

# Royal Society of Tasmania

*Annual Report for the year 1964.*

On behalf of the Council of the Royal Society of Tasmania the following Annual Report is presented to members.

## *His Excellency the Governor.*

When the Society was formed in 1843 His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor Sir Eardley Eardley-Wilmot, consented to become President. Since then successive Governors have accepted the office of President and it was with considerable pride that the Council was informed that His Excellency Sir Charles Gairdner, the present Governor of the State, had indicated his willingness to accept office. He presided at the Annual Meeting, briefly addressed members, and met members at the conclusion of the meeting.

## ANNUAL MEETING.

The Annual Meeting was held as a special meeting for members only. The following office-bearers were elected to fill the vacancies created by those whose term of office ended, and by Rule of the Society were not available for re-election:—

*Vice-President*—Mr. E. C. Gifford.

*Members of Council*—Mr. R. A. Both and Mr. E. R. Pretzman.

The following were re-elected:—

*Honorary Secretary*—Dr. W. Bryden.

*Honorary Treasurer*—Mr. G. E. A. Hale.

*Honorary Auditor*—Mr. A. M. Hewer.

## GENERAL MEETINGS.

The following addresses were given at the General Meetings:—

*March*: Professor G. C. Wade, University of Tasmania, on "*Useful Fungi*".

*April*: Dr. E. M. Colbert, American Museum of Natural History, New York, on "*Dinosaurs*".

*May*: Dr. A. K. Fryer, University of Tasmania, on "*Political Science as a Science*".

*June*: Dr. G. Reber, Honorary Research Fellow, Research Corporation, New York City, on "*Astronomy—an Intellectual Endeavour*".

*July*: Dr. R. F. Cane, University of Tasmania, on "*Colour—Variations on a Chromatic Theme*".

*August*: Mr. M. S. R. Sharland on "*The Waters of Canada*".

*September*: Mr. V. W. Hodgman, Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, on "*Australian Artists represented in the Collections of the Royal Society and the Museum*".

*October*: Dr. O. M. Roe, University of Tasmania, on "*The National Association of Great Britain for the Promotion of Social Science, 1857-84*".

*November*: Mr. J. Boothroyd, University of Tasmania, on "*The Language of Computers*".

## SPECIAL MEETINGS.

Four special meetings were held, the speakers being as follows:—

*June*: Mr. J. L. Davies, University of Tasmania, on "*The Shape of Spits*".

*July*: Dr. J. Cosgriff, University of Tasmania, on "*Triassic Vertebrates of Australia*".

*August*: Mr. C. Bisdee, on "*Man in Space*".

*September*: Dr. K. C. Marshall, University of Tasmania, on "*What are Bacteria?*"

## VACANCY ON COUNCIL.

Professor Clark resigned when he left to take up his appointment in Adelaide and at a General Meeting Mr. G. K. Meldrum was elected to fill the vacancy.

## LIBRARY.

Further additions were made to the library during the year, the total additions for the year being 640 volumes.

Additional volumes were bound and this practice will be continued in the future. Each year there is an increasing demand for information which is available in the various books, papers, letters, documents, &c., in the Library. The actual value of the Society's collection has increased materially over the years and by all standards it is obvious that in the Royal Society Library there is indeed a very valuable historical collection of which the State should be proud.

## NORTHERN BRANCH.

In Launceston, the Northern Branch again had a very interesting and useful year. In addition to the evening lectures, a number of excursions to places of historic and scientific interest were arranged for the benefit of members.

**MEMBERSHIP.**

The total membership of the Society now stands at 625.

**PAPERS AND PROCEEDINGS.**

Volume 98 of the "Papers and Proceedings of the Royal Society of Tasmania" was printed during the year. It is largely by exchanging our volume for publications put out by other institutions that we manage to keep the library to its high standard. The number of exchanges is 316.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.**

The Council wishes to place on record its appreciation of the work carried out by the Staff and by all those who help our activities in so many ways. Council appreciates the continued interest and active support given by the Government of Tasmania, the University of Tasmania, the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery, the Press and Radio Stations, and also extends sincere thanks to all others who have rendered assistance during the year.

## Northern Branch

*Annual Report, 1964.*

Following the Annual General Meeting of the Northern Branch, held on 20th March, 1964, the Branch Council was composed as follows:—

Chairman—Mr. T. E. Burns.  
Vice-Chairman—Mr. Justice G. H. Crawford.  
Past-Chairman—Mrs. I. J. Mead.  
Honorary Secretary and Treasurer—Mr. W. F. Ellis.  
Members of Council—Mr. A. W. G. Powell, Dr. N. Gold, Mr. P. M. Hart, Mr. G. H. Stancombe, Mr. F. L. Sutherland.

Mr. Burns 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 as the Northern Branch nominee on the Cradle Mountain-Lake St. Clair National Park Board.

### MEMBERSHIP.

On 31st December, 1964, the Northern Branch comprised 13 Life Members, 237 Ordinary Members and 9 Associate Members representing an increase of 5 in the total during the year.

### ACTIVITIES.

Eleven General Meetings were held at which the attendance averaged 70 persons. The following papers were read:—

- 21st February, 1964—"A Pastoralist's View of Central and South America" by Mr. R. E. Lawrence.
- 20th March, 1964—"An Early Settlement in the North of Van Diemen's Land" by Mrs. I. J. Mead.
- 17th April, 1964—"Some Problems of Fruit Development" by Professor C. A. Schroeder.
- 1st May, 1964—"The Introduction of the Salmonidae to Tasmania" by Mr. D. Scholes.
- 3rd July, 1964—"The Three Scotts: James, Thomas & George" by Mr. Justice G. H. Crawford.
- 31st July, 1964—"Caves in France" by Mr. R. D. Woolhouse.
- 21st August, 1964—"The Historians of Tasmania" by Mr. G. H. Stancombe.

25th September, 1964—"The Tasmanian Thylacine" by Dr. E. R. Guiler.

23rd October, 1964—"Hovercraft and Vertical Take-Off Aircraft" by Group Captain F. B. Sutton.

27th November, 1964—"Man In Space" by Mr. Colin Bisdee.

11th December, 1964 (Member's Night)—"Ancient Peru" by Miss M. Mack.

"G. V. Brooks and the Development of Education in Tasmania" by Mr. D. V. Selth.

"Pathology" by Dr. D. D. E. Evans.

"A Trip from Campbell Town to Hagley in 1849" by Mr. E. G. Scott.

"Wandering Pumice" by Mr. F. L. Sutherland.

Four excursions were arranged, including one spread over a long weekend. These were to—

Mathinna—15th March, led by Mr. Justice Crawford.

Deloralne and Cheshunt—12th April, led by Mr. J. R. Skemp.

"The Examiner"—21st September, by courtesy the Proprietors.

St. Helens and Ansons Bay—31st October-2nd November.

These excursions have all been well attended.

### COUNCIL.

The Northern Branch Council met five times during 1964. In addition, the Branch was represented at the five meetings of the General Council, including one convened in Launceston.

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.

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