 Mansell, A. E. Arthur Street, West Hobart.
- 1924 Marsh, James. "Westella," Elizabeth Street, Hobart.
- 1918 Martin, Brigadier-General W. Launceston.
- 1921 Masters, A. H. A.M.P. Chambers, Launceston.
- 1926 Meredith, David. Electrolytic Zinc Co., Risdon.
- 1921 Meston, A. L. 115 Canning Street, Launceston.
- 1909 Millen, Senator J. Roxburgh, Newstead.
- 1907 Miller, L. S., M.B., Ch.B. 156 Macquarie Street, Hobart.
- 1921 Miller, R. M. State High School, Launceston.
- 1911 Montgomery, R. B. "Astor," Macquarie Street, Hobart.
- 1918 Murdoch, M.L.C., Honourable Thomas. 55 Montpelier Road, Hobart.
- 1926 Murray, L. C. 124 Warwick Street, Hobart.
- 1921 Muschamp, Rev. E. Holy Trinity Rectory, Launceston.
- 1925 Nettlefold, R. Macquarie Street, Hobart.
- 1924 Newall, A. P. Charles Street, Moonah.
- 1882 Nicholas, G. C. "Cawood," Ouse.
- 1918 Nicholls, Sir Herbert, Chief Justice of Tasmania. Pillinger Street, Sandy Bay.
- 1910 Nicholls, H. M. Department of Agriculture, Hobart.
- 1921 Nye, P. B., M.Sc., B.M.E. Geological Survey Office, Hobart.
- 1917 Oldham, N. New Town.
- 1921 Oldham, W. C. 39 George Street, Launceston.
- 1924 Oliver, H. Lindsifarne.
- 1922 Overell, Miss Lilian. Holebrook Place, Hobart.
- 1921 Padman, R. S. 56 St. John Street, Launceston.
- 1921 Patten, W. H. 59 Cameron Street, Launceston.
- 1923 Parker, Dr. G. M. Bellerive.
- 1922 Parker, H. T. "Montana," Bellerive.
- 1925 Pearse, D. C. "Garstang," Fisher's Avenue, Lower Sandy Bay.
- 1923 Pedder, A. Stoke Street, New Town.
- 1922 Perrin, Miss K. C/o Mrs. Harner, 12 York Street, Launceston.
- 1902 Piesse, E. L. "Merridale," Sackville Street, Kew, Melbourne.
- 1910 Pillinger, J. 4 Fitzroy Crescent, Hobart.
- 1926 Pitman, Professor E. J. G. Tasmanian University, Hobart.

- Year of Election.
- 1918 Pitt, F. C. K. "Glen Dhu," The Ouse.
- 1925 Pratt, A. W. Courtney. "Athon," Mount Stuart Road, Hobart.
- 1925 Propsting, G. L. Earl Street, Sandy Bay.
- 1923 Purcell, G. A. Clemes College, Hobart.
- 1921 Reid, A. McIntosh. Geological Survey Office, Hobart.
- 1922 Reid, A. R. Curator, Beaumaris Zoo, Domain, Hobart.
- 1925 Reid, Miss M. L. The University, Hobart.
- 1921 Reid, W. D. Public Buildings, Launceston.
- 1921 Reynolds, John. Knocklofty Terrace, Hobart.
- 1926 Rivers, Miss. The Deanery, Hobart.
- 1926 Rivers, Mrs. Godfrey. Holebrook Place, Hobart.
- 1925 Robinson, F. G. 42 Regent Street, Sandy Bay.
- 1926 Robson, Mrs. "Elsinore," The Avenue, Elphin Road, Launceston.
- 1884 Rodway, L., C.M.G. 77 Federal Street, Hobart.
- 1923 Rogers, G. H. B. 204 Davey Street, Hobart.
- 1921 Rolph, W. R. *Examiner and Courier* Office, Launceston.
- 1913 Ross, Hector. Cambridge, Tasmania.
- 1922 Sargison, H. Elizabeth-street, Hobart.
- 1921 Savigny, J. A.M.P. Chambers, Launceston.
- 1921 Scott, H. H. Curator, Victoria Museum, Launceston.
- 1896 Scott, R. G., M.B., Ch.M. 172 Macquarie Street, Hobart.
- 1921 Sharland, M. S. R. *The Mercury* Office, Hobart.
- 1921 Shields, M.L.C., Honourable Tasman. 13 Patterson Street, Launceston.
- 1926 Shiels, Dr. 118 Main Road, Moonah.
- 1925 Shoobridge, K. Macquarie Plains, Tasmania.
- 1921 Shoobridge, Honourable L. M. "Sunnyside," New Town.
- 1925 Shoobridge, Rupert. "Fenton Forest," Glenora.
- 1923 Shoobridge, S. E. C/o Messrs. H. Jones and Co, Hobart.
- 1923 Simson, Mrs. L. 3 St. George's Square, Launceston.
- 1925 Smith, Colonel R. P. A.M.P. Society, Hobart.
- 1921 Smithies, F. 34 Patterson Street, Launceston.
- 1925 Stackhouse, C. K. R. 55 Patterson Street, Launceston.

