THE CAMBRIDGE AND COUNTY

# FOLK MUSEUM

2 CASTLE STREET, CAMBRIDGE

TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1961



# THE CAMBRIDGE AND COUNTY FOLK MUSEUM

(Incorporated 5th June, 1946)

# COUNCIL OF MANAGEMENT as on 31st December, 1961

#### **EXECUTIVE OFFICERS:**

Patron:

\*The Lord Fairhaven, J.P., D.L.

President:

\*Sir Henry Willink, Bt., M.C., Q.C.

Vice-Presidents:

Councillor Miles Burkitt, J.P.

\*Dr. G. H. S. Bushnell

H. I. Fyjis-Walker, M.B.E.

\*Alderman F. J. Priest

J. Saltmarsh

Hon. Treasurer: Alderman F. J. Priest

### ELECTED MEMBERS:

Mrs. E. Blackman, T. N. Gallyon, R. G. Heffer, W. Balfour Gourlay

# NOMINATED MEMBERS

Aldermen E. T. Halnan, H. R. Mallett, by Cambridge City Council F. J. Priest, Councillors A. W. Arundale, E. H. Cherry, L. G. Cogman,

\*Mrs. T. R. Henn, Miss. D. M. H.

\*Mrs. T. R. Henn, Miss D. M. How-

lett, \*P. J. Warren

Councillor W. T. F. Hardesty

F. R. Salter, O.B.E.

E. B. Haddon

D. Ashpole

B. G. W. Cash

., Cambridgeshire County Council

" Council of the Senate of the University

" Cambridge Antiquarian Society

" N.U.T., Cambridge Branch

" N.U.T. Cambridgeshire Association

Curator and Secretary: Miss E. M. Porter

<sup>\*</sup> Members of the Executive Committee

# THE TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1961

# Proceedings at the Annual General Meeting, 1961

THE 16TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Association since its Incorporation, being the 25th since the opening of the Museum, was held on Monday, 20th March, 1961, at 2.30 p.m. in Committee Room I at the Guildhall.

The President, Sir Henry Willink, Bt., M.C., Q.C., Master of Magdalene, was in the Chair.

The Chairman moved that the Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting held on 25th March, 1960, being contained in the Annual Report which had been circulated to members, should be adopted. This was agreed to and the Minutes were accordingly signed.

Moving the adoption of the audited accounts, printed in the Annual Report, the Hon. Treasurer spoke of the increased expenditure which faced the Museum after the premises had been extended. Alderman F. J. Priest referred to the matter of the commission charged by the Agents for the collection of rents from Abbey House. After some discussion it was agreed that it would be unwise to make any change as the Agents rendered valuable assistance to the Council of Management. The accounts were then adopted by the meeting.

The Chairman then spoke of the third period of restoration in progress at the Museum and of the valuable space which would be available for the display of exhibits. He expressed the Association's continued indebtedness to the Resident Curator and referred to the record number of visitors to the Museum during 1960. Warning members of the financial difficulties ahead, he said that these must be surmounted in order that the Museum might continue its valuable services to the City and to the County. He then moved the adoption of the Annual Report, which proposal was agreed to unanimously.

Alderman F. J. Priest, seconded by Alderman H. R. Mallett, proposed that Mr. R. C. Blows be re-appointed Auditor at a remuneration of £7 7s. The proposal was carried.

Lord Fairhaven kindly consented, at the Chairman's request, to continue as Patron of the Association and said that he would continue to serve the Museum in every way that he could.

Moving the re-election of Sir Henry Willink as President, Alderman F. J. Priest voiced the Association's appreciation of all the work which the President had done for them. Seconded by Mr. J. Saltmarsh, the proposal was carried unanimously.

The President then proposed that, in view of his long period of service to the Museum, Alderman F. J. Priest be elected to fill the vacancy among the Vice-Presidents caused by the death of Dr. Louis Clarke, and that his former title of Chairman of Committee be dropped. This was unanimously approved.

Dr. G. H. S. Bushnell proposed that the Resident Curator and Secretary be known in future as the Curator and Secretary. This motion was carried.

