

W. S. Potter

THE PEAK DISTRICT AND
NORTHERN COUNTIES
FOOTPATHS PRESERVATION
SOCIETY

REPORT
OF THE COUNCIL

For the Year
ended 31st December,
1948

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REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1948

IN the 1947 Annual Report hopes were expressed that the Hobhouse recommendations for National Parks, Access to the Hills and Moorlands, and the Reform of the Footpath Law would soon be embodied in legislation.

During the last twelve months much pressure by the countryside movements has been brought to bear on the Government, pressure exerted in many ways, from open-air meetings to letters to individual M.P.'s, until in October last H.M. the King on opening Parliament allowed that such legislation would be introduced during this present session. Although it is impossible at this stage to anticipate the contents of the Bill your Council, feeling that the new Bill would probably follow the lines of the Hobhouse Recommendations, requested your Secretary to convene a Conference of kindred Societies and Organisations to consider joint action in preparing a Footpath Survey.

The Conference presided over by Mr. P. M. Oliver was well attended, with representatives from all over Lancashire, the West Riding, Derbyshire and Cheshire. Each delegate promised to do all within his power to organise locally a Footpath Survey. The Society undertook to purchase certain 6-in. maps for the survey, and where necessary to obtain such maps for Clubs and Organisations who could not bear the cost themselves; such maps to be returned to the Society after completion. A number of offers of assistance have been received, but progress will depend on the appointment of a Survey Secretary.

During the year your Secretary has frequently been called upon to give Lectures and Talks to Clubs and Associations on the work of the Society and on the Hobhouse Reports, in addition to serving on many National Committees dealing with these matters.

Your Council as will be seen in the following pages have had a strenuous year, more and more footpaths seem to be in need of attention. Unfortunately many of these matters have not been dealt with as expeditiously by the Local Authorities as we would have liked, many Local Authorities claiming a shortage of staff and labour as their reason.

In addition the many threats that have been made to the countryside have caused considerable work :—

HOPE VALLEY CEMENT WORKS.—Probably the greatest blow to the proposed Peak District National Park was delivered by the Minister of Town and Country Planning when he announced his decision to allow the extension to the above works. The scheme allows for :—

- (1) The erection of a new 400-ft. factory chimney.
- (2) The extension of the limestone reserve to cover 200 acres which will last on Messrs. Earle's own estimate 150 years.
- (3) The extension of the clay reserve to include both Brough Farm and Marsh Farm.
- (4) The probability of further clay extensions when Brough and Marsh Farms are used up.

Your Council are grateful to Mr. A. Smith for representing the Society at the Public Inquiry held in Chapel-en-le-Frith on April 14th and 15th.

PROPOSED RESERVOIR, HARDCASTLE CRAGS.—The help of the Society has been sought in regard to the proposal to construct a reservoir in the valley near to the well-known Hardcastle Crag. The proposal aroused a good deal of local opposition with the result that a Hardcastle Crag Preservation Committee was established, pledged to do all possible to preserve the valley. An invitation to meet the Constructional Engineers was made to the Society, and a deputation consisting of your Vice-Chairman and Secretary, along with the Assistant Secretary of the Hardcastle Crag Preservation Committee, met the Engineers, and after learning of the proposals made, without prejudice, certain suggestions and modifications to the scheme. The matter is still occupying the attention of your Council.

LIME PROCESSING PLANT, PADIHAM HEIGHTS, LANCS.—A proposal to erect a Lime Processing Plant on Padiham Heights, near Pendle, was severely contested by the C.P.R.E. (Lancashire Branch), and the Lancashire County Council. The help of the Society was sought in this matter, and Mr. A. Smith attended the Public Inquiry on our behalf. The findings of this Inquiry have not as yet been made public.

SHOOTING RANGE ON ANGLEZARKE MOORS.—A threat to this rather unique piece of Lancashire countryside was made by a proposal of the Military Authorities to establish a Shooting Range on these moorlands. The Lancashire C.P.R.E. along with the Lancashire County Council jointly made a very strong protest, and suggested an alternative site at Hailstorm Hill. A Conference of interested bodies was convened, and at which your Society was represented, to discuss these proposals, and if possible to prepare a scheme that would be acceptable to themselves and to the Military Authorities. At this Conference a further proposal was made that the Shooting Range should be established on the moorlands near Blackstone Edge. At the time of writing this Report it is not possible to say where the Shooting Range will be located.