- Year of Election.
- 1924 Stephens, Crofton. Messrs. Clerk, Walker, Stops, and Stephens, Collins Street, Hobart.
- 1919 Stevenson, Miss F. "Leith House," New Town.
- 1920 Swindells, A. W. 2 Patrick Street, Hobart.
- 1918 Taylor, W. E. Elboden Street, Hobart.
- 1920 Taylour, W. H. Equitable Buildings, Collins Street, Melbourne.
- 1923 Thomas, J. F. Room 8, Wilga Chambers, 158 Phillip Street, Sydney.
- 1922 Thomas, Lieutenant-Colonel L. R., D.S.O. Registrar of the Tasmanian University, Hobart.
- 1921 Thomas, P. H. Agricultural Department, Hobart.
- 1922 Thompson, E. H. Lower Sandy Bay.
- 1918 Thorold, C. C. Hutchins School, Hobart.
- 1926 Turner, A. Jefferis, M.D., F.E.S. Wickham Terrace, Brisbane, Queensland.
- 1923 Unwin, E. E., M.Sc. Pendle Hill, Mortimer Avenue, New Town.
- 1925 Urquhart, M. L. Ashfield Street, Sandy Bay.
- 1918 Walch, P. B. C. King Street, Sandy Bay.
- 1925 Walker, Norman. The Hutchins School, Hobart.
- 1926 Ward, F. E. Director of Agriculture, Hobart.
- 1913 Wardman, John. Superintendent Botanical Gardens, Hobart.
- 1918 Waterhouse, G. W. Messrs. Ritchie and Parker, Alfred Green and Co., Launceston.
- 1922 Waterworth, E. N. Poet's Road, West Hobart.
- 1922 Watson, D. W. "Undine," Glenorchy.
- 1926 Waugh, Eric C., LL.B. High Street, Sandy Bay.
- 1922 Wayne, Miss A. L. Lower Sandy Bay.
- 1918 Weber, A. F. Lands Department.
- 1923 Webster, Hugh C. "Greystanes," Lower Sandy Bay.
- 1923 Wherrett, Miss A. Florence Street, Moonah.
- 1926 Whittle, B. N. Augusta Road, New Town.
- 1922 Winch, A. A. "Stornoway," Huon Road, Hobart.
- 1925 Winch, M. C/o Brownell Bros., Hobart.
- 1901 Wise, H. J. Lambert Avenue, Sandy Bay.
- 1924 Young, F. M., B.A. Montagu Street, New Town.

## ANNUAL REPORT

1926.

### *The Council and Officers.*

The Annual Meeting was held at the Society's Rooms, The Tasmanian Museum, Hobart, on the 8th March, 1926.

The following were elected members of the Council for 1926:—Messrs. W. H. Clemes, Dr. W. L. Crowther, W. H. Cummins, Major L. F. Giblin, Rt. Rev. Dr. R. S. Hay, Messrs. J. A. Johnson, A. N. Lewis, L. Rodway, E. E. Unwin, and C. E. Lord (*ex officio*).

