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The Thirty-Sixth Annual Report of the Council

R. R. Marett

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THE THIRTY-SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COUNCIL.

DURING the past year fifty new members have joined the Society, and one library has been added to the roll of subscribers. On the other hand the Council have to record the deaths of five members, while there have been as many as fifteen resignations. It is satisfactory to note that no library has withdrawn its subscription. The number of libraries and kindred institutions subscribing to the Society being only 146, the Council are of opinion that the list ought to be largely increased, and request members to use any influence they may possess in that direction. The list of members and subscribers has been carefully revised, and the total number now stands at 453.

Among those of whom the Society has been deprived by death are Lord Avebury, one of the Vice-Presidents of the Society, who became a member in 1880, only two years after its formation, and the Hon. George Wyndham. A vote of condolence with Lady Avebury, passed at the meeting of the Society held in June, has been recorded in the minutes, which will be found printed in the September number of *Folk-Lore*.

Meetings of the Society have been held as follows, viz. :

- 15th January. "Old Dorset Customs and Superstitions." Mr. H. Pouncy.
- 19th February. (Annual Meeting.) Presidential Address: "Methods of Investigation and Folklore Origins." Mr. W. Crooke.
- 19th March. "Bringing in the Fly." Mr. Percy Manning.
"British Calendar Customs." Miss C. S. Burne.

- 16th April. "The Poetry of the Kiwai Papuans." Dr. G. Landtman.
- 21st May. "The Religion of Manipur." Col. J. Shakespear.
- 18th June. "The Romance of Mélusine." Mr. E. Sidney Hartland.
 "The Moorish Conception of Holiness." Dr. E. Westermarck.
- 19th November. "Innate Ideas of South Sea Islanders." Sir Everard im Thurn.
- 17th December. "Influence of Environment upon the Religious Ideas and Practices of the Aborigines of Northern Asia." Miss Czaplicka.
 "Hook-Swinging in India. Its Probable Origin and Significance."
 Mr. J. H. Powell.

Exhibits were on view and lantern slides exhibited at several of the meetings. Mr. E. Lovett exhibited in March some examples of folk medicine still used in some parts of London; in April, a collection of amulets and charms from the eastern counties of England; and in June, a collection of amulets for good luck in fishing, used by fishermen on the coasts of the British Islands, with foreign examples for comparison; and in December Miss E. Canziani exhibited a collection of objects of interest from the Abruzzi. The Council regret that Mr. Pendlebury, who a year ago was appointed to act as convener of the Exhibits and Museum Committee, is no longer able to carry on the work; Mr. H. V. Routh has kindly consented to take his place. A circular letter has been issued, requesting members possessing folklore specimens available for study to furnish the secretary with particulars, so that the Council may know from whom they may invite the loan of specimens illustrative of or connected with the papers announced for reading. If such information were forthcoming, there should be no difficulty in arranging for the exhibition of appropriate objects at the meetings of the Society.

During the ensuing summer term the Anthropological Society of Oxford have it in contemplation to hold a meeting at Oxford, to which members of the Folk-Lore Society will be invited. Professor Gilbert Murray has consented to read a paper on Euripides as an anthro-

pologist. It is hoped that the meeting will be well attended, and that meetings of a similar nature may be arranged at Oxford or Cambridge either annually or in alternate years.

Several additions have been made to the Society's Library during the year, particulars of which have been duly noted in the pages of *Folk-Lore*. The Council have not yet taken any steps in reference to printing a catalogue, as they are of opinion that the expense of compiling a catalogue, other than the slip catalogue already prepared for the use of members by the Hon. Librarian, could hardly be justified.

Dr. Gaster and Mr. Longworth Dames attended the meeting of the Congress of Archæological Societies at Burlington House in July as representatives of the Society; and the President and many other members represented the Society at the meeting of the British Association at Birmingham in September.

The twenty-fourth volume of *Folk-Lore* has been issued during the year. The Council are once more indebted to Mr. A. R. Wright for compiling the index.

The *Bibliography of Anthropology and Folklore* dealing with the year 1908 has not yet been issued, and the Council have to plead for still further indulgence in this matter, as they have experienced far greater difficulties in getting the work completed than they anticipated on the Anthropological side.

The Council have pleasure in announcing that Mr. Simpkins's collection of the folklore of the counties of Fife, Clackmannan, and Kinross, from printed sources, which they have decided shall be the additional volume for 1912, is in the press, and they hope that it will be in the hands of members before Easter. The additional volume for 1913 will be the *Handbook of Folklore*, which the Council are glad to report is now completed, and they hope that it may be published before the meeting of the British Association in September. The completion of the

volume has involved an immense expenditure of time and labour, for which the Society owes a deep debt of gratitude to Miss C. S. Burne.

