

Royal Society of Tasmania.

Annual Report, 1956.

The year marked a further period of progress and it was gratifying to note the increase in membership and the formed opinion, of a number of members, that many people, who are not members, would like to be associated with the Society. It is largely by the help of present members that the Society increases its numbers so the co-operation of all is sought to bring people interested in science, history and art, into membership.

The Annual Meeting was held in the Society's rooms, Tasmanian Museum, on 6th March, 1956.

The President, His Excellency the Governor (Sir Ronald Cross), presided.

The following Office-bearers were elected:—

Vice-President: Under the Society's Rules, Professor T. Hytten retired from the office of Vice-President and Dr. W. L. Crowther was appointed to the vacancy (retiring 1958).

Hon. Secretary and Librarian: Dr. W. Bryden.

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

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

Council: Under Rule 21, Mr. J. W. C. Wyett and Dr. W. L. Crowther retired as members of the Council, and Professor T. Hytten and Mr. C. Bisdee were elected in their place, for a period of three years.

The Council made the following appointments for the year:—

- (a) Standing Committee: Dr. D. Martin, Mr. L. W. Miller, Dr. W. V. Teniswood and the Hon. Secretary, Dr. W. Bryden.
- (b) Tasmanian Museum Trustees: Professor A. Burn and Dr. C. Loftus-Hills.
- (c) Botanical Gardens Trustees: Mr. S. Angel.
- (d) Representative to the Library Association: Dr. W. Bryden.
- (e) Nomenclature Board: Mr. E. R. Pretzman.

Meetings: Ten ordinary meetings and one special meeting were held during the year when the following lectures were given:—

March: "Glimpses of Brazil and the Brazilians", by Professor K. Caster, University of Cincinnati, U.S.A. (with songs by Mrs. Caster).

April: "Historic Buildings", by Mr. Roy Smith (with illustrations).

May: "A Biologist in Chile", by Dr. E. R. Guiler.

June: "Forty Years of Engineering", by Professor Alan Burn.

July: "Entomology in North America", by Mr. L. W. Miller.

Aug.: "Life with the Australian National Antarctic Research Expedition", by Mr. N. R. Parsons.

Sep.: "The Pearl of Africa", by Dr. Emyr Williams.

Oct.: "Biology of the Scallop", by Mr. A. M. Olsen.

Nov.: "Some Aspects of American Education", by Mr. M. R. Banks, B.Sc., Senior Lecturer in Geology, University of Tasmania.

Library: During the year 429 volumes (books and journals) 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 now 300. The Library now consists of 30,939 volumes.

Membership: The Society consists of the following members:—

Honorary Members	2
Corresponding Members	1
Ordinary Members—	
Class A =	280
Class B =	175
	455
Life Members	32
Associate Members	20
	510
TOTAL	

During the year (52) fifty-two new members were added to the roll while (24) twenty-four names were removed from the lists owing to resignations, deaths, &c.

Deaths: The Council of the Society regrets having to record the deaths of the following members:—Mr. A. P. Findlay, Miss J. A. Fletcher, Mr. A. M. Graves, Mr. E. G. Record, and Mr. C. H. D. Chepmell.

Subscriptions: The Council of the Society spent considerable time, during the early months of the year, considering the question of finances of the Society. It was agreed that if the Society was to continue and if the Papers and Proceedings and Library were to remain as at present subscriptions would have to be increased. In October a special meeting was called and Rule 33 was amended to increase subscriptions by 10s. per annum. Rule 40 (Associate Members) was also altered accordingly.

Papers and Proceedings: The Society is grateful to the Government of Tasmania for providing amounts of money to meet the increased cost of Volume 89 and also for agreeing to continue the donations which enable the Society to continue to print this scientific journal.

The Society would once again thank the University of Tasmania for its part in financing the Papers and Proceedings.

Thanks: The Society records its thanks to the many who have assisted by donations of money, books, &c., and to all who have helped in many ways during the year.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA.

Statement of Receipts and Payments to 31st December, 1956.

