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WITH BEST WISHES  
FOR  
CHRISTMAS AND 1940

f r o m

*W. H. H. H. H. H.*

## OUR "COMING OF AGE"

On the evening of Monday the 9th of December, 1918, at the headquarters of the London Sketch Club in Fuston Road, our Society was born.

On Saturday, the 9th of December, 1939, therefore, it attained its majority and may now be considered legally capable of managing its own affairs.

No doubt, at our gathering, on January 15th next, we shall drink to its continued prosperity, but we shall not, I am sure, omit a toast to our Fathers that begat us, those twelve pioneers, of whom but three remain. To Lewis Clapperton, who for the whole twenty-one years has been our treasurer, and to Alfred Yeates, and Richard Davison, we extend our heartiest greetings and wish them health and happiness and many more years of active collaboration with their fellow members in the Society which they helped to found.

To the rest, the Silent Toast, amongst them de Navarro, Cotterell, Charbonnier, Churcher, Cooke, Croft-Lyons, and Port; great names which are remembered wherever a few of us gather together to discuss Pewter.

This our 21st birthday has seemed to me to present an opportunity for glancing back over our past, and to that end I have been moved to write this monograph, in the hope that it may recall many delightful occasions and, in some measure, serve as a condensed record of our doings to the present date.

It is dedicated, in happy remembrance, to Herbert Methold Cooke who first, in the summer of 1918, conceived the idea of forming a

### SOCIETY OF PEWTER COLLECTORS.

Unfortunately no records remain of what must have been a voluminous correspondence prior to the official inauguration of the Society.

1918

The first document germane to my purpose is a Circular letter, dated November 1918, as follows:-

Dear Sir,

The idea of bringing together collectors and lovers of old Pewter into a Society or Association has recently been suggested and has been so warmly received by all those to whom it has been mentioned, that already it has begun to assume concrete shape.

Mr. Antonio de Navarro having signified his willingness to act as first President, Mr. Howard H. Cotterell as first Vice-President, Mr. Lewis Clapperton as Honorary Treasurer, and Messrs. Walter G. Churcher and Howard H. Cotterell as Honorary Secretaries, it is now proposed to invite some few others who, with the above, shall form a body of Twelve "Original Members" and we shall be glad if you will allow your name to appear as one of the twelve.

The enclosed rough outline (not reproduced) of the suggested scope of the Society is sent for your perusal and comments.

It is hoped to hold an inaugural meeting early in December (possibly the 9th or 11th) in London. Notice will be sent in due course.

Yours very truly,

Antonio de Navarro  
Howard H. Cotterell  
Walter G. Churcher  
Lewis Clapperton  
Herbert M. Cooke.

This meeting was duly held, and at it the composition of the Society, its fees, and the number of meetings to be held in each year were decided; and the Secretaries were instructed to draw up rules for adoption at the next meeting.

The following were elected original or Founder Members:- Messrs. de Navarro, \* Cotterell, \* Churcher, Clapperton, \* Cooke, Charbonnier, Davison, Westropp, \* Yeates and \* Port, \* Colonel Croft-Lyons and Major Richardson. Of the above, those \* so marked were present, and Colonel Croft-Lyons took the Chair.

The entrance fee was fixed at 10s.6d. and the annual subscription also at 10s.6d. It was decided that two meetings should be held in each year, one in London and the other in the Provinces.

The following were invited to become full members:- Mrs. Carvick-Webster, Rev. A.G. Kealy, Captain H.E. May, Mr. Alban G. Distin and Dr. A.J. Young; and invitations to become Honorary Members were sent to Messrs. W.J. Englefield, Master-Pewterer, Past Master of the Pewterers' Company, C. Reginald Grundy, Editor of the "Connoisseur", H.J.L.J. Massé, Author of "Pewter Plate" etc., W.W. Watts, Department of Metal Work at the Victoria & Albert Museum, and Charles Welch, Author of "The History of the Pewterers' Company"

1919 The second meeting of the Society followed quickly; on Wednesday, January 15th 1919, the members gathered at Mrs. Carvick-Webster's flat in Cavendish Square. On this occasion the rules were approved and were ordered to be printed. Space does not permit of reproducing these in full, but, as regards the Aims and Objects of the Society, its Officers, Committee and times of meetings, they are much the same as to-day. Alterations and additions have, however, been made in other directions from time to time, more especially as to members, period of Presidential office, and exclusion of the Professional element.

Invitations to full membership were sent to the following:- Messrs. Bradbury and Fripp, Drs Carter and Seymour-Price and Captain Harries.

1919 For the third meeting on Wednesday, July 9th 1919, the Society returned to the Studio of the London Sketch Club; at this meeting it was decided to invite Mr. Green-Armytage and Major Thompson to become full members and Mr. Walton Sawbridge, Clerk of the Pewterers' Company, to become an honorary member. Mr. Churcher produced a design for a certificate to be presented to every member upon joining; this was approved and copies of the original order are still in use. It is noted in the circular that "an Unlidded Queen Anne Tavern mug with fluted ornament and inscription 'John Wallhope att the Bell att Turvey 1703', marked on the lip A.R. beneath a Crown" (the excise mark of Queen Anne), "after spirited bidding fetched £14.14s.0d. at Puttick and Simpson's. £75 was paid for three Church Flagons, one engraved on the handle 'Ollerton 1710' with initials of Churchwardens; the other two bearing touch No.7. All in fine preservation. Thirty shillings seems quite an ordinary

1920

The fourth meeting was held on Wednesday, January 14th 1920 at the same place. The Rules of the Society laid it down that the President and Vice-President should each hold office for one year only, after which both should retire. This being so, Mr. de Navarro and Mr. Cotterell both retired, Colonel Croft-Lyons succeeding Mr. de Navarro as President and Mr. Churcher being elected Vice-President; the following were invited to become full members:- Messrs. Spencer-Brett and Carvick-Webster. The dates of Meetings were fixed for Mondays, to be the nearest to January 15th and June 15th.

The first accounts were presented by Mr. Clapperton and showed a credit balance of £16.19s.2d.

It was also at this Meeting that the decision was taken that each President should present his photograph to the Society "in order that a complete sequence of holders of the office may be preserved for future generations of Collectors".

In the circular calling the meeting reference was made to the sale at Sotheby's of the enormous Mrs. Gerald Walker collection of 650 pieces at an average price of £1 per piece, whilst an average of 30/- was obtained at Glasgow for some 200 pieces from the collection of Mr. Andrew Smith of that City.

