

Ilkley Museum and Historical Society
Newspaper Cuttings of Local
Historical Interest
Volume 1 1948-58

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Transfer Move Stopped by Single Vote

COUNCIL DEBATE ON MINISTRY REQUEST

By ten votes to nine Ilkley Urban District Council at their monthly meeting on Monday night decided to refer back for further consideration a recommendation of the Library and Museum Committee that the exhibits constituting the Ilkley Museum be loaned to the Cartwright Museum, Bradford, for an initial period of two years. A previous amendment to the recommendation that the item be deleted from the minutes had been defeated by 11 votes to eight.

A month ago, the Council in committee refused to give their approval to a suggestion that premises in Brook Street, comprising a shop and flat should be used as local offices of the Ministry of National Insurance, but after a keen debate on Monday this objection was withdrawn.

Other matters included references to the loss of the Electricity Undertaking to State Control, the possibility of 12 new Council houses at Burley, and a short debate on a recommendation which had the effect of rescinding a resolution made three months ago not to purchase a gully emptier in view of the Government appeal for a cutting down of capital expenditure.

The discussion concerning the Museum exhibits arose on an item in the minutes of the Public Library and Museum Committee, which stated that the Clerk reported that the Committee at their last meeting had deferred consideration of the existing Museum contents pending an investigation by the members of the committee. The Librarian reported upon a conversation with the Chairman of the Cartwright Museum, Bradford, and it was resolved:

"That subject to satisfactory mutual arrangements the exhibits at present constituting the Ilkley Museum be loaned to the Cartwright Museum, Bradford, for an initial period of two years, the matter to be then reviewed."

The minutes also stated that arising out of this proposal, the Librarian reported upon the suggested use of the accommodation which would be made available by the removal of the museum, and it was resolved:

"That the accommodation on the first floor of the Library be used in future as a Reference Room, and that the present Reference Room be allocated for the use of the Children's Section."

Mr. Wolfe said the proposal that the museum exhibits should be loaned to Bradford for a period of two years was one which had caused much consternation and had been considered carefully by the Council.

As he understood the matter, the exhibits were very fine and of great value, and he was sure that the Council would be careful to see that they were properly looked after during the course of building operations. He referred to the interest taken originally in the Museum by Dr. Robert Collyer, the local blacksmith's apprentice who went to America and there became a famous Divine. Mr. Wolfe thought the exhibits were important both artistically and academically, and he was sure that before the war these exhibits were properly labelled and available to the public and schoolchildren made periodic visits to the local Museum and benefited considerably.

During the war the Museum had to be closed and that facility no longer existed. He had, as a matter of fact, at some time or other raised a question in regard to the reopening of the Museum. He was surprised to see the Committee had actually been considering the question of sending those exhibits away to another town and that seemed to him a very serious thing to contemplate. They had the exhibits in their possession, and should make full use of them. Was it that they were unable to find proper accommodation for the exhibits, or were they unable to properly label them and set them out? He did not know any reason for that at all, but it seemed a sad confession on their part that instead of setting about the task in a proper way for the benefit of the public, they were considering sending them to another town altogether.

He proposed as an amendment that the minute be deleted altogether and in its place a resolution be made that the Committee should consider the possibility of having the exhibits exhibited in a proper manner. He must follow that the Council in regard to the accommodation must also be de-

Seconding the amendment, Mr. A. Colbert said he agreed with what Mr. Wolfe had said. During the war the rooms had been taken over to provide accommodation for people doing essential work, but now the war was over and they had accommodation for their staff in other places—the rooms were available—and they should re-establish their Museum. This amendment was defeated by 11 votes to eight.

After the vote had been taken, Mr. L. F. Wild, Chairman of the Library and Museum Committee, rose, and was stating that the matter had been given careful consideration by the Committee, when he was challenged by two of three members on a point of order. One of these, Mr. J. R. Phillips, said Mr. Wild should have spoken before the amendment was put to the meeting, and the Chairman (Mrs. Hampshire) then ruled Mr. Wild out of order.

FURTHER AMENDMENT

A further amendment that the whole matter be referred back for further consideration was moved by Mr. T. C. Fisher and seconded by Mr. W. Milnes.

Mr. Phillips: May I suggest that the Chairman of the Committee now says what he wants to say?

Mr. Wild said this matter was given full consideration by the Committee and it was felt that unless the Museum could be on a fairly ambitious scale it would not be worth while keeping up in its old form. The Museum existed before as a result of a voluntary effort on the part of the late Librarian, Mr. Graham, who took a great interest in it, and it was not in the terms of the present Librarian's agreement to look after or maintain that Museum. It would involve the appointment of a specialist to look after it. He thought very little use would be made of the Museum, for he understood very few visits were made to it by the public before the war. If they did not loan it out there would be no alternative but for it to go into hibernation, and the advantage of lending it to Bradford was that the collection would be properly classified. There was a lot of material of very little value. The whole thing would be put on a proper footing and shown to a wide public. They were not losing control, and possibly at some future date a building might be put up and the exhibits would be returned.

Mr. H. F. Skinner said the Library Committee made a very careful inspection of the collection, and whilst some of the items were of considerable interest and would form an interesting part of a larger collection, they did not in themselves justify a visit from members of the public. The space now occupied by the exhibits could be better used as a Reference Room.

Mr. Phillips said he agreed this matter should be referred back to a new, and perhaps a more enlightened Committee.

The amendment was then carried by ten votes to nine.

MUSEUM EXHIBITS

Following the report in the "Gazette" of the debate in the Council Chamber last week concerning the proposal to transfer the exhibits in the Ilkley Museum to the Cartwright Museum, Bradford, a good deal of local indignation has been aroused and satisfaction that an amendment resulted in the suggestion being re-considered. In our correspondence columns this week appear a letter from Mr. Wm. Rhodes, a former Chairman of the Library and Museum Committee, condemning the suggested transfer. Mr. Eric Wolfe, who was the first to raise the challenge in the Council Chamber, has received a letter from that well-known local antiquarian, Mr. E. T. Cowling, who writes on behalf of the Otley Archaeological and Historical Society supporting the views Mr. Wolfe expressed in the debate last week. He points out that Skipton, Harrogate and Ripon all find it possible to maintain museums of great interest, and that Otley is assured of accommodation when the right time arrives.

LOST GIFTS

Mr. Cowling states that as part founder and committee-man of the Otley Society for the past twelve years he knows there is considerable feeling in Wharfedale against the move contemplated. He continues, "We feel that Wharfedale antiquities, and they are numerous and important, should stop in Otley or Ilkley. Ilkley preferably, for they have the accommodation provided when the Town Hall was built. As a lifelong student lecturer and writer on local remains, I have always been interested in antiquities stored at Ilkley. For the last ten years all the encouragement the public has had to view the museum has been a notice at the bottom of the stairs 'Museum closed.' To my knowledge the recent giving of Mr. Crowther's collection of flint instruments from Rom-balds Moor to Bradford was due to the present state of affairs at Ilkley. There is a smaller collection at present in Ilkley which remains in private hands for the same reason. At most health resorts a museum is an attraction to visitors and York has recently become a centre for conferences as a result of the excellent museums and accommodation it has provided."

There has been praise for those who were known to be against the move to transfer the exhibits to Bradford, and criticism of those who were in favour of the move, but it is impossible for the townspeople to identify those on either side unless they spoke in the debate. It is one of the handicaps for those ratepayers who try to follow the activities of their particular representatives that a recorded vote is not taken except on the requisition of a member of the Council. There are, of course, many sets of minutes agreed upon without division and in quite a number of instances a recorded vote has little value but it would be more interesting for the ratepayers to know how their representatives have voted on particularly controversial matters. Though Burley members and one or two from Menston were in favour of the transfer of the Museum exhibits, there were also Ilkley members in addition to Mr. Wild, the then Chairman of the Library and Museum Committee, who were of the same opinion.

Ilkley Gazette

ILKLEY—15, The Grove.

Tel. Ilkley 493.

OTLEY—Victoria Works.

FRIDAY, APRIL 16, 1948.

The Ilkley Museum

Sir,—I was especially glad to read the telling and forceful letter by Mr. Hanson about the suggested move in the fate of our Local Museum, and I would hasten to offer my strong support to his comments. He voices the astonishment that the movement had gone so far before the people of Ilkley knew anything of what was being done. I would add to that and say that the news came to me with a profound shock. I had no idea that the members of our Ilkley Council had so little appreciation of the value of one of the chief features of our historic town.

It was gratifying to hear the voice of Mr. Colbert against the new move, and still more so, that of a comparatively new resident in the town. Mr. Wolfe seems to have a deeper understanding of the fitness of things than those who were silent on this matter.

I do not know the names of the Museum Committee, but, judging from the speech of the Chairman, Mr. Wild, at the final meeting of the Council he must take some of the responsibility for the course pursued, and I venture to say that if the electors of the South Ward had listened to that speech the ballot box would have told a very different story.

Nearly 20 years ago I was Chairman of that Committee. In the course of the years the contents of the Museum had become a very "mixed bag." Additions had arrived from various sources, some as gifts and others on loan. Many of the items had no interest for the people and no connection with the town. The Committee agreed that something ought to be done. With the able assistance of Mr. Graham we divided the "Sheep from the Goats." By the consent of the Council we sold the latter to the Keighley Museum, and the former we carefully arranged and set out in the best and most attractive way we knew. From that time forward it was an entirely Ilkley Museum. Then came the War years which played havoc with many things, and the Museum was relegated to a back seat. But even so, our wildest imagination could never have foreseen the fate from which it has so narrowly escaped.

There was a time when Ilkley enjoyed the distinction of possessing an Antiquarian Society, now we seem to have need of another to safeguard our heritage. Recently we have heard a good deal about things of "Utility" and "Non-Utility." Here we have it in another form. The "Utilitarians" are so completely absorbed in their one idea that they cannot find even a small corner wherein to shelter a few of the priceless relics of the past. Some of the most valuable things in our local collection consist of Coins and Pottery and these are among the items that yield the most tangible evidence of the connected history of the centuries of long ago.

If a plebiscite were taken of all the Electors of the four wards of the town it is fairly certain that there would be an overwhelming majority in favour of preserving the Museum and maintaining it in a way that will be a credit to the town.

I presume that this important matter will come before the newly formed Council for its final hearing. Let us hope that sane counsels will prevail.

Wm. RHODES.

Newspaper Cuttings, etc,
relating to the

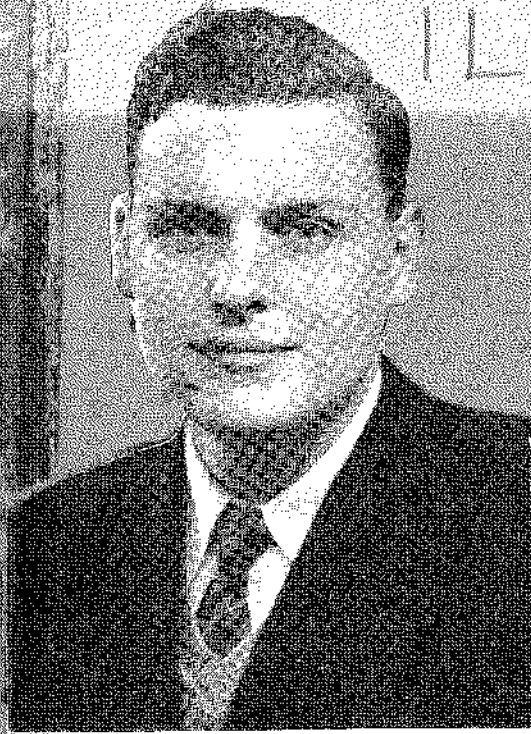
OLICANA MUSEUM,

The Ilkley Museum Club
and (later)

THE OLICANA MUSEUM SOCIETY.

ILKLEY,

YORKSHIRE.