SHOOTING RANGE, UPPER HULME.—A further threat to the proposed Peak District National Park was made by the War Office by a proposal to establish a Training Area of approximately 3,000 acres, near Upper Hulme and the Royal Cottage Inn. Your Council were alarmed by this proposal, feeling that it threatened many public rights of way, including quite a number of moorland roads each providing entrance to the National Park area, and, of course, a superb panorama of the hills of East Cheshire and North Staffordshire crowned by the Roaches, Ramshaw Rocks and Hen Cloud. The decision of the War Office is still awaited.

OPEN-CAST MINING, MELLOR.—Your Council were alarmed to learn of the proposal to open up open-cast mining in the Mellor district. It was felt that not only would many public rights of way be lost, but irreparable damage would be done to the area, particularly as the hillside surmounted by Mellor Church would be the centre of operation. Accordingly a letter of protest was sent to the Minister of Town and Country Planning and the Minister of Fuel and Power. Up to the time of writing no decision has been arrived at.

ALPORT MEMORIAL FOOTBRIDGE.—The Manchester Rambling Club wishing to commemorate the memory of the late A. J. Heron, a former President of the Club, launched a Memorial Fund to purchase a footbridge to be erected over the River Alport near to Alport Castle Farm. In addition to donating the sum of £5 your Council have arranged for the erection of four direction posts near to the bridge.

On Sunday, the 31st of October, Mr. Edwin E. Ambler, Chairman of the Ramblers' Association—Manchester Area, formally handed the footbridge over to the care of the Society. In accepting the bridge, Mr. T. Boulger, Vice-Chairman of the Society, spoke of the twenty years' struggle to obtain this right of way. Appreciation of the work done in negotiations and arrangements made for the erection of the bridge, by Mr. H. E. Wild, was expressed by the Speakers.

The total cost of the erection of the footbridge has amounted to £350, and of this sum nearly £100 is still required to be raised by the Footbridge Appeal Committee of the Manchester Rambling Club. Contributions may be sent to the Hon. Treasurer of the Appeal Fund, Miss M. Dawson, Catterick Hall, Didsbury, Manchester, 20.

A suggestion of the County Planning Authority in regard to the planting of trees in the neighbourhood of the Alport Footbridge is under discussion, and to this proposal the Society has pledged its support.

FOOTPATH STOCKPORT ROAD TO CHADKIRK MILL, MARPLE.—Complaints were received by the Society that this footpath was obstructed by barbed wire, and that the footpath was muddy and founderous in wet weather due to the close proximity and action of a cesspool. The obstruction of this footpath necessitated people making a long detour by way of the main road. Your Council are pleased to report that after representations had been made to the Stockport Borough Council arrangements were made for the removal of the barbed wire and for attention to be given to the action of the cesspool.

FOOTPATH TAXAL CHURCH TO TAXAL EDGE.—After receiving complaints that the 9 foot high ladder stile on this footway had been made extremely difficult to negotiate by the disappearance of 6 of its rungs, your Council requested the Whaley Bridge Urban District Council to arrange for the repair of the stile. Your Council are pleased to report that arrangements have been made for the repair to be carried out.

DIVERSION OF FOOTPATH TO THORNHILL FROM DERWENT VALLEY WATER BOARD OFFICES.—The Derwent Valley Water Board informed the Society that they desired to effect a slight deviation of the above footpath, and requested the views of the Society on this matter. After the site had been visited by the Inspector and his report considered, your Council agreed to the proposed diversion.

STILE BETWEEN LIDGATE AND BRADSHAW HALL.

—As reported in the Annual Report of last year representations were made to the Chapel R.D.C. to arrange for the early removal of the obstruction. Your Council are pleased to report that this path is now no longer obstructed.

FOOTPATH WHETMORE HURST TO TARDEN,

MELLOR.—As referred to in the Annual Report of last year complaints had been received that a misleading inscription had been painted on the gate leading to what had formerly been the farmyard. Representations were made to the tenant requesting the addition of the words "Public Footpath," or alternatively that the word "Private" be painted out. Your Council are pleased to report that the word "Private" has now been erased.

