

MINUTES OF THE ANNIVERSARY MEETING held in the library on *Monday, 30 November 1981*, at 4.00 pm, R G CANT, MA, DLitt, FRHistS, President, in the Chair.

Mr J C Wallace and Dr E A Cormack were appointed scrutineers for the Ballot for Office-Bearers.

ANNUAL REPORT

BICENTENARY COMMEMORATION

The year covered by this report began on Saint Andrews Day in the middle of a weekend of commemorative events celebrating the 200th anniversary of the Society. On Saturday, 29 November, Mr Alex Fletcher, the Minister of State for Education and Industry, acted as host at an official reception in Edinburgh Castle. The President and members of Council were present to hear with satisfaction a speech from our host in which the Society was congratulated on its bicentenary and appreciation was expressed of its role in the present cultural life of Scotland. The President replied on behalf of the Society. On Sunday, 30 November, St Andrews Day itself, a large number of Fellows accompanied the President on a visit to Dryburgh Abbey, which was once owned by the Society's founder, the 11th Earl of Buchan, and where he was buried. A wreath was laid on the tomb of the founder and the President delivered a moving oration recalling the vision of our founder and his great dedication to the ideals which he made those of the Society and which are still relevant to the Society today. The weekend was brought to its conclusion on Monday, 1 December, to which date the Anniversary Meeting was transferred. Former President K A Steer presented the new silver Presidential Badge to the current President, R G Cant. Many Fellows joined in the Society's own celebration party which was held in the Portrait Gallery after the Anniversary Meeting. Those who were present were able to collect their own bronze bicentenary commemoration medals, struck from the same dies as the Presidential Badge, which were available on the day of the Anniversary.

In addition to these main events commemorating the Bicentenary, it was arranged, on the initiative of the President, that he should visit certain major regional centres to lecture on the foundation of the Society and to meet Fellows and members of kindred societies in the various localities. Between December 1980 and November 1981 ten such meetings took place—at Aberdeen, Dumfries, Glasgow, Hawick, Inveraray, Inverness, Perth, St Andrews, Toronto and Wick.

Another aspect of the commemoration of the Society's 200th anniversary was the establishment of a Bicentennial Research Fund to which all Fellows were invited to contribute. Donations have been received from the following: Mrs A R Barr, The Binks Trust, C E Blunt, M B Brydon, The Marquess of Bute, Dr R G Cant, E A Cormack, I H P Doherty, D A O Edward, G H Evans, Professor S S Frere, Friends of the Royal Academy, The Frocster Trust, G S Gimson, A R Gordon, S J Hadfield, D B Harvey, C Hepburn Millar, I G Mitchell, A D S MacDonald, R W McDonald, A McLaren, Miss C H Robertson, Ms A J Robertson, Miss J D G Scott, Miss E S Sherret, A Small, Mrs Smiley's Charity Trust, J Soutar, Mrs M D Stacy-Marks, R B K Stevenson, G Stewart, W A Taylor, Sir Eric Turner, Professor D M Walker, Major E D Wilson, Lady Rachel Younger; at present the fund stands at about £2,400, which can be expected to produce an income of £240 or so. The fund remains open.

Membership. At the bicentenary Fellows were asked to make a special effort to introduce new members to the Society. The result has been a very marked increase in the number of people seeking election, and the need to increase the number of elections held. The membership has surged past 2,000, making the Society one of the largest of its kind in Britain and ensuring financial stability in a period of inflation, at least in the short term. New members elected during the year numbered 219, while deaths, resignations and lapsed members totalled 75, an overall net gain of 144 during the year. Among the losses through death were several of our Honorary Fellows, Professor A Alfoldi, Dr J D Cowen, Professor J Filip, Dr H O'N Hencken.

Financial Affairs. In his report the Treasurer commented first on the Society's largest item of expenditure, the Proceedings. He explained that the apparently enormous leap in costs for Volume 110 was in part the result of the unexpected extra cost of £2,350 for Volume 109 being set for accounting purposes against Volume 110, and in part because Volume 110 was some 25% larger than its predecessor. Volume 110 had attracted grants worth in excess of £10,000 and its true cost to the Society's funds was about £17,300. In the first full year of the sale of the new Cumulative Index only £1,879 had been raised, which was disappointing.

