

The North of England Zoological Society

LIMITED.

COUNCIL.

Retire 1938—

Mrs. I. Johnston.

H. R. Dyson, Esq.

Miss G. M. Russell Allen.

G. S. Mottershead, Esq.

A. D. Pate, Esq.

C. H. Gowland, Esq.

Dr. G. Renshaw.

Retire 1937—

B. Roberts, Esq.

W. Walkden, Esq.

A. F. Holden, Esq.

W. Proctor Smith, Esq.

Retire 1936—

Prof. A. Ramsbottom.

Mrs. F. Haworth.

The First Annual Meeting of the above Society will be held in the Society's Gardens on Wednesday, the 22nd day of May, 1935, at 7 p.m.

To be followed by an Extraordinary General Meeting.

On behalf of the Council I am instructed to make two requests to all members.

1. That every member does his or her utmost to attend.

2. That every member will do their best to obtain at least one new member.

(An Application Form for this purpose is enclosed).

Signed,

G. S. MOTTERSHEAD,

Director-Secretary.

COUNCIL'S REPORT.

To those members who have only recently joined the Society there are many matters which might require explanation. It will be of assistance to these members if a short outline as to how the Society came into possession of the Gardens were given to them. Two previous attempts to form a Society failed, mainly through not being able to find a suitable way to finance the project. In the first place the Society is not allowed to have a share capital, and all its income over expenditure must be devoted to its objects. Without these restrictions on the Society we would not receive the privileges granted to a non profit making association. The third attempt of which this Society is now the result actually came into existence on the 9th May, 1934, only two of its members having been associated with the two previous efforts, and on the 12th June, 1934, the contract for the purchase of the Zoological Gardens was signed. The purchase price being £5,650, and the terms as follows:—

£500 in cash.

£2,650 to remain on mortgage with the previous mortgagee.

£1,500 of first mortgage debentures of a series of £3,000.

£1,000 in the form of second debentures.

It was necessary at the start to raise this £500 cash either by gifts or on the promise of issue of the first mortgage debentures in the same series as those given in the purchase. £50 was kindly given to the Society for this purpose, and £450 was advanced for the debentures, this left us with borrowing powers on the first mortgage debentures of £1,050, and in the early part of this year the Council decided to issue these for the purpose of carrying out various improvements and developments.

Not many members are aware of the conditions of the Gardens when this Society was formed. Granted most of the specimens were included in the purchase price, but many of them were inadequately and unsuitably housed. Building equipment and machinery, so necessary for a Zoo, were conspicuous by their absence, the staff was absolutely inadequate, and last, but not least, we had no money to alter any of the above deficiencies. Although the Society took over the Gardens in June last, it was September before we had sufficient members to form a working Council with the necessary authority, and during the intervening period, naturally the Society had been running at a loss and incurring increasing liabilities. Add to this the fact that we had the winter ahead of us—naturally a very quiet period for any Zoo as far as paying visitors are concerned—but nevertheless a period which shows additional expenses for extra heating and lighting—and it will be realised that the task of your Council was not an easy one.

The Society however has been very fortunate in receiving many gifts both of money and animals, many of which cannot possibly be shown at their real value to the Society on its Balance Sheet, and it is to these people generally that the Society is greatly indebted. Our membership at the date of incorporation numbered eight, at the end of our financial year, April 30th, our membership is as follows:—

5 Patrons, 3 Life Members, 147 Annual Members, total 155 Members. Also 12 Associates and 1 Honorary Fellow.

Considering the major portion of this time was the worst part of the year, i.e., the winter, our progress in this respect might be considered very satisfactory.

Developments.

