

Council's Report and Accounts

for the year ending 31st December, 1954.

The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING will be held on
SATURDAY, 21st MAY, 1955, at the ZOOLOGICAL
GARDENS, UPTON-BY-CHESTER.

PROCEDURE AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

- (a) The reading of the Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting.
- (b) The appointment of Scrutineers and the opening of the Ballot for the election of members of the Council.
- (c) Presentation of the Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet and the Auditor's Report thereon.
- (d) Discussion of the Auditor's Report.
- (e) Presentation of the Council's Report.
- (f) Discussion of the Council's Report.
- (g) Receiving the Report of the Scrutineers on the result of the Ballot.

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL—1954.

G. B. GROUNSELL (CHAIRMAN).

MISS G. M. RUSSELL-ALLEN.

W. P. BLAND.

MISS A. L. BULLEY.

A. F. HOLDEN.

A. C. JOHNSON.

F. MOSFORD.

H. F. PARKER.

DR. J. F. WILKINSON, M.Sc., Ph.D., M.D.,
F.R.C.P., F.R.I.C.

A. A. W. WATERS.

LT. COL. A. C. ALAN-WILLIAMS.

DR. J. A. KILPATRICK, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S.E.

DIRECTOR-SECRETARY.

G. S. MOTTERSHEAD.

COUNCIL'S REPORT.

The Council has pleasure in presenting their 20th Annual Report, and are glad once again to report progress.

Although 1954 was a very wet year, the decrease in the number of visitors was only 2,000, but our receipts are well up. This is attributable mainly to 1954 being the first full year of our increased admission charges. A glance at the Balance Sheet will show that the Society is gradually strengthening its position, and is developing at the same time, and it is a pleasure to see an increase of £1,000 in our Nett Profits. The large development which was mentioned in last year's Report, viz, the Tropical and Ape House, was commenced late in 1954, but work ceased on it before Christmas on account of the weather, but every effort will be made to get this completed before the end of 1955.

Last year we had an Extraordinary General Meeting to consider increasing the admission fees and facilities for members of the Society, but the proposition which was put forward was defeated by the few people present. The Council feel that the present admission and entrance fees, one guinea in each case, and the supply of twenty free admission tickets, is completely out of stride with modern times, and leaves the Society open to much abuse. Following the suggestion made at the Annual General Meeting, the Council are putting forward a resolution which will alter our Articles dealing with members, and simplify the membership considerably. It is proposed that all new members thereafter should pay an Entrance Fee of five guineas, but that the annual subscription remain the same, at one guinea; members to have personal admission to the Gardens, and to have the privilege of purchasing 20 admission tickets at 1/- each, to give to friends. So that a proper vote may be taken on this resolution, a form of proxy has been forwarded, stamped for return, with a notice of this meeting to each member, and we hope all members who cannot attend the Meeting will use this.

The Council would like to express their appreciation to all those persons who have so generously helped the Society, in any way, during the last year, and also to all members of the Zoo staff for their work, which has contributed so much to the success which has been achieved.

THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE SOCIETY

on 31st DECEMBER, 1954, was made up as follows:

		1954
1953		
8	PATRONS	9
11	LIFE MEMBERS	10
210	ANNUAL MEMBERS	233
23	ASSOCIATE MEMBERS.....	30
1	HONORARY FELLOW	1
1	CORRESPONDING MEMBER	1
254	Total	284

The following table shows the number of visitors to the Gardens during the last two years.

	1953	1954
VISITORS TO THE GARDENS	449,844	447,589
VISITORS TO THE REPTILE HOUSE	107,936	112,255
VISITORS TO THE AQUARIUM	78,046	68,765

The North of England Zoological Society.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 1954.