GRAHAM TEASDILL

FIRST SECRETARY OF THE SOCIETY,
1950-1955. VICE-PRESIDENT, 1955-1957
HON. LIFE MEMBER, 1957.

LIBRARY VOLUME NO 14

SCRAPBOOK COMPILED BY A.G. 1956.

THE OLICANA MUSEUM SOCIETY

FRIDAY, APRIL 23, 1948

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Museum Exhibits

Sir,—To my surprise, the controversy raging about the Museum question has only just come to my notice.

Though I do not know the details in favour of dispensing with the Museum, I would strongly beg the people of Ilkley to consider carefully before parting with its collection.

The towns of Britain which have a legacy from the past and such an aristocracy of military and civilian Roman culture as Ilkley has, can be quietly counted, and ours should be treasured for the pleasure of British people and visitors from overseas who appreciate such things.

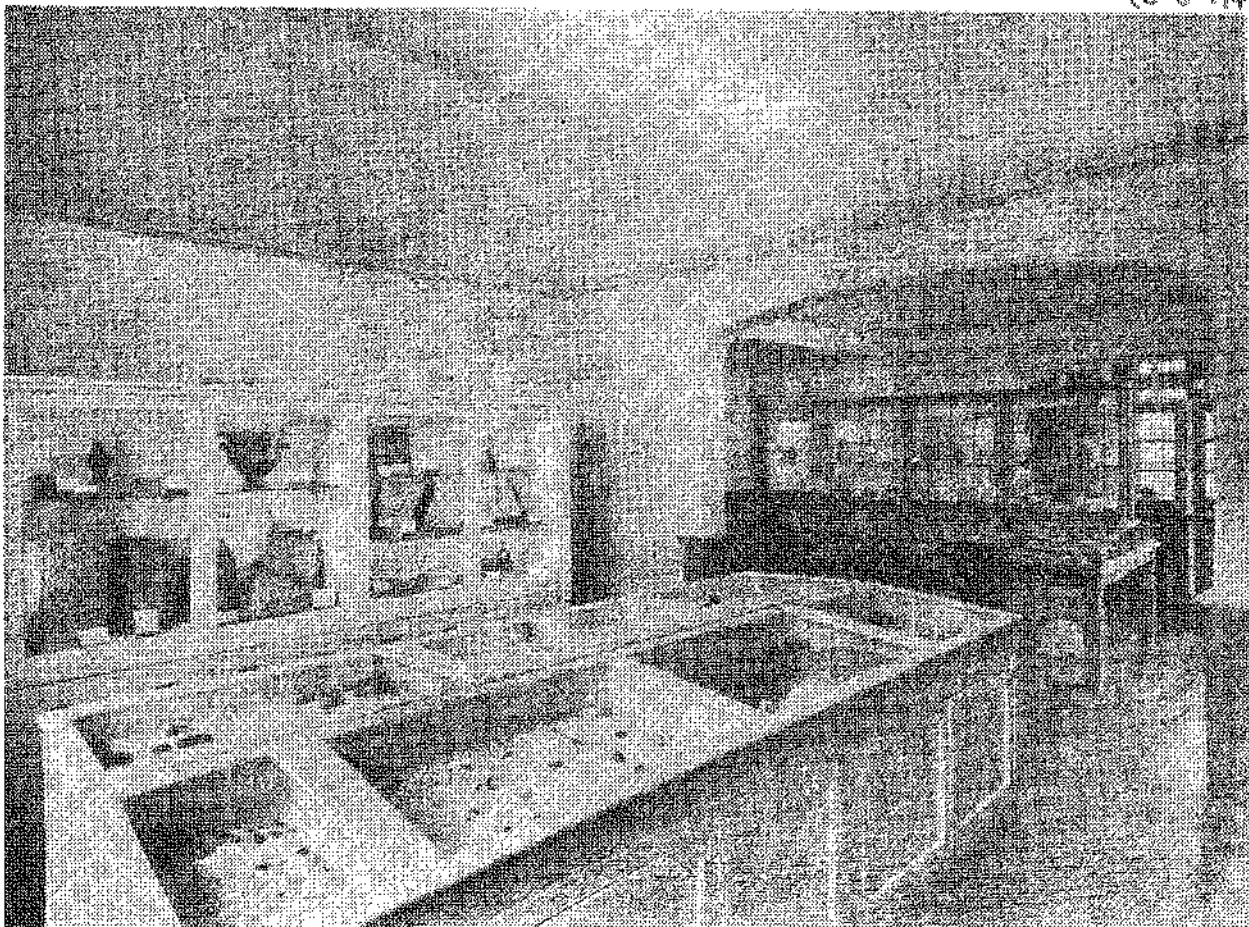
Ilkley is a town favoured and smiled on by nature and enhanced by amenities for which we can truly thank our Council, but it is in danger of being overlaid by sub-urbanity. Let us not forget our heritage from the past, for even in pre-Roman days, our bronze-age forebears lived and worshipped on our moors, and let us seek to preserve this atmosphere, using our Museum as a nucleus to that end.

It is easy to understand the attitude of many people regarding Museums as musty, dusty, dusty and dismal places; but to-day there is a new outlook on such matters; I have tried in the past two years to arouse interest in this matter and begged the Council to put the Museum on an enlightened and up-to-date footing. York has re-opened its Roman Museum. There are some finds there which were discovered in Ilkley, and I had consulted the authorities about allowing them to be returned to us when we were established, and they had consented. We who pride ourselves on being "modern" might feel abashed when we see a ladies' toilet case containing rouge and lip-stick used by some Roman lady in Olicana nearly one thousand six hundred years ago.

Ilkley has a Museum in embryo, with a library of books of archaeological and historical interest, but they are greatly treasured for Olicana; what Ilkley seems inclined to scorn.

For children of the district and casual visitors, too, the Museum could be an asset for, as Churchill tells us, "Only by study of the past, can we build rightly in the future," and more may be learnt by the young from objects they can handle, than by much in text books.

ELSIE M. FLETCHER
Member of the Roman Antiquities Committee of the Yorkshire Archaeological Society. President of the Olicana Archaeological and Historical Society.



A general view of the Ilkley Museum interior, showing most of the exhibit cases, remodelled for the informal re-opening to-morrow (Saturday). The pre-war collection has been enlarged despite the loss of certain exhibits while in wartime storage.

VALUABLE NEW ROMAN EXHIBITS

Ilkley Museum Re-opens After Ten Years

Without ceremony at 10 a.m. to-morrow (Saturday) Ilkley Museum will be re-opened. It has been closed since the outbreak of war.

Visitors of pre-war days will find tremendous alterations on their return. Both walls and exhibit cases have been transformed by coats of cream paint. The effect is cheering. The cases, themselves have been remodelled with care.

Several new exhibits will be on show. Some of these were presented to the Museum as a result of a recent appeal by Mr. B. A. Smith, chairman of the Ilkley Public Library Committee, at an Ilkley Council meeting. Mr. Smith, at that time appealed to local residents for suitable exhibits to supplement the present collection. He said that there might be possible exhibits now stored away, of more value in a Museum than a bottom drawer.

Perhaps the most important new exhibit is an 800-years-old stone Norman cross, removed during renovations to the east end gable of Ilkley Parish Church, about 50 years ago. It was recently presented by Mr. G. C. Dean, 37, The Grove, Ilkley.

The cross came into the possession of the Dean family during the renovations.

Another interesting new acquisition is a 17th century bark-stripper, presented by Mr. A. Town, of Burley. Now out of fashion, the implement was extensively utilised around Ilkley at one time when a considerable tanning industry centred in the district. It was, as its name suggests, used to strip bark clean off trees. The oak was the main local "victim" of this industry.

Fifty Flints

Mr. John Hornby, 10, Oakburn Road, Ilkley, presented a collection of about 50 Middle Stone Age flint implements, to help in the plan to supplement existing exhibits. These implements, it is understood, were used by hunters who lived in the Ilkley district between 8000 and 3000 B.C. They are understood by archaeologists to have been the first humans to live in this part of Yorkshire. They used the implements for various purposes: as arrowheads, tiny knives, scrapers (for preparing animal skins which they used to clothe themselves). Some of the flints were slotted into sticks to make spears.

According to Mr. Hornby the implements were found on Ilkley Moor by a former Ranger, the late Mr. Gill.

A lump of Roman pig lead, weighing 14 pounds, is also a new exhibit. Mr. A. E. Gee, Ilkley Council Collector, who presented it, found it in a Home Guard trench at the north end of the Crum Wheel Bridge, Ilkley, during the war.

The theory of archeological experts is that a pack horse pulling lead from Roman mines at Heysham and Grassington slipped as it was about to cross a ford situated at that part of the River Wharfe.

Exhibits Lost

Spilling part of the re-opening is that several valuable exhibits belonging to the pre-war stock have unfortunately been lost while in storage. Reference to the loss was made at a meeting of Ilkley Council some months ago when a proposal to hand over the contents of Ilkley Museum to the control of Bradford Cartwright Memorial Hall, was being considered.

The proposer of the removal claimed that Bradford residents, seeing the exhibits in their own town, would thereby be attracted to Ilkley. At that time the proposal was turned down for the reason that attraction to Ilkley of interested people from other towns would more likely result if the Museum remained in the town.

For the romantic-minded, the most interesting exhibit will be a piece of a Roman soldier's helmet. There are only twelve such helmets in the whole of Britain.

As formerly, the new exhibition principally consists of Roman glass, pottery and coins, with a sprinkling of Egyptian, Anglian, and other work.

The Roman exhibits are illustrated by the history of the famous Ilkley fort in caligraphy.

Visitors will also see the photograph of a model fort, similar to the Ilkley fort. They will notice that Ilkley Fort comprised a headquarters building where general business was conducted, and the adjutants and treasurers' offices were housed. There were also granaries (where a year's supply of corn was kept), and barrack blocks for the soldiers. An interesting part about the accommodation of Roman soldiery is

that they had, on average, more sleeping and living space than their modern British counterpart. There was also a bath house (outside the fort) and probably a hospital.

Fort History

Roman Ilkley was a large place, roughly half a mile long, stretching between what are now called Chapel Lane and Tivoli Place.

Visitors will observe from the illustrations that the first Roman fort in Ilkley (a wooden structure) was built in 79 A.D. and abandoned early in the second century.

Originally built to pacify native brigantes and command two important Roman roads, the fort was reconstructed in stone for this purpose 30 or 40 years after the first abandoning.

It was destroyed in the Caledonian invasion of Northern England in 197 A.D., when York and Chester were among the cities devastated. Rebuilding began in the same year. Abandoned again, it was recovered in 370 A.D., as part of a last desperate Roman effort to hold the North of England against strengthening native armies.

Miss G. Simpson, archeologist, who has been restoring chipped and broken Roman pottery, and recataloguing exhibits, told an "Ilkley Gazette" representative that she had tried to create a comprehensive picture of Roman Ilkley, of the civil settlement where lived the soldiers families, as well as of the fort.

"Valuable Collection"

"Ilkley's Roman Collection is altogether a very valuable one, and I expect that when the Museum re-opens, students from Leeds University will come to inspect it."

Miss Simpson showed examples of Roman glassware which will be exhibited. Though the glass is not completely transparent, it is very strong, and still in a good preserved state. Silver sheen which surfaces certain pieces is the only sign of decay.

Miss Simpson is no stranger to Ilkley. Her father, Mr. F. G. Simpson, was the original excavator of the Ilkley Fort, famous for his work on Hadrian's Wall.

Miss Simpson was warm in her praise of Mr. A. Skinner, Ilkley Surveyor, who arranged the re-modelling of exhibit cases and of Mr. Smith, who, she said, "was helpful in every possible way."

Miss E. M. Fletcher, of Menston, is to be honorary Curator of Ilkley Museum.

ILKLEY UNDER ROMAN OCCUPATION

Important Position for 300 Years

Ilkley during the Roman occupation of Britain was the subject of a talk given to members of the Ilkley Rotary Club in the Blue Bird Cafe on Tuesday by Miss E. Fletcher, of Menston, who has played a prominent part in the re-organisation of the Ilkley Museum. Members afterwards accompanied Miss Fletcher to the Museum where she described the various exhibits.