As most of you will realise, there have been many improvements made as regards the housing of the specimens. Some of these have been costly, but were absolutely necessary. Other improvements and extensions would have been made had it not been necessary to effect costly repairs and purchase such expensive building materials as a concrete mixer, block machine, paint sprayer, etc. All these items are of course labour-savers, and will eventually save their cost many times over, but they represent quite a considerable expenditure when funds are low. One of the first developments the Society embarked upon was the construction of a Tropical Aquarium, and this was opened on the 3rd October by Lady Daresbury, and from that date has certainly been one of the most attractive and interesting exhibits in the collection. A Penguin Pool was also constructed to accommodate a gift of two penguins, and early this year the Society received also by gift its first Lions in the form of two young male cubs; so far only the indoor quarters of this enclosure have been completed. The Monkey House has been entirely remodelled and enlarged, and the Paddocks are in the process of being similarly reconstructed. The range of Parrot Aviaries are now almost completed, and a rather novel experiment is being tried in this respect by constructing an aviary within an aviary. The Society has also received a gift of some Raccoons and an enclosure round a large oak tree on the south side of the Gardens is being prepared for them, where there is also being constructed an enclosure for the Llama.

It was felt that with the rapid increase of membership and the consequent popularity of the Gardens with the general public that more facilities would have to be provided for the accommodation of motor traffic, and the council therefore felt that it was incumbent upon them to make arrangements for the purchase of land which had been offered to the Society on the South side of the Gardens adjoining the entrance, this was the most suitable place for the construction of a Motor Park and this has now been completed.

Much work has still to be done, and to further this work it is essential that every member endeavours to do her or his little bit to further the aim of the Society, either by introducing new members, etc., or advertising the Gardens among their friends, thereby increasing directly or indirectly the number of visitors. Remember it is YOUR Society, and before we can really become self-supporting, it is necessary to have many hundreds of new members. Since the Society commenced and up to the 30th April the total number of visitors paying for admission has been 11,611 of which 3,398 came during the month of April this year, which shows the increasing popularity of the Gardens.

Purchase of Land.

Since the Society purchased the Gardens last June they have obtained a further acre on the West side and about two acres on the South side, a further ten acres on the Northern side has been purchased by a member of the Council who has given the Society the option of the land at the price paid for it, and it is hoped that in the not too distant future the Society will be able to avail itself of this option.

The Council feel that this next year should be devoted to consolidating our position rather than making a big expansion, reserving whatever it can to enable the Gardens to be kept as well during the winter as in the summer, but it will continually have in mind the schemes and plans for making the Society's Collection and Gardens one of the best in the country.

The Council would here like to express its sincere thanks and appreciation to the following for their very kind assistance both in gifts of money or exhibits:—

List of Donors—

Miss D. Russell Allen, Miss G. M. Russell Allen, Miss M. D. Russell Allen, Mrs. Armstrong, H. Rothwell Dyson, Esq., C. H. Gowland, Esq., Lady Mary Grosvenor, Mrs. Hollas, N. Hardy, Esq., A. F. Holden, Esq., Miss E. Holt, E. J. Holme, Esq., Mrs. I. Johnston, L. Kremner, Esq., Sergeant Lewis, Mrs. Moseley, Miss Matheson, V. V. Pedlar, Esq., Dr. L. Picton, J. Picton, Esq., Mrs. K. M. Quinn, R. E. Rankin, Esq., Messrs. Sykes Ltd., Mrs. Shaw, J. Thompson, Esq., The Marquess of Tavistock, The Duke of Westminster, S. Wright, Esq., The Zoological Society of London, The Zoological Society of Scotland.

In closing, we would point out that there are eight vacancies on the Council, for which up to the present we have received the following nominations:—

R. M. Dutton, Esq., H. H. Edis, Esq., G. B. Grounsell, Esq., Major Alfred Holt, J. C. Holt, Esq., Dr. G. A. Moulden, R. E. Rankin, Esq.

If any other members would care to have their names submitted, we would request them to communicate with the Secretary in writing, before the Annual Meeting. The Election of Council members will be held at the Annual Meeting, by ballot.