During the year nine meetings of the Council were held, the attendance being as follows:—Mr. Rodway 9, Mr. Lord 9, Dr. Crowther 8, Mr. Lewis 8, Mr. Johnson 6, Mr. Clemes 5, Mr. Cummins 5, Major Giblin 5, and Mr. Unwin 5.

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

Chairman of Council.—Mr. L. Rodway, C.M.G.

Secretary.—Mr. Clive Lord.

Standing Committee.—Messrs. Rodway, Unwin, Lord, and Major Giblin.

Editor of Papers and Proceedings.—Mr. Clive Lord.

Hon. Treasurer.—Dr. W. L. Crowther.

Trustees of the Tasmanian Museum and Botanical Gardens:—Messrs. Rodway, Clemes, Lewis, Johnson, Unwin, and Dr. Crowther.

### *Meetings.*

During the year nine ordinary meetings of the Society were held. Details of the meetings will be found in the Abstract of Proceedings.

### *Membership.*

The Royal Society of Tasmania, in company with many other bodies, felt the effects of the period of financial depression from which Tasmania is just recovering. This is reflected in the membership, and a certain percentage of

subscriptions are still outstanding for the year, whilst certain members have allowed their membership to lapse. Whilst this is to be regretted, it is felt that the slight setback is of a temporary nature only, and that the improved conditions which may be anticipated with confidence during the coming year will be of considerable assistance to the work of the Society. The roll at the end of the year shows:—4 Honorary Members, 8 Corresponding Members, 7 Life Members, and 230 Ordinary Members.

### *Historical.*

In July, a conference was held in Launceston between members of the Northern Branch and representatives of the Council and the Historical Section with the object of advancing the study of early Tasmanian history and the collection of old documents. The Chairman (Mr. Rodway), Messrs. W. F. D. Butler, G. W. R. Iffe, and C. E. Lord attended the meeting of the Northern Branch, and it is anticipated that benefit will arise from the conference.

At the general meeting of the Society held in August, the Council brought under notice of the members the proposal to film "The Term of His Natural Life," and, on the grounds that the novel is not true to history, and that its filming would be harmful to Tasmania, a resolution was carried protesting against the picture being made.

In last year's report reference was made to extracts from certain private diaries which had been made available to the Society, and the Council desires to place on record its appreciation of the action of Miss Hookey in permitting a copy to be made for the Society's Library of the original diary of the Reverend Robert Knopwood from January, 1805, to July, 1808. This section of the Knopwood diaries, which has not been made public previously, is of very considerable interest, and will prove a valued addition to the Society's Library.

### *Scientific Development of the Tasmanian Fisheries.*

Since the very commencement of the official control of the fisheries of Tasmania, the Royal Society has been intimately connected with the movement. The greater part of the literature concerning the fishes of Tasmania is contained in the Papers and Proceedings of the Society, and the Society can claim to have done much owing to the investigations of its members and the publication of the results. In the past

due recognition has been given to the Society's work. Last year, however, the Government abolished the Fisheries Commissioners and placed the control of the sea and inland fisheries under separate boards. The work done by the Society and the important bearing which science has on the commercial prosperity of the sea fisheries was brought under notice of the Government, but unfortunately the past and present work of the Society failed to secure recognition, and the Sea Fisheries Board, as now composed, does not embrace a member of the Society, and the Society's official connection with the development of the Tasmanian fisheries has come to an end. This is a matter for regret, as in other countries increasing efforts are being made to encourage scientific institutions to become interested in and assist the development of the commercial activities of their country.

#### *Science Congress.*

The Council desires to bring under the notice of the members generally the fact that the Australasian Association for the Advancement of Science is holding a meeting in Hobart, commencing on the 16th January, 1928. The support of all members of the Society is desired in order that this important conference may prove a success and of distinct benefit to Tasmania in general.

#### *Papers and Proceedings.*

The financial position of the Society caused the Council to curtail the number of Papers printed in this year's volume. The position will require the earnest consideration of the incoming Council in order that all papers which are submitted and passed for printing next year may be published in full. The cost of a large proportion of this year's volume is not included in the Statement of Accounts.