Miss Fletcher said one of the few unforgettable dates persisting from school days was 55 B.C., when Julius Caesar visited Britain and thought often persisted that Britain was then conquered by the Romans. It was not until the year 43 A.D. in the reign of Claudius that this was achieved. By 17 A.D. the South Eastern Territories had been subjugated as far north as Lincoln, where a Legionary fortress was established. Crossing the Humber where a town grew up at Brough, they continued building their great military roads to York.

Then came their greatest opposition through the confederation of tribes extending east and west of the Pennines and known as the Brigantes, and it seemed probable that the lay-out of the first road system in Yorkshire was for the purpose of subjugating those people, and had the effect of wedging them in, pincer fashion, and providing facilities for quick transportation of armies and supplies.

Under the Governor Pettilius Cerealis (71-74), the Brigantian domination came to an end. The succeeding Governor was Agricola, who had been Commander of the XX Legion, and he planted forts at strategic points, connecting them by roads to the main arterial military roads, thus forming a net-work more or less over the whole district.

Cross Roads

The old British track from east to west, crossed that from north to south at Ilkeon (Ilkley) and nothing could be more natural than that Agricola should seize upon such a strategic point. Here near the junction of where the "high road" from York to Ribchester—the Roman camp on the Ribbles—crossed that from Manchester to Aldborough, Agricola planted his fort—that which Ptolemy called Olicana.

Not only was this a site of great strategic value by being at the junction of these roads, but by building another at Elslack on the other side of the Ake Gap, this easily assailable district could be better defended. The actual crossing place at Ilkley was by the Well in the grounds of the Blue Bird Cafe, and the fort was built to the north of this on the land where the Parish Church now stands. As with all forts of the first century, the one at Ilkley would be built of wood with ramparts 18 ft. wide and 16 ft. high, made of clay and tuves. It was an excellent site, overlooking the River Wharfe, and having two swift-flowing streams to east and west.

When Hadrian was Emperor (117-138), an insurrection arose during which the Fort was burned down. They did not know why, but possibly excavations of the future would reveal the reason. Much of the history of the Romans in Britain was being revealed by the work of archaeologists working on Roman sites. No history of Britain was ever written in this country, our only authority being that of Tacitus, the son-in-law of Agricola, who never visited the land and wrote from hearsay. They did know that at this time the IX Legion disappeared completely, but they did not know how, when and where and a dominating memorial to this period was the Wall across the North of England.

The Ilkley fort, said Miss Fletcher, did not seem to have been re-built until after the Great Rebellion of 154 or 155, when all the Brigantes from south of Caledonia to the South of Yorkshire rebelled in the reign of Antoninus Pius.

500 Garrison

From a plan drawn by the excavators, they could conjecture that the Fort as it was rebuilt in 197-198 followed the usual pattern of Roman forts, which they built with local adaptations. It was of the type known as a Castellum and would be garrisoned by a force 500 strong. The Olicana Fort was of rectangular shape, 100 ft. by 160 ft. with stone walls banked by earthen ramparts and surrounded by a defensive ditch. This wall was broken by four gates. Two streets, the long Via Praetoria and short Via Principalis, led from gate to gate. The chief gate at Olicana faced north, having guard chambers at each side. Inside would be the Principia containing the Sacellum—the little sanctuary for the standards; the court enclosed by porticoes; the Praetorium or Commandant's house; a granary which usually contained a year's supply of corn; the barracks in parallel rows; the living rooms for the soldiers.

In addition to the fort would be the outposts or summer camps, one of these being at Castleburg Nesfield, and the other at Couterhill across the valley. Miss Fletcher went on to refer to a further rising of the Caledonians who marched south sacking York and Chester, and overcoming Olicana. The fort was re-built in 197 and there followed a century of peace and prosperity. A civilian town grew up outside the fort, with the various trades followed, and Miss Fletcher asked if it was not possible that a line of shops was established on the very site of the Brook Street shops.

An Ilkley Find

Miss Fletcher said it was believed that the Romans knew the value of the waters, but there was no proof that the so-called Roman Bath on Rombalds Moor was established by the Romans. Finer homes were built in that period and the ladies lived more luxuriously, and she saw at York before the war, a lady's toilet box which had been found at Ilkley. It contained a mirror of polished bronze, chased and ornamented on the back with semi-precious stones; some pins for the hair with tiny figures at the head of them, and two cases containing rouge and lip-stick. They knew that the Commandant at that fort had his house enlarged on the west side and the new rooms centrally heated by means of an elaborate hypocaust system, and baths were built. A fire, however, at the end of the century, destroyed those buildings and possibly that disaster caused much damage. As the need for a fort, as such, had diminished, it was considered useless to rebuild.

Throughout the 4th Century, Olicana appeared to have attained to peace and prosperity, though troubles were gradually besieging the Empire and growing in intensity towards the end of the century. At the beginning of the 5th Century troops were withdrawn from Britain, and by 410 this country was left to its own devices.

Miss Fletcher said the Roman Occupation was often spoken of as though it were a static state, but when they considered the long period of time in which even Olicana was inhabited—roughly as long as from the end of Elizabeth's reign to the present—it was conceivable that many different phases of life would be lived.

Thanks to Miss Fletcher were expressed by Mr. J. C. Scott, and Mr. J. R. Rhodes presided.

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17th June 1949

AMERICAN VISIT

Ilkley Hon. Curator

"I have visited 20 different countries in various parts of the world, but I never felt more strongly that I was in a foreign country than on this visit to America," said Miss E. Fletcher, of Howden Bank, Menston, when interviewed this week on her return from a seven-month stay in the United States.

Until lately Miss E. Fletcher president of the Archeological and Historical Society, and now honorary curator of the newly-reopened Ilkley Museum, Miss Fletcher is principal of the Howden Private School at Menston.

Although her visit was made for purely private reasons, she nevertheless took a great interest in the schools and museums of the U.S.A., speaking at a number of High Schools—the rough equivalent of our Grammar Schools—and making two broadcasts to schools on the subject of "Education in Britain." In a third general broadcast she told of a typical day in the life of her own school.

"The Americans love the British people," said Miss Fletcher, "and they can never do too much for you." She found their hospitality unbounded. During her visit she stayed in 10 States and dined with 50 American families. She was impressed with the high standard of living. Though the food was plentiful prices were high, and Miss Fletcher indicated some menu charges in a good restaurant—a plate of roast beef 15s., roast turkey, 12s. It had to be remembered, however, that wages were considerably higher than in Britain. Most families in the States had a car, irrespective of income.

Hall-Porter from Burley

Whilst in Boston Miss Fletcher was surprised to find that the hall-porter in her hotel was a native of Burley, though he had been in America for over 20 years.

Of places visited in the States, Miss Fletcher was most impressed with Philadelphia, with its boulevards, fountains, old Georgian houses and old Colonial architecture. Washington, in blossom-time, she found "a fine and beautiful city," and New York, cosmopolitan and not typical of America. The real America was found in "the little, white, one-street towns."

Whilst over there Miss Fletcher constructed a model for exhibition in the Ilkley Museum, of the Roman fort in Olicana, situated where the Ilkley Parish Church now stands, painting in the moorland background from memory.

Asked about the crossing, she said it was rough and stormy going out, and she arrived at Halifax, Nova Scotia, with a bandaged rib and bandaged ankles. She had to travel by rail from Halifax to Boston, owing to a strike in the port. On the return journey Miss Fletcher visited the countryside of Nova Scotia, and also spent a short time in Newfoundland.

Reflections

ROMAN ILKLEY

For the older residents who have studied the documents appertaining to Ilkley's ancient history and the various accounts which have been published from time to time, there will be no new information to be obtained from the address on Ilkley during Roman occupation given to the members of the Rotary Club this week by Miss E. Fletcher, of Menston. Yet to new comers and a great many younger people the story of the important position which Ilkley occupied in the first four centuries, Miss Fletcher's factual description should be of great interest. Modern education appears not to favour the principle of teaching children as much as possible about their own town, and as a result many young people in Ilkley have no more than a sketchy knowledge of the town's position under Roman occupation. They may know there was a fort at Ilkley, and the name given to it was Olicana; they may know the Parish Church occupies a part of the site of the fort, and that coins, vessels and other articles have been unearthed during digging operations; but probably a little more than that.

FULL HISTORY

It is quite likely that this position is brought about by the absence of a complete story of Ilkley in Roman times. References to Olicana are made in the many books written about Wharfedale and about Ilkley in particular. There is also the official account written for the Yorkshire Archaeological Society of the discoveries made during the course of the excavations of the Roman fort in the early 1920's. But this is an expert's report written for experts, and lacks the descriptive material so necessary for the layman to build-up a mental picture of the fort as it was and its precise geographical position as compared with later developments. The exhibits in the Museum provide tangible evidence of Roman occupation and the re-organisation of the Museum has helped to present a portion of the town's history in more attractive form. Yet there is still a great opportunity for someone to write the story of Roman Ilkley in a way which will be easily understood and with plans and diagrams to illustrate it.

NEW EXCAVATIONS

Since the end of the war excavations have been renewed in different parts of the country where evidence had been found previously of Roman occupation and several interesting discoveries have been made. In London work on bombed sites has revealed invaluable information and elsewhere traces of Roman houses and towns have been unearthed. Whether it is worth the while of the Ilkley Council to encourage further excavations of the Ilkley site is a matter for expert opinion, for only a small area of what was the whole fort is available for such work. A good deal of valuable material is known to have been lost when New Brook Street was made, the Parish Church occupies a portion of the site, and it is probable that the Rose and Crown Hotel and other build-

ings in Church Street also cover part of it. Thus, what is left to examine is a very small part indeed and it may be that the excavations started in 1919 and continued during the two following years have done all that is necessary or possible. Miss Fletcher, however, expressed the view that much still remained to be done, and the possibility of further excavations is at least worth considering.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 3, 1951.

SERIES OF MUSEUM LECTURES Introduced This Week

A most enterprising programme of lectures and visits organised by Miss Fletcher, Honorary Curator of the Ilkley Museum, was opened on Wednesday, when Mr. G. F. Wilmot, Keeper of the Yorkshire Museum at York, spoke on "The Plough and the Wilderness."

The first of a series throughout August, it was a scholarly, yet simply told account of the first economic revolution experienced by Yorkshire, a revolution which changed the face of the countryside and the lives of people as completely as did the industrial revolution of 150 years ago. Before the beginning of agriculture, primitive man had lived a most uncertain life and could never have achieved the leisure which was necessary before he could have given thought to the various inventions on which human civilisation was founded. Mr. Wilmot outlined the geological and botanical research on which knowledge of that revolution was based.

Geologically a start was made from the examination of the glacial lakes which followed the recession of the ice cap from this part of the country right through Denmark and Scandinavia to its present position round the Arctic Circle. Each year as the ice melted in the summer, succeeding deposits of summer gravel followed by winter sand created a natural calendar which gave an intimate and definite knowledge about the age of the deposits within those lake beds as the rings in a tree trunk gave to the experienced botanist. In both cases, the microscope of the expert could distinguish between hot summers and cool summers with the result that the years in which deposits in one lake had been laid down could be compared and linked with a similar pattern of deposits in neighbouring lakes until the whole chronological pattern could be linked up from present conditions in the Arctic Tundra, with similar conditions in this country thousands of years ago.

Wheat Grains

The point at which agriculture was first introduced into that record said the speaker, was determined by the level at which the first remains of wheat grains were found embedded in pre-historic pottery. When a pot was fired the grain of wheat would be burnt away but the impression left was often so exact that the microscope could reveal to the expert not only the fact that it was a grain of wheat but also the type of wheat. A comparative study of those grains of wheat with other samples found in various parts of Europe indicated that the men who first brought agriculture to Yorkshire did not come through France and the Mediterranean from Egypt as had been most widely assumed but through Denmark and the centre of Europe from Afghanistan where it was now believed the growing of wheat originated.

