

## Report for Year ending March, 1920.

In presenting the First Annual Report the Committee are pleased to say that a most successful year's work has been accomplished. The Society was formally inaugurated on March 19th, 1919, and looks forward to the second year with renewed vigour and increased experience.

In addition to the outdoor work during the summer months lectures on subjects appertaining to speleology have been given by several eminent authorities as well as by some of the student members of the Society. To these our best thanks are due for the interesting and instructive papers which we have been privileged to hear.

Many minor achievements tended to make the activities of the Society as enjoyable socially as they were valuable scientifically. Foremost amongst these was the Camp which was held for two weeks on a site near Burrington Coombe, permission to camp there being kindly given by our Honorary President, George A. Wills, Esq.

Amongst other work, the initial excavation which ultimately led to the discovery of The Keltic Cavern, was carried out during this Camp. The many memorable events associated with camp life have been recorded in the first number of "The Troglodytes" — a memento magazine produced under the editorship of Mr. E. K. Tratman.

Upon the Camp site a hut is now erected for use as a Head Quarters and for week-end sleeping accommodation. We are indebted to Prof. E. Fawcett who generously purchased the hut for us, and we are under a further obligation to our Honorary President for allowing us to erect it in so convenient a position. Arrangements are now complete for an Easter Camp, when the the work, temporarily suspended during the winter months, will be continued.

We are also pleased to place on record the formation of a Speleological Club which aims at promoting the study of Speleology by providing a Library for the use of members, and which also maintains a Museum for housing the "finds" of the Society. The Club is controlled by a separate Committee which includes the Curator, Mr. H. C. Grigg; the Librarian, Miss

D. E. Jolin, and Mr. Coysh who is in charge of all photography undertaken for the Society, and who is responsible for most of the plates in these Proceedings. Members of the Society are eligible to join the Club, which is maintained by an additional subscription from each member of two shillings a year. We take this opportunity of acknowledging and expressing our thanks to Prof. Dobson for presenting to the Library a copy of "Ancient Stone Implements of Great Britain" (by Sir J. Evans), to Prof. Reynolds for a copy of his monograph of British Pleistocene Mammals, and to Mr. J. H. Savory for a copy of Mr. Balch's "Wookey Hole." The complete list of books available in the Library is appended.

The work of the Society was only made possible by a grant of twenty pounds from the Colston Research Fund. The grant of ten pounds from the Guild of Undergraduates being quite inadequate to meet the necessarily heavy expenses of work of this nature. Even with these funds all the members who have taken part in the actual work in the Caves have willingly gone to considerable personal expense which has attributed in no small way to the successful results of the year's work. It is hoped, however, that an increased grant for the ensuing year may be forthcoming which will allow these incidental expenses to be met by the Society. The expense entailed in fixing a gate over the entrance to "The Keltic Cavern" is being defrayed by Mr. Wills.

It has given us great pleasure to welcome at our Sessional Meetings members of the Bristol Naturalists Society and other friends interested in Speleology.

On behalf of the Committee,

L. S. PALMER,

*Hon. Sec.*

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