

Notes and Comments

ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND AGM, 1987

The Spring Conference paid its first visit to Northern Ireland and was held at the Northern Counties Hotel, Portrush from 6–8 April 1987. Most of the papers had an Irish theme. Dr D Dickson spoke on the evolution of the cattle fair in Ireland, 1600–1900; Mr J Burtchael discussed Waterford merchants and landed investment in eighteenth-century Ireland; while Mr T Power dealt with landownership and the landed class in eighteenth-century Tipperary. Professor J Lee gave a more general paper on agriculture and development. Three more diverse papers were given on Wednesday: Dr T M Devine on the potato famine in the Scottish Highlands, 1846–50; Professor G L Cunningham on the early history of English allotment gardens; and Dr C Thomas on land reform and colonization in Yugoslavia 1919–39. A most successful excursion to North Antrim was led by Dr Jonathan Bell.

The 35th AGM was held on 7 April 1987. Professor Mingay was re-elected President of the Society, Dr Collins re-elected as Treasurer, and Dr Overton re-elected as Secretary. Dr Chartres was re-appointed as Editor of the *Review*. The meeting expressed thanks to Dr Dennis Baker who retired from the Executive Committee thus leaving five vacancies to be filled. Following a ballot, Dr P Dewey, Dr H S A Fox, Mrs C S Hallas, Dr D Howell, and Dr R Perren were elected to the Executive Committee.

The Chairman of the Executive Committee, Dr Hey, presented the Committee's report. Membership of the Society stood at 908, a net increase of 31 members over the year during which 43 new members joined the Society. The Treasurer presented the audited accounts of the Society which indicated that expenditure was in excess of income so that reserves were being depleted. The Executive Committee would therefore be considering the possibility of a subscription increase at its September meeting. Dr Chartres reported that Volume 34 (1986) of the *Review* was the largest yet produced at 236 pages. The flow of articles was generally satisfactory with the exception of material on the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries and the index to the *Review* should be published in 1988.

At the conclusion to the meeting thanks were expressed to Professor P Roebuck for organizing a most successful conference.

WINTER CONFERENCE, 1987

Booking forms for the 1987 Winter Conference to be held jointly with the Historical Geography Research Group of the Institute of British Geographers on 5 December 1987 at the Institute of Historical Research, Senate House, Malet Street, London WC1E 7HU,

should be inserted in this issue of the *Review*. The theme of the conference is 'Agriculture in Wartime'.

SPRING CONFERENCE, 1988

The Society's Spring Conference will be held at Plaxtole House, Kings Lynn, Norfolk, from Wednesday 6 to Friday 8 April 1988. Note that this year the conference will be held before the Economic History Conference and will take place from a Wednesday to a Friday instead of the usual Monday to Wednesday. Full details and booking forms should be circulated with the next issue of the *Review*.

BACK NUMBERS OF THE REVIEW

Members will be aware that not all past issues of the *Review* remain in print, although many are available through the Treasurer of the Society. One member, Professor Lord McGregor of Durris, finds that one copy is missing from his set, and seeks a replacement for Volume 9 part II (1963). Members wishing to dispose of back numbers, and any who might be able to supply the specific issue referred to above, should contact the Treasurer.

PROFESSOR W H CHALONER

It is with great sadness that we note the death on 25 May 1987 at the age of seventy-three of Professor W H Chaloner, former President of the Society and Chairman of the Executive Committee. He served on the Executive Committee of the Society for more than twenty-five years, and as President will long be remembered for his distinctively droll after-dinner remarks at the Spring Conference annual dinner of the Society. With his death the Society loses a very valued member.

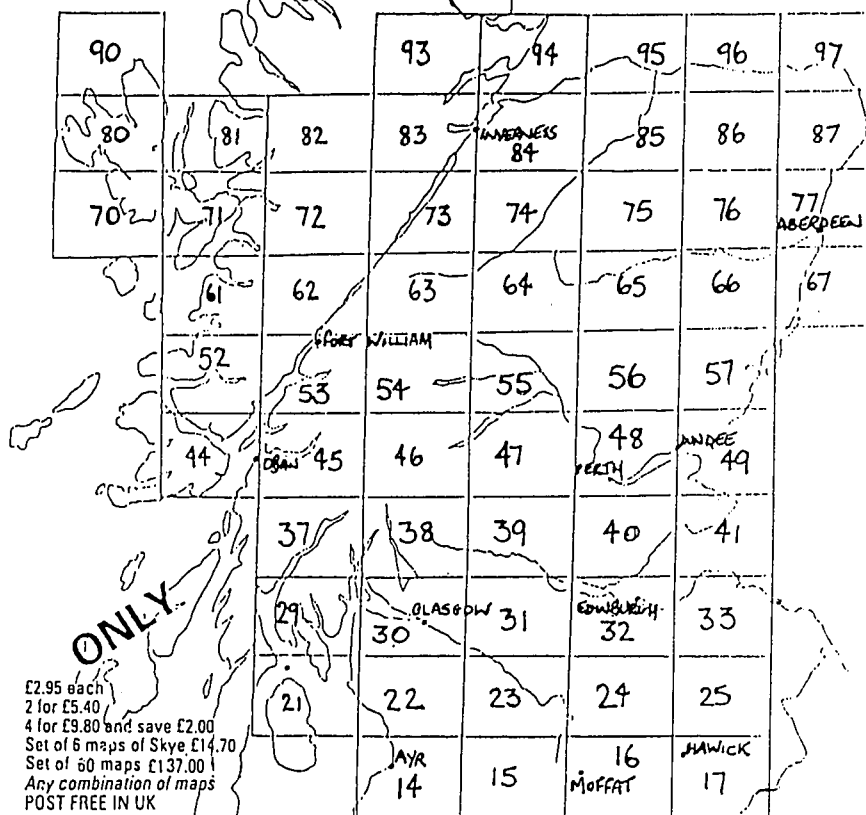
ROTHAMSTED EXPERIMENTAL STATION ARCHIVES

The library of the Rothamsted Experimental Station has recently been catalogued with the support of a grant from the Leverhulme Trust. The archives of nineteenth- and twentieth-century material consist principally of items relating to Sir John Bennet Lawes, mainly working notebooks and correspondence, and the large series of working records of Sir Henry Gilbert. The nineteenth-century archives have been untouched since the early years of this century, and copies of the catalogue, together with details on access to the records, are available from the Librarian. The unbound catalogue is available, price £10, from the Librarian, Rothamsted Experimental Station, Harpenden, Herts, AL5 2JQ.

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