FOOTPATH ABNEY TO OFFERTON.—

Complaints having been received regarding an obstruction by the placing of fir poles across the gateway, representations were made to the Bakewell R.D.C. to arrange for the erection of a gate or a stile. Your Council are pleased to report that a suitable stile has been provided immediately at the side of the gates.

FOOTPATH BY POPLAR FARM, ROWARTH.—

On receiving complaints regarding the condition of the footpath representations were made to the New Mills U.D.C. requesting the re-erection of a stile at the commencement of the path, the removal of a line of barbed wire on stakes cutting right across the path, and for the removal of large coils of wire that had been dumped on to the path. Your Council are pleased to report that the obstructions have been removed, and the footpath is now in order.

OBSTRUCTION AT HOLLINS FARM, ROWARTH.—

Complaints having been received, representations were made to the New Mills U.D.C. calling for the reopening of this footpath, the path having been ploughed up and sown with oats, and obstructed at another point by barbed wire; at yet another point of the path a bull was in a field traversed by this right of way, and in view of the close proximity of the "Children's Inn" your Council felt this was a matter of some urgency. It is pleasing to report that all these matters have been satisfactorily dealt with.

FOOTPATH AT TAYLOR FOLD FARM, MATLEY.—The Society were advised by the Agricultural Executive Committee that the tenant of the above farm desired to arrange for a diversion of the public right of way. The Society's Inspector visited the farm along with the County Agricultural Officer, and discussed the proposed diversion. After receiving the report of the Inspector your Council could not agree to the diversion, and accordingly informed the A.E.C. at the same time pressing for the early restoration of the public right of way.

FOOTPATHS NEAR CHARLESWORTH.—On receiving complaints that the footpath which connects Lee Head, Charlesworth, and Woodseats had been obstructed by barbed wire, and the western end, formerly a cindered track, had been ploughed up, your Council made representations to the Glossop Dale R.D.C. calling for the removal of the obstructions.

CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL SIGNPOST, MOTT-RAM.—On receiving complaints that this signpost had rotted and was now lying on its side, your Council made representations to the Cheshire C.C. requesting its re-erection. Your Council are pleased to report that this signpost has now been re-erected.

FOOTBRIDGE AT ROWARTH.—As reported in the Annual Report of last year, representations were made to the New Mills U.D.C. calling for the necessary repairs to be effected, to enable the footbridge and the footpath to Long Lee Farm to be restored to public use. Representations have now been made to the Derbyshire County Council, and your Council await the report of the County Surveyor.

FOOTBRIDGE NEAR MELANDRA CASTLE, GLOSSOP.—Complaints having been received that this footbridge, due to missing planks and gaps in the stonework approach, was in a somewhat insecure condition, your Council made representations to the Mottram Urban District Council to arrange for the necessary repairs to be effected.

DOCTOR'S GATE FOOTBRIDGE, GLOSSOP.—Following on the damage to the abutments of this footbridge during the floods of 1947 endeavours have been made to arrange for a contractor to do the necessary repairs to enable the bridge to

be restored to its former position. Due to the shortage of labour and materials this has proved a difficult task, but nevertheless your Council are endeavouring to arrange for the repairs to be effected as quickly as possible.

LADY CLOUGH FOOTBRIDGE.—Your Council are extremely anxious about the condition of the above footbridge. A request has been made to the County Surveyor at Derby to inspect the bridge, and to advise the Society if temporary repairs could be made or whether an immediate replacement is called for.

FOOTBRIDGE NEAR CLOUGH MILL, LITTLE HAYFIELD.—As reported in the Annual Report of last year your Council have been pressing for the restoration of this footbridge which was washed away during the floods of 1947. After further representation had been made to the Derbyshire County Council and the Hayfield Parish Council, the Derbyshire County Council have advised your Council that satisfactory arrangements for the reconstruction of the bridge and the short length of wall supporting the path have now been completed, and that the work will be undertaken as soon as labour is available.

FOOTPATH HIGHER HOUSE FARM, ASHLEY.—Complaints having been received that this footpath was obstructed by barbed wire, and that the stiles and footbridge were in need of immediate attention representations have been made to the Bucklow Rural District Council calling for the removal of the wire, and for attention to be paid to the stiles and bridge.