Further prices noted were:- £30 for a flat lidded Stuart tankard and £70 for a pair of Communion flagons of the same period, whilst 9" plates fetched 32/6d. at auction and Scots pint Tappit Hens from £10 to £16 each.

Mention is also made of the practical impossibility of finding a real bargain, "that true joy of the real collector".

1920

On May 28th 1920, the Society first came into direct touch with the Worshipful Company of Pewterers, for on that date we met at the Company's Hall in Lime Street, where we were entertained at tea and heard an address by Mr. Bertrand Johnson, C.C., on the history of the Company and its Halls. We afterwards inspected the various apartments and also the famous Touch Plates, the Records and the Company's Silver and Pewter; and our honorary member Mr. W.J. Englefield, a Past Master, the sole remaining Master Pewterer in the Company, exhibited pewterers' moulds, rough castings from the same, and finished products. Fourteen members and 4 honorary members were present.

1920

The Summer Meeting took place on Monday, June 14th 1920, at Court Farm, Broadway, the home of Mr. de Navarro. \* The death of Mr. Alban Distin was announced and Mr. Gilbert L.D. Hole was invited to join the Society. The dinner was held at the Lygon Arms. Ten members attended. Reference was made in the Circular to the steadily increasing price of good pieces; and attention was drawn to the publication of Mr. Massé's book "The Pewter Collector".

\* The writer was not at this time a member of the Society, but a fuller reference to Court Farm is given in the notes on our visit in June 1931.

- 1921 The Winter Meeting took place on January 21st 1921, at 8, Neville Street, Onslow Gardens, London, the home of Colonel Croft-Lyons, the President. Eleven members attended, having dined previously at Gatti's restaurant. Colonel Croft-Lyons retired and Mr. Walter Churcher was elected President in his place, Mr. Yeates being elected Vice-President. Acquisitions by members are noted in the circular as follows:- A William & Mary covered porringer, A Stuart Candlestick and five flat lidded Stuart tankards; and, in the latter connection, the Secretaries note that "four members between them possess 27 of these tankards". Attention is also drawn to the increase of "faking" and mention is made of spurious "early" candlesticks, barbers' bowls and small baluster measures.
- 1921 For the Summer gathering of 1921, the Society visited Taunton, where on June 20th, the meeting took place in the County hotel, members subsequently dining together. Seven members attended. Mr. Charbonnier's collection in the Castle Museum was inspected, and we took tea on the lawn with the Museum Authorities. After dinner a paper on "Allotropy or Tin Pest" was read by Mr. Cotterell. On the following day five members visited Bristol, where they lunched with the Committee of the Bristol Museum and Art Gallery. They inspected the Museum and the Red Lodge, an ancient house belonging to the Corporation and leased to the Bristol Savages Club. In response to a suggestion made on this occasion, several members later presented pieces of Bristol and West Country pewter to the Museum. Reference is made to the exigencies of travel, due to the coal strike.
- 1922 The President, Mr. Churcher, entertained the members at his home, 6, South Parade, Bedford Park, London, on the occasion of the Winter Meeting of 1922, which took place on January 16th. For the occasion, Mr. Churcher had designed a special invitation and menu card which included cartoons by John Hassall and Dudley Hardy. Thirteen members were present. Mr. Churcher retired from the Presidency and Mr. Yeates succeeded him, Mr. Cotterell being elected Vice-President for the second time. It was decided that, in future, the Vice President should automatically succeed the President. The accounts showed a credit balance of £19.6s.9½d. The dinner which followed was served completely on and in pewter; even the liqueurs were served in Moorish pewter cups which had come from Morocco.
- 1922 The Summer Meeting was held at the residence of Major S. John Thompson at Oaken in Staffordshire on Monday, June 12th 1922. Eight members were present, and the business was formal. Visits were made to Ludstone Hall, a Jacobean Mansion, and to Captain Harries's residence, Netherton Farm, Wightwick, where we inspected his collection. On the following day Shrewsbury and the Roman City of Uriconium were visited. Mention is made of "faked" Stuart tankards and "Master" Salts which had recently appeared at auction.
- 1923 The Winter Meeting for 1923 took place at 61A, South Audley Street, London, the residence of the President, Mr. Yeates. Ten members attended and dined together at the Connaught Rooms prior to the meeting.

It was decided to increase the membership from 25, as fixed in 1919, to 30 (exclusive of honorary members), and to invite the following to become full members: Miss Chichester, Brigadier-General Sir Alfred Balfour and Messrs. W.J. Fieldhouse and Francis Weston.

Honorary Membership was conferred upon Mr. Bertrand Johnson, C.C., in recognition of the valuable researches he had carried out upon the Records of the Pewterers' Company, and of his sympathy with the objects of the Society.

The entrance fee was raised from 10/6d to one guinea, and the Secretaries were asked to bring the Rules up to date.

The credit balance was £22.3s.2½d.

Mr. Cotterell succeeded Mr. Yeates as President, and Mr. Port was elected Vice-President.

- 1923 The Summer Meeting of 1923 was held on Monday, June 18th at the Falcon Hotel, Stratford-on-Avon. Ten members were present, and the business was formal. We assembled at Austy Manor, the home of Mr. Fieldhouse, and after lunch, inspected his fine collections of Pewter, Black jacks and Bombards; later a visit was paid to the old Guild Room at Henley-in-Arden, which had recently been rescued from decay and restored by Mr. Fieldhouse. The dinner was held at the Falcon.
- 1924 For the 1924 Winter Meeting on Monday, January 14th a return was made to the London Sketch Club's premises in Marylebone Road. Eight members were present. Mr. Port succeeded Mr. Cotterell as President and Mr. Cooke was elected Vice-President. The accounts showed a credit balance of £21.9s.3d. Rule 5 was amended to ensure that membership should be attained by invitation only, and that prospective members should be bona-fide pewter collectors and be personally known to two or more members of the Society. It was reported that several more Stuart tankards had been acquired by members.
- 1924 The President, Mr. Port, entertained the Society on June 16th 1924, at his home at Worthing on the occasion of the Summer Meeting. Eleven members were present. The resignations of Colonel Croft-Lyons, and Messrs. Brett and Fripp were received, and the death of Mr. Welch honorary member, was announced. Major C.T.P. Bailey, Curator of Metalwork at the Victoria and Albert Museum was invited to become an honorary member. After the meeting, we were entertained to dinner by the President. Mr. de Navarro reported the acquisition of a fine Wine Cistern, weighing 488 oz. The four legs are in the form of Lions' masks over claw feet and the handles also depend from Lions' masks. The maker is Jonas Durand. A Wine list advertising "Tappit Hen Chateau Mouton Rothschild (6 bottles) 100/-" was also mentioned. (Note:- the author has seen this description as latterly as June 1939).
- 1925 The London Sketch Club's premises were again the venue of the Winter Meeting, which took place on Monday, January 12th 1925, members having previously dined together at the Great Central Station restaurant. Six members attended, and the business was formal. Mr. Cooke succeeded to the Presidency and Mr. Clapperton was elected Vice-President. The accounts showed a credit balance of £29.13s.1½d.

