

## Secretary's Report, 1954-1955

The last year has shown a steadily increasing interest, on the part of the student members, in all the functions of the Society. This has offset the slight decrease in new student members as compared with last year, so that the Society as a whole has been very active. We regret the loss of the Secretary, Mr. T. C. Piercey, who left the University in the summer.

### **Caving.**

Work has continued on Mendip without success. The entrance to the East Passage in G.B. Cave has been widened to improve the ventilation and to allow spoil to be removed. Following the heavy rains of the winter, a new dig at the bottom of the Gorge has been started. The new shaft at Tynning's Great Swallet proved a failure and has been abandoned. Work continues at Rhino Rift without any tangible reward.

The Society again sent an expedition to County Clare, Eire, in the summer. The survey of the Doolin Cave was nearly completed and the whole of Cullaun V was surveyed. Extensive and successful fluorescein tests were carried out in the Cullaun area. It is hoped to complete these on the next expedition when it should be possible to construct a map of the underground drainage over the area of at least 30 square miles.

### **Archæology.**

Dr. Taylor has continued to excavate Barrow T.5, and has found a pot which is believed to be a food-vessel.

Work at the barren site at Sun Hole, Cheddar, has been suspended. The Marquis of Bath has kindly given the Society permission to dig Gough's Old Cave and the Long Hole at Cheddar. The Long Hole has only been surveyed, but much work has already been done at Gough's Old Cave, although the Pleistocene levels have so far proved unproductive.

Preliminary investigations have been made at Brean Down and at Solsbury Hill Camp, near Bath, with a view to further excavations.

### **Field Headquarters.**

The wind generator has been erected and electric lighting is being installed in the caravan as well as the hut.

### **Museum.**

The Museum evenings have been very well attended and it is hoped to have the Museum ready for an official opening in the summer.

**Meetings.**

The Sessional Meetings have been well attended, the archæological papers being the most popular. Numbers attending have varied from 20 to 120. Tutorial lectures on "The Elementary Geology of the Mendips" have been given by Dr. Donovan as part of a three-year course of lectures designed for the student members.

**Acknowledgements.**

The Society is very grateful to the University for its generosity in raising its grant, which will enable us in the future to publish the *Proceedings* annually. The Society also acknowledges, with thanks, the grant received from the Colston Research Society for the publication of these *Proceedings*, and the annual grant from the University Union. We also thank the Finance Officer of the University for auditing the accounts of the Society.

**Council for British Archæology.**

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STRUAN ROBERTSON,  
*Hon. Secretary.*