

Royal Society of Tasmania

Annual Report for the Year 1961.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The Annual General Meeting was held on Tuesday, 7th March, 1961, when the Annual Report and Statement of Accounts for the year 1960 were adopted by members. The following office-bearers were elected:—

Vice-President: Professor A. M. Clark.
Honorary Secretary and Honorary Librarian: Dr. W. Bryden.
Honorary Treasurer: Mr. G. E. A. Hale.
Honorary Auditor: Mr. A. M. Hewer.
Council Members: Mr. H. Allport and Mr. E. L. Carthew.

During the year Messrs. Carthew and Sharland left the State and their places on the Council were taken by Dr. D. Martin and Mr. E. C. Gifford respectively.

COMMITTEES, &C.

Council made appointments as follows:—

Standing Committee: Mr. R. M. H. Garvie, Mr. W. F. Ellis, Dr. D. Martin, Dr. W. Bryden.
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 Garden: 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.

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP.

At a Special Meeting held during the year members agreed to change the Rules of the Society to make it possible, under certain set conditions, to elect members who have given outstanding service to the Society to Honorary Life Membership. Dr. J. Pearson, Dr. W. E. L. H. Crowther, and Mr. S. Angel were elected to Honorary Life Membership.

GENERAL MEETINGS.

Meetings were held in each month, March to November, and the following lectures were given:—

March: "The Expanding Earth", by Professor S. Warren Carey.
April: "The Old Psychology", by Professor J. A. Cardno.
May: "Birds of the Tasmanian Midlands", by Mr. R. H. Green.
June: "Early Tasmanian Artists" (Part 1), by Mr. H. Allport.
July: "Norway's Mountains and Glaciers", by Mr. J. N. Jennings.
August: "Encyclopaedias of the Renaissance", by Mr. D. H. Borchardt.
September: "Radio Astronomy", by Professor G. R. Ellis.
October: "Early Tasmanian Artists" (Part 2), by Mr. H. Allport.
November: "The History of Tasmanian Geology", by Mr. M. R. Banks.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND.

One of the distinguished awards of the Royal Society of New Zealand is the Hector Memorial Medal and Award. This year it was presented to Professor H. Bloom who now occupies the Chair of Inorganic Chemistry in the University of Tasmania, but who was previously on the staff of Auckland University in New Zealand. On behalf of the Royal Society of New Zealand, His Excellency the Governor of Tasmania presented the medal and Award to Professor Bloom at the November meeting.

NORTHERN BRANCH.

The Northern Branch of the Society had another successful year. Council decided to publish the *Wedge Papers* edited by members of the Northern Branch and it is hoped these will be available early in 1962.

The Council of the Society held one meeting in Launceston in November.

ADDITIONAL MEETINGS.

Council decided to widen the scope of the Society in 1962 by holding a few specialist meetings in the late afternoon. These will be in addition to the ordinary general meetings and will be open to all members.

PAPERS AND PROCEEDINGS.

Volume 95 of the "Papers and Proceedings" was published during the year and once again exchange copies were sent to libraries in all parts of the world. Our library benefits very considerably from such exchanges, in fact, the bulk of our periodicals come to us in this way.

LIBRARY.

Seven hundred and forty-two volumes were added to the library during the year, making a total of 33,400 volumes (periodicals and books). Council has been concerned at the lack of shelf space due to the increasing number of periodicals and has been considering ways and means whereby adequate space can be left for seating and also for the periodicals and books required by members. It does seem that a number of old and out-of-date textbooks could be removed and Council has asked a sub-committee to go into this matter and present a report on ways and means.

MICROFILMING.

There are many documents in the library which are of great historical value. Council decided to approach the Government for a grant to have these unique and valuable documents microfilmed so that no matter what happens the text material will be preserved. Council is grateful to the Government for making funds available for this work on an annual basis and to the State Library for their co-operation.

EQUIPMENT.

During the year a new film projector and new loud-speaker equipment were installed in the Society's room.

GOVERNMENT GRANT.