THE NORTH OF ENGLAND ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY LTD.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT for the period 9th May, 1934, to 30th April, 1935.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
1935.				1935.			
— Purchases of Provisions, Minerals, Tobacco, etc. —	118	12	3	By Gate Receipts — — —	486	10	9
Less: Stock on hand at 30/4/35	7	5	0	— Cafe and Shop Takings — — —	206	16	8
	111	7	3	— Sundry Receipts—Guides, Slot Machines, etc.	16	10	4
— Animal and Bird Food — — —			236	— Subscriptions — — —	216	0	0
— Wages and Salaries — — —			422	— Donations — — —	204	8	7
— Rates and Water — — —			57	— Balance—Net Loss for period — — —	213	13	1
— Insurances — — —			15				
— Lighting and Heating — — —			131				
— Advertising — — —			42				
— Printing, Stationery and Postages — — —			38				
— Telephone — — —			29				
— Travelling Expenses — — —			7				
— Bank Charges — — —			1				
— Repairs and Renewals — — —			29				
— Household Requisites & Miscellaneous Exs.			23				
— Mortgage Interest (Gross) — — —			145				
— Debenture Interest (Gross) — — —			50				
	£1343	19	5		£1343	19	5

BALANCE SHEET as at 30th April, 1935.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
LIABILITIES.					ASSETS.		
First Mortgage Debentures—					Land and Buildings at Oakfield,		
109 5 per cent. First Mortgage Debentures of £25 each, of a series of 120 — — —	2725	0	0	Upton, at cost — — —	4650	0	0
Special Loan Account — — —	1000	0	0	Additions during period at cost	581	7	8
(To be satisfied by the issue of £1000 Second Debenture Stock carrying interest at the rate of 3 per cent. per annum)					5231	7	8
Sundry Creditors — — —	477	17	1	Less: Mortgage thereon — — —	2650	0	0
Amount owing for land on the south side of the gardens — — —	320	0	0				2581
Loan Accounts — — —	105	0	0	Fixtures, Fittings, Cages and Accessories, at cost — — —	80	0	0
Reserve Account—				Additions during period at cost	438	0	0
Entrance Fees during period	175	15	0				518
				Furniture, at cost — — —	110	0	0
				Additions during period at cost	84	2	0
							194
				Machinery and Loose Tools—			
				Tools and Utensils appertaining to the health and maintenance of the zoological specimens, garden tools, machines and equipments, at cost — — —	30	0	0
				Additions during period, at cost	112	0	6
							142
				Stock of Crockery and Table Utensils, at cost — — —			33
				Stocks on hand at cost—			
				Provisions, Minerals, Tobacco, etc. — — —	7	5	0
				Animal Food — — —	2	0	0
							9
				Stock of Animals, Reptiles, Birds, etc., at cost — — —	750	0	0
				Additions, at cost, less Sales during period — — —	93	10	6
							843
				Cash at Bank — — —			129
				Cash in hand — — —			26
				Deposits — — —			87
				Preliminary Expenses — — —			25
				Income and Expenditure Account—			
				Balance being net loss for period — — —			213
							13
							1
	£4803	12	1		£4803	12	1

AUDITOR'S REPORT—

I have audited the Balance Sheet of the North of England Zoological Society Ltd., dated 30th April, 1935, as above set forth. I have obtained all the information and explanations I have required and, subject to the fact that no credit has been taken for the value of animals, birds or reptiles, which have been given to the Society, I am of the opinion that the above Balance Sheet is properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the state of the Society's affairs according to the best of my information and the explanations given to me and as shown by the books of the Society.

15th May, 1935.

N. T. AFFORD, Chartered Accountant.

N. of England Zoological Society

Ltd.

UPTON-BY-CHESTER.

Report of the Council

AND

Balance Sheet,

April 31st, 1935.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the First Annual General Meeting of the above Society will be held at the Society's Gardens, Upton-by-Chester, on Wednesday, May 22nd, 1935, at 7.0 p.m., to be followed by an Extraordinary General Meeting.

Dated this 14th day of May, 1935.

GEO. S. MOTTERSHEAD,

Director-Secretary.