The Hon. Treasurer, Canon R. Corboy, then announced to the meeting his intention of resigning from the office. He said that he had been Treasurer for ten years but was now finding, with increased pressure of his own work, that he could no longer devote sufficient time to the needs of the Museum. He expressed his pleasure in having served as Treasurer and said that he had enjoyed the company into which the office had brought him.

In reply, the President said that Canon Corboy had very kindly given some warning of his intended resignation and that Councillor Mrs. Henn had enquired of Mr. P. N. J. Hopkins, the Manager of the St. Andrew's Street branch of Barclays Bank, whether he would be willing to replace him. The meeting agreed that Mr. Hopkins should formally be asked to do so.

Mr. F. R. Salter proposed a vote of thanks to Canon Corboy for all he had done during his term of office. This was carried unanimously.

The Chairman then closed the meeting and invited the Curator, Miss E. M. Porter, to give a short talk on "The Museum—Today and Tomorrow". A number of recently acquired exhibits were shown to members. The speaker was thanked by Councillor Mrs. Henn, seconded by Alderman H. R. Mallett.

#### 1961 in Retrospect

The year has been a memorable one for it has seen completed the third stage of the improvements to the Museum. Work on the renovation and extension began on January 2nd and, together with the installation of the new oil-fired heating system and exterior painting, continued until December. On March 9th it was found impossible to keep the Museum open to the public for, by then, there was not one room which was not affected by the work being done, and it remained closed until the end of the year. We apologise to members of the public and of the Association for this, but we hope that, on future visits to the "new" Museum, they will feel that the period of closure was well justified. The Association is, indeed, grateful to the City Corporation for the great improvements which have been made to the Museum; sincere thanks are due to the City Surveyor, to Mr. W. Doig, the architect, and to Mr. F. C. Watts and Mr. T. H. Taylor who supervised, respectively, the building operations and the heating installation, and to the workmen themselves. The latter, especially the carpenters and the plasterer, were often faced with great problems, especially in the erection of the new staircase to the Rural Life Room and in the insertion of the artificial flue through the great central chimney. But these they surmounted with great skill and frequently expressed their interest in working on such a building and their admiration for the 16th century constructors of it.

# Hon. Treasurership

As announced at the Annual General Meeting in March 1961, Canon Corboy wished to terminate his ten-year period of office because of increasing pressure of his own work. He agreed, however, to continue until a successor was found. Mr. P. N. J. Hopkins was unable to take on the work because of injury received in an accident; in November, however, Alderman F. J. Priest kindly agreed to succeed Canon Corboy.

# **Abbey House**

A number of repairs have been carried out during 1961. The electric wiring in No. 1 has been completely renewed and a new fence erected on the South side of the garden. The ceiling at the foot of the staircase in No. 1 has been renewed and other repairs done in Nos. 2 and 3.

The Association would like to offer congratulations to its Vice-President and Hon. Treasurer, Alderman F. J. Priest, on the award of an M.B.E. in the New Year Honours List in January, 1962.



A Corner of the Fenland and Folklore Room

By courtesy of Cambridge Daily News

# HON. TREASURER'S REPORT

Having only recently taken over the office of Hon. Treasurer from Canon Corboy, I am in no position to add to the auditor's report on the finances of the Folk Museum, as set out in the balance sheet included in the Annual Report.

As the Curator has stated, it has been a momentous year for the Folk Museum, which has literally been born again. The nine months lost during the adaptation of the whole building to the purpose of exhibiting our unique collection, will, I am sure, be largely recovered by the greater interest that the public will show in our undertaking.

The fact that our financial year ends on December 31st and the municipal year ends on March 31st, leaves an awkward hiatus, financially speaking, between these two dates.

The annual grant from the City Corporation, for the municipal year ending March 31st, 1962, was raised from £500 to £650, mainly on the grounds of the additional rent payable for the Curator's cottage. The whole of this grant was received before December 31st, 1961, and I am informed that until the new rate (which will include the annual grant to the museum) has been made for 1962-1963 on March 8th, which is the City Council's budget day, we shall have to carry on as best we can with what cash is available.