Appeal to Public

The lecturer made an appeal to members of the Museum Club and to the public in general not to hesitate to send in any finds which might be of interest from such likely places as the edge of quarries, rabbit holes and ploughed fields. It was on the basis of innumerable small finds that that fascinating study of the past was being built.

The talk was the first of a series throughout the month of August to be given by experts every Wednesday morning and to be held at 11 a.m. in the room above the Public Library. Next week Mr. Jackson of the Cartwright Memorial Hall is talking on "Recent Roman and Prehistoric Discoveries in the District" and on 15 August Professor Le Patourel of Leeds University is to talk on "The Study of Local History."

Museum Club Talk

(Contributed) 22.8.52

On Wednesday Mr. Sidney Jackson, from the Bradford Cartwright Hall, gave a most interesting talk on recent excavations. Those in Hurst Wood, Shipley, have shed light on the way our forefathers lived in the Iron Age, just before, and during the Roman occupation about 2,000 years ago, and those on Rombalds and Baildon moor during the preceding Bronze Age about 4,000 years ago. The latter were the people who carved our Swastika and Cup and Ring stones.

Mr. Jackson propounded a quite new and excellent device for making replicas of these intriguing memorials, which we hope at some future time to emulate for show in the Museum.

Visitors are always welcome to these lectures, which are held at 11 each Wednesday morning. By request the next two meetings will be devoted to coins. On 27 August Mr. A. E. Bagnall, who has perhaps the finest collection of coins in England, will be visiting us with some of his collection, and on 3 September Mr. W. V. Wade from Leeds University, who is conducting the excavations at the Roman Camp at Bainbridge, will talk on Roman coins, with special reference to those in our Museum.

E. M. FLETCHER.

MUSEUM CLUB NOTES

A fascinating talk on British coins ranging from a Celtic wheel coin, through Saxon and Norman times, until the present day, was given to members of the Ikley Museum Club on Wednesday morning, by Mr. A. E. Bagnall, a member of the Royal Numismatic Society and every other society connected with coins.

This will be followed by another talk next Wednesday at 11 a.m. by Mr. W. V. Wade, of Leeds University, on Roman coins, with special reference to those in our own museum, to which all interested are invited.

Last Thursday the Club had an outing to Settle where, in the Pig Club Museum relics from Orcana can be seen.

On view in our Museum are the huge bones of pre-historic animals possibly the bos aurus, dredged up from the Wharfe on this side of Otley. They are on loan to us, by kind permission of the Otley Surveyor, Mr. J. A. Pratt. There are also the fossilised antlers of reindeer dating back to the Ice Age.

E. M. Fletcher

Roman relics stolen from Ikley Museum

From our Ikley correspondent

Roman relics, stolen from an exhibition case in Ikley Museum, include an amber pendant, which is believed to be unique, painted pottery beads, gaming counters and two bone prickers.

Miss E. M. Fletcher, hon. curator of the Museum, said yesterday that the missing exhibits were originally found together in a vase on the site of an hotel at Ikley.

She believed the thief to be someone with knowledge of the historic significance of the articles. They have little monetary value.

"YORKSHIRE POST" 2ND SEPT 1952

EXHIBITS STOLEN FROM MUSEUM

THE theft of a unique piece of amber and several other small articles of no commercial value, during visiting hours yesterday, is puzzling Ikley Museum officials.

Mr. Graham Teasdale, secretary of the Museum Club, said the theft took place between 9 a.m. and 4.30 p.m. It was thought that children or a collector were responsible.

The piece of amber, which was dug up at Ikley in the 1890's, is thought to have been in a brooch or pendant. The other articles taken include three Roman gaming counters and parts of a Roman necklace. The rest of the necklace was left.

The thieves also took the tickets describing the articles.

"YORKSHIRE EVENING POST" 1st SEPT 1952

RELICS STOLEN FROM IKLEY MUSEUM

5-10-52

Showcase Forced Open

A number of relics of Roman Ikley have been stolen from a showcase, which was forced open at Ikley Museum on Saturday afternoon. The missing objects include an amber pendant, or what is believed to be the only one of its kind in the country, some painted pottery beads, a number of gaming counters and two bone prickers. All the relics were originally found in a vase on the site of the Midland Hotel, and are believed to date from the third century.

The theft was discovered by Mr. Graham Teasdale, Secretary of Ikley Museum Club, when he inspected the showcases on Saturday evening. It is known that the relics were in the case on Friday.

Miss E. M. Fletcher, Hon. Curator of the Museum, told a "Gazette" reporter this week that she did not think the theft was the work of children. After serious consideration she had formed the opinion that the relics had been taken by someone with some knowledge of their historic significance. She thought that whoever took them hoped to sell them to another museum, but said they would be disappointed because the relics had little monetary value. The labels attached to the articles were also missing, and police are investigating the matter.

MUSEUM 10-10-52

The theft of certain articles from the Ikley Museum a few weeks ago has caused the Library Committee to ask the Librarian to consider the possibility of transferring the exhibits from the upstairs room to the ground floor. Whilst the recent experience would suggest that it would be better if the museum cases were under surveillance, unless great care is taken a transfer might be to the disadvantage of both the museum and the reading room. The museum is frequently visited by organised groups of school children, students, and adults, and it is necessary that some explanation should be given of the significance of the articles. How this could be done in a reading room where silence is demanded is difficult to understand, unless those making use of the reading room are to be disturbed. The extent of the interest shown by visitors is not always appreciated. The Hon. Curator has recently had enquiries requesting further information from such places as South Africa, Mexico, New Zealand and Canada, and these all from people who had visited the museum.

10-10-1952

Following a report that one of the showcases in the Ikley Museum had been broken into and certain items removed the Librarian was instructed to consider and report upon the possibility of providing alternative accommodation on the ground floor of the Public Library building for the exhibits in the museum.

3-10-1952

Library and Museum

The Librarian submitted a report in a proposed re-arrangement of the Library and Museum. The Surveyor submitted plans showing the alternative proposals. Miss E. M. Fletcher, Hon. Curator of the museum attended the meeting and gave her views on the proposed re-organisation of the Library in so far as it might affect the museum. It was resolved that further consideration of these proposals be deferred to the next meeting.

7-11-1952

Library and Museum

The Committee had under consideration the proposals of the Librarian in relation to a proposed re-arrangement of the Library and Museum. The Committee considered the alternative layout plans submitted and it was decided that the present position of the Museum remain unaltered, and that the Surveyor be authorised to make arrangements for the execution of the necessary work to reduce the danger of loss thereof. Consideration was then given to the plan for the re-arrangement of the Library, together with additional recommendations thereon made by the Librarian. It was resolved that provision be made in the annual estimates of the Committee for 1952-53 for the re-arrangement of the Library, in accordance with the amended plan now submitted.

5-12-52

BOLTON ABBEY

3-10-52
SOUTH CLUB. - A party of 200 members of Bolton Abbey South Club visited the Museum at Ikley on Thursday and were shown round the various exhibits by Mr. G. Teasdale, the hon. secretary. An illuminating talk was given by the hon. curator, Miss E. M. Fletcher, after which light refreshments were provided. Many members as possible are requested to help build the Club's funds to-morrow (Saturday) both morning and afternoon. The day will be held on Thursday (November 14) at 1.30 p.m. and all those who are invited to an address will be most welcome.

The Assistant Keeper of Circulation, the Victoria & Albert Museum, indicated that a single case collection of Persian Pottery to replace the existing exhibition would be delivered to the Public Library during the week 29 December, 1952, to 3 January, 1953.

5-12-1953



*A Souvenir
of the Coronation of
Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II*

1953

5-6-53
MUSEUM EXHIBITION
Of Coronation Souvenirs

An exhibition of Coronation pottery, coins, stamps, souvenirs of many kinds, and medallions, arranged by the secretary of the Ilkley Museum Club, Mr. G. Teasdill, in the oak case of the Olicana Museum, Ilkley, was opened by the Chairman of the Council, Mr. J. Hardy, on Saturday morning. Mr. Hardy said he regretted that the Hon. Curator of the Museum, Miss E. M. Fletcher, who had done so much in connection with the Museum Club was unable to attend the opening of the exhibition owing to illness.

Mr. Teasdill proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Hardy which was seconded by Mr. Peter Threlfall. Mrs. D. I. Wray, Chairman of the Librarians and Museums Committee, was in the chair.

The exhibition contains commemorative souvenirs in the form of mugs, beakers, tumblers, decorated boxes and medallions, relating to every Coronation from Queen Victoria to the present one. There is a fine collection of stamps and coins. A small selection of such items as key rings, buttons and match boxes has also been included, and there is a tablet of soap made like a thick medal which bears the co-joined heads of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh. This design was not approved and the soap is on sale. A few Maundy Coins are on show, illustrating the link between Charles II and Elizabeth II. Mr. Teasdill who is an enthusiastic collector of stamps, coins and medals, has lent part of each of his collections for the exhibition.

ILKLEY MUSEUM CLUB

Summer Programme

The committee of Ilkley Museum Club approved the summer programme for the Club at a meeting in the Museum on Saturday afternoon.

Lectures will include "Local Archaeology" by S. Jackson, of the Cartwright Memorial Hall, Bradford, on 5 August, "Discovery and Exploration in Archaeology" by L. Alcock, of City Museum, Leeds, on 12 August, "Towards more Effective and Economic Exhibition" by H. Tordoff, of City Museum, Leeds, on 19 August, and "The Fascination of Geological Specimens" by J. Ogden, of Keighley Corporation's Museum, on 26 August. Admission to the lectures will be free and they are to be held in the Olicana Museum on the first floor of Ilkley Library building.

Mr. G. Teasdill, the hon. secretary (acting curator during Miss E. M. Fletcher's illness) acted as chairman. The resignation of Mr. J. P. Threlfall, as hon. treasurer of the Club, was accepted, and it was passed unanimously that Mr. Threlfall be thanked on behalf of the Club for his past services. Mr. Teasdill was elected hon. treasurer. He is now hon. secretary-treasurer and acting hon. curator. Mr. Threlfall is to remain a member of the committee.

FOUNTAINS ABBEY

The committee approved a circular about a proposed excursion to Fountains Abbey on 13 August. These circulars can be obtained from any branch of the Ilkley Urban Council public libraries. Mr. Teasdill said he would be in attendance at the Museum morning and afternoon on 18 July, the last day of booking for Fountains Abbey.

Miss Fletcher, the hon. curator-chairman, was elected the Club's first hon. life member and apologies for absence were received from Messrs. Barker and Collins.

Sections A and B of the Club's rules, concerning membership and finance, were revised and copies should be available for members after 18 July. It was announced that the Coronation exhibition in the Museum would close on 18 July.

10-7-53

9-7-53
Library and Museum

The Clerk reported on an inspection of the Ilkley Museum by Mr. P. Floud, Keeper of Circulation, Victoria and Albert Museum. The Clerk stated that he had taken the opportunity of discussing details of forthcoming exhibitions.

EXHIBITION 5-6-53

The exhibition of coronation souvenirs and other commemorative paraphernalia connected with the last four coronations in this country now on show in the Olicana Museum, Ilkley, is interesting and at times nostalgically reminding of pre-war days that did not seem quite so long ago. Mr. Graham Teasdill, who arranged the exhibition on behalf of the Ilkley Museum Club, is to be congratulated on the attractiveness of the display as well as for its historical interest. Here may be seen decorated pottery and glassware in abundance and the souvenirs of the present coronation may be compared with those in vogue at the coronations of Queen Victoria, Edward VII, George V, George VI, Edward VII, also several souvenir mugs and beakers and a plaque made for the coronation of King Edward VIII which of course never took place. A small selection of utility items whose design was influenced by coronations is also on show, and includes key rings, milk bottle tops, match boxes, and buttons. One of the most interesting exhibits is a tablet of soap which was designed to be sold at the time of the present coronation but which was never produced in quantity because the design, which includes the co-joined heads of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh, was not officially approved. Most people would no doubt agree that it was not unreasonable for such an unflattering design to be rejected.