FOOTPATH OGDEN LANE TO REDDY LANE, BOLLINGTON, CHESHIRE.—On receiving complaints that this right of way had been ploughed up in different parts, stiles were extremely difficult to negotiate, and that barbed wire was attached to the parts of a stile, and in addition the footbridge across the stream was missing, your Council made representations to the Bucklow Rural District Council requesting arrangements be made to restore this right of way to negotiable condition.

FOOTPATH AT SINDERLAND GREEN.—On being informed that the plank footbridge across the Caldwell Brook was missing, and that this footpath was constantly being

ploughed up, your Council made representations to the Bucklow Rural District Council calling for the restoration of the footbridge and the footpath where ploughed.

FOOTPATH FROM DAIRYHOUSE FARM TO JACKSON'S BANK, ASHLEY.—Complaints having been received that this footpath had been obstructed by ploughing and grown wheat, and that a stile at the farm end of the path was missing, your Council made representations to the Bucklow Rural District Council calling for the restoration of the path and the replacement of the stile.

FOOTPATH RED LODGE TO ARLEY PARK.—Complaints having been received that an iron railing had been substituted for a stile, only the stump of the stile remaining, and that the iron railing was wrapped with barbed wire, and in addition the path was obstructed by two long horizontal wooden bars, representations were made to the Bucklow Rural District Council calling for the restoration of the stile, and the removal of the obstruction. This matter still occupies the attention of your Council.

FOOTBRIDGE BETWEEN OLLERTON AND MARTHALL.—It was reported to the Society that this footbridge was in need of attention, and that the footpath was obstructed by barbed wire, accordingly representations have been made to the Bucklow Rural District Council.

FOOTPATH ARLEY VILLAGE TO HOLLINS FARM.—Complaints having been received that this footpath was obstructed by barbed wire, and that the footbridge over the Gale Brook was missing, the Antrobus and Crowley Parish Council were requested to arrange for the removal of the obstruction and the replacement of the footbridge.

FOOTPATH AT DUNHAM, CHESHIRE.—Complaints having been received that certain footpaths in this area were obstructed, representations were made to the Western Command for the removal of barbed wire obstructions. Your Council are pleased to report that these obstructions have been removed, but certain tracks are still occupying the attention of your Council.

DISPUTED PATHWAY THROUGH CANTER HILL FARM, WHITEFIELD.—The advice of your Council was sought in regard to establishing if this footpath was also a bridleway. After exhaustive enquiries the complainant was informed that evidence could only be found to establish this way as a public footpath.

FOOTPATH PAVEMENT LANE FARM AND TOWN LANE, MOBBERLEY.—On receiving complaints regarding the obstruction of this footpath your Council made representations to the Mobberley Parish Council calling for the removal of the obstruction, and at the same time requesting the replacement of the footbridge connecting Valewood Farm and Smith Lane. Your Council have been advised that these matters are receiving the attention of the Bucklow Rural District Council.

LAND AT THE REAR OF CRANLEIGH DRIVE, BROOKLANDS.—The advice of the Society was sought in regard to a footpath traversing the land between Baguley Brook and Cranleigh Drive. After this matter had received the attention of your Inspector and later your Council, the Council had to report to the complainant that it had not been possible to establish this path as a public right of way. The complainant did, however, receive a letter from the Manchester City Council stating that they were prepared to allow temporary access to Baguley Brook by means of this footpath at the east end of Cranleigh Drive.

FOOTPATH AT PRESTBURY.—Complaints having been received that this footpath had been obstructed by ploughing, your Inspector discussed the matter with the farmer concerned, who stated that he thought the users of the path would retread this right of way, and that it was not his intention to interfere with public rights ; he agreed to the Inspector's suggestion that a direction post should be erected at an early date.

FOOTPATH FROM "BROMYHURST" CORNER, BARTON ROAD, TO BENTS LANE, URMSTON.—The advice of the Society was sought with regard to this footpath, and after inspection your Council were able to advise the complainant that this footpath had been legally diverted in 1932 by the Manchester Corporation, and that an alternative path called River Lane had been provided and maintained by the Corporation.

FOOTPATH REDYCLIFFE ROAD TO LOSTOCK ROAD, URMSTON.—Complaints having been received that this footpath was obstructed, revealed that it had been closed during the War by the Military Authorities. Your Council are pleased to report that steps are being taken to re-open it to the public.

