

his skill.

His pictures dealt briefly with changing seasons and the English countryside. Many were taken in the vicinity of lovely Trinity Bridge, Cambridge, while his delightful moving pictures of falling autumn leaves and wild flowers in the English corn fields were a joy to all. At the conclusion a hearty vote of thanks was carried and members were heard murmuring that they hoped further pictures were in store for future occasions.

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THOSE SUBSCRIPTIONS !

Following the reading of the Balance Sheet, the Treasurer drew attention to our somewhat precarious financial position. The plain fact is that for several years past the Society has been living beyond its means, and has only been able to "break even" because of the generosity of private members. Last year we reduced our deficit by making a small charge for supper, nevertheless we have not quite caught up with our somewhat restricted income.

Our expenses are heavy as they include:

1. Expenses of sending out notices etc.
2. A Quarterly News Letter.
3. Tea for our picnics (and tea has gone up!)
4. Payment to caretaker for making coffee etc., and cost of hire of urn.

These expenses take a great deal of financing out of a subscription of 5/- for town and 2/6 for country members - in fact to put it bluntly it can't be done on present membership.

Under these circumstances, it was proposed at the Annual Meeting that the Subscription be increased. The motion was eventually lost after considerable debate.

Those supporting the increase maintained:

1. In view of the increase in prices since the formation of the Society, an increase in subscriptions was only reasonable.
2. Many other Societies have increased their subscriptions.
3. The Society is not paying its way, and it is unfair that debts incurred by the Society as a whole should be put right by one or two generous members.

As against these points others contended:

1. Raising a subscription is always a most unpopular measure and is liable to adversely affect membership.
2. Raising the subscription is a confession of failure. It is up to the members to find other ways of increasing income.
3. Raising the subscription would be especially likely to discourage the younger members and these are particularly wanted in the Society.

In the end it was decided to maintain the subscription at its present level, but also that attempts should be made to find ways of increasing our income. The most effective way is to increase membership. One member has already rung to say she has secured a member, while the Editor has her eye on a promising victim. If each member would earnestly stalk and capture one other member our situation would be reasonably satisfactory. So let us remember that the Society expects each member this year to do its duty in the matter.

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The trip to the Cascades which took place on March 25th was most ably led by Mr. P.B. Hannken, to whom we owe the following excellent account of a most profitable day:

CASCADES TRIP - SAT. 25/3/50.

Although the Society has so often visited Cascades Park there is always much of interest and this was proved again by those who attended the March excursion.

Lorry transport brought us to the very edge of the Kauri forest where we were joined for lunch by the few who had botanised their way down Anderson's track. While waiting for them we walked along to the Cascades themselves. Humid conditions in the canyon-like valley of the Cascades stream are ideal for plant growth. Unusually luxuriant are the fronds of Cyclosorus pennigerus, Blechnum procerum and the Hen and Chickens fern (Asplenium bulbiferum). Indicative of damp conditions are the Parataniwha (Elatostema rugosum) and the little succulent Peperomia urvilleana, a small relative of the better known Macropiper excelsum (also present). The tree trunks are a perfect haven for many little "filmies" showing, also, signs of this summer's drought. Thickly mingled together were the dainty