MUSEUM SOCIETY

New Title Confirmed

At the meeting of the Olicana Museum Society held in the Olicana Museum on Friday evening the president, Miss E. M. Fletcher, was in the chair.

The hon. secretary, Mr. G. Teasdale, stated that he had received a post-card from the Museums Association confirming the new title of "Olicana Museum Society" for Ilkley Museum Club.

A new set of rules were proposed by the committee and were adopted. These give effect to the change in name and to the office of chairman being replaced by that of the president. The hon. treasurer recommended that the subscription remain at half a crown per annum for full members and one shilling per annum for juniors. This also was adopted.

All the three officers, Miss E. M. Fletcher, president; Mr. N. Parker, librarian; and Mr. G. Teasdale, secretary and treasurer, were re-elected. Messrs. W. B. Dale, J. T. Threlfall, C. Humphries, and P. Barker are to remain on the committee and Mr. R. Collins was replaced by Mr. R. M. Bentley.

The president, Miss E. M. Fletcher, opened a discussion on the Museum. A copy of the first railway time-table, and a piece of the first trans-atlantic cable, which was laid by the "Great Eastern" was exhibited by Mr. R. M. Bentley.

There were five new members elected at this meeting. 14.5.54

OLICANA MUSEUM SOCIETY

Visit by Yorkshire Committee

The Roman Antiquities Committee of the Yorkshire Archaeological Society held their business meeting at the Olicana Museum on Saturday and then led by Miss E. Fletcher, Curator, and Mr. Roger Bentley, one of the Ilkley members, visited the site of the Roman fort, the Parish Church and the Roman Altars at Middleton Lodge.

Following this the party, numbering about 30, were entertained by Professor and Mrs. le Patourel, Heber's Ghyl Drive, at their home. Though the weather was poor an enjoyable time was spent.

Any people who are interested in local history and would like to join the newly formed Olicana Museum Society will be sent particulars if they will leave their names and addresses at the library.

MUSEUM SOCIETY

First Excursion of Year

Members of Olicana Museum Society had their first excursion of the year on Saturday when they visited Boroughbridge, where they viewed the historic Three Arrows.

The Society also visited Aldborough, a village with a history dating from the Brigantes and Romans. After looking round the museum and woods the gardens of Aldborough Manor were visited by permission of Lady Lawson-Tancred. In these gardens the remains of Roman walls and buildings are still in site.

The next excursion will be to Stables Hall and the Roman Road at Blackstone Edge on Saturday, August. 20.8.54

Library and Museum

Present: Councillors Hill (Chairman), Aveyard, Cole, Elcott, Scott, Thackrah and Wray.

The Hon. Curator, Miss E. M. Fletcher, submitted a report on the administration of the Olicana Museum for the year 1953/54. Resolved that the best thanks of this Committee be accorded to Miss E. M. Fletcher, for these reports, and that Miss Fletcher be also informed that this Committee very much appreciate her excellent work as Hon. Curator of the Council's museum. 8.10.1954

ANNUAL MEETING OF MUSEUM SOCIETY

Increase of Membership

Mr. G. Teasdale, the secretary and treasurer of the Olicana Museum Society, reported at the annual general meeting of the Society in the Museum Library on Friday evening that membership had been almost doubled during the past year.

Mr. Teasdale said during the year the Society had seen the transformation from a Club (The Ilkley Museum Club) for young people into a Society for people of all ages who were interested in the Museum or in local history. Mr. Teasdale outlined the meetings held during the past season from October 1953 to September 1954, and ended his report with a description of the excursions to Aldborough and Blackstone Edge on 14 and 28 August respectively.

In his treasurer's report Mr. Teasdale said they had a favourable balance. The membership fee was to remain at 2s. 6d.

Winter Programme

The President, Miss E. M. Fletcher announced that all meetings would be held on the second Friday of every month during the next year in the Museum Library. She outlined the winter programme which included talks on "Antiquities of Baildon Moor" by Mr. S. Jackson, Assistant-in-Charge, Museum of Archaeology and Natural History; Cartwright Memorial Hall, Bradford; "Flints" by Mr. Eric T. Cowling; "Anglian Crosses" by Mr. W. A. G. Doyle Davidson, Senior Lecturer in English Language and Medieval English Literature at the University of Leeds; "The Development of Crafts by Mr. C. M. Mitchell, Curator of the Kirkstall Abbey House Museum Leeds; "Leeds and its Treasures" (which will include an account of Adel Church, Kirkstall Abbey, Temple Newsam and St. John's Church) by Mr. J. C. Scott; and "Heraldry, its History and Study" by Mr. T. F. B. Turner.

Excursions

After some discussion it was decided that excursions should leave the Museum at 7 p.m. on Fridays of the dates 13 May, 10 June, 8 July, 12 August and 9 September. The excursions chosen were Adel Church and St. John's Church, Leeds (Mr. J. C. Scott); Baildon Moor (Mr. S. Jackson); Skipton (Mr. J. C. Scott) and the Outpost fort at Draughton, Mr. R. Ibbetson).

During the meeting four women and four men were elected to membership of the society.

Miss E. M. Fletcher, Mr. G. Teasdale and Mr. N. Parker were re-elected President, secretary-treasurer and Librarian respectively and Messrs. W. B. Dale, P. Barker, J. P. Threlfall, C. Humphries and R. M. Bentley were re-elected to the Committee. 15.10.54

ANTIQUITIES OF BALDON MOOR

Museum Society Talk

A talk on "The Antiquities of Baildon Moor" was given to members of Olicana Museum Society at a meeting in the Museum Library, on Friday, by Mr. S. Jackson, of the Cartwright Memorial Hall Museum, Bradford.

He said the first map of the antiquities of Baildon Moor was drawn in 1845 by an Ilkley lawyer, Mr. Coals. Replying to a question, Mr. Jackson referred to a possible connection between the burial mounds on the moor and the Egyptian pyramids, pointing out that cup and ring markings had been found on Egyptian lamps.

A vote of thanks to the speaker was given by Mr. W. Brian Dale, and seconded by Mr. P. Barker. The president, Miss E. M. Fletcher, announced that Mr. Eric T. Cowling would give a talk on "Flints" in December.

During the meeting six new members were elected to the Society.

Mr. G. Teasdale, Secretary-Treasurer of the Society, gave the programme of excursions for 1955, as follows:—

Friday, 13 May, Baildon Moor (Mr. S. Jackson); Wednesday, 2 June, Ramble on Ilkley Moor (Mr. E. T. Cowling); Friday, 8 July, Adel Church, St. John's Church, and Kirkstall Abbey (Mr. J. C. Scott); Friday, 12 August, Skipton (Mr. J. C. Scott); Friday, 9 September, The Outpost Fort at Draughton (Mr. R. Ibbetson).

Museum Notes

The Hon. Curator, Miss Elsie M. Fletcher, who is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts, has been attending its Bi-centenary Reception by the Duke of Edinburgh at St. James' Palace.

Whilst in London she accepted an invitation from Mr. Norman Cook at the Guildhall to view the discoveries from the excavated Temple of Mithras, which are now in his rooms after cleaning and restoring. They are truly impressive. The figure of Silenus in the Bacchanalian group of five, may give a clue to the use of the vessel to which the Ilkley Silenus head was attached. As he is usually portrayed in wine festivals or Bacchanalian revels, it seems probable that ours was attached to a wine jar, and belonged to someone of high standing.

With so many buried objects coming to light in recent years, it behoves us to be aware of what we too may find during building, draining and gardening operations.

As Mithras was a soldier's god, and as the fort here had a garrison of 500 for at least 250 years, well—who knows.

MUSEUM SOCIETY

Hears Talk on Flints

Mr. Eric Cowling, author of "Romalds Way" and a leading authority on flint implements in the country, spoke on "Flints" at the December meeting of the Olicana Museum Society in the Committee Rooms of the Town Hall on Friday evening.

Mr. Cowling traced the development of flints from the colts or dawn tools to the Bronze Age.

In answer to questions from members, Mr. Cowling stated that he believed the cup and ring markings on local boulders to be representations of the Pagan Mother Goddess and her consort the Sun God. To a query about the Swastika Stone Mr. Cowling described it as a visual prayer for sunshine to the four winds. He illustrated this point by comparing the Swastika to a cross representing the four winds) with a sun (circle or spiral) superimposed on each point. In reply to a further question Mr. Cowling stated that deposits of flint were to be found in chalk. He added that the nearest supply would be in the Yorkshire Wolds, but that Danes Dyke on the coast was the only mine. Mr. Cowling illustrated his talk with some fine examples from his collection.

Mr. Cresswell, then exhibited his father-in-law's collection of flints, a photograph of which is displayed in the Museum.

A vote of thanks to Mr. Cowling was proposed by Mr. Ibbetson and seconded by Mr. Cresswell.

Two new members were elected to the Society and one resignation was accepted.

At the next meeting of the Society in the Museum Library, Mr. W. A. G. Doyle-Davidson will speak about "Anglian Crosses," with special reference to the examples in Ilkley. 17.12.54

CHURCHYARD CROSSES ARE WEATHERING 21-1-55

Museum Society Plea for More Protection

Ilkley Parish Church Council is to be asked to remove the Anglian Crosses in its Churchyard to a position inside the Church.

The request is to come from the Olicana Museum Society following a lantern lecture given by Mr. W. A. G. Doyle-Davidson, who expressed concern about the crosses, saying that they were weathering badly. Mr. Doyle-Davidson, who is Senior Lecturer in English Language and Mediaeval English Literature at the University of Leeds, was speaking at the monthly meeting of the Society held in the Town Hall on Friday evening.

Following the lecture Mr. H. W.

Rhodes raised the question of protection for the Ilkley Crosses and after a general discussion it was proposed by the President, Miss E. M. Fletcher, seconded by Professor Le Patourel and carried unanimously that Mr. R. Ibbotson approach the Parish Council on the matter.

Mr. Doyle-Davidson said the crosses were made of local stone, and he dated them between 800 and 850 A.D.

In answer to a request by Mr. Doyle-Davidson Mr. Duncan undertook to supply him with some photographs of the Crosses.

Anglian Crosses

Entitling his lecture, "Anglian Crosses," Mr. Davidson gave the historical background of the Anglo-Saxon period and said one third of the Anglian Crosses in England were situated in Durham and Yorkshire. When Christianity was introduced to Northumbria, Anglo-Saxon art and culture was not destroyed, but adapted to serve the new religion. Referring to this classical union with native style, Mr. Doyle-Davidson illustrated the development of Anglo-Saxon over and under lacing and the introduction of the Anglo-Saxon animals to the classical vine scroll. The latter were called inhabited vine scrolls and were well illustrated on fragments of the Otley cross.

Mr. Doyle-Davidson stated that the Anglo-Saxon artist preferred animals to plants, and so these "petable quadrupeds" grew larger in relation to the surrounding vine scroll. Eventually the vine scroll was dispensed with and replaced by the extended and inter-twining limbs of the animals. This was well illustrated on the Ilkley crosses.

Mr. Doyle-Davidson ended with a reference to the Norwegian and Danish influence on designs, after the Viking invasions, and emphasised the difference between the petable anglian quadruped and the fierce viking dragon.

A vote of thanks to the speaker was proposed by Professor Le Patourel and seconded by Mr. H. Booth.

The President expressed the Society's gratitude to Mr. Duncan who lent and operated the screen and lantern.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 28th, 1955.