By the end of March this year it is anticipated that the City Council will have spent £3,000 on the renovation and adaptation of the Museum, which will inevitably mean increased rent. This is in addition to the £2,567 spent on building the Curator's cottage. However I think we can rest assured that whatever financial burden is placed upon us under this heading, some relief will be forthcoming to meet it. But it behoves each and everyone of us to try and get additional support from outside sources.

In the meantime it is only right and proper that we should express our thanks and sincere gratitude to the City Council of Cambridge for the help and encouragement that has been forthcoming from that body for a number of years.



Part of the Rural Life Room

By courtesy of Cambridge Daily News

#### CURATOR'S REPORT

As the Museum was closed from early March to the end of the year attendance figures are necessarily low—610 visitors with 120 school children. But loan exhibitions were made throughout the year to local schools and various organisations while, for the second year running, the Museum was represented at the Royal Agricultural Society's stand at the Royal Show in July. I gave a number of talks in the City and in Cambridgeshire, Essex, Hertfordshire and Huntingdonshire; in May I was invited to read a paper to the Folk Lore Society in London and, in October, to the Oxfordshire Folk Lore Society in Oxford.

About 150 accessions were received during the year. Outstanding among these were a number of models, made in the late 19th and early 20th centuries by the late Mr. Robert Maynard of Whittlesford, of some of the agricultural machinery made at his works in Whittlesford—works which had existed from 1829 until they were sold, on Mr. Maynard's death, in 1961. In addition to the models, we also received a collection of iron-founding tools, made and used at Whittlesford, trade catalogues and other items.

Mrs. Yglesias who, in the past, has given many things to the Museum, gave a mid-19th century historical game and two very beautiful nursery chairs.

Another interesting accession was the Wedgwood "loving cup", formerly in the possession of Mr. Mortlock of Abington. It was used by members of the Abington Cricket Club in the last and present centuries for the drinking of cider after cricket matches.

A 1920 vacuum cleaner, found in a house pulled down in 1961 in Fitzroy Street, makes the fourth early type of hand-operated cleaner in our collection. A "British Queen" model, it in no ways resembles our other cleaners.

I am grateful to the Editor and Staff of the "Cambridge Daily News", not only for their continued references in the paper to the Museum, but for their co-operation in photographing streets and property due for demolition. In this way our photographic record of Cambridge can be maintained. Among material objects from demolished property in 1961 must be mentioned

an interesting stone head from the gable end of No. 8, Stafford-shire Street and the Delft and Wedgwood glazed tiles from the Central Hotel.

Our Folk Lore Section has been notably increased by the addition of a caul. Possession of a caul was thought to ensure protection from drowning and to bestow the gift of oratory, and I think there can be few museums in the country to possess one. I am greatly indebted to Mr. W. H. Barrett for presenting it, together with further additions to his already large collection of MS records in the Museum. Further folk lore objects received in 1961 include a 17th century child's shoe found built into an interior wall of the Central Hotel—a common symbol of good luck and protection from evil.

Hunting coats and underwear worn by Dr. Chafy, Master of Sidney Sussex College, when hunting with the Cambridge-shire Hounds in the 1830's, was another interesting accession, as was also a multi-coloured waistcoat presented by Mr. N. Teulon Porter. It was made for him in Cambridge in 1918 from patterns of the highly-coloured waistcoats then made by one or two Cambridge tailors for wear by undergraduates in celebration of the end of the first World War.

While the carpenters and builders were at work in the Museum, all the exhibits were cleaned and treated for woodworm, rust, etc., in readiness for display.

As a result of the extensions made, three new rooms are now open to the public. The large attic makes a fine Rural Life Room; the smaller room on the second floor of No. 3 is the Fenland and Folklore Room, while below this is the new Exhibition Room-the former Exhibition Room is a much-needed second Children's Room. The stairs in No. 2 have been renewed and widened, and a new staircase has been ingeniously contrived through the former chimney hole in No. 2 to give access to the Rural Life Room. The open fireplace in the Bar Parlour has been altered slightly by the erection of a projecting wall on the North side to allow for insertion of a new flue for the central heating; the wall is plastered and in it have been set the tiles from the Central Hotel. Storage space is now restricted to the two attics in No. 2, which have been re-decorated, and to cupboards under staircases; shelving has been placed in the cellar of No. 3 for storage of glassware, pottery, etc. Nearly all the rooms in the Museum have been re-decorated, either wholly or in part, and

new floors laid in the Rural Life Room, the Exhibition Room, the Curator's office and the entrance hall.