The Treasurer drew attention amongst the accounts to the increase in income from interest and dividends at a time of high interest rates, and the modest increase from tax recovered under Deeds of Covenant. He asked all who had not yet made out Deeds of Covenant to consider doing so for the Society was greatly helped by it. The administrative costs of the Society, in spite of its continued growth, and increases in the cost of postage, stationery and printing, had been kept firmly in check, thanks to increased efficiency and productivity on the part of the Assistant Secretary and Assistant Treasurer. The Society's wage bill was actually lower than in 1979.

The Finance and Administration Committee had undertaken a revision and simplification of the Society's investment portfolio designed to make it both easier to administer as well as marginally more profitable. Finally, the Treasurer counterpoised the 1981 deficit of £2,350 against the previous year's surplus of £3,241, commenting that the Society had kept its finances remarkably stable through a period of heavy inflation. This was in large measure due to the foresight of a previous treasurer, the dedication of the Society's staff and the increased income from increased membership.

Meetings and Excursions. The customary programme of meetings was followed with minor variations and one important addition. Lectures continued until April and resumed in October. A one-day conference on 9 May was organized for the Society by I B M Ralston on the theme 'The Archaeology of the Scottish Landscape'. A second one-day conference was held on October 31, sponsored jointly by the University of Edinburgh's Department of Archaeology and the Society. Well over 200 people attended to hear papers on 'The Later Prehistory of South East Scotland'. The conference was organized by D W Harding, P H Hill and T F Watkins, and was chaired by D W Harding, G Jobey and P J Ashmore.

The Rhind Lecturer was Professor S G E Lythe who took as his subject 'The Industrial Heritage'. This year the Fischer-Lindsay Lectureship was given in Norway. The President, R G Cant, lectured on 1 and 5 October on the themes 'The Medieval Cathedrals of Scotland' and 'The Medieval Church in Orkney and Shetland' in Oslo and Bergen.

As an experiment several excursions were organized. The first was held in connection with the bicentenary visit to the tomb of the 11th Earl of Buchan on 30 November. I Fisher took the group of Fellows on a tour of the Abbey ruins. In May the excursion went to sites in Berwickshire led by S Halliday and D H Caldwell, and in October sites were visited in West Lothian, led by G Stell. These three events were organized by W Latto who has agreed to act as Excursions Secretary.

A very large and generous gift to the Society by the President has enabled us to establish a Regional Fund. In accordance with the wishes of the donor it will be devoted to promoting the aims of the Society by sponsoring lectures, meetings and conferences in co-operation with local societies in parts of Scotland where the Society does not hold meetings. A preliminary notice has been placed in the CBA Scottish Group news sheet *Carnyx*, and it is hoped to begin the series of 'Earl of Buchan Lectures' in 1982-83.

North-East Section. Eight meetings were held during the session. At six of them lectures already given in Edinburgh were heard, and the December meeting, at which the President spoke on the foundation of the Society, was followed by a reception given by the City of Aberdeen. The Annual General Meeting and Fellows' evening was held on 12 May in Provost Skene's House. The Secretary reported that the

membership stands at 186, and the following Committee was elected for the next session: Chairman, J A Souter; Vice-Chairman, Dr A A Woodham; Secretary, A Hidalgo; Treasurer, W A Taylor; Committee members, G R Esslemont, I M McAdam, E S Massie, Miss E J M Mercer, W W Porter, I A G Shepherd, Dr G G Simpson. There were two excursions in the summer, to see the symbol stones of Picardy and Newton House, and to tour some Aberdeenshire watermills.

Research. The policy of recent years was continued and the amount of money available for funding research was again increased. The investment of new Fellows' entry fees is now beginning to produce a substantial income which increases each year (the more new Fellows the bigger the increment): the bequest of Angus Graham is now beginning to yield income; and the Council also earmarked a sum from general funds so that the total available to the Research Committee for grants was £2,000.