#### *Obituary.*

It is with regret that the Society has to record the deaths of the following:—

##### Life Members:—

J. D. Foster, "Fairfield," Epping. (Elected 1905.)  
Sir Henry Jones, Kt., Hobart. (Elected 1922.)

##### Members:—

Most Reverend Patrick Delany, Archbishop of Tasmania. (Elected 1903.)  
H. E. R. Oldmeadow, "Roseneath," Austin's Ferry. (Elected 1919.)

## BRANCH REPORT

### NORTHERN BRANCH.

#### ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1926.

Our Annual Meeting was held on 21st May, when the following officers were re-elected members of the Council:— Hon. Tasman Shields, Messrs. H. H. Scott, J. E. Heritage, R. O. Miller, F. Smithies, J. R. Forward, F. J. Heyward, W. D. Reid, and R. S. Padman (Hon. Secretary and Treasurer).

At the conclusion of the formal business a most interesting Lecture was given by Mr. V. V. Hickman, B.Sc., on "Spiders and their Allies," introducing lantern slides of several new Tasmanian species recently discovered by the lecturer.

21st June.—Lecture by Mr. J. Moore-Robinson, F.R.G.S., on "Macquarie in Launceston, 1811 and 1821."

23rd July.—Visit from members Historical Section (Hobart) accompanied by Mr. L. Rodway, Senior Vice-President. At the conclusion of conference relating to establishment of Historical Section in connection with this Branch, a series of papers were read by Messrs. Dennis Butler (Chairman Historical Section), G. W. Iffe, and C. Lord dealing with "Tasmania under Sir William Denison."

6th September.—Paper, "Evolution of the Sense of Sight," by Mr. R. S. Padman, followed by notes on the morphology of the Eye, illustrated with microscopic slides by Mr. H. H. Scott.

27th September.—Lecture by Mr. F. Ellis, M.A., B.E., on "The Ideas underlying Relativity."

Considerable interest in early Tasmanian History having been aroused by the several lectures given during the year, the local council have considered the formation of a local branch of the Historical Section which it is hoped to establish early in next session. By special arrangement with the parent Society permission has been granted, in the event of the local Section ceasing to function, that any local relics or documents collected by it may be deposited in the Museum or other public institution, so that they may be permanently retained in Launceston.

## SECTION REPORTS

### EDUCATIONAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL SECTION.

Mr. E. E. Unwin, M.Sc., was elected President.

All meetings of the year were devoted to a discussion of the System of Examinations, under different aspects, the list of subjects and speakers being as follows:—

20th April.—“An Historical Survey of the Development of Examination Systems.” By Mr. J. A. Johnson.

18th May.—“The Aim and Purpose of Examinations in Primary and Secondary Schools.” By Messrs. H. T. Parkes and E. A. Budge.

22nd June.—“The Purpose and Aim of Examinations as applied to University and Technical Education.” By Mr. Frank Ellis and Professor Dunbabin.

27th July.—“The Mind of the Examinee.” By Mr. G. Huxley.

17th August.—“The Accrediting System.” By Mr. C. E. Fletcher.

21st September.—“The Statistical Aspect of Examinations.” By Major L. F. Giblin.

19th October.—A Summary of Papers and Discussions, by the President.

As a result of these meetings, the Section reached certain definite conclusions, set out hereunder, which are regarded as applying not only to boys but to girls in equal or even greater measure.

It is felt that, while some form of testing is not only essential but, in fact, inevitable, yet the present system of external public examinations does not meet the requirements of the situation, for the following reasons in particular:—

These examinations are so limited in their nature that they cannot give results that are an adequate return for the effort expended.

By reason of being the accepted test of learning they encourage false conclusions as to a pupil's requirements, and so often work injustice both to him and to his teacher.

They hamper general education by checking the development of individuality and self-reliance, while leaving little room for necessary experiment or for getting the full benefit of a teacher's personal influence.

