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Proceedings of the Society.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The Annual General Meeting of the Society was held in the School of Art, Cork, on Thursday, 7th April, 1938. Dr. E. W. Waters, Vice-President, in the Chair.

Letters of apology for inability to attend were read from Dr. P. J. Merriman (Vice-President), Dr. John J. Fitzgerald, Messrs. T. Mahony Dowd, W. H. Hill, William J. Barry, R. H. Humphries. A letter was read from Mr. M. F. Cogan, resigning the Honorary Treasurership because of ill-health.

The Honorary Secretary (Professor Seán P. Ó Ríordáin) read his Annual Report as follows :—

It gives me great pleasure to be able to report that in general the period of the twelve months which have elapsed since the last Annual General Meeting was marked by the gratifying progress of the Society, the continuance of the activities of past years, the revival of activities that had lapsed and a considerable increase in membership which is the most healthy sign of the state of the Society. The most important activity of the Society is and must continue to be the publication of the Society's Journal. Your Council had under consideration at several meetings the question of the financial arrangements between the Society and the printers and publishers of the Journal. An arrangement has been come to which, it is confidently felt, will prove more satisfactory, not only to the Society, but also to the printers. By this arrangement the Journal becomes more completely the responsibility and the property of the Society and the satisfactoriness of the arrangement is already reflected in the increase in the size of the two parts published for 1937. It is gratifying also to report that the Journal is being brought out more promptly, a considerable improvement on this score having been effected in 1937, and we feel confident that future numbers will be published on or very close to the publication dates—June 30th and December 31st. In the matter of material for publication we are fortunate in being well supplied at present, but in order that there might be maintained a balance between different kinds of contributions, it would be well if authors proposing to write for our Journal would give some indication of their intention even before the articles are ready and if they would make known the subjects on which they propose to write. In this manner the contents of the Journal could be more systematically planned. A criticism which has been made against the Journal, and for which I feel there is some justification, is that the matter published is too much concerned with history and too little with archaeology. While it is felt that an increase in the amount of purely archaeological material is desirable the question of cost stands in the way. Such material must be well illustrated to be of use and the cost of publication of illustrations is notoriously high. However, with increased support, a more balanced Journal will be possible.

EXCURSIONS AND LECTURES.

Two very successful outings were held by the Society during the year. The first was to Kilcrea Abbey and to the Excavations at Garranes (the site of the Rath Raithleann). On this outing explanatory talks were given by Mr. P. Hartnett, Professor D. Corkery, Mr. Sean Conlon and the Hon. Secretary.

The second outing was to Kinsale, where the antiquities of the town were explained to the party by Rev. P. MacSwiney and Mr. Seamus Breathnach, and where the members were hospitably entertained by Father MacSwiney.

The programme of winter lectures was revived in the 1937–38 season and proved a success. The opening lecture on "The Origin and Growth of Cork City," by Mr. W. O'Sullivan, was given under the joint auspices of the Society and the Cork Graduates' Club, and attracted an overflow audience in the Dairy Science Institute Lecture Theatre at University College. A series of four lectures was given in the Lecture Theatre of the School of Art to members and to the holders of tickets issued at a nominal sum to non-members. The attendance was on the whole very satisfactory,

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especially in a city such as Cork, which has such a high number of lectures in proportion to its population. The following lectures were given :—Seamus Pender, M.A., "Cork in 1659"; H. G. Leask, M.R.I.A., "Irish Castles of the Thirteenth Century"; Rev. M. Moloney, "The Making of Limerick"; Rev. P. MacSwiney, M.A., "Kisnale through the Ages."

LIBRARY.

As the Society has no premises of its own, the question of the storage and custody of such books as might from time to time become the property of the Society was considered by the Council and an arrangement has been come to with the Cork Public Library, by kind permission of the Librarian and Committee, that the books belonging to the Society will be stored in the Reference Room of the Library and may be there consulted by members or by the public.

Among the publications in the Society's possession are the following works recently presented :—

Charters and Documents relating to thr City of Glasgow (3 vols.)—presented by the Glasgow Archaeological Society.

The Economic History of Cork, by William O'Sullivan—presented by the reviewer, Mr. J. C. Nagle.

The Halberd in Bronze Age Europe, by Seán P. Ó Ríordáin—presented by the author.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.

Many of the activities of the Society and much of the reorganisation which it has been possible to effect during the past year, would not have been possible but for the co-operation received by the Council and by myself from various bodies and individuals. In particular, thanks are due to the City of Cork Vocational Education Committee for generously granting us the use of the School of Art Lecture Theatre for our lectures and meetings ; to the authorities of University College for similar facilities granted to the Graduates' Club and our Society for the joint Inaugural Lecture ; to the County Library Committee, County Librarian and staff for the use of the lantern at our illustrated lectures ; to the Press, for its constant readiness to co-operate in bringing our activities before the public and so helping very considerably in our increase in membership. In this matter of acknowledgements I hope I may be forgiven for the inclusion of a more personal note. When, twelve months ago, I was elected to the Honorary Secretaryship of the Society I undertook, with the Council's approval and co-operation, various items of reorganisation which it was felt were necessary for the survival and well-being of the Society. I should like to emphasise here and now, how much I appreciate the manner in which the Council and particularly the officers and older members, some of whom have been connected with the Society almost from its foundation, gave me every assistance and in such generous measure fell in with the proposals for the advancement of the Society. It is regrettable that when speaking of the officers of the Society we have to report that our Honorary Treasurer, Mr. M. F. Cogan, who also took over that office at the last Annual General Meeting, has been ill during a considerable portion of the year. Mr. Cogan took over his new task with energy and in a short time had induced many new members to join the Society. Had his health remained good, there is no doubt that he would have achieved much for the Society.