Entrance to the Museum is now by No. 3 door, near the Curator's new office, from which admission tickets are obtained. Exit is by the big gates in the yard, although school parties can assemble in the yard.

These extensions, and the re-arrangement of the existing rooms mean that a new Guide Book is now necessary. It is hoped that this will be published as soon as possible.

# LIFE MEMBERS

(Donors of 10 guineas and upwards)

Mrs. C. Armstrong
T. W. Bagshawe
Mrs. E. Blackman
R. C. Blows
Major the Hon, H. R. Broughton
Cambridge Preservation Society
Christ's College
Clare College
C. M. Coote
Downing College
Emmanuel College
Lord Fairhaven
Girton College
Gonville & Caius College
E. B. Haddon
N. O. Higgins

Homerton College
Miss Kenny
King's College
L. F. Newman
Pembroke College
Peterhouse
Queens' College
Mrs. Rees Thomas
St. Catharine's College
St. John's College
J. Saltmarsh
Sidney Sussex College
Dr. E. M. W. Tillyard
Mrs. E. M. W. Tillyard
Trinity College
Mrs. Dudley Ward

#### ORDINARY MEMBERS

(Annual subscribers of 1 guinea and upwards)

A. W. Arundale
G. H. S. Bushnell
Cambridge Antiquarian Society
Cambridge & District
Co-operative Society
National Union of Teachers
Cambridge Branch
National Union of Teachers
Cambs. Association

B. G. W. Cash
Emmanuel College
Gonville & Caius College
T. N. Gallyon
W. Balfour Gourlay
E. B. Haddon

E. B. Haddon R. G. Heffer Jesus College H. S. Johnson
King & Harper Ltd.
King's College
G. Kitson Clark
Mrs. W. Lilley
Lloyds Bank Ltd.
Magdalene College
Perse Boys' School
Peterhouse
Mrs. Rees Thomas
Prof. D. S. Robertson (the late)
St. John's College
Mrs. F. H. Sandbach
J. K. Taylor
Trinity College
Women's Institutes (Cambs.
Federation)

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS (Annual subscribers of 5/- and upwards)

Mr. & Mrs. R. Benstead R. G. Bowles Mrs. R. Bruns D. E. Bye Miss H. M. Clark W. G. Cole P. Ford Mrs. J. McArthur

B. J. Matthew H. F. Moule D. J. Muggleton Miss O. Peck
D. Pepys-Whiteley
Miss S. Raynes
S. A. Rolfe
C. C. Scott
Miss A. H. Spalding
Mrs. H. M. Spittle
C. F. Tebbutt
Mrs. J. Wardill
A. H. Wooll (the late)

# ANNUAL GRANTS

Cambridge Corporation

Cambridge City Education Committee

Cambridgeshire County Council

Cambridge Rural District Council

South Cambridgeshire Rural District Council

# LIST OF PRINCIPAL ACCESSIONS, 1961

# Social Life

#### The Inn

PEWTER TANKARDS, 5, inscribed with customers' names from Meldreth and Shepreth. 19th century. Mr. A. W. Deards.

#### Societies

- CUP, quart size; glazed buff earthenware with design of horses in black. Wedgwood; three handles. Formerly used by the Abington Cricket Club for the drinking of cider after matches. Mr. C. H. Rogers.
- PROGRAMME of the Third Year's Planting, 1960-1961, by the Cambridge "Men of the Trees". Councillor A. W. Arundale.