The Summer Meeting of 1925 was held on Monday, June 15th at "Duntrune", Whitefield, Manchester, the residence of Dr. Young. Six members were present. Mr. T. Milligan was invited to become a member of the Society.

Dr. Young entertained us both to lunch and dinner at the Victoria Hotel, Manchester, and visits were paid to Manchester Art Gallery, which in addition to its fine collection of pictures, houses some splendid silver and glass; and to Cheetham College, where the ancient Library with its illuminated and early printed books was inspected. After dinner we proceeded to Duntrune, and after the meeting spent an absorbing time amongst Dr. Young's fine collections.

26 The Winter Meeting of 1926 again took place at the London Sketch Club's premises, on Monday, January 28th. Seven members were present, having previously dined at the Great Central Station restaurant.

Mr. Clapperton succeeded Mr. Cooke as President and Dr. Seymour Price was elected Vice-President. Further slight modifications were made to the Rules. The credit balance was £32.11s.3d. Mr. Green-Armytage resigned and Dr. Herbert French was invited to join the Society.

26 This was the year of the General Strike, and it was inevitable that the arrangements for the Summer Meeting which, by Mr. de Navarro's invitation was to have been held at his home at Broadway, Worcestershire, should have to be cancelled.

The meeting took place however, the venue being again the premises of the London Sketch Club, and the date Monday, June 14th 1926. Seven members were present, having dined together at the Great Central restaurant.

The President (Mr. Clapperton) presented to the Society a Chairman's Mallet and Block fashioned from old oak from the roof of Glasgow Cathedral, and mounted in Pewter, upon which is engraved the Society's badge and the inscription "Presented by Lewis Clapperton, President 1926 - Oak from the roof of Glasgow Cathedral 1250-1912 A.D."

After the meeting, we adjourned to the residence of Dr. French in Wimpole Street where his large collection of pewter was inspected.

27 In the circular giving notice of the winter meeting of 1927, the death of Colonel Croft-Lyons was announced. The Meeting took place on Monday, January 17th at the London Sketch Club's Studio. Seven members attended; the death of Mr. W.J. Englefield, honorary member, was announced. Dr. Seymour Price succeeded Mr. Clapperton as President and Dr. Young was elected Vice-President. The credit balance was £34.1s.11d.

27 The Summer Meeting took place at the Bristol Museum and Art Gallery on June 13th 1927. Seven members were present. The Presidential term of office was increased to 3 years. Mr. Dudley Westropp resigned his membership. The dinner was informal as certain members were unable to be present. On the following day visits were paid to the famous Red Lodge, Temple Church and St. Mary's Redcliffe. The circulars at this time mention many publications, both books and articles, by members; and that of December 1927 records the gift by Captain Harries of some twenty of the finest pieces from his collection to the Pewterers' Company.



1928.

The Winter Meeting and dinner was held on January 16th 1928 at Cutlers' Hall; incidently it was the first occasion on which the Society was privileged to meet in this building, which has since become so familiar through the hospitality extended to us by the Worshipful Company of Pewterers.

On this occasion, however, our host was Mr. Francis Weston, who, in this year, served the office of Upper Warden of the Worshipful Company of Cutlers; it is, perhaps, an interesting point that the Society met, and also dined, in this Hall prior to the arrangement between the two Livery Companies, whereby the Pewterers Company now holds its Court Meetings and Livery dinners at Cutlers' Hall.

Who knows but that we may have paved the way for our revered "Spiritual fathers"?

At this meeting Mr. Cotterell resigned from the joint Honorary Secretaryship. Captain H.E. May, who frequently acted as our auditor, resigned his membership of the Society and the death of the Rev. A.G. Kealy was announced. Captain A.V. Sutherland-Graeme was elected a member. It was decided that, in future, the Summer Meetings should be held on Saturdays. 12 members were present; the credit balance was £37.1s.3d.

In the May circular attention was drawn to the forthcoming International Exhibition of Antiques to be held at Olympia in July; Mr. Cotterell had undertaken to arrange a representative display of old Pewter.

(Note:- This display was really magnificent. Every piece exhibited had been selected by Mr. Cotterell from his knowledge of many collections, and the result was that scarcely an article made of pewter throughout three centuries was unrepresented.

Examples of Roman Pewter vessels and of Pewter salvaged from the wreckage of a Spanish galleon were also on view. Members contributed generously, some ninety per cent of the exhibits, which numbered over 460 pieces, being lent by them).

1928

The Summer Meeting was held on June 16th 1928 at Whitelea, Croydon, the residence of Mr. Francis Weston. Prior to the meeting the ancient Whitgift Hospital was visited. It was decided that certain minor alterations to the Rules were advisable, and a draft of the proposals was referred to a sub-committee. It was considered inadvisable for the present to extend the establishment of the Society above the number of 30 subscribing members. The dinner was held at the Greyhound Hotel, Croydon. 12 members were present.

1929

The Winter Meeting was held on January 14th 1929, at Pewterers' Hall, Lime Street; although not known to us at the time this was actually the last occasion on which we were able to see the old Hall, as it was demolished in 1932.

Mr. Bertrand Johnson, C.C., past Master of the Company and an honorary member of the Society, received us and exhibited the Charters of the Company and the Touch Plates and Working tools.

The announcement of the death of Mr. Fieldhouse, in October 1928, was received with great regret. Messrs. Eustace Turner, Archibald Sloan, Harry Walker and Roland Shelley were invited to join the society. 14 members were present and the credit balance was £31.2s.9d.

Prior to the meeting, 11 members dined together at the "George and Vulture Tavern" in George Yard, Lombard Street.

In April of this year Mr. Fieldhouse's famous collection was sold at Sotheby's; the greater part of it had previously figured in the Charbonnier collection; some very high prices were recorded.

929

The Summer Meeting was held on June 15th 1929, at Herne Bay College at the invitation of Mr. E.W. Turner. Mr. & Mrs. Turner entertained the members and their friends at lunch and a very enjoyable time was spent amidst Mr. Turner's outstanding collection. The meeting was chiefly of a routine character, and 9 members were present. In the afternoon we were conveyed to Canterbury, where Miss Babington, Secretary to the "Friends of Canterbury Cathedral" conducted us on a tour of that wonderful church, during which portions of the buildings not usually open to the general public were visited. Thereafter a party of 18 dined together at the County Hotel.

