

Annual Report, 1952

The Annual Meeting was held in the Society's Room, Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, on the 4th March, 1952.

The president, His Excellency the Governor, presided.

The following Office-bearers were elected:—

Vice-President: Under the Society's Rules Professor S. W. Carey retired from the office of Vice-President, and Mr. W. H. Hudspeth was appointed in his place (retiring 1954).

Hon. Secretary and Librarian: Dr. Joseph Pearson.

Hon. Assistant Secretary: Mr. D. Martin.

Hon. Treasurer: Mr. S. Angel.

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

Council: Under Rule 21 Mr. W. H. Hudspeth and Mr. F. C. Wolfhagen retired as members of the Council and Professor H. N. Barber and Mr. I. G. Anderson were elected in their place for a period of three years. Professor S. W. Carey was elected for two years in the place of the late Mr. A. L. Meston. Later in the year (May) Mr. L. W. Miller was elected a Vice-President in place of Mr. Hudspeth who died on 1st April, and Mr. C. Bisdee was elected to serve two years in the place of Mr. L. W. Miller.

The names of the full Council for 1952 are given on the previous page.

The Council made the following appointments at its first meeting:—

Assistant Librarian: Miss J. Robertson.

Standing Committee: Mr. J. W. C. Wyatt, Professor S. W. Carey, Dr. W. L. Crowther, and the Hon. Secretary.

Board of Trustees of the Tasmanian Museum, and Board of Trustees of Botanical Gardens: The Society's representatives for 1952 were as follows:—

Board of Trustees, Tasmanian Museum: Professor T. Hytten and Professor A. Burn.

Board of Trustees, Botanical Gardens: Mr. S. Angel.

Northern Branch Representation on Council: During the year the Council discussed the desirability of having a closer liaison with the Northern Branch and it was resolved that the Council of the Northern Branch should be invited to appoint one of its number to attend the meetings of the Society's Council in Hobart, and to have the status of a member of Council. Mr. K. von Stieglitz, the present President of the Northern Branch was appointed to fill this office during the year 1952.

Meetings: Nine ordinary meetings and one special meeting were held during the year. At the conclusion of the November meeting a Conversation was held at which approximately 250 people were present.

Refreshments: After considerable discussion in the Council an important innovation was made at the July meeting of the Society when supper was served after the meeting. In order to meet this special service it was found necessary to purchase crockery and a tea urn, which were obtained from the funds. This departure has proved most successful and it is proposed to make it a permanent feature in the Society's General Meetings.

Library: This year the periodicals continued to be revised. This involved an increase of 3,569 volumes in the Accession Book, which includes numbers of small booklets which had hitherto not been entered in the Accession Book and books and periodicals purchased or received by way of exchange from various institutions. The number of Institutions on the exchange list is now 271 and new exchanges have been arranged with the following institutions: Museum van Belgisch Congo; la Station Biologique de Roscoff, Hungarian Academy of Sciences; Accademia ligure di scienze e lettere; Institute di Entomologia della Universite degli Studi, Bologna; Sociedade Broteriana, Institut Botanique de l'Universite de Coimbra; Universidade de Lisbon. Faculdade de Ciencias; Estacion de Biologia Marina, Universidad de Chile; Universidad Central de Venezuela.

The Library now consists of 29,084 volumes.

Library Loans: For some years past an arrangement has been carried out with the Northern Branch of the Society by which certain periodicals from the Library are sent to Launceston on short loan. This practice which has been appreciated by the Northern members, has now been extended to the Science Library (Sandy Bay) of the University of Tasmania during the present year.

Library Lectures: The State Library Board has instituted a course of lectures on Library Technique under the guidance of Mr. F. Johnson and the State Librarian applied to the Council for permission to use the Society's room for these lectures which are held five days a week for the greater part of the year. The Council decided that they welcomed the opportunity of assisting this important move.