		£ s. d.	£ s. d.			£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1953.				1953.			
21979	To Salaries and Wages		25623 19 3		By Admission Charges:—		
8445	— Animal and Bird Food		8429 17 1	34136	Gate Receipts.....	41956 1 2	
11251	— Cafe Purchases including Ice Cream, Sweets and Chocolates		13228 13 8	1950	Aquarium	1719 2 6	
444	— Purchases of Cigarettes and Tobacco		702 13 4	2696	Reptile House.....	2806 7 9	
1705	— Shop Purchases after adjusting Opening and Closing Stocks		1892 5 9				46481 11 5
319	— Rates, Water and Tithe		471 4 9	24129	— Cafe Receipts including Ice Cream, Sweets and Chocolates		25129 2 0
252	— Insurance Premiums		324 2 8	476	— Sales of Cigarettes and Tobacco		767 2 8
2799	— Lighting, Heating and Fuel		2501 7 6	2868	— Shop Sales		3360 17 2
1149	— Advertising		1081 9 6	209	— Subscriptions		221 2 6
505	— Printing, Stationery and Postages		582 9 2	22	— Entrance Fees		22 1 0
370	— Carriage		260 6 0	289	— Donations		173 15 0
1087	— Travelling and Entertaining Expenses		1303 14 4	1646	— Car Park Receipts	2112 15 6	
988	— Motor Running Expenses.....		875 13 2	1008	— Commission on Slot Machines and Toilets	916 9 11	
191	— Telephone		176 6 3	1244	— Proceeds of Elephant Rides	465 9 6	
846	— Bank Charges and Interest		750 12 9	885	— Proceeds of Donkey Rides	796 16 6	
167	— Professional Fees		231 0 0	1140	— Proceeds of Motor Boat Trips	1340 16 6	
3802	— Repairs, Renewals and Maintenance		5203 17 4	154	— Proceeds of Sale of Zoo News	206 4 0	
227	— Laundry and Cleaning Materials		245 11 4	179	— Proceeds of Hire of Children's Push Chairs	182 14 6	
142	— Miscellaneous Expenses		125 9 1	21	— Sundry Receipts	3 9 8	
112	— Income Tax (Schedule A)		109 18 3				6024 16 1
—	— Redemption of Land Tax		71 9 2				
222	— Hire Purchase Interest		122 15 6				
—	— Loss on Sale of Motor Vehicles		483 14 0				
—	— Depreciation:—						
	Special Buildings, Fixtures, Cages, etc.,						
4201	at 10% per annum	4567 12 3					
594	Office and Cafe Furniture at 10% p.a.	585 17 4					
40	Frigidaire Cold Room at 10% p.a.	35 17 6					
145	Washing Machines at 20% p.a.	115 18 6					
	Cafe Equipment and Crockery, etc.,						
495	at 10% per annum.....	479 7 6					
114	Tools and Utensils at 10% p.a.	158 19 10					
151	Machinery at 22½% p.a.	117 4 0					
387	Motor Vehicles at 20% p.a.	491 16 7					
76	Motor Boats at 20% p.a.	166 16 0					
59	Children's Push Chairs at 20% p.a.	46 16 0					
			6766 5 6				
9788	— Net Surplus for the year		10615 12 6				
73052			£82180 7 10	73052			£82180 7 10

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1954.

		£ s. d.	£ s. d.			£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1953.				1953.			
	CAPITAL AND LIABILITIES.				ASSETS.		
17839	LEGACY ACCOUNT.....		17838 15 10		FIXED ASSETS:		
1624	CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNT		1623 17 2		FREEHOLD PROPERTY.		
	INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT.			6386	Land & Buildings at Oakfield, Upton, at cost	6386 7 8	
	ACCUMULATED SURPLUS.			—	Improvements during year at cost	1500 0 0	
	Balance as at 31/12/53	42027 12 5		5914	Three Plots of Land at Caughall at cost	5913 12 0	
42028	Add: Net Surplus for the year	10615 12 6	52643 4 11	4425	Two Dwelling Houses at cost	4425 4 6	18225 4 2
61491	TOTAL CAPITAL AND RESERVES.		72105 17 11		SPECIAL BUILDINGS ENCLOSURES AND EQUIPMENT:		
	LIABILITIES.			52183	Balance per Schedule annexed		56138 9 6
20	Second Mortgage Debenture Stock	20 2 11			STOCK OF ANIMALS, REPTILES, BIRDS,		
9	Debenture Interest Accrued	9 2 8			Etc., at cost less sales plus additions:		
11390	Sundry Creditors	10980 16 6			Balance as at 30/4/48	3459 15 5	
	Bank Overdraft	15861 0 7			Additions less sales from 1/5/48		
	Less: Credit Balance on Debenture Redemption Account	20 2 11			to 31/12/53	17944 18 2	
18210			15840 17 8	21405	Additions less sales during year	2303 6 0	20248 4 2
							23707 19 7
29629			26850 19 9		(Curator's Valuation £27147)		
				90313	TOTAL FIXED ASSETS.		98071 13 3
					CURRENT ASSETS:		
					Stock on Hand at Cost:		
				187	Shop Goods for Re-sale	123 13 6	
				297	Provisions, Minerals, etc.	205 3 3	
				80	Animal and Bird Food	325 6 9	
				60	Zoo Brochures for Re-sale	— — —	
				36	Payments in Advance	36 10 2	
				147	Cash in Hand	194 10 9	
				807			885 4 5
91120			£98956 17 8	91120			£98956 17 8