930

After a lapse of 3 years the Society returned, on January 13th, 1930, to the Studio of the London Sketch Club in Marylebone Road; Dr. Seymour Price was succeeded as President by Dr. A.J. Young; Mrs. Carvick-Webster was elected Vice-President; Captain Sutherland-Graeme was elected Joint Hon: Secretary and two new members, Mr. E.R.H. Hancox and Dr. Daniel Dougal, were invited to join the Society. The death of Mr. Charles Port was announced. Mr. Port was a founder-member and had formed a notable collection of British and Continental pewter at his home at Worthing, and entertained the Society there in 1924. 13 members attended the meeting, having previously dined together at Great Central Station restaurant. The credit balance was £41.12s.5d.

930

The Summer Meeting took place on June 7th 1930, at the home of the Vice-President, Mrs. Carvick-Webster, Orangefield, Monkton, Ayrshire. The subject of the Rules again came up and was deferred, for the inclusion of suggestions for improvement, till a later date. The following motion, which was carried with acclamation, is reproduced in full. "That, as Members of this Society have now had time to appreciate the comprehensiveness of Mr. Howard H. Cotterell's work on Old Pewter and the great value it will be to all connoisseurs and collectors of Old Pewter, this meeting records its warm appreciation of Mr. Cotterell's efforts and offers to him its congratulations on bringing to a successful issue his many years of careful and elaborate preparation". Mr. James Fenton was elected a member. 9 members attended the meeting. In the morning, whilst in Glasgow, we visited St. Mungo's Cathedral and the 15th century building, Provand's Lordship, which was the scene of the earliest exhibition of old pewter (1909). Mr. Clapperton acted as host during these proceedings and entertained us at lunch, after we were able to inspect his notable collection which contains some unique specimens of Scottish pewter. After a visit to the Art Galleries we proceeded to Orangefield where more splendid specimens in the Carvick-Webster collection were on view.

The stay at Orangefield was extended over the week-end and on Sunday certain members, apparently still not satiated, proceeded to Edinburgh to inspect the collections of Mr. Hole and Mr. Milligan.

931 Not content with his previous hospitality at Cutlers' Hall in 1928, Mr. Francis Weston again entertained the Society at its Annual Meeting on January 19th 1931, this time in the ancient hall of the Worshipful Company of Barber Surgeons which is built, in part, on the Roman wall of London. Mr. Weston was Master of the Company in this year, and after the Dinner, gave a most interesting talk on the subject of the Company and its Hall, and described the fine Plate which was exhibited therein. Mr. Cotterell intimated that he desired to resign his membership as did also Mr. Charbonnier. These resignations were accepted with regret. The Rules, as finally redrafted, were approved. 15 members attended. The credit balance was £50.3s.9d.

931 Mr. de Navarro, having invited us to visit him again at his home at Broadway, Worcestershire, the Summer Meeting took place at Court Farm on June 13th 1931. Before the meeting Mr. de Navarro entertained a party of 18, which included several ladies, to dinner at the Lygon Arms Hotel, an early hostelry which has been delightfully restored and sympathetically modernised, and which also contains a quantity of fine early pewter chargers and dishes. We subsequently adjourned to Court Farm, which comprises two early Cotswold cottages connected by the Great Music Room which is designed to be in keeping with the earlier work. The whole stands in extensive gardens, and, on this occasion of glorious weather made a really beautiful picture. Here we were received by Madame de Navarro, who, with her husband, spared no effort to ensure our comfort and enjoyment. 14 members were present at the meeting which was of a routine character only; at its conclusion the famous de Navarro collection, perhaps the finest that had ever been formed up to that time, was inspected; it was displayed in the Pewter Room which was specially designed for it and attached to the Music Room; the collection was specially rich in Carolean and William & Mary flat lidded tankards and church vessels, but where every piece was a joy, it is impossible to select. It was gratifying to know that this collection was destined never to be dispersed but was eventually to go to the Fitzwilliam Museum at Cambridge. On the following day a delightful morning was spent in the gardens of Court Farm, and in a renewed study of Pewter before we dispersed.

932 The London Sketch Club premises were again the venue of of the Society's Winter Meeting. This took place on January 18th 1932, when 11 members were present. There was a discussion on the alarming increase of spurious pieces of "old" pewter, and it was agreed that members should be requested to notify the Secretaries if such a piece should be offered, in order that a warning post-card might be circulated to all other members. It was recognised, however, that opinions as to the genuineness or otherwise of a piece might differ, and that therefore no "lead" should be given as to the reasons for refusal; the warning would merely give a brief description of the piece, in order to enable it to be identified, but would make no reference to its supposed doubtful features, or to the source whence it came.

The credit balance of the funds amounted to £52.14s.9d. Prior to the liceting the usual dinner was held at the Great Central Station restaurant.

932

The Summer Meeting took place for the second time at Duntrune, Whitefield, Manchester, the home of the President, Dr. Young, on June 11th 1932. The death of Mr. Carvick-Webster was announced, and the members stood in silence in respect of his memory. Mrs. Carvick-Webster wrote intimating that she would be unable to succeed Dr. Young as President of the Society in January 1933. 7 members were present. An excellent programme for the visit had been arranged by our Manchester members, Drs. Young & Dougal and Mr. Walker, and included a visit to the ancient Cheetham College. At Dr. Dougal's home we inspected his collection as well as a portion of Mr. Walker's which had been transported thither for convenience; the President entertained us at dinner at the Victoria Hotel, after which an adjournment was made to Duntrune House, where, under the guidance of the President and Mrs. Young, we examined their collections of Pewter, China and Pottery and spent a thoroughly happy evening.

933

The Winter Meeting was once more held at the London Sketch Club Studio, on January 16th 1933. The agenda was of more than usual importance, as the members were required to elect not only a Vice-President but also a President. None of the officers other than one joint-Secretary, was able to be present, and Mr. Yeates took the Chair. The Card Vote resulted in the election of Mr. Francis Weston to the Presidential Chair and of Mr. Gilbert Hole as Vice-President. Great regret was expressed at the announcement of the death of Mr. de Navarro on October 11th 1932. A Founder-member, and President from December 1918 to January 1920, he will ever be remembered, not only as the possessor of a superb collection, but also, and perhaps chiefly, for his kindly nature and exceeding hospitality. Tribute to his memory was paid by the members who stood in silence.