Changes in Staff: Miss Barbara Veale, who, though a member of the University Library Staff, had been seconded to the Society's Library to continue the work of cataloguing the Library, resigned in February, 1942, on the occasion of her marriage. The Assistant Librarian, Miss J. Robertson, succeeded Miss Veale and remained in the Society's Library to continue the compilation of the catalogue. Miss D. Bulman was appointed Assistant Librarian in February, 1952.

In December, 1952, the services of Miss Robertson were withdrawn from the Society's Library by the University authorities and thus our Library was left without a Cataloguer. Representations have been made to the Vice-Chancellor as to the serious position which has been created and it is hoped that the University will be able to continue the valuable work of cataloguing our Library for which they have been responsible for almost six years. The Council wishes to take this opportunity of expressing its gratitude to the University Council for having collaborated in this important work.

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Membership: The Society consists of the following members:—

Honorary members	3
Corresponding members	2
Ordinary members—	
Class A	239
Class B	155
	—————
	394
Life members	29
Associate members	20
	—————
	448
	—————

During the year 33 names were removed from the List of Members owing to deaths, resignations, &c., and 37 new members were elected.

Honorary Member: At the meeting on 4th March, Dr. J. Pearson was elected an Honorary Member of the Society under Rule 45. The Chairman pointed out that Dr. Pearson was not only a scientist of great distinction who had made outstanding research contributions which have been published in the Proceedings of the Society, but, over a period of years, he had been the pivot of organized science in Tasmania and had contributed more to the honorary administration of science, including the administration of the Society, than any other individual.

Retirement of Dr. Pearson from the Directorship of the Tasmanian Museum: On 31st December, 1952, Dr. Pearson retired from the post of Director of the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery. The two posts, that of Honorary Secretary of the Society and the Directorship of the Museum are very closely bound together and it is difficult in practice to know where the duties of one office ends and the other commences.

The Council are deeply appreciative of the time and effort which Dr. Pearson has put into his duties as Secretary to the Society in addition to his obligations as Director of the Tasmanian Museum, which post he filled with such distinction and service.

Deaths: The Council regrets having to record the deaths of the following persons:—Mr. P. Anderson, Mr. K. Brownell, Mr. W. H. Hudspeth, Mr. W. E. Masters, Commander James Murray, R.N. (Rtd.), Mr. H. Oliver, Mrs. G. E. Perrin.

Mr. W. H. Hudspeth: The Society sustained a grievous loss when Mr. W. H. Hudspeth died on 1st April, 1952. Mr. Hudspeth first joined the Society in 1935 and served as a member of Council and on two occasions as Vice-President. He placed at the disposal of the Society his encyclopaedic knowledge of Tasmanian history. This knowledge was always willingly given to members of the Society and to historical students from the University and from the Mainland. In view of the fact that the Society's Library deals to a considerable extent with historical matters it would be difficult to fill the gap which has been caused by Mr. Hudspeth's death. It should be added that Mr. Hudspeth was also for some years Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Tasmanian Museum and in

that capacity he was given a practical illustration of the intimate association which exists between the two Institutions. In his Will Mr. Hudspeth left £100 to the Society and also the following: 2 coloured lithographs by Elizabeth Hudspeth; the diaries and letter books of John Maule Hudspeth, Mr. Hudspeth's grandfather, and the diaries of his great grandfather, Thomas Hudspeth. In addition he left a most valuable collection of unpublished papers which, fortunately, will be placed at the disposal of the Society through the generosity of his son. A memorial notice dealing with Mr. Hudspeth's life and activities is appended to the present volume.

W. H. Hudspeth Memorial: A public meeting was held in the Society's Room on 26th January to launch an appeal for funds for the establishment of a Hudspeth Memorial. In response to this appeal a sum of £459 17s. 11d. was received and it was decided by the subscribers that the money should be used first to publish his paper "The Profile of a Pioneer" (500 copies) and that the balance of the money should be placed in the charge of the Council of the Royal Society of Tasmania to be used for the purchase of historical books for the Library and that each book should be inscribed to indicate that it formed part of the W. H. Hudspeth Memorial.

Mr. H. Oliver: Mr. H. Oliver joined the Society in 1924, and left £100 to the Society on his death.