The recipients of grants and their projects were:

L Alcock, Towards excavation and geophysical prospecting at Forteviot, Perthshire; I A Crawford, Computer processing of the artefact catalogue, Udal North Tell, N Uist; J L Davidson and A S Henshall, Towards fieldwork to revise the Oradian section of Henshall 'The Chambered Tombs of Scotland'; D Longley, Report on the animal bones from the excavations at Mote of Mark, Dumfriesshire; V A Maxfield, Towards excavation at Camelon Roman Forts, Stirlingshire; G S Maxwell and W S Hanson, The identification of fortlets on the Antonine Wall; C J Tabraham, Towards excavation of the blast furnace, A Cheardach Ruadh, Poolewe, Wester Ross; C R Wickham-Jones, Research into heat pre-treatment of chert; T Cowie, Monitoring the eroding site at Dalmore, Lewis, and preparing reports on the Beaker-date material recovered.

Publication. The last volume of the Proceedings to be published, Volume 109, appeared very late, but just in time to be included in the last annual report. The next volume, number 110 in the series, should have been ready before mid summer, but once again lengthy and largely unaccountable delays at the printers have meant extremely late publication, now promised for 7 December. The Editorial Committee and Council, as well as the Editor, are considerably embarrassed and deeply concerned that in the year under review no volume of the Proceedings has appeared. Similar expressions of concern have appeared in annual reports but on this occasion it can be reported that alternative printers are being seriously considered.

The material for Volume 111 has been assembled and prepared, of course, and the new direction planned by the Editor and his assistants will begin to be seen in the next volume after that, for which plans are well advanced.

Government-funded Projects. During the year the Society's responsibility to one of its SDD-funded projects came to an end: it is a pleasure to report that the Archaeological Field Survey Unit, which had been supervised and administered by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland, was transferred to the Royal Commission. The three field surveyors were taken on to the Commission's permanent staff and the work begun under the Society's banner is now carried out with a better guarantee of long-term continuation. Now that the management role of the Society has ended we may look forward to serving through representatives on the advisory committee and thus maintaining the Society's interest in the field surveyors' valuable work.

The Urban Archaeology Unit's original term came to an end during the year, and uncertainty as to the future of the Unit grew. For the time being the agreement between SDD and the Society has been extended on the previous terms until the end of March 1982. Preparations by the Society to launch a limited liability company to manage the Unit have continued but a change in the SDD's basis of funding has caused concern. The new policy is 'project-funding' and the implication is that projects rather than personnel are to be funded, raising the difficulty of speculating whether the new Trust could guarantee enough project-funded income to pay the salaries of the Unit's staff. The transfer to the new Trust is also to be the occasion for a review of the Unit's manning and roles, which only compounds the difficulties of the transfer. In the meantime the staff of the Unit have continued their work in Perth and elsewhere and the emphasis has been switched towards the processing of excavation results and their preparation for publication.

Trevor Watkins, Secretary
R J Mercer, Hon Treasurer

A D Cameron moved the adoption of the Annual Report, seconded by J N Cartwright.

The Ballot. The scrutineers found and declared the list of Council members for the ensuing year to be as follows:

<i>President</i>	S Maxwell, MA
<i>Vice-Presidents</i>	A Fenton, MA, BA, FSA I MacIvor, BA, FSA A A Woodham, BSc, PhD
<i>Councillors</i>	I A G Shepherd, MA H Coutts, AMA J Higgitt, MA J C Murray, BA J N G Ritchie, MA, PhD, FSA A R Gordon, MA W S Hanson, BA Mrs E V W Proudfoot, MA, FSA J C Barrett, BSc J L Davidson, BEM Professor D W Harding, MA, DPhil Mrs A M Kahane, MA T F Watkins, BA, PhD R J Mercer, MA, FSA
<i>Secretary</i>	A Fenton, MA, BA, FSA (Director of the National Museum of Antiquities of Scotland)
<i>Treasurer</i>	A A Woodham, BSc, PhD (Society Representative on Board of Trustees for the National Museum)
<i>Ex-Officio Members of Council</i>	Professor A S Robertson, MA, DLitt, FMA, FSA (Society Representative on Board of Trustees for the National Museum) B C Skinner, MA, FSA (Society Representative on Board of Trustees for the National Museum) Rev D Shaw, PhD, ThDr (Society Representative on Board of Trustees for the National Museum) D V Clarke, BA, PhD, FSA (Editor) J A Crawford, BA, CA, ACWA (Convener of the Finance and Administration Committee)

The Roll. The following record was not read at the meeting.