#### Government & Administration

- PROGRAMME of the Civic Welcome given to the Oberbürgermeister of Heidelberg at the Guildhall, Cambridge on 26 September, 1959. Alderman F. J. Priest.
- MEMORIAL to the Town Council of Cambridge, 1904, presented by Professor G. H. Darwin against the establishment of electric trams in Cambridge and their proposed route along Silver Street and the Backs; with LETTER from the Town Clerk stating that the memorial had been received by the Town Council. Lady Keynes.
- LIST OF SENTENCES of Prisoners tried at the Cambridgeshire Assizes, 1843. 'Cambridge Daily News.'

#### Folk Lore

- CAUL, 1891. Possession of a caul was thought to be a protection from death by drowning and to bestow the gift of oratory. Mr. W. H. Barrett.
- SHOE, child's leather. 18th century. Found buried in the wall of the Central Hotel, Peas Hill, Cambridge, on demolition in 1961. A good luck token. The Master & Fellows, King's College.
- MSS accounts of Fen folk lore, witchcraft, etc. Mr. W. H. Barrett.
- LETTER, dated 27 August, 1904, from Mr. J. E. Foster, Secretary of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society, referring to Plough Monday dancing in Dry Drayton. Mr. T. W. Bagshawe.
- PHOTOGRAPHS of the gravestone, "Candlesticks", carved figure, etc., relating to the Fenland giant, Hickathrift at Terrington, Walpole St. Peter, etc. The Curator.
- PHOTOGRAPHS of Folk Lore (Venus in the Folk Museum).

  Museum of Archaeology.

#### The Household

# The House and its Construction

- TILES, Delft and Wedgwood; 17th and 18 centuries. Removed from the Central Hotel on its demolition in 1961. Master & Fellows, King's College.
- WATTLE & DAUB WALL, section of, from cottage in Cottenham, 16th century. Mr. G. Huxley.
- BRICKS, made and inscribed by the Stourbridge Brick Company, Cambridge, 1900-1930. The Corporation of Cambridge.
- STONE HEAD, 18th century? from gable end of No. 8 Staffordshire Street, Cambridge, demolished Nov. 1961. Purchased.

#### The Kitchen

- JELLY MOULD, white glazed earthenware; fluted design. 19th century. Mrs. Taylor.
- VACUUM CLEANER: "The British Queen". Hand-operated, c. 1920. The City Corporation.

#### The Nursery

- CHILD'S CHAIR: mahogany frame, padded seat covered with red velvet. c. 1860. Mrs. Yglesias.
- CHILD'S ARM CHAIR: oak frame; oval cane seat. c. 1850. Mrs. Yglesias.

# The Individual

#### Dress

HUNTING COATS (red and blue) with trousers and knee breeches, shirt and underwear, worn by Dr. W. Chafy, Master of Sidney Sussex College, when hunting with the Cambridgeshire Hounds in the 1830's; with WAISTCOAT, lavender and silver shot corded silk. The Dorchester Museum,

SHAWL: black, hand-made point lace. c. 1870. Miss E. Cooke.

BABY CLOTHES, late 19th century, collection of. Mrs. L. Whitlock.

BOY'S SMOCK, 1870. Purchased.

WAISTCOAT, made from patterns of the brightly coloured waistcoats worn for a few months after the 1919 Peace by Cambridge undergraduates. Mr. N. Teulon Porter.

### Sewing Materials

CROCHET HOOKS, 3 very fine steel, with detachable bone handle in decorative wooden case. c. 1870. Mrs. Yglesias.

TAPE MEASURES: miniature, wood and ivory. c. 1880. Mrs. Taylor.

PATTERN BOOKS for crochet and tatting, 1864-1880. Mrs. Taylor.

# Toys & Games

- GAME: British Sovereigns or the Circle of English History. c. 1845. Mrs. Yglesias.
- CARD GAME: "The New Game of Animals". N.D. (19th century). Mrs. R. Mellanby.
- DOLL: c. 1910. China face, stuffed body covered with kid. Mrs. W. Kaeser.
- WRITING PAPER: child's decorative. c. 1875. Anon.
- FLAT IRON & STAND, miniature; CANDLE SNUFFERS, miniature; c. 1880. Miss D. Stevens.