It was decided that, in future, the office of President (and by consequence of Vice-President) should be held for two years instead of three years as hitherto. Messrs. Ernest Hunter and Charles Stewart Murray were invited to join the Society and Mr. F. Gordon Roe, recently appointed to succeed Mr. Grundy as Editor of the "Connoisseur", was elected as honorary member. The Meeting heard with surprise that Pewterers' Hall had been demolished and that a block of offices was to be erected on the site. Captain Sutherland-Graeme described his efforts - unfortunately too late - to obtain some relic of the fabric for the Society and it was agreed that his correspondence with the Company should be recorded in the minutes.

(Thus the Worshipful Company severed connection with a site which it had occupied since 1475; the second Hall, now demolished, was commenced immediately following the Great Fire of London which had destroyed the first). 10 members attended the Meeting; the credit balance of the funds was £50.3s.9d. The dinner was held, as usual, at the Great Central Station restaurant and after the Meeting several recently acquired specimens were inspected, of which perhaps the most outstanding was Mr. Yeates' loving cup, with a Latin inscription and the date 1603.

1933

On June 17th 1933 the Society met at York following the suggestion of Mr. Fenton at the previous Meeting. 15 members attended. Miss Chichester intimated her wish to resign her membership. A message of greeting and good wishes was sent to Mr. Churcher whose illness was reported.

Miss Englefield presented a copy of her book "A Short History of Pewter" to the Society. Captain Sutherland-Graeme, joint Hon. Secretary, was empowered to write an article dealing with the Society for the "Connoisseur". (This article appeared in the December number of the year).

The question of the increase in the production of spurious pieces was again raised, and it was decided that the matter should be referred to in the article above mentioned.

A delightful programme was arranged by Mr. Fenton in collaboration with Dr. Collinge of the Yorkshire Museum; here a considerable collection of old Pewter was on view including several "York" flagons.

We were deeply impressed by the glories of the Minster; and were enabled to see the four fine pewter altar candlesticks, bearing the Touch of Francis Lucas of York, 1684, which Mr. Fenton had rescued and restored, and which had been returned to their rightful places in two of the Chapels.

The Civic Plate of York was displayed at the Mansion House by permission of the Lord Mayor.

After luncheon, we were conducted on a tour of the City walls, the Shambles, the Merchant Adventurers' Hall and the Museum of Roman Antiquities. The meeting and Dinner were held at the Royal Station Hotel and the usual inspection of recent acquisitions followed.

1934

Barbers' Hall was again the venue of the winter meeting, which was held there on January 15th 1934, at the invitation of Mr. Weston, the President. 21 members were present.

The following were invited to join the Society:- Messrs. E. Billing-Lewis, E. Richmond Paton, and Melvyn H. Rollason. Two Communion Cups made by William Eddon who was Master of the Pewterers' Company in 1732 were exhibited by Captain Sutherland-Graeme. These cups had been sent to him by the Minister of Garvock, Kin-cardineshire, who wished to have them restored for use in the Parish church of Garvock, to which they belonged. No funds were, however, available. It was agreed that the Cups should be restored by the Society and the cost defrayed from the funds. The formation of a library was also discussed. The credit balance stood at £53.14,9d. The President entertained us at dinner in the Hall and thereafter gave a most interesting talk on the history of the Barber-Surgeons' Company, its Hall and Plate.

934

The Summer Meeting of 1934 took place on June 16th in the Georgian room of the "Strangers' Club" at Norwich. 11 members attended. Mr. Turner agreed to become the Society's librarian, to take charge of all books and photographs; and members were asked to send him any spare copies of books; whilst Mrs. Carvick-Webster offered to file and record photographs.

It was mentioned that the Harries donation of Old Pewter to the Pewterers' Company was on view in the entrance hall of Cutlers' Hall which was now shared by the Pewterers' Company; also that the de Navarro collection was now on view in the Fitzwilliam Museum at Cambridge.

"The President stated that he had discovered an 11" platter at Kirkmichael church. He had had it restored and it was now kept in a glazed case in the church. The thanks of the Minister and Kirk Session of Garvoch for the restoration of the CommunionCups was recorded. The visit to Norwich was perhaps the most successful, save in point of numbers attending it, that the Society had had up to this date.

For the first time in its history, the Society was accorded a Civic reception. The deputy Lord Mayor welcomed the members and their friends at Guildhall and speeches were exchanged. The party had the guidance of Mr. Leney, the curator of the Museum, throughout, and he was indefatigable in his endeavours to ensure a successful and enjoyable day.

This started, after the reception, by an inspection of the magnificent Civic Plate and the Plate of St. Peter Mancroft church, said to be the finest in the possession of any Parish church in England. Thence we proceeded to Norwich Museum, where, in addition to the various collections there displayed, we saw the Diorama rooms which display bird life in its natural settings, and the "Norfolk School" picture gallery.

At the Cathedral, Dr. Cranage, Dean of Norwich, received us and spoke of the History and Architecture of the building before conducting us over it.

Then, after lunch, came the inspection of the really wonderful display of Norfolk Church Pewter, which had been assembled at the erstwhile church of St. Peter, Hungate. Here were over 30 early 17th century flagons, together with dishes, patens and plates, many of which are by Norwich pewterers.

This was probably the finest display of ecclesiastical pewter ever staged, and many members were amazed at the quantity of fine early specimens which were still preserved in one Archdeaconry of the Norwich Diocese alone. The cataloguing had been excellently done, and all marks were recorded by reference to Mr. Cotterell's "Old Pewter", its Makers & Marks". Subsequently visits were made to St. Andrew's Hall, Suckling House, the Bridewell Museum of local industries and the Strangers' Hall Folk Museum; tea was served at the Strangers' Club and the meeting took place thereafter.

In November of this year the Master, Wardens and Court of the Pewterers' Company held a reception at Cutlers' Hall, where Miss Englefield and the Hon. Secretary addressed the assembly on Modern Pewter and its manufacture, and Old Pewter, respectively. The Touch Plates and Charters were on view, and supper was served after the discourses. This was a most enjoyable evening.

935

The Society returned to the London Sketch Club for its Winter Meeting which took place on January 14th 1935. 17 members were present.

We heard with deep regret of the passing of Mr. Walter Churcher and Mr. Howard Cotterell, who for several years had been the Society's Honorary Secretaries and who had done more than probably any others to organise the Society and bring Mr. Cooke's idea to successful realisation. Mr. Cotterell too, had thrown the whole weight of his zeal and learning into the cause of making the history and manufacture of pewter better known; and, in particular, his magnum opus "Old Pewter, its Makers & Marks" was a work which will ever stand as a monument to his keen-ness and industry.