Commander J. Murray: Mr. and Mrs. J. Murray have been faithful members of the Society for many years and Mrs. Murray gave £200 to the Tasmanian Museum in 1943 to be used for any Museum purpose which the Trustees decided upon.

Mr. W. E. Masters, LL.B.: Honorary Member: A full statement of his service to the Society was given in last year's annual report.

PAPERS AND PROCEEDINGS:

Finance: The steep rise in the cost of printing the Papers and Proceedings in the last two or three years has been a matter of great concern to the Council. The Society is entirely dependent upon the Government grant to maintain and publish its Journal each year. The Society's Journal has a long and honourable history and has appeared without a break since its first volume was published in 1849. The value of the journal is twofold. It provides a medium for the publication of scientific papers dealing with matter of special significance to Tasmania. It also enables the Society to enter into a reciprocal arrangement with learned Societies and institutions throughout the world by which a mutual exchange of publications has been established. In this way the Society's Library, now consisting of upwards of 26,000 volumes, has been built up in the course of over a century a Library which is not only used by members but also by Government Departments and members of the University. The Society's Library is a national institution and the Government has cause to regard with satisfaction the outcome of its generosity in giving financial aid to the Society and in this maintaining what is one of the finest Libraries of its kind in Australia. Unfortunately in the present financial

year the Government has felt obliged to reduce its grant and the Council is confronted with a very serious situation which, if a solution is not found, might result in the size of the annual volume being reduced. The Government Grant for the 1952 volume (Vol. 86) was £400. The actual cost of printing the volume was £573. Thus the Council is faced with the problem of finding £173 to meet this charge. Fortunately this burden has been substantially reduced by a gift of £50 from the Zoological Department of the University of Tasmania towards the cost of printing Mr. Guiler's papers which appeared in the 1952 issue. In thanking the Government for the financial assistance which they have given to the Society for the printing of the Papers and Proceedings, special note should be made of the fact that a deficit of £24 19s. on the 1950 volume was paid by the Treasury.

Numbering the Volumes of the Papers and Proceedings: The annual volume of the Papers and Proceedings issued by the Society has always been given the designation of the year for which it formed a record, but in point of fact the volume was not published until the following year. This practice gave rise to some confusion as it became necessary in referring to the volume to give two dates. In order to obviate this difficulty the Council has now decided to number the volumes consecutively, and after a careful examination of the records of the Society it was found that the 1951 volume which was published in 1952 was actually the 86th volume of the series. The 1951 volume, therefore, was given the number 86 and the present volume in which this account of the Society's proceedings are printed will be Volume 87. It is important for members and institutions receiving the volume as an exchange to note this fundamental change.

The Royal Society of Tasmania

Statement of Receipts and Payments for Year Ending 31st December, 1952.

General Fund.

<i>Receipts.</i>				<i>Payments.</i>				
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
Balance from last account		74	15	5	Salaries	233	12	5
Subscriptions:—					Library	162	19	10
£2 223 + £1 4s.	£447	4	0	Stationery, printing and advertising	48	14	6	
£1 10s. 148	222	0	0	Expenses lectures	35	2	3	
£1 1s. 5	5	5	0	Postage and delivery charges Papers and				
15s. 15	11	5	0	Proceedings	23	18	6	
		685	14	0	Light and power	82	7	9
Sale of publications		51	16	3	Insurance	27	7	6
Rentals, &c.		56	7	8	Govt. Printer, balance of Papers and Pro-			
Refund for Biological Abstracts—University					ceedings, 1951	70	0	0
of Tasmania		142	12	3	Transferred Life Membership Fund, Biol. Abs.	110	8	10
Sale of cupboards		10	0	0	Transferred, Reserve Fund, sale publications			
Refunds: Clive Lord Memorial Lecture:					1951	12	14	11
Expenses from C.L.M. Fund	£11	17	4	Miscellaneous	13	2	0	
Expenses Friends of Museum	19	0	0	Equipment	98	10	4	
		30	17	4	Northern Branch, share subscriptions 1951	73	18	0
Refund, half cost Conversazione 30th Septem-					Petty cash (balance in hand £3 1s. 2½d.)	87	17	3
ber, Friends of Museum		19	0	0	Balance to next account	19	5	0
Transfer of money from Funds for Books:								
R. M. Johnston Fund	£6	8	2					
Morton Allport Fund	7	2	2					
A. H. Clarke Bequest	3	8	7					
Milligan Bequest	5	1	2					
A. N. Lewis (1951)	6	16	1					
		28	16	2				
		£1,099	19	1				
						£1,099	19	1

