

? Sept 62

UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL SPELAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Circular to Members.

Caving. Work is continuing on the dig at the bottom of G.B. Cave. This has been much helped by the dry weather, and considerable progress is being made.

As a result of the very heavy rain during the winter, the swallet at Manor Farm, Charterhouse, has become almost completely silted up, and some ground in front of the entrance has subsided into the swallet. It is hoped to devise some method of preventing this from happening in the future, but no work on the dig has been possible this summer.

An away trip to Littondale, in Yorkshire, was made during August.

Ireland. A party returned to Co. Clare as usual in July. Exceptionally heavy rain in the first few days of the trip caused the most extensive flooding that the Society has been. This provided valuable evidence of flood levels - Poldonough South was 15 ft. under water, and Fisherstreet Pot was flooded to the top of the limestone, 15 ft. from the top of the pot.

The survey of Pollnagollum was completed. Poll Omega was surveyed to the top of the pitch.

A second connection between Pollnagollum and Poll Elva was discovered, but could not be passed. An ox-bow 1700 ft. long was discovered in Cullaun II

Field Headquarters. Extensive rebuilding operations have been carried out with the help of Members during Union Week. The purpose of these was to bring the front of the Hut out 3 ft. and to carry out much repair work which was thus found to be necessary. The front is now much sounder than before, with a corresponding increase in interior size. However, the essential character of the Hut has been scrupulously preserved.

The Child has also been rebuilt.

Archaeology. Work continues on the Charterhouse Field Site. Much pottery has been found, with evidence of buildings, structures and a hypocaust system (?). Evidence of lead smelting has also been found.

A new dig, Picken's Hole, was started over August Bank Holiday. Bones and teeth found, including those of rhino ceros, horse, deer, bovinds and hyaena, show that this is a hyaena den. There are at least 10 ft. of deposit.

Proceedings. Vol. 9, No. 2 will be published in October. This issue will be very much larger than previous issues and contains two very important papers. It has only been possible to meet the heavy cost of such an issue through generous donations from members. It has been necessary to increase the price to 15/-, but it is still free to members.

Library. The following books have been added to the library:-

Sayer, on Bristol, by kind donation of Mr. G. Boon.
Dorset Barrows, by L.V Grinsell, F.S.A., kindly donated by the author.
Stanton Drew, by C. W. Dymond.
The World of Caves, by Anton Luebke.
Celebrated American Caves, by C. E. Mohr & H. N. Sloane.
Wilderness under the Earth, by H. W. Franke.
Physics and Archaeology, by M. Aitken.
Rock Pictures of Europe, by H. Kuehn.
On the track of Prehistoric Man, by H. Kuehn.
The Cave of Rouffignac, by L.-R. Rougier & R. Robert.
A complete edition of the works of Lt.-Gen. Pitt-Rivers, purchased out of the War Damage Fund.

The Library would like to purchase a copy of British Bronze Age Pottery, by Abercromby. If any member knows of a copy available, would he please inform the Librarian.

Sessional Meetings. The list for October - December, 1961 is enclosed. Dates for Jan. - March are given, but the list of speakers is not yet complete.

Note. Would members, other than students, please try to avoid using the Field Headquarters during the first two week-ends of the Autumn Term - October 7, 14, as the hut is likely to be crowded with students.

(Signed) D. H. HOUSTON, Hon Sec.