To the Members of the North of England Zoological Society.

We hereby report that we have obtained all the information and explanations which, to the best of our knowledge and belief, were necessary for the purpose of our audit. In our opinion proper books of account have been kept by the Society so far as appears from our examination of those books. We have examined the above Balance Sheet and annexed Income and Expenditure Account which are in agreement with the books of account.

In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us, the accounts give the information required by the Companies Act, 1948, in the manner so required. The Balance Sheet gives a true and fair view of the state of the Society's affairs on the 31st day of December, 1954, and the Income and Expenditure Account gives a true and fair view of the surplus for the year ended that date.

18th April, 1955.

N. T. AFFORD & CO., Chartered Accountants, Nantwich.

SCHEDULE OF FIXED ASSETS ANNEXED TO BALANCE SHEET DATED 31st DECEMBER, 1954.

	Written down value at 30th April, 1948.	Additions at Cost less Sales.		Total	Depreciation.		Total Depreciation.	Balance 31st Dec., 1954.
		From 1/5/48 to 31/12/53.	Year ended 31/12/54.		From 1/5/48 to 31/12/53.	Year ended 31/12/54.		
Special Buildings and Open Air Enclosures, Fixtures, Cages and Accessories	15940 0 0	42699 11 7	7864 14 9	66504 6 4	20828 2 7	4567 12 3	25395 14 10	41108 11 6
Office and Cafe Furniture.....	606 3 0	6114 1 10	509 19 6	7230 4 4	1371 11 6	585 17 4	1957 8 10	5272 15 6
Frigidaire Cold Room	— — —	575 10 0	— — —	575 10 0	216 16 0	35 17 6	252 13 6	322 16 6
Washing Machines for Clothes and Dishes	— — —	921 4 1	— — —	921 4 1	341 11 1	115 18 6	457 9 7	463 14 6
Cafe Equipment, Crockery and Table Utensils	457 3 6	5013 2 2	341 5 0	5811 10 8	1017 18 2	479 7 6	1497 5 8	4314 5 0
Tools and Utensils, including Garden Tools, Machines and Equipment	456 10 0	1028 3 10	565 14 0	2050 7 10	460 9 6	158 19 10	619 9 4	1430 18 6
Machinery—Bulldozer and Roller.....	— — —	1444 1 8	— — —	1444 1 8	923 2 8	117 4 0	1040 6 8	403 15 0
Motor Vehicles—Lorries, Vans and Car	232 10 0	2755 0 0	909 14 7	3897 4 7	1438 0 0	491 16 7	1929 16 7	1967 8 0
Motor Boats	— — —	785 0 0	530 0 0	1315 0 0	481 2 0	166 16 0	647 18 0	667 2 0
Children's Push Chairs	— — —	485 15 0	— — —	485 15 0	251 16 0	46 16 0	298 12 0	187 3 0
	17692 6 6	61821 10 2	10721 7 10	90235 4 6	27330 9 6	6766 5 6	34096 15 0	56138 9 6