Receipts.			Payments.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Balance from last Account	5	16 11	Salaries	746	5 8
Subscriptions:			Petty cash	104	0 0
£2 260 + £8 15s.	=	528 15 0	Library	158	18 11
£2 10s. (1957) 2 less 10s.	=	4 10 0	Stationery	55	9 6
£1 10s. 162 + 10s.	=	243 10 0	Equipment	31	18 0
£2 (1957) 3	=	6 0 0	Northern Branch—share subscrip- tions, 1955	110	17 6
15s. 19	=	14 5 0	Miscellaneous	44	8 6
		£797 0 0	Light and power	184	5 10
Sale of publications	61	10 11	Postage of Papers and Proceedings, Volume 90	25	18 3
Rental of Royal Society Room	77	7 6	Expenses conversazione	49	17 7
Donation	2	0 0	Insurance	25	10 0
Refund, Hydro-Electric Commission, Tasmanian Museum	104	0 0	Telephone	10	10 0
University of Tasmania Grant— Librarian	475	0 0			
Friends of Museum—contribution conversazione	40	0 0		1,547	19 9
Refunds	2	5 0	Balance to next Account	42	18 10
Transferred from Reserve, cost postage, plus Papers and Proceed- ings, Volume 90	25	18 3			
		£1,590 18 7			£1,590 18 7

G. HALE, *Hon. Treasurer.*

F. C. WOLFHAGEN, *Vice-President.*

W. BRYDEN, *Hon. Secretary.*

Northern Branch.

Annual Report, 1956.

At the Annual General Meeting of the Royal Society of Tasmania (Northern Branch) held at the Queen Victoria Museum on March 23rd, 1956, the following were elected to the Council under the Rules of the Branch:

Chairman: Mr. G. H. Crawford (1956, 1957).

Vice-Chairman: Mr. W. Hart (1956, 1957).

Hon. Secretary/Treasurer: Mr. W. F. Ellis (1956).

Council Members: Mr. R. S. Smith (1956, 1957); Mr. K. R. von Steiglitz (1956, 1957); Mr. G. H. Willing (1956, 1957).

The Council Members retaining their seats for the year were: Mr. G. H. Stancombe (1956); Dr. C. Craig (1956).

The retiring Chairman and Council Members were thanked for the services they had rendered to the Society during their terms of office.

Meetings: Nine general meetings and one special meeting were held during the year at which the following papers were read:—

February 24, 1956: "The Coaching Era in Tasmania", by Mr. G. H. Stancombe.

March 23, 1956: "Some Aspects of Heraldry", by Mr. J. P. D. Bingham.

April 9, 1956: "Australian Furred Animals—Past and Future", by Mr. E. Le G. Troughton.

April 27, 1956: "Some Glimpses of Brazil and Brazilians", by Professor and Mrs. K. E. Caster.

June 8, 1956: "Early Days in Papua (British New Guinea)", by Mr. L. S. Bethell.

July 27, 1956: "Some Aborigines—Ancient and Modern", by Mr. W. F. Ellis.

August 17, 1956: "Cybernetics, the Theoretical Background to Automation and some of its Implications for Biology", by Mr. E. O. G. Scott.

August 27, 1956 (Special Meeting): "Nineteenth Century English Painting", by Dr. T. S. R. Boase.

September 24, 1956: "The Fabulous Era of Australian Mining", by Mr. Geoffrey Blainey.

December 10th 1956: "Our Legal Heritage—a comparative study of British and Soviet Law", by Mr. G. H. Crawford.

Excursions.

April 29, 1956: "Lake House" and "Burlington", Cressy, led by Mr. R. S. Smith.

September 1, 1956: Australian Aluminium Production Commission Plant, Bell Bay.

October 27, 1956: Department of Agriculture Research Farm, Cressy and Laboratories, Mt. Pleasant.

Membership: Fourteen members were elected to the Northern Branch during 1956, the total membership now being—

Life Members	14
Ordinary Members	143
Associate Members	11

Library: Three books were added to the Branch Library during the year under review.

Publications: "The Penal Settlements of Van Diemen's Land" is still being distributed through commercial retailers, the Queen Victoria Museum and the Society.

The preparation of a biography and anthology of the work of John Helder Wedge has been commenced and most of the necessary material gathered. It is hoped to issue this publication during 1957.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA.

(Northern Branch.)

Statement of Accounts at December 31st, 1956.

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Balance at 1.1.1956	111	16 6	Lectures	39	12 11
Subscriptions	110	17 6	Library	10	7 2
Bank interest	4	10 0	Printing and advertising	12	16 8
Sales of publication	14	6 1	Postages and petty cash	41	3 1
			Sundries	8	2 10
			Balance carried forward	129	7 5
	<u>£241</u>	<u>10 1</u>		<u>£241</u>	<u>10 1</u>

J. R. FORWARD, Auditor.

F. ELLIS, Hon. Secretary/Treasurer.