In addition to the Special Grant made by the Government for microfilming, the grants for the library and "Papers and Proceedings" have been continued.

THANKS.

The thanks of the Society go out to all those who have assisted the activities of the Society during the year. To the Government of Tasmania, the State Library, the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, the University of Tasmania, the Office-Bearers, and Lecturers, and to all others who have assisted the Society during the year.

ROWALLAN, President.

Northern Branch

Annual Report, 1961.

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

Chairman: Dr. C. Craig.

Vice-Chairman: Mr. John Lord.

Past-Chairman: Mr. G. H. Stancombe.

Honorary Secretary and Treasurer: Mr. W. F. Ellis.

Members of Council: Mrs. B. J. Edwards, Mrs. I. J. Mead, Rev. C. O. Leigh Cook, Dr. J. C. H. Morris, Mr. T. W. W. Sharpe.

Dr. Craig and Mr. Ellis represented the Northern Branch on the General Council of the Society, and Mr. Ellis 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 at 31st December, 1961, was 235 persons. During the year, the following adjustments occurred:—

Elected	25	
Transferred to Branch	2	
—	—	27
Resigned	9	
Removed	2	
Deceased	3	
—	—	14
Net increase	13	

ACTIVITIES.

Eleven General Meetings and one Special Meeting were held during the year, at which the following papers were presented:—

General Meetings:

- 24 February: "The Migration of Birds", by Mr. R. H. Green.
- 24 March: "Early Days in New Norfolk", by Mr. K. R. von Stieglitz, O.B.E.
- 21 April: "The Oral Literature and Tradition of Our Aborigines", by Mr. Roland Robinson.
- 26 May: "One Hundred and Fifty Years of Geologists and Geology in Tasmania", by Mr. M. R. Banks, B.Sc.
- 30 June: "Radio Astronomy at the University of Tasmania", by Professor G. R. A. Ellis, B.Sc., Ph.D.
- 4 August: "Some Aspects of the History of the Launceston General Hospital", by Dr. C. Craig, C.M.G., M.D., M.S., D.D.R.
- 25 August: "Veterinary Science in Afghanistan", by Mr. W. H. Stevens, B.V.Sc.

22 September: "Two Renaissance Encyclopaedias", by Mr. D. H. Borchardt, M.A., A.L.A.

27 October: "The Origins of the Legal Profession in England", by Professor N. C. H. Dunbar, LL.M., J.S.D.

16 November: "Some Little-known Tasmanian Animals", by Emeritus Professor V. V. Hickman, D.Sc., B.A., C.M.Z.S.

8 December (Members' Night):—

"Ikebana—Japanese Flower Arrangement", by Mr. K. R. von Stieglitz, O.B.E.

"An Expedition to Black Pyramid", by Mr. R. H. Green.

"The Life Cycle of a Wanderer Butterfly", by Mr. H. J. King.

"Some Tasmanian Churches and Their Windows", by Mr. J. Glennie.

"A Japanese Home", by Mrs. B. J. Edwards.

"Citizen of No Mean City", by Mr. T. E. Burns.

The average attendance at General Meetings during 1961 was 60.

Special Meeting:

A Special Meeting of the Branch was held on 9th March, 1961, at which the President, the Right Honourable the Lord Rowallan, presided. An address on "The Promise of Atomic Power" was given by Professor J. P. Baxter, C.M.G., O.B.E., B.Sc., Ph.D., F.A.A., F.R.A.C.I.

In addition, the Branch members attended a lecture arranged by the Australian College of General Practitioners (Tasmanian Faculty) at which Dr. John Hunt, D.M., F.R.C.P., spoke on "Family Life and Family Medicine in Russia".

EXCURSIONS.

Five day excursions were held:—

9 April: York Town and Kelso.

7 June: Paton's and Baldwin's Mill.

13 August: Launceston Synagogue

24 September: Westbury District.

3 December: George Town.

In addition, an extended excursion to hydro-electric power installations on the Central Plateau was held during the long week-end on 4th-6th November. This was attended by 22 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.

C. CRAIG, Chairman.

W. F. ELLIS, Secretary.