

Baptist Historical Society.

I. ANNUAL REPORT.

SINCE our last annual meeting seventeen new members have been elected to the Baptist Historical Society, but the statement then made is equally urgent to-day—"We need a constant influx of new members, as inevitably we lose a few each year, who retire owing to age or because of financial stringency."

The annual meeting was held at Bromsgrove, to which an excursion was arranged from the Birmingham Assembly. This was an outstanding success, and we were much indebted to the Rev. A. S. Langley for his efficient organising, to West Midland laymen for providing charabancs, and to the Bromsgrove Church for hospitality. A full account was written by the Rev. F. G. Hastings in the July *Baptist Quarterly*.

It is deeply regretted that war conditions prevent a trip to London's historic sites during the present Assembly.

Four issues of the *Baptist Quarterly*, enlarged to 64 pages, were published, and letters of appreciation have reached us not only from this country, but also from Australia and the United States. Valued helpers of many years' standing have continued to send contributions, both historical and modern. The Society's officers have felt encouraged by the number of young ministers and laymen who are engaging in research or declaring themselves on current problems. They have enriched the pages of our journal. Some members have written expressing concern lest publication should be discontinued during the war period. Paper restrictions will inevitably cause a reduction in the number of pages, but members can rest assured that the Society's officers will do their utmost to continue the quarterly issue. Fortunately, in Messrs. Rush and Warwick (Bedford) Ltd., we are served by printers who have treated our Society with every consideration for many years.

Various enquiries on historical matters were received. Some involved much research and correspondence, but it is always a pleasure to help the serious student.

SEYMOUR J. PRICE, *Hon. Secretary*.

II. FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

(For the year ended 31st December, 1939.)

				INCOME.					
				£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Balance from 1938	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	5	6
Subscriptions—									
Annual for 1939	...	...	...	121	4	11			
Annual for 1940	...	...	...	3	11	0			
One Life Member	...	...	...	10	10	0			
							135	5	11
Sale of Publications	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	14	1
							<u>£151</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>

EXPENDITURE.									
<i>Baptist Quarterly</i> , four issues	...	...	...	...	...	...	107	8	3
Stationery, postages, insurance, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	7	8
Transfer to Life Subscriptions Reserve	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	10	0
Transfer to General Reserve	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	0	0
Balance in hand	...	...	...	6	8	7			
Subscriptions paid in advance	...	...	...	3	11	0			
							9	19	7
							<u>£151</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>

RESERVE FUND									
<i>(including above allocations).</i>									
Life Subscriptions	...	...	...	...	...	...	60	10	0
General Reserve	...	...	...	...	...	...	50	0	0
							<u>£110</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>0</u>

A. H. CALDER, *Treasurer.*