FOOTPATH AT WINCLE GRANGE.—Complaints were made to the Society that this footpath was once again obstructed by barbed wire. After representations had been made to the Macclesfield Rural District Council, your Council are pleased to report that this path is no longer obstructed.

FOOTPATH NEAR PIGLEY STAIR BRIDGE, BOLLIN VALLEY.—Complaints were received regarding the diversion of this footpath and the removal of a stile. After the Society's Inspector had interviewed the farmer concerned he agreed to replace the stile and re-open the original path, at the same time allowing public access on the new path by the riverside.

FOOTPATHS BETWEEN MOBBERLEY AND CASTLE MILL.—Complaints having been received regarding the condition of certain stiles and paths, representations were made to the Cheshire County Council, and an inspection of the complaints was made by the County Surveyor and your Inspector. The matter is still receiving the attention of your Council.

FOOTPATH HOLLOW WOOD FARM TO LITLEY FARM.—After receiving complaints regarding the condition of the stiles on this path and the footbridge over the Arley Brook representations were made to the Cheshire County Council. Your Council are pleased to report that the footbridge has now been restored.

FOOTBRIDGE NEAR DUNHAM WOODHOUSES.—Complaints having been received that the above footbridge had been swept away by floods, representations were made to the Dunham Massey Parish Council and assurances have been received that the work of replacing the footbridge would be commenced as soon as possible.

CHAINED GATE ON BOWSTONEGATE RIDGE ROAD.—On receiving complaints that at a point where the Bowstonegate Ridge Road enters the Pott Shrigley-Kettleshulme Road, access to the main road had been obstructed by a chained

5-barred gate. Your Council are pleased to report that arrangements are being made by the Cheshire County Council to secure the removal of the chain.

OBSTRUCTION OF BOWSTONEGATE-HANDLEY FOOT ROAD.—Further complaints have been received regarding another obstruction of this old road reported in the Annual Report of last year, and representations have been made to the Macclesfield Rural District Council calling for the removal of the barbed wire obstruction.

FOOTPATH NEAR SHALLCROSS HALL.—The help of the Society was sought in establishing if this footpath was a public right of way or not. The matter is receiving the attention of your Council.

PLOUGHED PATH AT BARBER BOOTH, EDALE.—As reported in the Annual Report of last year complaints were received that the footpath from Barber Booth to Greenlands Farm had been ploughed up, and that after representations had been made to the Chapel-en-le-Frith Rural District Council and the Derbyshire Agricultural Executive Committee, a reply was received stating that the diversions were to revert to the original course. Unfortunately the farmer concerned continued to plough the footpath; further representations had to be made to the Agricultural Executive Committee, who advised your Council that the paths were to be restored to their original position.

FOOTPATH NORMANS FARM TO TOWNHEAD BRIDGE, HOPE.—Complaints having been made regarding the condition of this riverside footpath and a footbridge over a runnell, representations were made, and your Council are pleased to report that the footbridge has had the necessary repairs, whilst the footpath is receiving attention.

FOOTPATH FROM HOPE VILLAGE TO LOSE HILL FARM.—Complaints were received that this well-known footpath had been obstructed by the placing of a wooden stake and a wire netting fence across the line of path. Further a stile had been rendered extremely difficult to negotiate by reason of two strands of iron wire above the wall and the bottom step of the stile was missing. Representations have been made to the Chapel-en-le-Frith Rural District Council and this matter is still receiving the attention of your Council.

FOOTPATH NEAR STADEN, COWDALE, TO DUKE'S DRIVE, BUXTON.—Complaints having been made to the Society with regard to the diversion of the above footpath, enquiries were made, and it was found that the Chapel-en-le-Frith Rural District Council had approved this diversion on the 10th September, 1935. Your Council intimated to the Chapel-en-le-Frith Rural District Council its concern in the curtailment of public rights, pointing out that the new footpath was less commodious to the public, and that it was an occupation way with all the disadvantages of the frequent passing of cows. Your Council also called for a misleading direction post to be re-erected in the correct position.