In conclusion, a word about the future. The membership of the Society now stands about two hundred and fifty. This is satisfactory but by no means sufficient. It must be the aim of the Society to have a membership of three times that figure. This would make possible many activities now beyond our resources and it would ultimately enable us to have a permanent habitat and offices. It is to be hoped that every member will endeavour to influence others to join. It must be emphasised that the Society is an old Cork institution, with a history of nearly half-a-century, and that it is the only local society of its kind with so long a record of unbroken effort. Further, it has long been the aim of the Society to extend its activities to the whole of Munster, in view of the fact that most of the other societies that flourished in the province earlier in this century have become moribund and it is now hoped that we may, in fact, be able to accomplish this. We hope, therefore, that our membership will increase not only in Cork but throughout Munster and among Munster men generally. Perhaps we may hope for a response from the Munster exiles who are interested in the past of their native province. For those who do not belong to the Society we would like to stress the fact that membership is quite open and is available to all interested in the objects of the Society. Nor is the subscription (15/– per annum) prohibitive, carrying as it does, the right to take part in all activities of the Society and the receipt free of the half-yearly Journal.

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In the absence through illness of the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. C. J. F. MacCarthy, who, with Mr. M. J. Lavallin, had acted as Hon. Auditor of the Society's accounts, gave the meeting a statement of the finances of the Society.

Mr. Collins proposed, and Mr. Long seconded, that the reports be adopted. Mr. W. O'Sullivan, Mr. E. Carberry, Mr. Tadgh O Tuama and Mr. S. Conlon having spoken, the reports were unanimously adopted.

Amendment to Rules.

On the proposition of Mr. MacCarthy, seconded by Commander O'Connell, Rule 6 was amended to allow of the institution of a Life Subscription of £8, as already provisionally adopted by the Council.

On the proposition of Mr. Conlon, seconded by Mr. W. O'Sullivan, Rule 11 was amended by the deletion of the words *at such time and place* and the substitution of the words *at such convenient time before Easter and in such place.*

Officers and Council were elected as follows :—President : Colonel James Grove White, C.M.G., D.L., F.R.S.A.I. ; Vice-Presidents : Michael Holland, Dr. P. J. Merriman, M.A., LL.D., ; Dr. Eaton W. Waters, M.B., F.R.S.A.I. ; Hon. Secretary : Professor Seán P. Ó Ríordáin, M.A., Ph.D., M.R.I.A., F.S.A. ; Hon. Treasurer : C. J. F. MacCarthy, A.C.R.A., F.R.Econ.S. ; Hon. Auditors : J. P. Conlon, M.A.; W. O'Sullivan, M.A. Council : William J. Barry ; James Buckley, M.R.I.A. ; E. Carberry, F.L.A. ; J. P. Cody, B.A. ; J. T. Collins ; John P. Conlon, M.A., F.R.S.A.I. ; M. F. Cogan ; Barry M. Egan ; Dr. John J. Fitzgerald, M.D., F.R.S.A.I. ; Right Honourable Sir Stanley Harrington, Kt., B.A. ; Miss Pauline Henley, M.A. ; Henry H. Hill, B.A., A.R.I.A.B.A.; W. H. Hill, F.R.I.A.I.; M. J. Lavallin; Florence C. Long, M.R.S.A.I. ; Sidney Royse Lysaght ; Rev. P. McSwiney, C.C., M.A. ; Very Rev. Martin Canon Murphy ; Commander D. B. O'Connell, R.N. (Rtd), F.R.S.A.I. ; E. O'Mahony, B.L., K.M. ; D. O'Sullivan ; W. O'Sullivan, M.A. ; Seamus Pender, M.A.

EXCURSIONS.

Visit to Youghal.

On Saturday afternoon, May 21st, the Society visited the Antiquities of Youghal. The party numbering about sixty persons. Talks were given by:—Mr. D. O'Sullivan, on the Monastic foundations ; Mr. Justin C. Condon, who acted as guide to the antiquities of the town ; Mrs. Raburn, who guided the party over Myrtle Grove, the one-time residence of Sir Walter Raleigh (thrown open to the party by very kind permission of Major and Mrs. Arbuthnot) ; Mr. William Murphy, who acted as guide to the Church of St. Marys, by kind permission of the Rector, Rev. J. McCartney. The College adjoining St. Mary's was visited by gracious consent of Mrs. Fleming and family. Finally the party met at tea at the Devonshire Arms Hotel.

Visit to Cork-Limerick Border.

On Saturday, June 18th, a joint outing was held by this Society and the Thomond Archaeological Society and Field Club. The party which numbered

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sixty-seven, met at Ballybeg Abbey and visited also Buttevant, Kilmallock and Lough Gur. Talks were given by Mr. H. G. Leask, Inspector of National Monuments, Rev. M. Moloney and Dr. Seán P. Ó Ríordáin.

CO-OPTIONS TO COUNCIL.

At a meeting of the Council, held on June 10th, the following were co-opted to vacancies on the Council: J. J. O'Shea, P. Hartnett, B.A., Rev. P. Cahalane, C.C., M.A., S.T.L.

BROADCASTS.

By the kindness of the Director and Assistant-Director of Radio Éireann, a series of six talks are being given by members of the Society. These talks have as their subjects such aspects of history and archaeology as are likely to have a popular appeal.

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