

Notices.

THE ANNUAL MEETING will be held on Tuesday, 28 April. Members are invited to assemble outside the Southern Railway Station on Holborn Viaduct at 2.45, and to bring friends with them. Dr. Ewing will guide the party to sites connected with Bunyan, Milton and other Baptists, about 1,000 yards in all, by Snow Hill, Newgate, Smithfield, Aldersgate, St. Giles' Church, to Bunhill Fields, describing their associations. The Rev. George H. McNeal, M.A., will exhibit the Methodist Museum and Wesley's Chapel on City Road, where a fee of sixpence will be payable. By his courtesy a brief meeting will be held to receive reports, to elect officers and committee. Business will end about five o'clock. All who are interested in the historic sites of Holborn and Finsbury will be most welcome.

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NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICE. At the annual meeting, committee and officers for the year will be elected; the following nominations are made by the out-going committee, other nominations may be sent to the honorary secretary before 18 April:—*President*, H. Wheeler Robinson; *Vice-President*, Seymour J. Price; *Treasurer*, Francis J. Blight; *Hon. Secretary*, W. T. Whitley; *Assistant Secretary*, A. J. Klaiber; *Librarian*, F. E. Robinson; *Editorial Board*, W. T. Whitley, S. J. Price, F. Townley Lord; other members of *Committee*, W. E. Blomfield, J. Leslie Chown, Arthur Dakin, A. J. D. Farrer, A. S. Langley, G. H. R. Laslett, Hugh Martin, Cecil B. Rooke, J. W. Thirtle, A. C. Underwood.

Accounts for 1930.

RECEIPTS.

	£	s.	d.
Members' subscriptions	127	19	6
Sales, Works of John Smyth	1	14	4
Sales, per Kingsgate Press	1	0	0
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	130	13	10
With balance brought from 1929	4	5	10
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	£134	19	8
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EXPENDITURE.

	£	s.	d.
Printing and publishing the Baptist			
Quarterly	74	17	6
Purchase of Bugbrooke Church History ...	2	10	0
Library—shelving and carriage of books ...	6	0	5
Fire Insurance Premium	0	4	6
Subscription to Friends' Historical Society, (two years)	0	10	0
Expenses of four officers	2	9	3
Stamps on cheques	0	4	0
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	86	15	8
Placed on deposit, Life Members	20	0	0
Subscriptions paid in advance	7	13	0
Balance carried to account for 1931	20	11	0
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	£134	19	8
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SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 1931. These were due on 1 January. Any not yet paid may be forwarded to Mr. Francis J. Blight, F.R.S.E., at Belstone Tor, Uphill Road, Mill Hill, London, N.W.7.

Report for 1930.

The committee has the pleasure of reporting for the twenty-third time on the activities of the society, connected with its library, its publications, its research.

The library is properly housed in the tower of the Baptist College at Bristol, under the care of Professor F. E. Robinson. During the year it has been augmented by gifts on behalf of the late Oliver Knott of Manchester, who had more than once contributed from his deep local knowledge to our periodicals, and by Matthew Gaunt of the Isle of Wight. To print a catalogue would indicate that expectation of growth had ceased; but a card catalogue can be consulted on the spot. Friends who desire to give, or to exchange, volumes of historical interest, are requested to communicate with the librarian or the secretary; sets of Baptist magazines and of Association reports are usually most welcome. On the death of aged Baptists in time past, their denominational accumulations have been offered, with great profit; in one recent case, a most valuable manuscript was mislaid, as the local friends did not know its importance; and it was only by the persistent enquiries of an overseas member through your secretary, that it was rescued. The committee invites bequests, or invitations from executors to examine what may appear to them old Baptist rubbish.

The Baptist Quarterly has appeared regularly. On the modern side it has spoken about conditions in Russia, and the experiences of the Mennonites, on the prospects of Church Union and of Education, on the eccentricities of Trust Deeds. Many of these subjects will continue to receive attention, and it is proposed to strengthen the Editorial Board for the purpose. On the antiquarian side, light has been thrown by many contributors, chiefly as to Notts. and Lancs., Devon, Somerset, Wilts. and Dorset, with London. Abundance of material is in hand, and more will be welcomed. The biography of a most unusual man, who was educated as a Jew and a Catholic, then passed through the Church of England into the Baptist ranks, was sought out with great diligence, and published in our columns, it has excited interest in many quarters. Our space for reviews is limited; so we confine ourselves to notices of history and biography bearing on Baptist life, or of books by Baptist authors.

We had expected a small volume on county history, to issue to our guinea subscribers; but as the author desired time for further enquiry, we circulated instead a pamphlet on the story of the church at Bugbrooke. During 1931 we hope to supply an account of the denomination in Norfolk and Suffolk, on which our assistant-secretary has been at work for two or three years.

These county studies are appreciated, and more are sought. Wherever a member will devote himself to this, it will be a pleasure to direct him to sources, and to advise with him, at every stage of his work. The society, however, has not an income sufficient to send a competent researcher to distant counties, and relies on the acumen and energy of its amateur members and friends. It is a help that the Institute of Historical Research now publishes both a Guide to the past, and Bulletins thrice a year, so that it will be easy to learn what has been done, and what is being done. Academic students can thus decide what remains to be done, choose their thesis, and have it registered. It is a joy to the society when its officers can aid in such choice and direction of studies. During the present year an Anglo-American Conference of Historians will meet in London, and representatives of this society have accepted invitations. Such co-operation may lead to enlarged visions, and these may be realised if more members are forthcoming.

H. WHEELER ROBINSON, *President*.

W. T. WHITLEY, *Honorary Secretary*.

THREE BOOKS WORTH STUDYING for our history have appeared recently. *The Crisis of English Liberty*, by Sir John Marriott, 15s.; *Studies in English Puritanism, 1660-1688*, by C. E. Whiting, 21s.; *A Literary History of the American People*, by Charles Angoff, two volumes 1607-1815, 40s. Who will present them to our library?