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Proceedings at Annual General Meeting, Bristol, 1918

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Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society.

PROCEEDINGS

AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING,

AT BRISTOL,

On Monday, July 22nd, 1918.

THE Annual Meeting of the Society was held on the 22nd July, 1918, by kind permission of the Lord Mayor, at the Council House, Bristol, Dr. E. S. HARTLAND, President, in the chair.

Among the members present were Mr. F. A. Hyett, (Chairman of Council), Mr. J. E. Pritchard (Vice-Chairman), Rev. Canon Bazeley, Mr. St. Clair Baddeley (Vice-Presidents), Rev. W. E. Blathwayt, Messrs. Charles Wells, J. J. Simpson, W. Leighton, A. C. Powell, H. Jenner-Fust, sen., F. S. Hockaday, Dr. A. C. Fryer, Rev. C. Swynnerton, Colonel Yabbicom, Miss Roper, Lieut.-Colonel Buckton, Rev. E. R. Mosley, and Mr. Roland Austin (General Secretary). Mrs. and Miss Pritchard were present as visitors.

The GENERAL SECRETARY read the minutes of a Special General Meeting held at Bristol on Monday, January 28th, 1918, when the alterations and additions to the Rules, which had been printed and circulated to every member of the Society, were approved and adopted, and in accordance with the Rules were ordered to be reported for confirmation at the Annual Meeting.

On the motion of the PRESIDENT the alterations, amendments and additions adopted at the Special General Meeting were confirmed. The Rules as thus revised will be found on pages 99.

The following report of the Council for the year 1917-18 was read :—

1. For the fourth time the Annual General Meeting is held in the midst of the great European War: and while the Council recognize that much of the activity of the Society has to remain in abeyance, they trust, for the sake of its past record, and in the firm hope as to the ultimate issue of the conflict which is raging, that members will continue their support, so that when the sword is laid aside the objects for which the Society has striven during the past forty and more years may once again be followed with renewed zest.

2. *Membership.*—The number of Members and Subscribing Libraries is now 465, an increase of two compared with July, 1917. Only one member, the Rev. C. C. MURRAY-BROWNE, who always took a keen interest in the work of the Society, has died during the year. Sixteen members have resigned, and the names of four have been removed. Twenty-two new members have been elected, and the name of a Life Member whose address was unknown for some time has been restored to the list. Compared with 1914, the membership has decreased by 101, and of those who were in the list for that year, forty-eight have died, seventy-nine have resigned, and the names of twenty-two have been removed. In the same period forty-eight new members have been elected. The Council realize that the anxious period through which the country is passing makes it difficult to secure new members at present, though they feel confident that eventually a large influx may be looked for, and in spite of circumstances with which they have now to contend, they venture to think that the Society is both financially and numerically in a fairly healthy condition.

3. *Finance.*—The Accounts for 1917 have been audited by Mr. J. J. Simpson, to whom the Society is once more indebted for his services as Honorary Auditor. The Council are glad to be

able to present a satisfactory statement, though they must point out that certain items in the income will not recur. The arrears of subscriptions collected were unusually large, amounting to £74 os. 6d., and the Council have pleasure in reporting that the year closed without a single subscription outstanding. They appeal to members to send their subscriptions early in the year, so as to avoid the expense and trouble caused by unpunctual payment.

The opportunity extended to members for purchasing the publications of the Society at reduced prices has been taken advantage of by many, and the receipts from this source amounted to £66 17s. 11d. An application for the repayment of Income Tax was successful, and £11 3s. 4d. were recovered. The interest on War Loan amounted to £30 12s. 6d., and will in future years, if the amount of the present holding remains unchanged, be £32 10s. A balance of £98 17s. 11d. was brought forward from 1916, and the actual income for the year was £409 8s. 11d., making a total of £508 6s. 10d. The expenditure amounted to £236 13s. 11d., of which £147 12s. 7d. are charged to *Transactions*, and £55 2s. 6d. to the Society's Libraries at Bristol and Gloucester and for rent of Eastgate Room, leaving the comparatively small sum of £33 18s. 10d. for general expenditure. Through a re-arrangement of the Society's affairs (which is now completed), the annual payments have been reduced by £27 5s. The balance carried forward on 31st December was £208 18s. 6d., but in view of the cost of printing the General Index—to which reference is made below—and the very considerable increase now charged for printing the *Transactions*, it is feared that the whole of this sum will be shortly absorbed. The balance sheet shows a surplus of £695 9s. 7d., without taking into account the value of the Society's libraries or stock of publications.