The Society gave a donation of £5 towards the cost of the Exhibition of pewter at Norwich.

The President welcomed Mr. Justus Eck, Master of the Worshipful Company of Pewterers, who attended as a guest of the Society.

In reply, the Master stated that the Craft of the Pewterer was a subject very near to his heart, and that he hoped that the contact between the Company and the Society would ever remain and become closer.

Mr. Gilbert Hole succeeded Mr. Weston in the office of President, and Captain Sutherland-Graeme was elected Vice-President.

The librarian (Mr. Turner) reported that he had been in correspondence with Mrs. Cotterell with reference to her late husband's books, and it was decided that, if it could be arranged, the Society might purchase his books upon Foreign pewter.

Mr. G.J. Gollin was invited to become a member of the Society.

Mr. Shelley read a paper upon "the Pewterers of Kendal" which he had compiled chiefly from the "Booke of Recorde of the Burgh of Kirkby Kendal, A.D. 1575" which comprises most of what is known about the small Guild of Pewterers which was established there. This matter had been first brought to notice by Mr. Hunter and Mr. Shelley had followed it up with great energy. A bound copy of the Paper was presented by Mr. Shelley to the Society.

The credit balance was £56.9s.5d.

In February a most interesting ceremony took place at Cutlers' Hall, where, in the presence of the Master, Wardens and Court of the Pewterers' Company, Mr. R.H. Englefield, Master Pewterer, son of our late honorary member, Mr. W.J. Englefield, struck his Touch upon the 5th Touch Plate.

Mr. Weston and Captain Sutherland-Graeme were invited to attend this function, and also to lunch with the Court.

1935. The Summer Meeting was held at the Bull Hotel, Cambridge, on Saturday, June 22nd 1935. There were 17 members present.

Mr. Justus Eck, Master of the Worshipful Company of Pewterers was elected an honorary member in recognition of his efforts to develop the knowledge of old pewter and to foster the manufacture and use of the metal as evidenced by the recent Conversazione at Cutlers' Hall; of his sympathy with the objects of the Society, and of the way in which he had drawn together the members of the Society and of the Company by speech and act.

A pewter snuff box was presented to the Society by Mrs. Churcher in memory of her husband.

The Hon. Secretary reported that contact had recently been made with the Pewter Collectors' Club of America; letters had been received from the Secretary (Mrs. P.J. Franklin) together with a message of good wishes for the meeting. This had been supplemented by a cablegram which had been received during the meeting, which read "We strike the Touch of Friendship with you."

The Pewter Collectors' Club of  
America.

The Hon. Secretary's statement and the reading of the cablegram was received with much applause.

Mr. Eck offered to have the records of the Society suitably bound, an offer which greatly pleased the members.

Mr. Bradbury exhibited a fine Communion Flagon, inscribed "John Squier 1721". It had been found amidst a mass of rubbish within the Tower of St. Michael's church, Puriton, Devon. The incumbent desired it to be cleaned and restored and this had been carried out under supervision of Mr. Bradbury, who had intended to meet the cost of the work. It was represented to him, however, that the Society might fitly allocate the necessary funds for this purpose and this was agreed.

A description of the scene at Cutlers' Hall during the recent ceremony in connection with the Striking of his Touch by Mr. Ralph Englefield was read by the Secretary. A most interesting programme was carried out during the day. The de Navarro collection of pewter was specially arranged in the Fitzwilliam Museum, and the silver at Pembroke and Corpus Christi Colleges was inspected, as was the Wren library at Trinity College, where the members were met by Mr. J.M. de Navarro, whose presence with them was greatly appreciated by so many old friends of his Father.

We then attended evensong at King's College Chapel, after which the Meeting Dinner was held at the Bull.

36

The Winter Meeting of 1936 was held at the Hotel Great Central on January 13th when 17 members attended.

Mr. Eck presented to the Society the Book of its Records which, in accordance with his promise, he had had bound in Nigerian goatskin, the most durable binding in existence.

Mr. Milligan resigned his membership of the Society. Air Marshal Sir Frederick Bowhill was invited to become a member. The credit balance was £41.2s.1d.

Mr. Eck who had been ceaseless in promoting the interests of the Society, stated that he proposed to suggest to the Court of the Pewterers' Company that the Company might make arrangements with the Cutlers' Company for the use of the Court Room at Cutlers' Hall for the winter meetings of the Society.

Prior to the Meeting and dinner, Mr. & Mrs. Yeates were "at home" to members at South Audley Street. For the dinner we were the guests of Mr. Bradbury. Most unfortunately our host was unable, through illness, to be present, and a telegram of condolence was sent to him. After the Meeting Mr. Shelley followed up his recent paper on the Kendal Pewterers by another, this time on the history of the Pewterers of Wigan. The paper was reported at length in the "Times" and the thanks of the Society are due to Mr. Shelley for so greatly enhancing the reputation of the Society on the historical side of its activities.

36

Warwick was the scene of the Summer gathering of 1936, the business meeting, however, taking place at Coolderry, Lapworth, the home of Mr. & Mrs. Rollason. The date was June 13th. 13 members attended.

The Society had previously agreed to purchase from Mrs. Cotterell all her late husband's books on foreign pewter; the purchase price was stated to be 25 guineas. Captain Carew-Hunt was invited to become a member of the Society, and Mrs. Sutherland-Graeme and Mr. A.J. Hawkes, librarian of Wigan, were elected Honorary members. The members and their guests were conducted on a tour of Warwick Castle and, in the afternoon we proceeded to Coolderry where we were most hospitably entertained. After the Meeting a return was made to the Lord Leicester Hotel, where dinner was served.



1937

The Winter Meeting of 1937 took place, by invitation of the Master, Wardens & Court of the Pewterers' Company, at Cutlers' Hall on January 18th.

The invitation, which also included dinner in the Court room after the meeting, was brought about through the initiative of Mr. Eck, whose proposal was sympathetically received by the Officers and Court of the Company; and the Society are deeply indebted to all these gentlemen for their great courtesy and hospitality; it may here be interposed that this kindly action by the Pewterers' Company was repeated in 1938 and 1939; the Company has acted with a friendliness towards a small Society which must be quite unique in the annals of the City Livery Companies; and it is to be hoped that the members, both individually, and collectively as a Society, may be enabled, from the store of knowledge of the ancient Craft of the Pewterer which they have accumulated, to render assistance to the historic Guild which from the 14th century to the early 19th controlled that Craft, and to keep alive within it a reverence for, and knowledge of, the works of those splendid Craftsmen who founded it and carried its banner down through the generations. Surely here is a service which those of us who walk in the ancient paths and admire the ancient ways can render to an ancient institution in a way in which no other of the many Guilds of the City of London can be served by any outside organisation.