FOOTPATH NEAR TUNSTEAD, HAYFIELD.—This well-known right of way has been obstructed by the removal of the steps of the wall step stile, and diverted along the side of a field. Representations have been made to the Chapel-en-le-Frith Rural District Council calling for the removal of the obstruction, and the restoration of the original line of path. This matter is still occupying the attention of your Council.

FOOTBRIDGE OVER THE RIVER DOVE, BERESFORD DALE.—This old footbridge erected by the Beresford Estates to facilitate the crossing of the River Dove is in a delapidated condition. Your Council, therefore, made representations to the Staffordshire County Council for the repair and or renewal of the stepping stones over the river. This matter is receiving the attention of your Council.

FOOTPATH THROUGH MILL YARD, CHAPEL MILTON.—On receiving complaints that this footpath had been obstructed by the erection of a brick wall, your Council after much research did eventually succeed in establishing the fact that this is a public right of way, and accordingly representations have been made to the Chapel-en-le-Frith Rural District Council calling for the removal of the obstruction.

TOTLEY SHOOTING RANGE.—Proposals to extend the danger area of the shooting range at Totley to one of 575 acres caused considerable alarm to the amenity Societies, and in particular to your Council, because of the possible loss of certain sufferance paths, these tracks providing the only means of passage for walkers between Blacka Moor and Big Moor and between South Western, Sheffield, and the Longshaw Estates of the National Trust. Your Council, therefore, made the

strongest possible protest to the Ministry of Town and Country Planning. At the time of writing this report your Council are unable to ascertain the decision of the War Office.

OPEN-CAST MINING, DISLEY.—On learning that it was proposed to commence open-cast workings in the Disley area, your Council felt anxious about the prospect of rights of way being lost, and assurances from the Minister of Fuel and Power were sought on these points. The Minister replied that it has been and will continue to be the practice when rights of way are severed by open-cast workings to provide easily recognised alternatives if they are justified, and local conditions permit arrangements to be made.

DIRECTION POSTS.—Direction posts have been dealt with during the year as follows :—

Direction post at Barber Booth has been re-erected and repainted.

Direction post on Chapel Gate has had a cross plate attached.

The post on Win Hill ridge has been repaired and repainted.

The post near Crookstone Barn has been refixed and repainted.

A cross plate has been fixed to the Society's post at Brough.

The Society's finger post on the Castleton-Hope footpath, which had been uprooted and removed, has now been refixed, and the direction post at the Castleton end of the path has been repainted.

Four direction posts have been erected by the Society to indicate the connections of the new Cumberland Clough footpath between the Cat and Fiddle Inn and Wildboardclough.

The direction post near Goyt's Bridge marking the Stake Side path has rotted at the base and fallen, and arrangements have been made for the re-erection of this post.

After some correspondence, approval to the erection of a direction post at Dissop Head marking the Lantern Wood path to Lyme Hall has now been received, and the casting of the plate is in hand.

Considerable delay has arisen in receiving replies from the Derbyshire Planning Authorities in regard to the erection of a memorial post near Carr Meadow. As soon as sanction is received, this direction post will be dealt with.

The Society hopes to erect new direction posts near the Grouse Inn, Grindleford, and in Doctor's Gate.

Considerable difficulties are still encountered in contacting suitable joiners and painters in country districts to deal with the Society's direction posts in need of repair and repainting.

DIRECTION POST ON GRINDLEFORD BRIDGE TO GROUSE INN FOOTPATH.—Some difficulty in following the true line of path had been experienced, and the suggestion was made that the Society should erect a direction post on this right of way. On learning of this, the Sheffield Central Rambling Club kindly offered to bear the cost of the direction post. Your Council have accepted this generous offer, and trust that other Clubs and Societies will usefully follow this splendid example.

FOOTPATH LIBRARY.—The following additions to the Society's "Footpath Library," housed in the Special Collections Department on the Fourth Floor of the Manchester Central Library, have been presented during the year:—

Sheffield Clarion Ramblers' Handbook, 1948-49.

C.P.R.E. Sheffield and Peak District Annual Report, 1948.

Commons and Footpaths Society's Journal, Vol. 6, 1939-40.

Commons and Footpaths Society's Journal, Vol. 7, 1941-45.

Wirral Footpaths Society's Annual Report for 1947.

Hallamshire Footpaths Society's Annual Report for 1947.

"Rural Rambles," by J. Macauley.