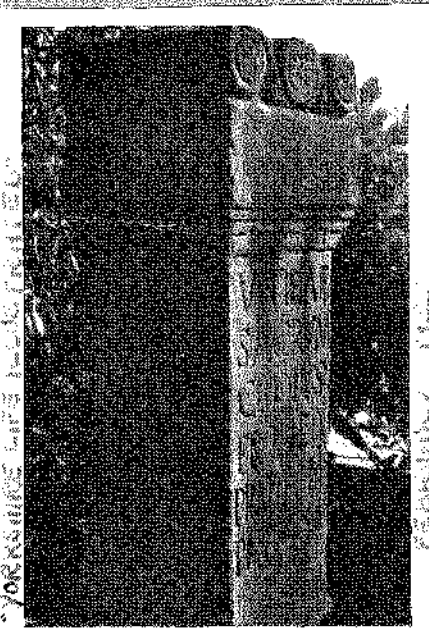
LETTERS TO EDITOR Churchyard Crosses

Sir.—It is interesting to learn from your report of the recent lecture given before the Olicana Museum Society by Mr. W. A. G. Doyle-Davidson, that it is proposed to make a request for the protection of the remains of the three ancient crosses now standing in Ilkley Churchyard.

It is not specified as to what form this protection might take, but it is by no means the first time the subject of preservation for these venerable relics has been mooted. Sometime between the years 1878 and 1886 a lecture was given to the Yorkshire Archaeological Association by the late Dr. Downer. I have Dr. Downer's notes of this lecture, and in them he stressed that he had been at considerable pains to ascertain the correct procedure on this point. He had communicated with the British Museum, and other sources, and all agreed that the crosses were best allowed to remain in their present open-air situation, rather than give them the dubious advantage of cover within the church. Since that date, the matter has again been raised, both in 1927 when the church celebrated its 1,300th Centenary and subsequently. It was suggested that some type of preserving fluid might be applied to the crosses, or that they might be protected by some form of canopy, but again, the consensus of opinion appeared to be that they were best allowed to remain in their present state and situation.

The Ilkley crosses are not the only ones upon which the question of preservation has arisen. There is a very beautiful ancient cross standing in the churchyard of St. Mary's, Gosforth, Cumberland. This cross, almost 15ft. high, and in nearly perfect condition, is reputed to be the tallest ancient cross still standing in Great Britain. Some years ago, as in the Ilkley case, the question of preservation was raised, and it was agreed by those best able to judge, that it should be left in its present position in the churchyard. No doubt the type of stone, and the atmospheric conditions prevailing in a specified case might bear weight in arriving at the most appropriate method of preservation, but it is to be hoped great care and thought will be taken before these 1,200-year-old pieces of British history are subjected to any beauty treatment.

ARTHUR E. PICKETT.



The Roman Altar to Verbeia, goddess of the River Wharfe, which is preserved at Myddleton Lodge, near Ilkley. She was supposed to confer healing on her devotees (See note "Roman-Gods")

OLICANA MUSEUM SOCIETY 4-3-55

Churchyard Crosses Mentioned Again

A special meeting is to be called by the Olicana Museum Society to discuss the problem of the Anglian Crosses being placed inside the Church instead of in the Churchyard where they are at present weathering badly. This was announced by the President, Miss E. M. Fletcher, at a meeting of the Society held in the Museum Library on Friday evening after an enquiry by Miss M. Booth.

The secretary, Mr. G. Teasdale, stated that he had not yet received any report from Mr. Ibbotson, who was to have approached the Church Council concerning the matter.

Miss Fletcher introduced the speaker, Mr. C. M. Mitchell, who spoke on "The Development of Crafts." Mr. Mitchell, who is the Curator of Kirkstall Abbey House Museum, Leeds, was responsible for the building of the craft workshops in the Debtor's Prison Museum (Castle Museum) at York, and has recently erected a street of such workshops at Kirkstall which is at present being extended. Mr. Mitchell is also hon. secretary/treasurer of the Yorkshire Federation of Museums and Art Galleries.

Mr. Mitchell said the only real difference between man and the other animals was that man was a tool maker. He added that the age of craftsmanship would last from the earliest tools (ooliths) to a time when every operation could be done by merely pressing a button. Mr. Mitchell showed that the golden age of crafts was the period between the Norman Conquest and the start of the Industrial Revolution. The development of towns made specialisation possible as for example metalurgy divided into miners, smelters and smiths, and woodwork divided into barkers, sawyers and carpenters. Specialisation became more acute when the craftsmen started to confine themselves to one medium or product, such as the goldsmith, silversmith and blacksmith or the cabinet maker, joiner and bodger.

Mr. Mitchell gave a detailed account of the merchant and craft guilds, which acted much as trades unions did to-day, but in addition had control of local government and the power to employ searchers. They set a high standard of craftsmanship and these officers saw that the standard was maintained. If a shoddy article was discovered the offending craftsman would be heavily fined and have his means of livelihood withdrawn. The guilds did, however, offer the craftsman protection from the law, poverty and sickness and they also looked after widows of former craftsmen. Mr. Mitchell added that he knew of several guilds existing to-day, but at one time there were more than two hundred and seventy.

Craft Signs

Mr. Mitchell described the craft signs. He referred to the barbersurgeons where you could have anything from a haircut to a leg off. Their sign was a red, white and blue pole, with a bleeding bowl hanging from the end of it. On the continent the bowl remained the barber's symbol, although the surgeons were now separate due to specialisation. In this country the barber merely used a red and white pole, and not only had the bleeding bowl disappeared but also the blue stripe (generally) from the pole.

A vote of thanks to the speaker was proposed by Mr. R. H. Walker and seconded by Mr. P. Barker.

Three new members were elected at the meeting, Mr. D. C. Catchpole, of Otley, and Messrs. R. H. and M. J. Walker, of Ben Rhydding.

The President announced that the next meeting would be on Friday, 11 March, when Mr. J. C. Scott would talk on "Leeds and its Treasures."

Ilkley Gazette

ILKLEY—8, Wells Road. Telephone Ilkley 493.
OTLEY—Victoria Works.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 13th, 1954.

REFLECTIONS

BEN RHYDDING

Walking through the deserted rooms of the Ben Rhydding Hydro, many of them now showing the marks of years of unoccupation it is still easy to let imagination play and bring visions of the kind of place it was in the middle of the last century. Its cost of £30,000 is a fabulous sum by present day currency standards but the size of the structure and the interior fittings provide evidences of a time when quality of workmanship meant something more than speed of erection and that no expense was spared to make the hydro fully equipped and self-supporting. It had to be, of course, because for the first eleven years of its existence there was no railway nearer to it than at Skipton on the one side and Leeds and Bradford on another. Visitors who did not possess their own horse transport had to rely on the stage-coach, or by arrangement with the House Steward a carriage or posthorses could be sent to meet a train at Leeds. Visitors arriving by stage-coach left Leeds at 10 a.m., 4 p.m. and 5 p.m., and took two hours to reach Ilkley, would be met in Ilkley and taken to the Hydro by the Establishment's Own Conveyance. Carriages and horses could be obtained at the stables. A few years later, but before the line was extended to Ilkley in 1865, visitors could travel by train as far as Arthington or Apperley Bridge Stations and be met there.

VARIED COMPANY

A writer in 1861 spoke of the varied company in which he found himself at Ben Rhydding. There were "County Gentlemen, Professional men belonging to the different learned professions, Merchants, Agriculturalists, Soldiers, Sheriffs, Edinburgh writers to the Signet, London barrister, Solicitors, Episcopalian Clergy, English and Scotch Dissenters, Ministers of the National and Free Churches of Scotland, East Indian Nabobs, lively, laughing tricky sons of Erin all mingled together." The same writer describes the walks and excursions available to the visitors. On the excursions "hampers are filled with cold joints, fowls, dessert, plates and glasses, and when the party is large a footman attends to wait upon the excursionist." A favourite excursion was to Bolton Abbey from where the patients walked to the Strid and to Barden Tower, the carriage meeting them there. At the Strid "the members of the party accommodate themselves as they best can on scattered stones and the fowls and joints disappear." On the return journey a halt is made at the Devonshire Arms where a meal has been ordered. "Tea and coffee, cold pies, game fowls, ham and hot-muffins renovate the exhausted strength of the worn-out tourist." Reference is also made to a second "Establishment" at Holly Bank, described as "Immediately adjacent to Ilkley." The accommodation for 20 patients was found to be too limited,

and a mile away a suitable building was erected in 1860 to accommodate 40 patients. "It is named 'Craglands' and is intended for the benefit of those by whom the terms at Ben Rhydding are found too expensive."



THE HYDRO, FROM THE SOUTH-EAST.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 13th, 1954.

ILKLEY GAZETTE

PAGE FIVE

BEN RHYDDING HYDROPATHIC ESTABLISHMENT

To Be Demolished and New Estate Erected in Grounds

A landmark in Wharfedale for over 100 years, the Ben Rhydding Hydropathic Establishment, reputed to be the first of its kind in England, and later known as the Ben Rhydding Golf Hotel, is to be demolished. The stones will be used possibly in the building of an estate of good class houses in the extensive grounds.



The hydro was originally established in 1844 through the initiative of a former mayor of Leeds, Mr. Hamer Stansfield, who, returning from Grafenberg cured of a long illness conceived the idea of instituting a similar place to provide this new treatment.

He formed a private company and the hydro was erected at a cost of £3,000. In commemoration of this event a marble drinking fountain, which may still be seen in the grounds, was erected by Mr. Stansfield in memory of Vincent Priessnitz, the Silesian peasant "to whom the world is indebted for the blessing of System of Cure by Water."

At Ben Rhydding, the first physician was Dr. Rischaneck, a German whom Mr. Hamer brought to this country and who was later to be for a short time at Wells House. He stayed at Ben Rhydding for only three years and was then succeeded by Dr. William Mackeod, an Edinburgh man, under whom the hydro became world famed. His methods were well advanced of his time and his skill was equalled by his administrative ability. He had built at a cost of £2,000 a Roman bath still to be seen, and there was adjacent too it and now a garage a spacious racquets court and gymnasium.

Cost of Stay

Board, lodging, medical attendance and baths for one week cost a patient £2 15s. 6d. and if the stay was prolonged more than one month the charge was £2 10s. a week. The two wings were devoted to hydropathic treatment and the

centre portion as the hotel in which rooms could be booked by those not taking the treatment.

Carriages and horses could be hired from the establishment's own stables and arrangements were made to meet visitors at the station which was established in the village of Wheatley for the benefit of the hydro. The name "Ben Rhydding," derived from a nearby "Bean Rhydding" or bean clearing, applied only to the hydro but it has become extended to embrace the surrounding area and officially adopted some years ago.

Description

A remarkable description of the life in the hydro was published in 1862 by the Rev. R. Wodrow Thomson, a Scotsman who had been restored to health by the treatment. He explains the various treatments, the types of building in the grounds and the measurements and furniture of the hydro itself. In addition to the varied menu which suggests that the appetites of the patients were quickly whetted by the cure.

"Every kind of indoor amusement with the exception of cards is afforded—draughts and backgammon, chess and squalls are at hand. Instrumental and vocal music, and the merry reel and country dance gratify the ear, cheer the heart and wile the time away. At nine p.m. a waiter introduces Ben Rhydding supper. It is in keeping with the character of the place, consisting of a glass of cool and clear water. At ten p.m. the Butler enters with stately and dignified air, and extinguishing five out of six gaslights, which

had previously illuminated the apartment gives a broad hint that the hour for separation is drawing nigh. This hint is generally taken by the lady-portion of the company. The gentlemen either descend to the reading room or gather together in small committees, to argue or to laugh another hour away. 'Tis only another hour they have. At eleven o'clock the gas is turned off, bedrooms, public rooms and passages are plunged in darkness and thus ends a week-day's routine at Ben Rhydding."

No Waltzing

In the reading room, the writer states, the leading journals are to be found "and this is besides a convenient place of resort for those aged or lady-shunning gentlemen whose modesty or mysogamy render the gaities and fascinations of the drawing room distasteful."

In a further account of the dances held at the hydro he states that no waltzing is permitted.