They produce real unhappiness and often injure physical and mental health in a manner that, though subtle, is very far-reaching.

What is required is a method of testing that will not encourage a special preparation for it, and will best discover and recognise sustained industry.

To satisfy these requirements and to meet the foregoing objections, the Section recommends the adoption of the Accrediting System, by which approved schools, under proper safeguards and as an accepted alternative to public examinations, would supply certificates of proficiency to those pupils who have reached a required standard.

Some essentials of the System were laid down in Mr. Fletcher's paper which, by request of the Section, was published in the Educational Record (September issue). Such essentials were considered by Mr. Fletcher to be the following:—

- (a) There must be an accrediting authority (which might be an association formed for this special purpose).
- (b) Any examination must be of the school rather than of the individual.
- (c) Considerable reliance must be placed upon the responsible teachers, who are recognised as the most capable judges of an individual pupil's attainments and ability.
- (d) There must be inspection, for report to the accrediting authority.
- (e) Internal examinations must be conducted, with questions and marked papers filed for future reference.
- (f) The public must be guided to recognise the value and prestige of the system.

It is noteworthy that in 1921 the Section, as in this year, devoted all its sessions to a discussion of public examinations; and to the extent to which the aspects of the question considered are identical, seems to have arrived at precisely similar conclusions to those submitted in this report; which, in their turn, were formed without any reference whatever to those of 1921.

NORMAN WALKER,  
Honorary Secretary.



## HISTORICAL SECTION.

The chief activity of the Historical Section during the year was the collection of data relating to the period of Sir William Denison's term of Governorship, 1847-1854. Owing to the difficulty in arriving at a correct view of several questions of the day, namely Transportation and Responsible Government, the preparation of the Section's evening before the Society took longer than was the case in previous years. However, the lectures on the period were given before the July meeting of the Society. A general outline of the period was given by Mr. W. F. D. Butler. A biographical sketch of Sir William Denison was read by Mr. J. Reynolds, whilst his scientific and engineering attainments were described by Mr. Clive Lord. Mr. G. W. Ife dealt with Denison's administration, and Mr. A. W. Courtney-Pratt read a paper on the Transportation question.

At the invitation of the Northern Branch of the Society, Messrs. Butler, Ife, and Lord repeated their lectures in Launceston on 23rd July. Opportunity was taken by their visit to confer with the members of the Society in Launceston regarding co-operation in historical research in the future. The results of this conference were gratifying, and will have an important bearing on future work.

During the next year it is hoped to proceed further with the work of the Section, devoting particular attention to the early years of responsible government. It is also intended to make a definite move towards the establishment of a repository for many of the valuable historical relics now in danger of being lost to the State.

J. REYNOLDS,  
Hon. Secretary.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA.  
RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE, 1926. GENERAL FUND.

RECEIPTS.		EXPENDITURE.	
£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Balance brought forward . . . . .	2 17 0	Salaries . . . . .	36 0 0
Subscriptions—		Papers and Proceedings—	
Arrears . . . . .	6 6 0	1925 (Part) . . . . .	157 6 4
Current . . . . .	190 1 0	1926 (Part) . . . . .	24 17 8
Advance . . . . .	5 5 0	Printing, Notices of Meetings, Etc. . . . .	182 4 0
Miscellaneous . . . . .	201 12 0	Library . . . . .	28 8 5
Sale of Publications . . . . .	5 10 6	Insurances . . . . .	20 3 6
Government Grant . . . . .	1 0 0	Light & Fuel . . . . .	6 4 3
Rent of Room . . . . .	100 0 0	Petty Cash & Postages . . . . .	2 14 0
Refund from M.A.M. Fund . . . . .	11 8 0	Northern Branch . . . . .	15 17 4
	2 14 0	Miscellaneous . . . . .	9 9 0
		Cr. Balance . . . . .	21 2 3
			2 18 9
			£325 1 6

Audited: correct.

WALTER E. TAYLOR, F.F.I.A.,

Hon. Auditor.

W. L. CROWTHER,  
Hon. Treasurer.

CLIVE E. LORD,  
Secretary.