"Rambles in the Peak District," by "The Rambler."

"The Northern Rambler," Nos. 129 to 140.

"National Parks," by Hugh Molson, M.P.

FINANCE.—Once again your Council have to report that the appeal made in previous Reports for a membership and income more in keeping with the status of the Society has not met with the response hoped for. 62 new members were enrolled and 8 further organisations affiliated, as against 80 members failing to renew their membership.

This is most discouraging to your Council, and it is obvious that the membership income must be increased if a full time organisation is ever to be inaugurated. Your Council would once again emphasise that the amount of work undertaken by the Society must be determined by its income. Accordingly it becomes the duty of members to encourage others to join the Society. If each member during the current year made

himself or herself responsible for only one new member, the membership would bound up to nearly 800, and if this was repeated the following year the Society's membership and income would be reaching a figure more in keeping with its status than the present figure, and within measurable distance of a membership income requisite for all the needs of the Society.

The Defence Fund has been augmented by £23 17s. 3d. during the year to £468 1s. 11d., including another generous donation of £12 0s. 0d. from the Sheffield Clarion Rambling Club.

It will be noted that the Society has spent the sum of £44 4s. 6d. on the erection and maintenance of direction posts.

MEMBERSHIP AND AFFILIATION.—The terms of membership are simple, involving no formalities other than an annual payment of a minimum subscription of 2s. 6d. per annum for individuals, and a minimum subscription of 10s. 6d. per annum for Clubs and Societies.

If you are not yet a member, please send your subscription or donation to the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. G. S. Cooper, 13 Duffield Road, Salford, 6, or to the Secretary.

Affiliated Rambling Clubs & Societies

1948

- Accrington Naturalist & Antiquarian Society.
- Alderley Edge, Wilmslow & District Footpaths Preservation Society.
- Art Museum Field Club.
- Ashton-under-Lyne & District C.H.A. Rambling Club.
- Bury & District C.H.A. Rambling Club.
- Bolton C.H.A. Rambling Club.
- Bramhall Ratepayers' Association.
- Barnsley C.H.A. Rambling Club.
- C. E. Holiday Homes, Ltd.
- Camping Club of Gt. Britain & Ireland (L.C. & N.W. District Association).
- Central Rambling Club (Sheffield).¹
- City News Fellowship (Ramblers Section).
- Co-operative Holiday Association.
- Comradeship of the Christian Endeavour Holiday Homes (Manchester Sec.)
- Comradeship of the Christian Endeavour Holiday Homes (Stockport Sec.)
- Comradeship of the Christian Endeavour Holiday Homes (Oldham Sec.)
- Crescent Rambling Club.
- Derbyshire Footpaths Preservation Society.
- Derby C.H.A. & H.F. Rambling Club.
- Eastwood Ramblers.
- Eccles C.H.A. Social & Rambling Club.
- Field Naturalists & Archæologists Society, Manchester.
- Friendship Holidays Association (Manchester) Rambling Club.
- Goyt Rambling Club.
- Holiday Fellowship Rambling Club.
- Hollyrood Ward Ratepayers & Collectors Association.
- Hallamshire Footpaths Preservation Society.
- Holiday Fellowship Limited.
- Holiday Fellowship (Oldham & District Group).
- Holiday Fellowship (Manchester Group)
- Karabineer Mountaineering Club.
- Lido Ramblers.
- Macclesfield Field Naturalists.
- Macclesfield & District Field Club.
- Marple Residents' Association.
- Marple Field Club.
- Manchester A.E.I. Rambling Club.
- Manchester Amateur Photographic Society.
- Manchester & Salford Council of Social Service Benevolent Fund.
- Manchester C.H.A. Rambling Club (Section "A").
- Manchester C.H.A. Rambling Club (Section "C").

