

Royal Society of Tasmania

Annual Report for the Year 1966.

The Council submits to members the following report on the activities for the year 1966.

Two particular items of importance marked the year. The one hundredth volume of the *Papers and Proceedings of the Royal Society of Tasmania* was printed and distributed. The first volume was printed in the year 1849, six years after the Society was formed through the efforts of Sir J. Eardley Eardley-Wilmot, the Lieutenant-Governor of the State at that time. Lack of finance on some occasions, and of suitable material on others, resulted in breaks in the annual publication of the journal but it is to the lasting credit of the Society as a whole that the *Papers and Proceedings* have been continued through the years as an important function of the Society's being. The exchange list is now a large one and through this medium the library receives many useful exchanges. In fact it is true to say that from the point of view of the library, the production of the *Papers and Proceedings* is of the utmost importance.

On a special occasion, at one of the meetings, the Clive Lord Memorial Medal was awarded to Dr. Winifred Curtis, Reader in Botany, University of Tasmania, for her outstanding contributions to botanical knowledge in the State of Tasmania. After receiving the award, Dr. Curtis delivered a special lecture to mark the occasion.

MEMBERSHIP.

The membership of the Society stood at 596 at the end of the year, including three Honorary Life Members.

Professor Arnold Wall of Christchurch, New Zealand, had been a Corresponding member of the Society for 64 years. Although he held the Chair of English at the University of Canterbury for many years, he was a keen botanist and made significant contributions to this branch of science. His death during the year ended a very long association with this Society.

NORTHERN BRANCH.

The Northern Branch had another successful year and in addition to ordinary meetings, a number of excursions were arranged.

LIBRARY.

The total of 600 volumes, books and journals, was added to the Library during the year. Most of the journals were received by the Society in exchange for the *Papers and Proceedings*.

MEETINGS.

The Annual General meeting was held in March and the elections required under the provision of Rule 7 resulted in Dr. D. Martin becoming a Vice-President in place of Mr. E. C. Gifford, and Mr. M. R. Banks and Dr. J. M. Gilbert being elected to the Council to fill the vacancies left by Mr. J. V. Cook and Mr. G. K. Meldrum who had served their three year term.

During the year Mr. R. A. Both left the State and his place on the Council was filled by the election of Dr. E. R. Guiler, who completed the term of Mr. Both's membership on the Council.

The positions of Honorary Treasurer, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Auditor were filled by the re-election of Mr. G. E. A. Hale, Dr. W. Bryden and Mr. A. M. D. Hewer respectively.

After the business three selected films, obtained through the courtesy of the State Library and Qantas Empire Airways Ltd., were shown to members.

Eight General meetings were held during the year. The speakers and titles of talks were as follows:—

April: Dr. G. L. Kesteven, Assistant Chief, Division of Fisheries and Oceanography, C.S.I.R.O., on "Methods of Fisheries Research—Crayfish and Tuna".

May: Dr. E. R. Guiler, Department of Zoology, University of Tasmania, on "Black Swan Study".

June: Inspector A. K. Jackman, Public Relations Officer, Tasmanian Police Force, on "Development of the Police Administration in Tasmania".

July: Mr. R. J. Solomon, Department of Geography, University of Tasmania, on "Hobart Town Then and Now: Aspects of Urbanisation".

August: Mr. W. Asten, Federal President of the United Nations Association of Australia, on "Australia and the United Nations in Tomorrow's World".

September: Mr. Paul T. Unwin, Management Officer, Forestry Commission, on "Planning the Forests of the Future".

October: Dr. Winifred M. Curtis, Department of Botany, University of Tasmania, received the Clive Lord Memorial Medal, and delivered the Clive Lord Memorial Lecture on "The Endemic Flora of Tasmania".

November: Mr. W. F. Ellis, Director, Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery, Launceston, on "The Black War".

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.

The Council is most grateful for the help so generously given by many individuals and organisations, to the Government of Tasmania, the University of Tasmania, the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery, the Press, the Radio, and to the many members and individuals outside the Society who have assisted during the year.

Northern Branch

Annual Report, 1966.

Arising from the Annual General Meeting of the Northern Branch which was held on 25th March, 1966, the Branch Council was composed as follows:—

Chairman—Mr. Justice G. H. Crawford.
 Vice-Chairman—Dr. J. C. H. Morris.
 Past Chairman—Mr. T. E. Burns.
 Hon. Secretary and Treasurer—Mr. W. F. Ellis.
 Council Members—Mrs. M. P. Cameron, Mr. J. N. Gee, Mr. T. W. W. Sharpe, Mr. K. E. G. Robinson, Mr. F. L. Sutherland.

By ballot at Council, Mr. Robinson was selected to complete the remaining year of Mr. L. W. P. Reeve's term on the Council. Mr. Justice Crawford and Mr. Ellis represented the Branch on the General Council of the Society and Mr. Ellis also served on the Standing Committee. Mr. Justice Crawford continued his term on the Cradle Mountain-Lake St. Clair National Park Board as nominee of the Northern Branch.

MEMBERSHIP.

The Branch membership on 31st December, 1966 was 241.

ACTIVITIES.

Ten General Meetings and one Special Meeting were arranged at which the following lectures were given:—

25th February, 1966—"Bushranging in Tasmania" by Mr. G. H. Stancombe.
 21st March, 1966—"The Control of human fertility" by Professor H. M. Carey.
 22nd April, 1966—"Slavery in Tasmania—convicts, paupers and aborigines" by Mr. K. M. Dallas.
 27th May, 1966—"Black Swan studies" by Dr. E. R. Guiler.
 24th June, 1966—"History of Police Services in Tasmania" by Inspector A. K. Jackman.
 22nd July, 1966—"The Launceston Public Library" by Mr. W. Sutherland.
 26th August, 1966—"Harvesting the sea" by Mr. A. M. Olsen.

23 September, 1966—"Economic policy and the Vernon Report" by Professor G. G. Firth.

28th October, 1966—"The Black War in Tasmania" by Mr. W. F. Ellis.

18th November, 1966—"The Townscape in Tasmania" by Mr. R. J. Solomon.

9th December, 1966.—Members' Night—

"Lithographs of old Tasmanian shops" by Dr. C. Craig.

"The Centenary of the old Hagley Church" by Miss N. King.

"If Winter comes—can Spring be far behind" by Miss M. Green.

"The old Glenora schoolhouse" by Mr. E. G. Scott.

"A Bird in the hand" by Mrs. I. J. Mead.

EXCURSIONS.

Six excursions were arranged to areas of scientific and historical interest:—

27th February, 1966—Scenes of bushranging around Launceston.

26th June, 1966—Launceston Post Office.

24th July, 1966—Launceston Public Library.

25th September, 1966—Department of Agriculture Research Farm, Cressy.

5th-7th November, 1966.—North-East Tasmania.

27th November, 1966.—Latrobe, East Devonport and Northdown.

COUNCIL.

The Council of the Northern Branch met four times during 1966. In addition it was represented at four meetings of the General Council.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.

The Branch Council records its appreciation of the Launceston City Council for the facilities at the Queen Victoria Museum which have been provided during the year.