To return to the occasion; 17 members and one honorary member attended, this being two thirds of the total membership. With great regret members learned of the sudden illness of Mr. Eck, to whom the Society owed so much, and also of Mr. Turner and Mr. Bradbury.

Dr. Seymour Price resigned his membership.

Captain Sutherland-Graeme succeeded Mr. Hole in the office of President and Mr. Shelley was elected Vice-President. Captain Sutherland-Graeme resigned from the Secretaryship and Mr. Billing-Lewis was elected to that post. The credit balance was £48.17s.7d.

The purchase of the late Mr. Cotterell's books on foreign pewter was reported to have been completed.

At the dinner which followed, Mr. A.J. Mullens, Master of the Pewterers' Company welcomed the Society, pointing out that he was the descendent of an old firm of pewterers.

The President voiced the warm appreciation of the members for the hospitality extended to them, and expressed the hope that the utmost possible friendship would be established and maintained between their small Society and the ancient Company.

Mr. Shelley read a paper entitled "Two 17th Century inventories of Pewter", the inventories being those of Cuttenbeake and Port Elliot in Cornwall, 1633, and of Scarisbrick Hall, Lancashire, in 1673. This was another excellent piece of research by Mr. Shelley, who has made notable contributions to the Society in this branch of its work.

The Society held its Summer Meeting of 1937 in Edinburgh on June 12th, at the Royal Scottish Museum. 10 members attended.

Mrs. Carvick-Webster wrote that she had purchased the remaining portions of the late Mr. Cotterell's library, and would be pleased to present to the Society any of the books which might be of interest, an offer which was gratefully accepted.

Progress of the negotiations with the Guildhall library for housing the Society's books was reported. The Society's Book of Records, presented by Mr. Eck, was on view.

Messrs. Murray & Clapperton arranged a most attractive programme of visits, which included the Hall of the Royal Company of Archers, of which Mr. Clapperton is a member, the Magdalen Chapel (formerly the Chapel of the Incorporation of Hammermen and, as such, of more than usual interest to us), the Museum of Antiquities, the Castle, and the Palace of Holyrood House, after which we inspected Mr. Hole's fine collection; a charabanc provided by Mr. Murray was a welcome means of transport throughout the day.

The dinner was held at the Royal British Hotel, Edinburgh. On this occasion, as the Society was meeting under a Scottish President in the Scottish Capital, it was fitting that the sound of the pipes, played by the President, should be heard. Many of those who had acted as guides during the day were present as guests of the Society, and the number at dinner (25) was the largest that had ever assembled at any of the Society's functions.

1938

For the Winter Meeting and dinner of 1938, held on January 17th, the Society was again the guest of the Pewterers' Company at Cutlers' Hall. 17 members and two honorary members attended. The President tabled a list of Church vessels which he had restored, to the number of 54.

The credit balance was £41.12s.5d.

1938

The Society held its Summer Meeting on June 18th 1938, at Raigersfeld, Maidstone, at the kind invitation of the Hon: Secretary and Mrs. Billing-Lewis. Ten members and one honorary member attended. Colonel R.W. Eaton (now Sir Richard Eaton) was invited to join the Society. The President reported that he and Mr. Gollin had been the guests of the Master of the Pewterers' Company at their Livery Banquet on April 22nd, on which occasion he had proposed the principal toast, the Worshipful Company and its Master. This speech was ordered to be preserved in the Society's Records.

Mr. Billing-Lewis resigned the office of Hon: Secretary and Mr. Gollin was elected to succeed him.

During the summer the great Empire Exhibition at Glasgow had been in progress and Mr. Clapperton had arranged a most notable exhibit of Old Pewter, with Scottish ecclesiastical vessels predominating. The members, many of whom had visited the Exhibition, passed a cordial vote of thanks to Mr. Clapperton for his very successful and painstaking work. The possibility of holding a similar exhibition in London was discussed.

Visits were paid to the former Palace of the Archbishops of Canterbury, All Saints church, Boxley Abbey and church and Pilgrims' Rest; and in the afternoon we were conducted over the magnificent Allington Castle, restored to its former grandeur by the late Lord Conway.

On 22nd September, 1938, died Mr. Herbert M. Cooke, who, as has been recorded here, was the first to suggest the formation of the Society, and who was, naturally, one of its founder members.

Those of us who knew him <sup>well</sup> ever remember his kind and genial personality, and his keen-ness for the welfare of the Society.

He had formed an excellent collection of Pewter which was, perhaps, not so well known as it deserved to be, and this was possibly due to his desire, frequently manifested, of avoiding the limelight.

It is not out of place to record here a story which illustrates typically his unselfish nature as a collector. Whilst on holiday in the west he had acquired a fine 17th century flagon, which, by its inscription, had once belonged to the church of St. Mary Major, in Exeter. Some years later, being in that city, he visited the church and found there three other flagons of similar period and with similar inscriptions, two being of large size and one somewhat smaller, and of the same size as the flagon he had acquired. He ascertained that these flagons were evidently well cared for and determined to restore to the church his own highly prized possession in order to complete the set. It was only after he had returned it that he ascertained that it had in fact been stolen. A paragraph recording his generosity (but characteristically, not his name) appeared in the local press, together with an illustration showing the three flagons standing upon a table and the vicar of St. Mary's holding the fourth.

Another example of generosity is recorded in the circular of December 1938. During the year, Mrs. Carvick-Webster made outstanding gifts of Pewter to Melbourne and Glasgow Museums and also to the Victoria & Albert Museum and the Pewterers' Company.

In the same circular attention is drawn to the forthcoming Exhibition of Scottish Art at the Royal Academy galleries at Burlington House, at which a case of Scottish pewter ware was to be arranged by Captain & Mrs. Sutherland-Graeme.

1939

The Winter Meeting of 1939 was held at Cutlers' Hall on January 16th, and the members were once again the guests of the Pewterers' Company at dinner. 15 members and 3 honorary members were present.

Reference was made to the death of Mr. Cooke, and all present stood in silence, in memory of their old friend. No further action was taken as regards a Pewter exhibition in London in view of the inability by reason of business or distance from London, of any member to carry out the necessary organisation.

