

Secretary's Report, 1953-1954.

The increase in membership that started in 1952-3 period has been continued in the present year and is most encouraging. This has enabled the Society to continue and extend its work, both on Mendip and elsewhere.

Caving.

On Mendip the Society has made no discoveries. Work has continued in the East Passage of G.B. Cave, where a long pool between two layers of stalagmite floor was found and drained. This has made the dig a very damp one. Ventilation at the end of the passage is poor. The entrance is being enlarged in an attempt to improve the air circulation so that parties can work for longer periods at a time. Work has also continued at Rhino Rift, Tratman's Crack and Milliar's Quarry, without as yet gaining access to any cave system. A dig has also been started, and reached a depth of 20 ft., at a new spot at Tynings Great Swallet.

The Society has sent expeditions to County Clare, Eire. In the three seasons past five miles of new cave were discovered and partially surveyed, and an account of the Cullaun series is published in this number.

Archæology.

The excavations at Sun Hole, Cheddar, are nearing completion. The site has proved singularly unrewarding. Dr. H. Taylor has continued the excavation of the barrow T.5, outside the Field Headquarters. On the southern side an extensive Late Bronze Age cemetery has been discovered and excavated. So far fifty graves have been found.

Field Headquarters.

The Society would like to express its thanks to Dr. H. Taylor for the loan of his caravan, which enables better accommodation to be provided for women members.

Museum.

The new show cases, which replace those lost during the war, have been installed. Work on re-cataloguing the specimens and lantern slides has been started.

Recently the Society was offered the use of a room opposite the present museum as a store and workroom, in place of the cellar which had been used as a store for many years but was needed by another department.

The offer was accepted and the move has been made, so that the Society's rooms are now all in the same building, with direct access from the outside. We are grateful to the Bursar for authorizing the redecoration of the room and the installation of the necessary services. A darkroom has been partitioned off in one corner of the workroom.

Library.

A considerable number of additions have been made to the library. A new bookcase has been purchased out of the "War Damage Fund."

Meetings.

Sessional meetings have been held as usual. The attendance has been better than usual. In the autumn term of 1953 a series of tutorials on local prehistory was given, in continuation of the series started in 1952. Attendance was good.

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STRUAN ROBERTSON,
Hon. Secretary.