The hydro which has over 100 bedrooms and several private sitting rooms possessed until its closure tennis courts, croquet lawns, putting greens and a nine-hole golf course. The grounds covered an area of some 80 acres.

At the beginning of the war it was taken over together with Wells House as the Headquarters of the Wool Control and since it was derequisitioned some years ago it has been unoccupied.

The new estate for which the agents are Tipping and Lee, Ltd. Brook Street, Ilkley, may be known, it is understood, as the Devonshire Park Estate.

10.

1955

BAILDON MOOR PREHISTORIC REMAINS 20-5-55.

Prehistoric and other remains were seen by members of the Olciana Museum Society, Ilkley, on Friday evening, 13 May, when they toured Baildon Moor and Shipley Glen by private bus, under the leadership of Mr. Sidney Jackson, Assistant-in-Charge of the Cartwright Memorial Hall Museum, Bradford.

Emerging from Northgate, Baildon, on to the moor, they saw first the site of a rifle range along the eastern base of Hope Hill, used by troops for target practice up to 1915. Near the quarry overlooking Low Hill they alighted to see a cup-and-ring boulder carved by people of the Early Bronze Age, 2,000-1,700 B.C., for religious purposes, which lies in the pathway there.

VIEW

On the highest point of the moor road, Mr. Jackson pointed out many of the principal points of interest over the wide panorama. To the west, at Keighley Gate on Rombalds Moor, were the twin masts of the West Riding Police radio station. Eastwards on the skyline was the Grubstone Hut, or Shooting Box, 1,264 ft. above sea level, near which is the Grubstone stone circle, then the ridge made by the thousands of small boulders that form the prehistoric burial mound known as the Great Skirtful of Stones.

After a day of deluge, the evening was so gloriously clear that further to the East, the new white buildings of Leeds University were plainly visible while to the south-west the hills towards Halifax and beyond rolled away into the far distance.

On the western slope of the moor, the party saw bell pits, once used for mining coal, and picked up thick leaden bullets at the site of a rifle range used by the Bingley Volunteers, 70 years ago. A small stone circle and a well marked "cup" boulder of the Early Bronze Age, near the path to Grovershaw Farm, were next seen.

IRON AGE

Finally, the party examined foundations of Iron Age enclosure walls on Brackenhall Green, Shipley Glen, and the Soldiers Trench stone circle. Mr. Jackson explained that the circle, actually an oval, 50 yards by 39 yards, was probably an enclosure made in Iron Age times, and that it was despoiled of many of its boulders to make a large rockery about 50 years ago.

When this rockery was dismantled in 1952, the Bradford Corporation Parks Department tipped the boulders near the Soldiers Trench circle, in order that members of the Archaeology Group could construct the false circle which now surrounds what remains of the original one, so as to make this interesting relic easier to find by the thousands of visitors to Shipley Glen.

On Wednesday, 8 June, Rombalds Moor above the Cow and Calf will be visited by the Society under the leadership of Mr. E. T. Cowling, author of Rombalds Way. The site of the 2,000-year-old Iron Age community on Green Crag Slack should prove of interest to many people. After the uncovering of a more recent site in this proximity, the viewing of the original remains, cup and ring stones, and other marks of antiquity with explanations by an expert should make a really worthwhile visit. Further information on this matter may be obtained from Ilkley Library.

ROME CONFERENCE VISIT OF MUSEUM CURATOR COUNCIL ARGUMENT ABOUT PAYMENT OF FEE

"MISERABLE PITTANCE," SAYS MR. CLOUGH

There was a lively discussion at the monthly meeting of the Ilkley Council on Wednesday night on a resolution of the Finance Committee that the Council should be responsible for the payment of a delegate's fee of £4 10s. in respect of a visit to Rome in September of Miss E. M. Fletcher, hon. curator of the Museum, to the International Conference of the Museum Association.

Miss Fletcher had asked the Council if they would be prepared to appoint her officially as their delegate and they had agreed to do so paying the delegate's fee, subject to Miss Fletcher paying her own expenses.

Mr. E. Wolfe asked the Clerk, through the Chairman, if Miss Fletcher could be appointed as a delegate without the payment of the fee of £4 10s., and Mr. Townend replied that he had not seen the papers, but he was fairly confident that it was not necessary to pay the delegate's fee.

Mr. Wolfe then said he would move as an amendment that the reference to the payment of £4 10s. should be expunged. They had just heard, he said, a statement by the Chairman of the Finance Committee about the alarming position of the Authority's finances in relation to the increases in wages and salaries over which the Council had no control. It might seem that the fee was insignificant, but they had to examine every penny spent out of the ratepayers' pocket. It was no use just paying lip service about such things, especially at election time, they had to do it now.

UTTER NONSENSE

Mr. Wolfe said he had a soft spot for the Museum on the town and considered he was instrumental in saving the museum for the town when it was suggested that it should leave them to adjoin the Bradford Museum. He was also a great admirer of Miss Fletcher, who had helped them in many ways in regard to the care, control and educational facilities derived from the Museum, but it was utter nonsense that they should be asked to pay a delegate's fee for attendance in Rome. He knew that his own name appeared as a delegate for the Road Safety Committee, but he could say that he had never as a member of the Council attended a conference. He felt that a Councillor unless he had something useful to contribute to the discussion need not and should not spend ratepayers' money. If he had to go he would pay for himself and it would not come out of the ratepayers' pocket. He had asked what good the town could derive from a visit to Rome by Miss Fletcher, and in any case, reports on conferences were circularised and any Council could obtain those reports. He thought officials were in a different position. They could mix with others and gain experience. He was strongly against the idea that the fee of £4 10s. should be paid out of public money.

Seconding the amendment Mr. F. Aveyard said he agreed it was an

insignificant sum but it was high time they looked at those amounts if they were going to effect any economy in the future. He shared Mr. Wolfe's regard for the work Miss Fletcher was doing. They must give the utmost consideration to the way they spent money.

Mr. J. H. Cole said he would support the motion on the grounds that no case had been made out for spending ratepayers' money for the benefit of citizens of Ilkley.

GOING ANYWAY

Mr. F. Atkinson said there was no question of paying for Miss Fletcher to go to Rome. Miss Fletcher was going to Rome in any case but if she had to attend this conference other than in the capacity of a delegate from an authority it would cost her almost ten times more to get into that conference room and that was the only reason why she had suggested she should go as a delegate.

Mr. H. Hargrave said it was a very small amount but they would have to start saving money and money they could not afford should not be spent.

Mr. G. W. Clough said it looked as if the Council was trying to make him eat his own words, which in fact he was going to do. Here they had a lady who looked after the museum of her own free will and without any wage and made a good job of it. If they were to engage someone to do this it would cost a lot of money. He understood that Miss Fletcher could not go unless she went as their delegate and a fee of £4 10s. was a miserable pittance in view of the services Miss Fletcher had rendered to the town. He strongly advised the Council to pay.

In the course of further discussion it was stated that Miss Fletcher could go as a delegate and pay her own fee.

After Mr. Hill had ruled that the discussion was closed, Mr. Mann rose and, waving his hand towards the Chair, observed "I will pay the £4 10s. and let us hear no more about it."

Mr. Cole said it had been stated that Miss Fletcher did that work entirely without remuneration, and the Clerk replied that Miss Fletcher received some expenses in the way of telephone calls and postage.

A recorded vote was asked for and resulted as follows: For the amendment not to pay the fee, Messrs. Aveyard, Binns, Cole, Hargrave, and Wolfe. Against the amendment, Mrs. Hampshire, Mrs. Hawkins, Mrs. Scott, Messrs. Adams, Atkinson, Clough, Harry, Hill, Illingworth, Mann, Mawson, Sarjeant, Thackrah.

LETTERS TO EDITOR

Curator's Rome Visit

Sir.—As much publicity was evoked by the Council's decision that I should attend a Conference as their delegate, it is necessary that some facts are made clear.

Whilst I am on a visit to Rome in September, an International Conference of Local Authorities (not Museums though they play their part) will take place there.

I firmly believe that the bringing together of people of all countries and nations for friendly intercourse and to discuss projects dear to them, is an excellent way to foster peace, particularly on vital questions as these concerning Rural Urban and Parish Councils.

So many of these are sending delegates from Britain, and when I was asked if Ilkley would be doing so, it was suggested that as I shall be there in any case I might do them this service.

So naturally the expenses for the lectures, discussions and social events will be my own concern, but it would be necessary for the Council to pay the fee of £4 10s. for international representation.

I have just returned from a Museums' Conference in Birmingham where many people from other nations were given friendly welcome. Personally, I am feeling happy in that I have helped there to put Ilkley and our own Museum more firmly on the map.

ELSIE M. FLETCHER
Hon. Curator
Olciana Museum

12-7-55

MOOR RAMBLE

MUSEUM SOCIETY OUTING

The members of the Museum Society took part in a ramble on Ilkley Moor on Wednesday evening of last week. The ramble was conducted by Mr. Eric Cowling, the author of "Rombalds Way". The ramble was by way of the Pancake Rock, where the millstone working-floor of the eighteenth century, recently discovered was viewed.

The various cup and ring stones of the Bronze Age on Green Crag Slack were visited, the most notable being the pancake rock and the Idol Stone. The influence of the prehistoric route along the ridge of Rombalds moor was discussed. First used for bringing flint from the East Coast it became a trade invasion route until recent times.

The lives of the people who had lived up there during the Iron Age became more vivid to the Society members as they traced the dwellings and the fields of those pastoral farmers; heard of their customs and viewed their burial barrows.

The next outing will be to Adel Church and St. John's Church, Leeds, when Mr. J. C. Scott will be the leader.

MUSEUM SOCIETY

Members of the Olciana Museum Society visited the ancient earthworks on Counter Hill, near Draughton, on Friday, with Mr. W. Memon as their guide. Consisting of two encampments the earthworks are projected by a line of circumvallation.

For a long time a matter of research and discussion, Whitaker described these earthworks as Roman summer encampments, whilst Wardell, Forrest and Grainge regarded them as early British. The modern authorities

such as Mr. E. T. Cowling regard them as examples of local Iron Age life, due to internal quarrel or invasion.

16-9-55

ROMAN COINS IN MUSEUM

The current number of the Archaeology Group Bulletin, published at the Cartwright Memorial Hall, Bradford, includes a description by Mr. Graham Teasdale, formerly hon. secretary-treasurer of the Olciana Museum Society, of the Museum's Roman coins.

The coins were found at Otley, in the Roman fort and other places in Ilkley and at Threshfield, near Grassington.

One of the two paper replicas of the carving on the Swastika Stone at Ilkley made by a joint party of the Olciana Museum Society and the Archaeology Group in August has been mounted on a panel and is on view at the Cartwright Memorial Hall.

21-13-55

ILKLEY MUSEUM CURATOR

REALISES AMBITION

16-9-55

Miss E. M. Fletcher, a former President of Otley Historical and Archaeological Society, and honorary curator of the Ilkley Museum, on Saturday left her home at Menston to fulfil a life-long ambition to visit Rome.

Her visit has been made possible by a presentation she has received from former pupils and parents, following her retirement from the Howdens Private School, Menston. It was the wish of all who contributed to the presentation that Miss Fletcher should use the gift as she wished.

Miss Fletcher has a keen interest in Roman Archaeology. She is a member of the Roman Antiquities Committee of the Yorkshire Archaeological Society, and is authoress of a number of books on Yorkshire history.

While in Rome, she will represent Ilkley at the International Conference of Local Authorities.

ROMAN REMAINS

Before leaving Menston last weekend, Miss Fletcher recalled that during a visit to America a few years ago she had been impressed by the work of a class of children in reconstructing the life of the Romans in Britain.

"It made me realise the wonders that were actually lying on our very doorstep, here in Wharfedale," she said.

"Since my retirement, I have given my time, in an honorary capacity, to further the interests of the Ilkley Olicana Museum. Broken crockery and bits of metal may appear to be dull objects, but not when imagination can picture the people who used them.

