

The Royal Society of Tasmania

1948

Patron:

His Majesty the King.

President:

His Excellency Admiral Sir Hugh Binney, K.C.B., D.S.O.

Vice-Presidents:

W. H. Hudspeth, B.A., 1948.

W. L. Crowther, D.S.O., M.B., F.R.A.C.P., 1948, 1949.

Council:

A. L. Meston, M.A., 1948, 1949, 1950.

J. W. C. Wyatt, B.Sc., A.A.C.I., 1948, 1949, 1950.

S. W. Carey, D.Sc., 1948, 1949.

L. W. Miller, M.Agr.Sc., F.R.E.S., 1948, 1949.

V. V. Hickman, B.A., D.Sc., 1948.

J. L. Somerville, M.Sc., F.A.C.I., 1948.

Hon. Secretary and Librarian:

Joseph Pearson, D.Sc. (Manchester), D.Sc. (Liverpool), F.R.S.E., F.L.S.

Assistant Hon. Secretary:

D. Colbron Pearse, M.C.

Hon. Treasurer:

S. Angel.

Hon. Auditor:

H. J. Exley, M.A.

Hon. Editor of the Papers and Proceedings:

D. Colbron Pearse.

Standing Committee:

W. L. Crowther, S. W. Carey, W. H. Hudspeth, J. Pearson.

Annual Report, 1948

The Annual Meeting was held in the Society's Room, Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, on the 2nd March, 1948.

His Excellency the Governor, President of the Society, presided.

The following Office-bearers were elected:—

Vice-President: Under the Society's Rules, Mr. L. Cerutti retired from the office of Vice-President, and Dr. W. L. Crowther was appointed in his place (retiring 1950).

Hon. Secretary and Librarian: Dr. Joseph Pearson.

Hon. Assistant Secretary: Mr. D. Colbron Pearse.

Hon. Treasurer: Mr. S. Angel.

Hon. Auditor: Mr. H. J. Exley.

Council: There were two vacancies on the Council caused by the retirement (under Rule 21) of Dr. Crowther and Mr. Wyett. Dr. Crowther, having served for three years, was not eligible for re-election as a member of Council, but was eligible for election as Vice-President (Rule 21). Mr. Wyett, having served only one year, was eligible for re-election (Rule 21).

Only one nomination had been received, that of Mr. J. W. C. Wyett. Accordingly the President declared him duly elected.

The President then called for nominations to fill the second vacancy on the Council. Dr. Crowther proposed and Mr. Hudspeth seconded the name of Mr. A. L. Meston. As no further nominations were received the President declared Mr. Meston duly elected a member of the Council.

The names of the full Council for 1948 are given on the previous page.

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

Assistant Librarian: Miss H. Taylor.

Standing Committee: Dr. W. L. Crowther, Professor S. W. Carey, Mr. W. H. Hudspeth, and the Hon. Secretary.

The Council elected the following two members of the Society to serve on the Board of Trustees of the Tasmanian Museum and Botanical Gardens:—Mr. W. H. Hudspeth and Mr. F. H. Foster.

Meetings

Nine ordinary meetings and one special meeting were held during the year. Included in these was the R. M. Johnston Memorial Lecture, on Friday, April 30th, delivered by Professor Griffiths Taylor, Professor of Geography at the University of Toronto. The lecture was entitled 'Racial Migrants and Relations'. Professor Taylor was presented with the R. M. Johnston Medal. At this meeting opportunity was taken to bid farewell to the Hon. Secretary, Dr. Joseph Pearson, who had been granted leave of absence to visit England and the United States of America. A conversazione followed the lecture. About 300 persons attended.

The Royal Society of New South Wales asked the Council of the Royal Society of Tasmania to present the Walter Burfitt Prize and Medal for 1947 to Dr. J. C. Jaeger for outstanding contributions in the field of mathematics. This presentation was made to Dr. Jaeger at the meeting held on 1st June.

In addition to the lectures given at the ordinary meetings scientific papers were submitted for publication and have been printed in the present volume.

Library

During the year 1352 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 for the year was 297, and new exchanges were arranged with the following institutions:—Netherlands East Indies, Batavia; Museum für Volkerkunds, Leipzig Dom Bosco, Goinania, Brazil; Münchner Entomologische Gesellschaft, München; Italian Institute of Idrobiology; Mathematical Department of the Polytechnic Institute of Iassy.

The Library now consists of 23,518 volumes.

Cataloguing the Library

During the year Miss M. Griffiths, B.A., Cataloguer from the University of Tasmania's Library, has continued her work of cataloguing the Society's Library and classifying it under the Dewey System of Classification. As mentioned in the last report, this arrangement was made with the University on condition that in return for Miss Griffith's services, a duplicate author catalogue should be made available to the University Library.

Membership

The Society consists of the following members:—

Honorary members	2
Corresponding members	3
Ordinary members—	
Class A	204
Class B	132
	— 336
Life members	24
Associate members	31
	— 396
	—

During the year 23 names were removed from the List of Members owing to deaths, resignations, etc., and 88 new members were elected, eight of these being life members, 68 ordinary members, and 12 associate members. (Also two ordinary members became life members.)

Deaths

The Council regrets having to record the deaths of the following members during the year:—Miss D. H. Nicholas (1933), Mr. E. A. Elms (1942), Mr. L. A. Evans (1918), Mr. N. D. Ferguson (1944), Mr. G. Fitzpatrick (1943), Mr. E. L. Hall (1924), Mr. W. C. Kent (1946), Mr. W. R. Rolph (1921), Mr. P. B. C. Walsh (1918).