4. *Transactions*.—The *Transactions* for 1917 were issued in May last, completing the fortieth volume, and the Society can look back with satisfaction to the very substantial additions thus made since 1876 to the printed records relating to the County. The series, it is generally admitted, holds a high place among *Proceedings* of Archæological Societies. This is, of course, chiefly due to the exceptional excellence of many of the papers which it

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS (*continued*).

RECEIPTS.

£ s. d.

EXPENDITURE.

£ s. d. £ s. d.

BY EASTGATE ROOM—

Rent 10 0 0

Cleaning and Firing 1 16 10

11 16 10

„ MISCELLANEOUS PAYMENTS—

Preparation of General Index,
third instalment 7 0 0

Casing *Transactions* for
exchange 1 9 0

Binding *Transactions* for
presentation 1 8 10

Purchase of *Transactions* for
Society 1 1 9

General Printing, Osborne .. 5 7 5

„ Arrowsmith 1 5 0

Cheque Book 0 5 0

Postages—

Hon. Secretary .. 6 1 6

Assistant Secretary 0 11 5

Treasurer 0 11 4

Editor 1 0 0

8 4 3

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS (*continued*).

6

RECEIPTS.

£ s. d.

£508 6 10

EXPENDITURE.

£ s. d. £ s. d.

By MISCELLANEOUS PAYMENTS (*contd.*).

Clerical assistance	0	13	6		
Travelling expenses	0	17	9		
Gratuities, Bristol and Gloucester	1	6	6		
Packing and Carriage of Publications	4	10	0		
Stationery	0	9	10		
				<u>33</u>	<u>18 10</u>

236 13 11

„ INVESTMENT—

Purchase of 5 per cent. War Stock (£66 os. 5d.)		62	14	5	
				<u>62</u>	<u>14 5</u>

299 8 4

„ BALANCES—

Deposit Account	100	0	0		
Current Account	108	18	6		
				<u>208</u>	<u>18 6</u>

£508 6 10

TRANSACTIONS FOR THE YEAR 1918.

I have examined this Balance Sheet and the Statement of Receipts and Payments for the year ending 31st December, 1917, and find the same correct.

8th January, 1918.

(Signed) J. J. SIMPSON.

contains; but it is also owing—and in no small measure—to the ability of its successive Editors, who have almost uninterruptedly maintained the very high standard which the *Transactions* of the Society reached under the supervision of the first Editor, Sir John Maclean. The Council desire to thank Dr. E. Sidney Hartland, the present Editor, for the judgement, time and trouble which he devotes to the duties of his office. It is also gratifying to know that members are offering material for publication of a character which assures the interest and value of forthcoming volumes. The Council also wish to thank Dr. Fryer for providing at his own cost the blocks illustrating the paper on the Fifteenth-century Fonts in the County, which is printed in the volume just issued.

5. *General Index*.—The Index to Volumes XXI.—XL., which has been in preparation, was completed with the issue of the last volume, and the Council immediately considered the question of its publication. Owing to the heavy increase in the charges for paper and wages, the expense will be much greater than was anticipated; but the Council felt that the value of the Index, and the possibility of any delay involving still further advance in cost, made it imperative to proceed at once. The Index was therefore placed in the printers' hands, and it is hoped the volume will be completed in the autumn. It was intended that the Index should take the place of the usual volume of *Transactions*, and it ought therefore to be issued in 1919 in respect of the year 1918, but later in this year the Council will consider whether the funds at their disposal permit the publication of a part of *Transactions* as well. It is proposed to include in the General Index a Subject-Index to all the illustrations in Volumes I.—XL., which will certainly add to its usefulness.

6. *Library*.—The use made of the Society's Library at Gloucester is on the increase, as in addition to the books consulted there, 114 volumes were issued to members during the past year, as against 72 and 76 in the two previous years. The Committee were authorised to spend a sum of £20 in the purchase of books, and they continue their efforts to complete sets of the *Transactions* of Societies, and to add to the Calendars of Public Records. The additions made to the Library are now printed in the *Transactions*.

7. *Winter Meetings.*—With the help of members of the Society the Local Committee at Gloucester were able to continue the winter meetings, and the series of seven lectures arranged for the session 1917-18 was well attended. The meetings were as follows :—

November 22nd, 1917. "Man before Metals," by A. J. de Havilland Bushnell.

December 13th, 1917. "Some Early Gloucester Artists," by W. St. Clair Baddeley.