Mr. Roland Shelley succeeded Captain Sutherland-Graeme in the Office of President, and Dr. Dougal was elected Vice-President. Messrs. Minchin and Arnold Walker, and Dr. Butterfield were invited to become members. It was reported that difficulty was still being experienced in housing the Society's books, and Mr. Hawkes, Borough Librarian of Wigan, an honorary member, agreed to look into the matter. Continued ill-health once more prevented our friend Mr. Eck from being present, to the regret of us all, and a letter expressing sympathy was sent to him.

The librarian (Mr. Turner) in a letter to the Secretary, reported correspondence that had passed between himself and Mr. Ledlie I. Laughlin, of New Jersey, U.S.A., a member of the American Pewter Collectors' club regarding a 17th century flagon by the well known English maker E.G., which had been discovered in America.

In this connection, it may be stated that since the first contact was established with our American friends, a most interesting exchange of correspondence has been maintained between Mrs. Edna T. Franklin, Honorary Secretary of the American Club, Captain Sutherland-Graeme and Mr. Shelley; circulars have been exchanged and recent acquisitions discussed; perhaps the chief matter of interest for us has been the discovery in America of numerous pieces made by English pewterers and obviously taken over by settlers. Amongst the English craftsmen whose products figure most prominently in this connection is that great and prolific pewterer William Eddon (1689-1737) several of whose tankards have been reported by Mrs. Franklin.

This intimate collaboration with our American fellow students of the Art & Craft of the Pewterer is a matter of great satisfaction to us as we hope it is to them, and will certainly tend towards throwing more light upon the subject with which we are all so concerned. We hope some day to have the pleasure of a personal visit from some of them.

To continue our records:-

Note was taken of the success of the Pewter exhibit at the Exhibition of Scottish Art at the Royal Academy and Captain & Mrs. Sutherland-Graeme were accorded the thanks of the Society for their work in this connection. 137 pieces were on view.

The credit balance was £48.4s.11d.

1939

The Summer Meeting took place on June 10th 1939, one week earlier than usual to suit the convenience of Air Marshal Sir Frederick & Lady Bowhill, at whose house at Lee-on-the-Solent it was held. 13 members and one honorary member were present. The question of housing the Society's library came up and a letter from Mr. Hawkes (hon-member) was read in which he stated that following correspondence with the Librarian of Guildhall, he had come to the conclusion that this would not be a satisfactory location for the books, as they could not be kept together. Mr. Sloan agreed to approach the authorities of Westminster, St. Pancras or Finsbury as to what facilities they could offer for housing the books together as one collection.

Captain Sutherland-Graeme and Mr. C. Stewart Murray were appointed as joint Hon. Secretaries in place of Mr. Gollin who resigned.

The President reported that he, Captain Sutherland-Graeme and Mr. Eck had been made Honorary Members of the Pewter Collectors Club of America; they had each received a badge of membership - work of Art in pewter - designed by Mr. Franklin.

The announcement was received with acclamation and the facts were ordered to be recorded in the minutes.

A most interesting series of visits had been arranged by Sir Frederick Bowhill.

During the morning we visited the Royal Dockyard at Portsmouth where were lying the Iron Duke, the Royal Yacht and the Aircraft-Carrier Courageous as well as submarines and other craft. We were conducted over the Victory and the Nelson Museum and, having lunched, were driven to Gosport where we spent an absorbing time at the Royal Air Force Station under expert guidance.

Subsequently we were entertained to tea by Sir Frederick and Lady Bowhill and were enabled to inspect the collection of old Pewter which Sir Frederick had formed. Later we returned to our headquarters at Southsea where the official dinner was held.

Having brought our Record up to date, my task is ended. I have traced the story of the Society from its inception as a small gathering of enthusiasts whose main object was to collect, to its present flourishing condition with a full complement of 30 members and 8 honorary members, whose aims and objects have extended far beyond the mere formation of collections. It is not, I think, going too far to state that all the knowledge at present available as to the history and production of Pewter in olden times is to be found, collectively, within its ranks, and its members, both individually and collectively, have not hesitated to place that knowledge at the disposal of all who are in any way interested. The Society has shown the disinterested nature of its good offices by the manner in which it has helped to restore and to preserve, in churches up and down the Land, very many fine specimens of the Craft, and by the efforts of members to prevent the unauthorised disposal of many others. I cannot conclude my story without referring once again to the kindly and hospitable treatment which the Society has always received at the hands of the Worshipful Company of Pewterers.

To the members of that ancient Guild our small Society now only 21 years old, must have appeared almost as an upstart, but from the commencement of our career, and in particular through the good offices of Mr. Bertrand Johnson and Mr. Justus Eck, we have been received almost, if one may say so without offence, as an offshoot of the Company itself.

There is little which we can do materially to show our gratitude for such generosity; but the varied knowledge which, in the course of our existence, we have been able to accumulate, will always be at the service of the Company and we shall hope that whatever the future may hold for us in the way of increased knowledge of the Craft may not be without its value in assisting to add, \* that since this account was rounded off, the hope expressed in it that we might be honoured by visits from some of the members of the Pewter Collectors' Club of America has in some measure been fulfilled; in August the writer had the great pleasure of welcoming at his home Mr. & Mrs. Ferdinand Wilcox of New Canaan, Connecticut. It was for him, and, it is hoped for them also, a delightful occasion, and it is only to be regretted that time did not permit of a longer stay or of visits to other members.

The ice - if any existed - having been broken (although this symbolic action had already, we feel, been performed by Mrs. Franklin) we shall look forward to further visits, both from Mr. & Mrs. Wilcox and from their fellow members of the American Club, particularly if such visits could be made to coincide with one of the Meetings of the Society.

*\* , if possible, to its dignity.  
It remains only to add*

A.V. SUTHERLAND - GRAEME.

Joint Hon: Secretary.

Postscriptum

We were born in the sunshine of a great deliverance; we attain our majority in the shadow of a great calamity.

We had hoped that we should be free for ever from the menace of war, free to study those Arts and Crafts of our dear Country in which we delight, in peace and quietness.

That, alas, is not to be; but, though it may not be possible for us to gather together again, perhaps for a considerable time, we shall not forget each other during the unhappy interval; we shall not, in the stresses and strains of the immediate future, permit our Society to fade out, for it was founded upon the rock of keen-ness, not upon the sand of indifference; and we shall look forward - (cheered meanwhile, no doubt, by our Treasurer's request for our annual subscriptions and his instructions as to how they are to be paid!) - to the day when we shall be united again as in the past, after the nightmare has passed away.

In such circumstances we can but echo that great Motto of the Pewterers' Company,

"IN GOD IS ALL OUR TRUST".

A.V.S-G.