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S. ANGEL, Hon. Treasurer.
A. M. HEWER, Hon. Auditor.

J. W. C. WYETT, Vice-President.
JOSEPH PEARSON, Hon. Secretary.

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Royal Society Funds

Statement of Balances for Year Ended 31st December, 1952.

	£	s.	d.
Reserve Account	95	9	1
Life Membership Account	281	7	9
Clive Lord Memorial Fund (£200)	13	0	6
R. M. Johnston Memorial Fund (£232)	0	9	7
Morton Allport Memorial Fund (£200)	0	10	8
A. H. Clarke Bequest (£100)	0	1	8
A. N. Lewis Memorial Fund (£250)	30	14	1
Milligan Bequest (£150)	0	3	4

Northern Branch

Annual Report for 1952

The annual meeting of the Royal Society of Tasmania, Northern Branch, was held at the Museum on the 7th March, 1952.

Dr. C. Craig presided and under the rules the following office-bearers were elected:—

Chairman: Mr. K. R. von Stieglitz.

Vice-Chairman: Mr. G. C. McKinlay.

Council: Dr. C. Craig, Mr. J. E. Heritage, Mr. W. Gellie, Mr. G. H. Crawford, Mr. R. Smith.

Hon. Secretary and Treasurer: Miss I. Thomson.

Meetings: During the year seven Council Meetings were held and nine General Meetings. Historical Expeditions were also held.

Membership: During 1952, twenty-four nominations for membership were received. We record with regret the deaths of two of our members, Mrs. G. E. Perrin and Mr. P. Anderson.

The Late W. H. Hudspeth: Members in the North regretted the passing of Mr. W. H. Hudspeth and have contributed generously to his Memorial Fund.

Books: The Library has been increased by the addition of approximately ten books.

Donations: Among donations gratefully acknowledged are:

Mr. G. Sidebottom—old newspapers.

Mr. W. Archer—old newspapers.

Rev. R. M. Rupp—orchid collection.

Mr. J. Hudspeth—collection of historical slides.

State Representation: The Branch is gratified that it has been given representation on the State Council.

Sesquicentenary Celebrations: The Branch has already made arrangements for the celebration of the State's Sesquicentenary. Plans for the proposed memorial to Lieut-Governor William Paterson at York town have been prepared by Mr. Gordon Willing and have been accepted by the State Sesquicentenary Committee.

It is also proposed that a memorial should be erected to William Collins who discovered the site of Launceston.

It has been decided that the erection of a plaque to mark the site of the building of the "Rebecca" which took John Batman to Victoria should be included in these celebrations.

During the time of the Centenary it is hoped to hold a series of public lectures dealing with the early history of the State.

Thanks are due to the Chairman, Members of the Council, and all who have helped and co-operated in the work of the Branch during the year.

Royal Society of Tasmania

(Northern Branch)

Statement of Assets and Expenditure for Year Ended 31st December, 1952.

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ASSETS			EXPENDITURE		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Cash in hand 1/1/52	42	10 6	Stamps and postages	24	17 6
Subscriptions	73	18 0	Library	15	15 4
Interest	1	12 0	Printing	0	6 0
			Travelling expenses	14	5 0
			Sundry expenses	2	1 3
			Balance to next Account	60	15 5
	<u>£118</u>	<u>0 6</u>		<u>£118</u>	<u>0 6</u>

Audited and found correct,

J. C. WILLIAMS,
1st April, 1953.

ABSTRACTS OF PROCEEDINGS