January 17th, 1918. "Avril Bread," by E. Sidney Hartland, LL.D., F.S.A., President.

January 31st, 1918. "Some Gloucestershire Poets," by J. W. Haines.

February 14th, 1918. "The Priory Church of Stanley St. Leonard," by Rev. C. Swynnerton.

March 7th, 1918. "Ancient English Encaustic Tiles," by Mrs. A. H. Hore.

March 21st, 1918. "Roman London and the Defences of Britain," by W. St. Clair Baddeley.

These lectures have tended to keep alive an interest in objects which our Society desires to further, and in a way which could not offend the taste of those who, naturally and properly, are averse in these unhappy times to the holding of large meetings which have even an appearance of gatherings for the purpose of enjoyment.

8. *Council Meetings.*—Four meetings have been held during the year, and the Council desire to thank the Lord Mayor of Bristol and the Mayor of Gloucester for their continued courtesy in granting the use of rooms for this purpose.

9. *Eastgate Room.*—The tenancy of this room at Gloucester was given up at Christmas, and satisfactory arrangements have been made with the Public Library Committee for housing the book-cases, publications and other property of the Society.

10. *Rules.*—The Council have found it desirable to recommend certain alterations in the Rules governing the affairs of the Society,

and these were circulated to members and submitted to a Special General Meeting at Bristol on January 28th last, when the recommendations were unanimously approved and adopted. In accordance with the Rules the changes which were so carried are submitted to the Annual General Meeting held to-day and, if then confirmed, will at once become operative.

II. *Council and Officers.*—The Council desire to recommend for election and re-election the following members as Council and Officers for the year 1918-19: President, John E. Pritchard, F.S.A.; Chairman of Council, F. A. Hyett; Vice-Chairman of Council, John E. Pritchard, F.S.A.; Vice-Presidents, The Mayor of Gloucester (Sir James Bruton), W. St. Clair Baddeley, Canon Bartleet, F.S.A., Canon Bazeley, Christopher Bowly, H. W. Bruton, G. M. Currie, The Dean of Gloucester (H. Gee, F.S.A.), A. E. Hudd, F.S.A., F. A. Hyett, Russell J. Kerr, Professor Oman, F.S.A., Archdeacon Sinclair, Rev. C. S. Taylor, F.S.A., E. S. Hartland, LL.D., F.S.A.

Members of Council.—The following retire and are eligible for re-election: James Baker, G. S. Blakeway, Rev. W. E. Blathwayt, C. E. Boucher, T. S. Ellis, Wilfrid Leighton, J. J. Simpson, Charles Wells.

Editor, E. Sidney Hartland, LL.D., F.S.A.; *Treasurer*, F. Hannam-Clark; *Secretary for Bristol*, L. J. U. Way, F.S.A.; *General Secretary*, Roland Austin; *Local Secretaries*—Cheltenham, Lieut.-Col. J. C. Duke; Cirencester, E. C. Sewell; Fairford, ¹Rev. W. C. Emeris; Lydney, F. S. Hockaday; Newent, E. Conder, F.S.A.; Northern, E. A. B. Barnard, F.S.A.; Dursley, R. H. Penley; Tewkesbury, F. W. Godfrey; Berkeley, Rev. W. F. D. Curtoys; Wotton-under-Edge, V. R. Perkins.

The PRESIDENT briefly moved the adoption of the report, and in so doing took occasion to express the Society's gratitude to Mr. Austin, General Secretary, for the great amount of work he had done, and the special efforts he had made to get in the outstanding subscriptions and otherwise to improve the Society's position.

¹ Since resigned, Canon R. C. S. Jones, Fairford Vicarage, consenting to act as Local Secretary.

Mr. F. A. HYETT seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

The officers and members of Council for the coming year nominated by the Council were formally elected.

Mr. J. E. PRITCHARD was then installed in the chair as President, and returned thanks for the honour conferred upon him.

Mr. F. A. HYETT moved, and Mr. W. ST. CLAIR BADDELEY seconded, a vote of thanks to Dr. Hartland, the retiring President, which was carried unanimously.

The PRESIDENT then delivered his address on "The Work of the Society—Past and Future," which will be found on page 11.

Dr. HARTLAND moved a hearty vote of thanks to the President for his admirable and inspiring address, which was worthy of his great reputation as an archæologist.

Mr. F. S. HOCKADAY seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

The PRESIDENT acknowledged the resolution, and expressed the thanks of the Society to the Lord Mayor for the use of the Council Chamber, and also to the Town Clerk for his kind assistance in the arrangements for the meeting.