# Occupations

#### Iron Founder

- TOOLS, collection of, from Maynard's Engineering Works, Whittlesford, 1829—1961. Mrs. R. Maynard.
- BEADING PLANE, used at Maynard's Whittlesford Works for making the templates for iron work. Mrs. R. Maynard.

#### Wheelwright

TRAVELLER, wheelwright's, 19th century. Mrs. R. Maynard.

### Forestry

BARKING IRON, made by Maynard of Whittlesford. 19th century. Mrs. Maynard.

# Agriculture

- MODELS of HORSE RAKE, GRASSHOPPER ELEVATOR, SWATH TURNER, CHAFF CUTTER, COMPENSATOR, BEET LIFTER, etc., made by the late Mr. R. Maynard of Whittlesford in the 19th and 20th centuries. Mrs. Maynard.
- ROOT HOE & CORN HOE BLADES, made by Maynards of Whittlesford. Mrs. R. Maynard.
- SPOONS for corn and seed drills, made by Maynards of Whittlesford. Mrs. R. Maynard.
- TRADE CATALOGUES of Maynards of Whittlesford, 1880-1946.
  Mrs. R. Maynard.

# Shopkeeping

YARD MEASURE, brass, for use on counter. From the village drapery and grocery shop at Bassingbourn. c. 1860. Mr. A. W. Deards.

# **Printed Matter**

- BOOK OF HOUSEHOLD MANAGEMENT, by Isabella BEETON. 2nd ed. 1863. Mr. J. H. Reynolds.
- BOOK OF HOUSEHOLD MANAGEMENT, by Isabella BEETON, ed. 1869. Mr. J. H. Reynolds.
- BEETON'S EVERY-DAY COOKERY & HOUSEKEEPING BOOK. 1894. Mr. J. H. Reynolds.
- PERIODICAL: Complete set (6 numbers) of "The Cam—A Cambridge Town Magazine". Jan.-June, 1937. Mr. J. H. Reynolds.
- CARTOON: Coloured postcard of undergraduate at "Work" and "Play", by "Pip"; pp. 248, 249 of "The Granta", 12 March 1898, with the cartoon in black and white. Mr. D. Pepys Whiteley.

# **Photographs**

- 10 photographs of the remains of the old TRAM DEPOT in East Road and of the STABLES. Taken in 1961. Purchased.
- WRAY'S ALMSHOUSES, King Street. 1961. Purchased.
- CHESTERTON LANE CORNER, prior to alteration in Nov. 1961.
  The Curator.
- Head of the soldier on the Cambridge WAR MEMORIAL from the unfinished clay by R. Tait Mackenzie. The Haddon Library.
- ROUND CHURCH STREET, prior to demolition in 1961, Purchased.
- RAM YARD, prior to demolition in 1961. Purchased.
- CAMBRIDGE SHOW, 1884, 1909, 1911, from faded copies already in the Museum. Purchased.
- WIND PUMP, Isleham Fen. Pulled down in 1924. Mr. C. Fuller.

# THE CAMBRIDGE AND COUNTY FOLK MUSEUM

(Incorporated 5th June, 1946)

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REPORT OF THE AUDITOR TO THE MEMBERS OF THE CAMBRIDGE AND COUNTY FOLK In accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act, 1948, I report to the Members of THE CAMBRIDGE AND COUNTY FOLK MUSEUM that I have examined the foregoing Balance Sheet together with the annexed Income and Expenditure Account dated 31st December, MUSEUM that I have examined the foregoing Balance Sheet together with the annexed Income and Expenditure Account dated 31st December, 1961, with the Books of the Company, and that I have obtained all the information and explanations which to the best of my knowledge and belief were necessary for the purpose of the Audit. In my opinion, proper Books of Account have been kept by the Company so far as appears from my examination of those books.

In my opinion and to the best of my information and according to the explanations given to me, the above Balance Sheet and the annexed Income and Expenditure Account, which are in agreement with the Books of Account, give the information required by the Companies Act, 1948, in the manner so required, and give a true and fair view of the state of the Company's affairs as at 31st December, 1961, and of the Deficit for the year ended on that date.

R. CHATER BLOWS, Auditor,