The work of the Brand Committee has been progressing satisfactorily since the last Report. Miss C. S. Burne has kindly consented to act as Honorary Secretary of the Committee, and a number of voluntary assistants are throwing themselves energetically into the work. Circulars have been sent out to various Archæological Societies, with the result that out of the twenty counties from which little material has hitherto been obtained promises of help have been received from Monmouthshire, Northants, Surrey, Sussex, and Wilts. Workers in Wales, Scotland, and Ireland are also making progress. The Committee hope to submit a fuller report shortly.

The Council, after long and anxious consideration, have severed their connection with the firm of D. Nutt, and have entered into an agreement with Messrs. Sidgwick & Jackson, of 3 Adam Street, Adelphi, W.C., who since the 1st July have been the Society's publishers. The Council hope that the step they have taken may prove of advantage to the Society.

The sum received as members' subscriptions in 1913 amounted to £451 13s. od., which included one life subscription of £5 5s. od. under the amended rule passed at the last annual meeting. In 1912 the receipts from the same source amounted to £446 7s. od. The receipts from subscriptions are, therefore, practically stationary; but it is to be observed that more subscriptions were paid in advance in 1912 than was the case in 1913. The Council are pleased to note a considerable reduction in the amount due in respect of subscriptions in arrear, which now stands at £31 10s. od.

The Council would be glad to find that more members and subscribers avail themselves of the offer of the salvage stock of the Society, as considerable expense is incurred in

warehousing and insurance. Offers have been made for the sale of the whole of the stock in bulk ; and once these are concluded it will be impossible to complete sets except at greatly enhanced prices. The volumes have been rebound, and are for the most part in very good condition. Applications for copies should be addressed to Mr. C. J. Tabor, The White House, Knotts Green, Leyton, Essex. The price is 4s. per volume, carriage free, with all faults.

The Cash Account and Balance Sheet for the year are submitted herewith.

R. R. MARETT,
President.

February, 1914.

CASH ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1913.

RECEIPTS.		EXPENDITURE.	
By Cash at Bank,	- - - £362 4 9	To <i>Folk-Lore</i> :—	
" " in hands of Secretary,	- - - 2 14 6	Printing 1 part, 1912,	£57 14 9
" Subscriptions for 1913,	- - - (393), £412 16 0	" " 2 parts, 1913,	98 18 5
" " 1912 and earlier years, (18) 18 18 0		Illustrations,	2 12 2
" " 1914 (in advance), (14) 14 14 0			£159 5 4
Composition Fee,	- - - 446 8 0	" Printing 1000 New Prospectuses,	- - - 6 6 6
Interest on Investments,	- - - 5 5 0	" <i>Handbook of Folklore</i> (Typing),	- - - 1 14 6
Sales of Stock per D. Nutt,	- - - 32 19 4	" <i>Fifeshire Folklore</i> (Collector's Expenses),	- - - 0 17 6
Sales of Salvage Stock per C. J. Tabor,	- - - 34 16 0	" Expenses of Distribution of Publications,	- - - 32 18 10
	20 0 0	" Expenses of Meetings :—	
		Hire of Rooms,	£5 18 0
		Refreshments,	10 13 9
		Lantern,	0 9 0
		Advertising,	3 3 4
			20 4 1
		" Binding of Stock,	- - - 24 15 8
		" Subscriptions to Societies,	- - - 2 0 0
		" Expenses of Management :—	
		Insurance,	£13 8 0
		Postages, Stationery, and Printing,	20 19 5
		Brand Committee's Expenses,	6 16 6
		Rent of Telephone,	2 12 6
		Warehousing Stock,	10 0 0
		Secretary's Salary and Poundage,	59 11 0
		Miscellaneous,	1 6 1
			114 13 6
		" Balance at Bank on deposit account,	£300 0 0
		" " " on current account,	242 10 8
			£542 10 8
		" Less due to Secretary,	0 19 0
			541 11 8
			<u>£904 7 7</u>

BALANCE SHEET, 31ST DECEMBER, 1913.

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
Sundry Creditors, - - - - -	£363 11 9	Cash at Bankers, - - - - -	£541 11 8
Subscriptions paid in advance, - - - - -	14 14 0	" in hands of Secretary, - - - - -	0 19 0
Composition Fees, - - - - -	22 3 0		£542 10 8
Balance to credit of Society, - - - - -	1,193 19 6	Sundry Debtors, - - - - -	24 15 1
		Subscriptions in arrear, 1913, - - - - -	£21 0 0
		" 1912, - - - - -	6 6 0
		" earlier years, - - - - -	4 4 0
			31 10 0
		Investments at cost price:—	
		£500 Canada, 3½% Stock, - - - - -	£498 15 0
		£500 Natal, 3½% Stock, - - - - -	496 17 6
			995 12 6
			£1,594 8 3

In addition to the above there is a large stock of Publications of the Society, and also of bound volumes of the salvage stock, of which no account is taken here.

Examined with Vouchers and Pass Book and found correct.

EDWARD CLODD, *Hon. Treasurer.*

F. G. GREEN
CHARLES J. TABOR } *Hon. Auditors.*

January 30, 1914.