

Secretary's Report, December 1965 - May 1966

Variety has been the keynote of Society activities recently, since our programme has been arranged to cater for the multifarious interests of our members. In order to stress the fact that our sphere of interest covers the whole of the East Midlands, meetings have been organised in Matlock and Derby as well as in Nottingham.

The last meeting of 1965 was held at Nottingham Regional College of Technology on Thursday, December 2nd, when Dr. F.M. Broadhurst, of the University of Manchester, talked about "Aspects of the Geology of South Norway", explaining in particular how features of the rocks indicated the character of past environments.

New Year commenced on a festive note with the holding of the Society's first Dinner on Thursday, 6th January. Some 35 members sat down to an excellent meal at the Staff Club of Nottingham University; the atmosphere was pleasant and relaxed and the speeches were kept commendably brief. Afterwards, Dr. W.A.S. Sarjeant rounded off the evening with a very fully illustrated account of "The Geology of Iceland."

The Matlock meeting on January 8th was held jointly with the Peak District Mines Historical Society. Its speaker, Dr. T.D. Ford of the University of Leicester, took for his subject "The Mineralization of the Brassington Area". This, our first meeting in Matlock, attracted an audience of well over 100, packing the hall completely. After the main address, there was a "bonus" in the form of a short talk about the recent meteorite fall near Leicester, Dr. Ford exhibiting photographs and a fragment of the meteorite.

The Annual General Meeting was held on Saturday, 5th February, in the Department of Geology of Nottingham University. The reports of the Secretary, Treasurer and Editor were presented, after which the President, Mr. P.C. Stevenson, gave his address to the Society on "Geology and Engineering".

Our Derby meeting, on Saturday 5th March, was arranged in conjunction with Derby Naturalists' Society and held in the Museum. The speaker, Professor P.C. Sylvester-Bradley, found to his amusement that a Derbyshire paper had billed his topic as "Explosive Revolution" rather than "Explosive Evolution"! However, the crowded hall did not appear in the least dismayed when given the correct title, the lecture being very much appreciated.

April saw another of our "Collector's Evenings", held on Friday 28th at Nottingham Regional College of Technology. Though there were fewer displays than last year, attendance was up. The following exhibited:-

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| 1. | C.P.H. Barnes | Some Cerioid and Thamnastrioid Corals from the Carboniferous Limestone. |
| 2. | R. Bright | A selection of palaeontological problematica. |
| 3. | R. Bright & R.W. Morrell | Fossils from Whitby, Yorks. |
| 4. | N. De-ath | Fossils from Charworth and Ingleton (Yorks.) |
| 5. | Dr. P.L. Hancock | Metamorphic rocks. |
| 6. | S. Henley | Minerals from Cornwall, Cumberland and Scotland. |
| 7. | R.W. Morrell | Fossil fish (<u>Leptolepis sprattiformis</u>) and some problematica. |

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| 8. | Mrs. D. M. Morrow | Metamorphic rocks. |
| 9. | M. Owen | Devonian fossils from the Eifel, Germany. |
| 10. | P. Spencer | Plant fossils from Eastwood (Notts.). |
| 11. | P. C. Stevenson | Flexible sandstone from Jaipur, India. |
| 12. | J. H. Sykes | Problematica. |
| 13. | N. Waring | Corals, ammonites and problematica from Lyme Regis (Dorset). |
| 14. | The Warwick Penny Bank Collection | |
| 15. | Miss M. Wild | Minerals from Crete. |

The Warwick Penny Bank Collection, mentioned above, has been placed on loan to the Society by its Trustees. The collection, called after Mr. Warwick, has been associated with a children's saving scheme - the Penny Bank part of the title. For many years, the collection was housed at Southwell (Notts.). The Society hopes to find a home for the collection, where it can be placed on permanent public display.

The summer programme of field excursions commenced on 1st May, with a "Cooks' Tour" of the geology between the southeast of Nottingham and The Wash. Leader of the excursion was Mr. P. C. Stevenson. The future programme includes excursions to Edale, The Wrekin, Dudley, and a joint excursion to study the Oxford Clay with our affiliated Society, the Peterborough Technical College Geological Society. As the 1966 meeting of the British Association is in Nottingham, our Society will have the chance to participate in a number of interesting meetings and excursions.

In closing, I would like to record the considerable debt of gratitude owed by the Society to Professor W. D. Evans, of the University of Nottingham, for his active support in many spheres and for permitting use of the Department of Geology for meetings. I would also like to thank the Principal of Nottingham Regional College of Technology, and others, for the use of rooms; and our lecturers and excursion leaders for their invaluable services.

R. W. Morrell