Manchester C.H.A. Rambling Club (Section "D").
 Manchester C.H.A. Rambling Club (Section "E").
 Manchester C.H.A. Club.
 Manchester H.S.C. Languages Rambling Club.
 Manchester Pedestrian Club.
 Manchester Rambling Club.
 Manchester & District Rambling Club for the Blind.
 North Staffordshire Field Club.
 North-Western Naturalists' Union.
 Northwich Urban District Council.
 Oldham & District C.H.A. Rambling Club.
 Oldham Holiday Fellowship.
 Ramblers' Association (Sheffield & District Federation).
 Ramblers' Association (Liverpool & District Federation).
 Ramblers' Association (Manchester & District Federation).
 Rochdale C.H.A. Rambling Club.
 Rucksack Club.
 Rochdale Field Naturalists' Society.
 S.E. Lancashire County Scout Council.
 Sheffield C.H.A. Rambling & Social Club.
 Sheffield Clarion Rambling Club.
 Stockport C.H.A. Rambling & Social Club.
 Stockport Field Club.
 Stockport Seconians Association Rambling Club.
 Sutton-in-Ashfield & District Rambling Club.
 United Field Naturalists Society.
 Vegetarian Society Social & Athletic Club.
 Willersley Sidholme & Sidestrand Ltd.
 Workers' Educational Association (Rambling Section) Stockport.
 Workers' Travel Association Ltd.
 Y.M.C.A. Rambling Club (Manchester).
 Youth Hostels Association (Sheffield Sub-Regional Group).
 Youth Hostels Association (Manchester & Salford Sub-Regional Group).
 Youth Hostels Association (Prestwich Area Group).
 Youth Hostels Association (Altrincham Group).

DEFENCE FUND AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1948

Balance brought forward from 1947	...	...	...	£444	4	8
Add Donations received during year to December 31st,						
1948	...	...	...	23	17	3
				<hr/>		
				£468	1	11

Contributions made to:—			
C.P.R.E. Hope Valley Enquiry	...	...	£5 0 0
Hardcastle Crags Defence Organisation	...	...	5 0 0
Balance carried forward to 1949	...	...	458 1 11
			<hr/>
			£468 1 11

SPECIAL RESERVE FUND AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1948

Balance brought forward from 1947	...	...	...	1,276	6	8
				<hr/>		
				£1,276	6	8

Contribution to A. J. Heron Alport Memorial Bridge	5	0	0
Transfer to General Fund to cover deposit on purchase of Summit of Lantern Pike, Hayfield, 1947	...	20	0 0
Balance carried forward to 1949	...	1,251	6 8
			<hr/>
			£1,276 6 8

POST-WAR RESERVE FUND AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1948

Balance brought forward from 1947	...	...	...	78	11	0
Add donations received during year to December 31,						
1948	...	...	...	2	4	3
				<hr/>		
				£80	15	3

Transfer to General Fund to cover purchase of Equipment, 1947	...	...	...	25	0	0
Transfer to General Fund to cover part deficit on current year to December 31st, 1948	...	...	...	15	6	9½
Balance carried forward to 1949	...	...	...	40	8	5½
				<hr/>		
				£80	15	3

MANCHESTER & SALFORD SAVINGS BANK DEPOSITS AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1948

Balance brought from 1947 at 2½%	...	...	...	553	17	11
Balance brought forward from 1947 at 2½%	...	...	...	1,056	0	10
				<hr/>		
				1,609	18	9
Interest received to December 31st, 1948	...	...	...	40	4	6
				<hr/>		
				£1,650	3	3

Balance carried forward to 1949	...	...	...	1,650	3	3
				<hr/>		
				£1,650	3	3

CASH POSITION AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1948

1947						
143 18 11	Cash at Bank	...	...	74	14	1
1,609 18 9	Cash on Deposit with the M. & S. Savings Bank	...	...	1,650	3	3
24 8 1	Cash in Hand	...	...	25	4	8½
38 18 11	Debit Balance of General Fund	...	...	
				<hr/>		
				£1,817	4	8
				<hr/>		
				£1,750	2	0½

1947						
444 4 8	Balance at Credit of Defence Fund	...	...	458	1	11
1,276 6 8	Balance at Credit of Special Reserve Fund	...	...	1,251	6	8
78 11 0	Balance at Credit of Post-War Reserve Fund	...	...	40	8	5½
6 1 0	Subscriptions paid in advance for 1949	...	...	0	5	0
12 1 4	Honorariums and Bank Charges accrued	...	...	
				<hr/>		
				£1,817	4	8
				<hr/>		
				£1,750	2	0½

(Signed) G. S. COOPER, Hon. Treasurer, 24th February, 1949.

(Signed) G. SMITH, Hon. Auditor, 24th February, 1949.