The deaths of the following Fellows were intimated during the year 1980-81:

	<i>Elected</i>
Professor Dr Andreas Alfoldi (Honorary Fellow), 3700 Spiez, Oberlandstr 99, Switzerland.	1939
John Roy Bleackley, 7 Belgrave Avenue, Flixton, Manchester.	1965
W G Rowntree Bodie, DipArch(Ab), AMTPI, ARIBA, ARIAS, 13 Barnton Park Gardens, Edinburgh.	1947
Lady Broun Lindsay, OBE, Colstoun, Haddington.	1919
Thomas Burns-Winyard, 81 Peabody Tower, Golden Lane, London.	1979
Wallace William Kenneth Campbell, 50/52 Cecil Street, Hillhead, Glasgow.	1978
J D Cowen, MC, TD, MA, DCL, FSA (Honorary Fellow), Over Court, Bisley, Stroud, Gloucestershire.	1969
Lt Col Alexander T Curle, DSO, OBE, Friars Neuk, Jedburgh, Roxburghshire.	1933
J Davies, 7 Viewfield Drive, Bishopbriggs, Glasgow.	1964
Academician Professor Jan Filip (Honorary Fellow), Institute of Prehistory, Charles University, Prague, Czechoslovakia.	1969
Ralph Fyfe-Smith, 4 Learmonth Park, Edinburgh.	1946
Don Allen Gallamore, 511 Farmhurst Drive, Charlotte, North Carolina, USA.	1981
John Harrison, JP, Levenlea, Selkirk.	1963
Hugh O'Neill Hencken, MA, DLitt, PhD, FSA, MRIAHon (Honorary Fellow), Peabody Museum, Harvard University, Divinity Avenue, Cambridge 38, Mass, USA.	1927
Fergus Jardine, OStJ, FRSA, Erskine Military Hospital, Bishopton, By Glasgow.	1959

Patrick Murray, 14 Warrender Park Road, Edinburgh.	1963
Rev Malcolm Alexander MacCorquodale, MA, St Kessog's Old Manse, Callander, Perthshire.	1972
John Angus MacKinnon, MA, 105 Church Lane, Normanton, Yorkshire.	1977
Duncan Harold McNeill, MA, LLB, 9 Ardross Street, Inverness.	1975
Professor Robert Maxwell Ogilvie, MA, DLitt, FBA, FRSE, 19A Queens Gardens, St Andrews, Fife.	1971
Andrew J Ross, 6 Henderson Row, Edinburgh.	1961
Robert Lyon Scott, Braeside, Loanhead, Midlothian.	1963

The retirement of the President. The President said that it had been a great honour to have been elected President three years ago, and to have presided over the bicentenary celebrations of the Society. The Vice-Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, and the Conveners of committees, had all been a great support to him during this time. In demitting the Presidency he asked the company to thank those who had enabled him to discharge this office.

The Secretary said that Council had passed a resolution 'to express to Dr R G Cant its deep appreciation and gratitude for his vigorous pursuits of the Society's best interests and his untiring and enthusiastic service both at home and abroad during the Session 1980-81, being the year in which the Society's Bicentenary was commemorated and the third and crowning year of his presidency.' As a gesture this had been inscribed on vellum, and the Secretary presented it to the President, who thanked the Council.

Mr Maxwell, in taking over the office of President, said his first duty was to thank the Society for electing him, and to assure it that he would try to carry out his duties in the way that previous presidents had done. He also added his personal tribute to Dr Cant, and thanked the retiring Councillors.

Communication. The meeting concluded with a lecture, 'Kirkhill, Strathbrock, and the Earl of Buchan's epitomy' by Mrs J P Crichton, BSc, FSA Scot.