

# Royal Society of Tasmania

*Annual Report for the Year 1962.*

## MEETINGS.

One of the outstanding interests in the Society during the past year was the initiation of a new series of scientific lectures provided for all members but more especially for those with a good background of scientific knowledge. These lectures received very good support from members and the Council of the Society has decided to continue the practice.

The following lectures were given in this series:—

*June:* "Chromosome Abnormalities in Man". Professor A. M. Clark.

*July:* "Permeability of the Cell Membrane". Dr. R. K. Crowdon.

*September:* "Seismic Research". Professor G. Newstead.

General Meetings of the Society were held as usual each month from March to November inclusive and the following lectures were given:—

*March:* "A Van Diemen's Land Demagogue". Mr. F. Green.

*April:* "The Route of Luis Vaez de Torres from the New Hebrides to Torres Strait, August-September, 1606". Mr. G. A. V. Stanley.

*May:* "Electro-Chemistry—the Key to Tasmania's Prosperity". Professor H. Bloom.

*June:* "The Origins of the English Bar". Professor N. C. H. Dunbar.

*July:* "The Fundamental Particles of Matter". Dr. A. G. Fenton.

*August:* "Myxomatosis in South Australia". Dr. I. S. Wilson.

*September:* "Hydatid Disease". Dr. T. C. Beard.

*October:* "Fossil Liverworts". Dr. J. A. Townrow.

*November:* "Australia's Relations with the New Malaysia". Dr. P. J. Boyce.

## PAPERS AND PROCEEDINGS.

Volume 96 of the *Papers and Proceedings* was published during the year and following our usual custom exchanges were effected with libraries and scientific institutions in all parts of the world. We have had many requests for volumes of the *Papers and Proceedings* from libraries in many countries and at present it is not possible to supply some of the early volumes. Council agreed that the difficulty might be overcome by providing photostat copies and it is possible this will be done in the next twelve months.

## LIBRARY.

Four hundred and forty volumes, books and journals were added during the year. Acting on a decision made in 1961 and set out in the Annual Report for that year, a number of old and out-of-date texts were removed from the shelves.

Further progress has been made microfilming a number of the unique and valuable documents in the Society's collection and will be continued in the following years.

## NORTHERN BRANCH.

The Branch of the Society in Launceston had another successful year and continued their meetings and excursions for members. The Wedge Papers were set after many delays and these should be available in the near future.

Late in November the full Council met in Launceston.

## ANNUAL MEETING.

The Annual General Meeting was held on Tuesday, 6th March, 1962, and was presided over by His Excellency the Governor of Tasmania, the Lord Rowallan, President of the Society.

The Annual Report and Statement of Accounts for the year 1961 were presented to members and adopted.

The following office-bearers were elected:—

*Vice-President:* Professor Gordon Newstead.

*Honorary Secretary and Honorary Librarian:* Dr. W. Bryden.

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

*Honorary Auditor:* Mr. A. M. Hewer.

*Council Members:* Mr. R. M. H. Garvie and Dr. D. Martin.

The following appointments to Committees were made by Council:—

*Standing Committee:* Mr. R. M. H. Garvie, Dr. D. Martin, Dr. W. Bryden, and one Northern representative.

*Representatives on the Board of Trustees of the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery:* Mr. G. F. Davies and Dr. D. Martin.

*Representative on the Board of Trustees of the Botanical Gardens:* Mr. R. S. McIntyre.

*Representative on the Nomenclature Board:* Mr. E. R. Pretzman.

*Representative on the Mount Field National Park Board:* Dr. J. M. Gilbert.

*Representative on the Library Association of Australia:* Dr. W. Bryden.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

The Society is grateful to the Government of Tasmania; the State Library, the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart; the Queen Victoria Museum, Launceston; the University of Tasmania, the Office-Bearers, Lecturers, Staff, Donors and all others who have assisted the Society to carry out its work during the year.

ROWALLAN, President.



# Northern Branch

*Annual Report, 1962.*

Following the Annual General Meeting in March, the Council of the Northern Branch was composed as follows:—

- Chairman:* Mrs. I. J. Mead.  
*Vice-Chairman:* Mr. T. E. Burns.  
*Past Chairman:* Dr. C. Craig.  
*Honorary Secretary and Treasurer:* Mr. W. F. Ellis.  
*Members of Council:* Mrs. B. J. Edwards, Mr. J. M. Curtis, Dr. J. C. H. Morris, Mr. J. R. Skemp, Mr. K. R. von Stieglitz.

Mrs. Mead and Mr. Ellis represented the Northern Branch on the General Council and Mrs. Mead served as a member of the Standing Committee. Mr. Justice G. H. Crawford acted as the Branch's nominee on the Cradle Mountain-Lake St. Clair National Park Board.

## MEMBERSHIP.

The Branch membership on 31st December, 1962, was 231 persons. During the year the following adjustments occurred:—

Elected	18
Transferred to Branch	2
Resignations	9
Deceased	1
Removed	12
Transferred from Branch	2

## ACTIVITIES.

Twelve General Meetings were held during the year, at which the following papers were presented:—

- 23rd February:* "See how this river . . . a discussion on river regime and river control", by Mr. T. E. Emmett.  
*23rd March* (Valedictory Address): "Some newly discovered watercolours of Launceston by Frederick Strange and some points on Tasmanian engravers", by Dr. C. Craig, C.M.G.  
*27th April:* "Hydatids", by Dr. T. C. Beard.  
*25th May:* "Problems in writing a life of R. C. Gunn", by Mr. T. E. Burns and Mr. J. R. Skemp.

*22nd June:* "The scientific explosion", by Professor S. W. Carey.

*20th July:* "Tasmanian telemetered seismic net", by Professor G. Newstead.

*13th August:* "Architects and Governors—the story of John Lee Archer", by Mr. R. S. Smith.

*31st August:* "The elementary particles of matter", by Dr. A. G. Fenton.

*28th September:* "They came to a country . . .", by Mr. W. F. Ellis.

*29th October:* "Biological fixation of nitrogen", by Mr. H. V. Rees, and "Symbiotic nitrogen fixation in Tasmanian agriculture", by Mr. D. F. Paton.

*16th November:* "Launceston and the anti-transportation movement", by Mr. Malcolm McRae.

*7th December* (Members' Night):—

"A Relic of the Bligh rebellion", by Mr. J. M. Curtis.

"Journeying through Jerusalem", by Mrs. M. K. Whishaw.

"The Nuffield Foundation and its work", by Mr. John Lyne.

"Dr. Albert Schweitzer", by Mrs. B. J. Edwards.

"Macao", by Mr. K. R. von Stieglitz, O.B.E.

The average attendance at General Meetings during 1962 was 68.

## EXCURSIONS.

Two day excursions were held:—

*15th April:* Macquarie River District.

*25th November:* Beaconsfield.

In addition, an extended excursion to places of historical interest in Southern Tasmania was held during the long week-end on 3rd-5th November. This was attended by 30 members and guests.

The Branch Council acknowledges, with appreciation, the facilities provided during the year at the Queen Victoria Museum by the Launceston City Council.

I. J. MEAD, Chairman.

W. F. ELLIS, Honorary Secretary.