Alteration of Rules

A special meeting of the Society was called on 5th August, 1948, in order to consider an alteration to Rule 43 regarding the fee for life membership. Previous to this the fee had been £15, but at this meeting this rule was amended by deleting the word £15 in one line and inserting the word £20 in lieu thereof.

Assistant Librarian

In December Miss Helen Taylor, who had held office as Assistant Librarian for some years, resigned to be married. The Council would like to record its appreciation of Miss Taylor's services in the Library. Her place has been taken by Miss Barbara Veale.

Financial Position of the Society

In the report for 1947 the Council stated that representations had been made to the Hon. Premier for financial assistance to the Society and a conference on this matter had been held when the Society's needs were made known. This resulted in an increase from £200 to £300 in the Government grant for printing that year. When the Budget for 1948 was prepared a deputation waited on the Chief Secretary and asked that financial assistance to the amount of £750 be given to the funds of the Society so that there would be provision for adequate salaries and for the purchase of books, etc. The Society's request was referred to the Premier and Cabinet and on 27th May a letter was received from the Chief Secretary in which he stated it had been decided that financial assistance for clerical staff could not be approved, but the amount already on the Estimates for publications would be increased by £200 per annum, making a total of £400.

Memorial Funds

In conformity with the agreement made concerning the A. N. Lewis Memorial Fund a further £50 was withdrawn from the Hobart Savings Bank and invested in the Commonwealth Loan. This makes a total of £250 invested. Books to the value of £6 19s. 10d. were purchased for the Library from this fund.

Also books were purchased for the Library from the various funds as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
R. M. Johnston	9	10	0
Morton Allport Memorial	7	14	0
Clive Lord Memorial	7	4	11
A. H. Clarke Bequest	6	19	0
Milligan Bequest	6	2	2

Knopwood Diaries

The Council wishes to record its appreciation of the Government's action in presenting to the Society a complete set of enlarged photographic prints of microfilms of Knopwood Diaries in the possession of the Mitchell Library. These photographic prints have been bound and placed in the Library.

Collection and Preservation of Historical Records

The Society is sponsoring a move which has been made to trace and record valuable historical documents (old diaries, etc.) which may be in private hands, with a view to their preservation. The scheme will embrace the whole State. Also it has urged the appointment by the Government of an archivist.

Gifts to the Society

The following is a list of gifts to the Society during the year, in addition to the numerous exchanges received from British and foreign institutions:—

Scott Polar Research Institute, Cambridge, England: The following documents which formed part of the Lefroy Bequest:—

I. Address to Sir John Franklin on his appointment to the governorship of Van Diemen's Land, signed by citizens of Westbury and Launceston.

Address to Sir John Franklin on his resignation of the governorship of Van Diemen's Land, signed by the landholders, magistrates, and others of the northern part of the island.

II. Resolution of sympathy with Lady Franklin by the Legislative Council of Van Diemen's Land, 1852.

Address to Lady Franklin from the Tasmanian subscribers to her private search expedition, 1852, with an analysis of the list and details of the sums contributed.

III. Resolution in the Tasmanian House of Assembly of thanks to Lady Franklin for her gift of Franklin Island, 1868.

A Short History of Latrobe—Centenary of Christchurch, Cullenswood—A Short History of Cressy and Bishopsbourne—Longford, past and present—White Hills and Franklin Village, by K. R. von Stieglitz, presented by the author.

'The Platypus' by Charles Barrett, presented by Miss A. G. Adams.

The Tasman map of 1644, Historical note and description of MS., presented by the Mitchell Library, N.S.W.

THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA.

Statement of Receipts and Payments for Year ended 31st December, 1948.

RECEIPTS.			PAYMENTS.				
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
Subscriptions—							
A—191	286	10	0	Balance from last Account	13	0	7
B—133	139	12	6	Salaries	188	18	1
Associate (23)	11	10	0	Group insurance	4	8	0
<i>Plus Exchange</i>	0	0	6	Light and power	55	19	4
Life (10)	150	0	0	Library	74	3	2
				Stationery	28	7	1
			587	Miscellaneous	38	18	7
Sale of publications, rents, etc.			56	Postage—Papers and Proceedings	15	19	3
Friends of Tasmanian Museum—Half cost of				Northern Branch	32	12	6
R. M. Johnston lecture and conversazione			11	Insurance	9	12	7
Transferred from Life Membership Fund to				Petty cash (in hand 1s. 1d.)	45	13	1
forward to Northern Branch			15	Refund to Life Membership Fund, Mackaness			
Transferred from funds for books, 1947			44	brochure, etc.	41	14	6
A. N. Lewis Memorial Fund—Interest, etc.			7	Refund—A. N. Lewis Fund—Interest, etc. ...	7	12	11
				Transferred to Life Membership Fund	150	0	0
					706	19	8
				Balance to next Account	15	12	2
			£722				
			11		£722	11	19
			10				

H. J. EXLEY, Hon. Auditor.
28th February, 1949.

WILFRID H. HUDSPETH, Vice-President.
D. COLBRON PEARSE, Hon. Secretary.

ROYAL SOCIETY FUNDS.

Statement of Balances for Year ended 31st December, 1948.

	£	s.	d.
Reserve Account	0	14	8
Life Membership Fees	292	10	3
Clive Lord Memorial Fund (£200)	10	3	4
R. M. Johnston Memorial (£232)	7	19	8
Morton Allport Memorial Fund (£200)	7	16	0
A. H. Clarke Bequest (£100)	1	14	10
Milligan Bequest (£150)	5	8	4
A. N. Lewis Memorial Fund (Total Fund, £232 17s. 11d.—Invest.			
Commonwealth Loan, £200)	18	4	5