"It is a fascinating study to try to find what the women were like who used these cooking vessels; the children who played with these counters; and the men who wore the helmets, of which only scraps now remain.

OLICANA

"To help me in some way to bring these objects more to life and to reconstruct in imagination what Olicana must once have been like, is the object of my visit.

"During my stay in Rome, the International Congress of Local Authorities will be held there, and I have offered to act as Ilkley's delegate, as part of the sessions will be devoted to such matters and local events and places will be visited which could not be seen otherwise, and which may prove of value in my studies."

Miss Fletcher will stay at the Accademia Britannica which is the British School for the study of archaeology, history and the fine arts. It overlooks the gardens of the villa Borghese, with lovely views over the whole of Rome.

(See also page 15)

MANOR HOUSE SUGGESTED AS MUSEUM (4-11-55)

A suggestion that the Manor House in Castle Yard be converted for use as a museum and/or an art gallery is being revived by Ilkley Council. The suggestion was first put forward in 1922 when the Council after investigating costs abandoned the idea.

At the meeting of the Public Library and Museum Committee the Clerk was authorised to discuss the proposal with the owner of the property and to report further at the next meeting of the Committee.

It was also decided, subject to the views of the owner, that the Surveyor be requested to inspect the building and prepare for the consideration of the Committee a preliminary report as to its suitability for conversion for use as a Museum and/or Art Gallery together with an estimate of the cost involved.

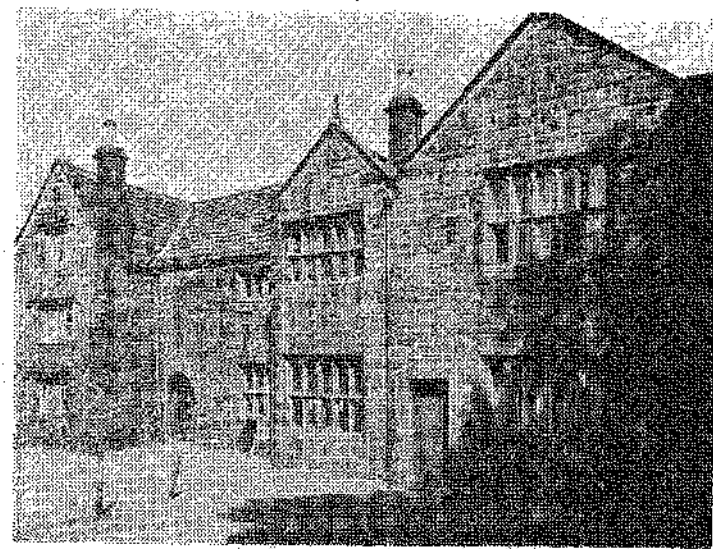
1955
FRIDAY, AUGUST 12th, 1955

HOUSES TO BE CLEARED OR DEMOLISHED

COUNCIL DECIDES FINAL LIST FOR MINISTRY

BURLEY AREA IS MOST AFFECTED

Following a final report on the question of slum clearance Ilkley Council has adopted the recommendation of its Chief Sanitary Inspector that 68 houses in the Urban District be either cleared or demolished within the period of the next five years and has decided to inform the Minister of Housing and Local Government accordingly. The old Elizabethan house in Castle Yard is affected.



Elizabethan House in Castle Yard.

In general, he says, the houses which he has recommended for clearance or demolition are amongst the oldest buildings in the area. They are seriously affected with rising dampness, natural lighting and ventilation are inadequate, drainage and sanitary accommodation unsatisfactory, cooking facilities inadequate and many are in a state of disrepair.

At Ilkley the Castle Yard block of property involving numbers 1, 2, 3, 5 and 7 comprises four separate dwellings and is occupied by four families. Mr. Wilson says this block of property could be dealt with as a small clearance area involving the demolition of the houses, but he understands it is desired to preserve the property as an ancient monument and so far as the Housing Act is concerned it appears that the only action on the part of the Council will be to have the houses closed for human habitation and to secure the re-housing of the displaced families.

(See page 15 & 17)

A suggestion that the Old Manor House in Castle Yard, Ilkley now included in a clearance area, should be converted as a museum and arts gallery is being considered by Ilkley Council. The owner is being consulted and the surveyor is to prepare a report on the estimated cost of conversion.

MANOR HOUSE 12-8-55.

The ancient structure in Castle Yard which is included in the Council's clearance and demolition scheme for the next five years is one of the oldest buildings in the district. It was known for generations as the "Manor House" and was at one time the centre of local administration, although there was for some reason another "Manor House" on the site of the present Martin's Bank and occupied for a long time by a family named Hartley. The Council in 1921 considered its purchase with a view to establishing the museum there but nothing came of the project and it also formed an important part in the scheme put forward some years ago by Mr. Percy Dalton. When the Council considered its purchase in 1921 they caused it to be examined by Mr. Sidney Kitson, of Leeds, an expert antiquary and architect. He considered that the doorways of the entry and of the kitchen, buttery and staircase were existing parts of the original building and probably date from about 1400. Early in the reign of the first Queen Elizabeth, probably about 1560, the building was recast and the present windows built. He estimated the cost of essential work at that time at £613 10s., and to include non-essential work which would add to the appearance of the building would bring the cost to £1,078 10s. In July, 1949, the building was included in the list of those of special architectural or historic interest which may not be demolished, altered or extended unless at least two months notice has been given to the local planning authority, and copies of all such notices must be sent to the Minister by the local planning authority.

sanitary charges and instances the Council unable to take any matter.

ees gave consideration stationed by crows as situate near the Rhydding. The consideration resolved that

REFLECT

MANOR HOUSE

The suggestion to convert the Manor House in Castle Yard into a museum is no new one for it is as long ago as 1922 that the Ilkley Council considering a similar scheme obtained the service of Mr. S. Kitson, a well-known antiquary and architect of Leeds. He considered that to do all the renovations which would be necessary for conversion, the cost would be just over £1,000 and the Council of that day decided not to take any further action. On the basis of that figure the cost to-day would be heavy, though it is possible that a less ambitious scheme might be envisaged. It was the idea of Mr. Percy Dalton, the owner of the property, that the Manor House and the ancient Parish Church should form the centre of a scheme for improving the surrounding area and he, as will be remembered, organised a competition for the best layout. There have been various reasons why nothing further has been done about his idea, not the least being the question of cost and the heavy demands on the type of material and labour required, but the Memorial Gardens scheme was an outcome of that plan if an indirect one. The Manor House would be an ideal centre for a museum standing as it does on the site of the old Roman fort which has provided the present museum with many of its exhibits.

YORKSHIRE EVENING NEWS

3-11-1955

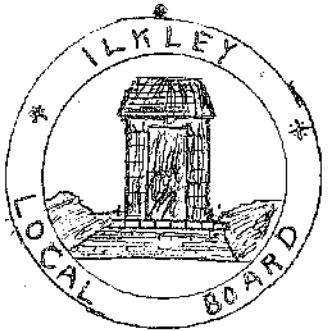


ILLUSTRATION 1.



ILLUSTRATION 2.

GENERAL PURPOSES

Present: Councillors Hill (Chairman), Adams, Atkinson, Aveyard, Binns, Bowes, Clough, Cole, Ellicott, Hampshire, Hardy, Hargrave, Hawkins, Ilingworth, Mann, Mawson, Sarjeant, Scott, Thackrah and Wolfe.

The Committee had under consideration making application for a grant of arms and the Clerk reported upon the procedure involved and the probable cost. It was resolved that the Clerk be authorised to obtain further and full details of the cost of obtaining a grant of arms for the Council and report thereon to the next meeting of this Committee.

ANCIENT CROSSES

Local Examples Quoted in Bradford Lecture

The three Saxon crosses in the churchyard at Ilkley belong to the early 9th century, said Mr. Allan Butterfield, of Glusburn, in a lantern lecture on "Ancient Crosses" to the Archaeology Group at the Cartwright Memorial Hall, Bradford, on Saturday.

Such crosses are to be found all over the ancient Anglo-Saxon kingdom, he said, and are often finely carved. The Ilkley examples one of which was once used as a gate post, bear graceful leaf scroll designs.

A fine reproduction of a Saxon cross stands in the churchyard at Otley; and a 10th century cross at Burnsall, though in Saxon style, is believed to have been carved by settlers from the Isle of Man.

Near Menston

Wayside crosses built into walls are to be seen on Reva Hill, near Menston; near Laycock School, Keighley, and along the road from Draughton to Skipton. Around Bingley and Keighley the double cross on such buildings as Greenhill Grange, Beckfoot Farm and St. John's Street, Silsden, shows that these were once owned by the Knights of St. John.

At Ripley there is a weeping, or penitents' cross, and at Towton a cross marks where Lord Dare fell in battle in the Wars of the Roses in 1461. A 13th century "wheel" cross at Foulridge, near Colne, is known locally as the Tailor's Cross, while the nickname of Pig and Cheese is applied to one of two market crosses at Middleham.

Showing a side of the Swastika Stone at Ilkley, Mr. Butterfield said that this form of cross, also called a fyfot, was the sign for the Scandinavian god, Thor, and that only two other similarly carved rocks are known, one in Greece and one at Gothenburg in Sweden.

ARMS WANTED 12-8-1955

Ilkley Council has authorised its Clerk to obtain further and full details in connection with a suggestion that the Council should consider making application for a grant of arms. The Urban District has, of course, no coat of arms, and what is customarily seen on official documents is simply a seal. This depicts the old White Wells and also the adjoining public conveniences, hardly a suitable subject, one would have thought, to be repeated on every official document. There may be various ideas for a suitable coat of arms. The more facetious may think on lines of sheep jumping garden walls, of empty reservoirs, and so on, and of changing the town's slogan to a Gem set in bracken. It may be unkind to put forward such ideas, for after all the Council have spent a good deal of time and thought in propounding schemes to put these matters right and fortune has seemed to be against them. The fact remains, however, that these problems appear to come no nearer of solution and public opinion, one gathers, is more than affected by cynicism.

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19-8-1955.

ILKLEY GAZETTE

SUGGESTED COAT OF ARMS FOR ILKLEY AREA

OLICANA MUSEUM SOCIETY OFFICIAL'S IDEAS

MR. GRAHAM TEASDILL'S REVIEW

Many residents will welcome the announcement in the "Gazette" that the Ilkley Urban District Council is considering making application for a grant of arms. Practically every Borough has its coat of arms, and a fairly large number of Urban Districts, including nearby Bingley, also have that honour. Otley U.D.C. was granted Armorial Bearings in 1951. Considering the importance of Ilkley during the Hydropathic Era, it is surprising that the Council did not make such an application when the Local Board became an Urban District Council in 1894.

The first legal Local Board was elected in Ilkley in 1869, and it chose as its seal the Old Wells. The discovery of the healing properties of Ilkley water early in the eighteenth century led to Ilkley's popularity as a Spa in the nineteenth century and her expansion from a small village into a famous holiday resort. It was therefore very appropriate that the Local Board chose for its seal a picture of the Old Wells.

By the Parish and Districts Council Act of 1894, the Local Board became the Urban District Council, and Ilkley is thus one of the oldest Urban Districts in the country. The seal was then changed to its present form, depicting the White House. The new design was more attractive and easily recognisable by visitors; and the old Bath House became famous throughout the kingdom. The small building described in the "Gazette" as "the adjoining public conveniences" was then the Charity Baths, and as most of the town's visitors came to take the waters, the seal had considerable publicity value.

The Hydropathic Era has now ended, however, and Ilkley remains a popular holiday resort chiefly due to the foresight of the Local Board in buying the moorland in 1893, and to the beautiful bathing pool, built in 1934 to the design of the Surveyor, Mr. Skinner. The White House or White Wells, as it is now more frequently called, no longer possesses very much publicity value as the town's seal, although the local Guide Book could place more importance on its historical significance.

TELL HISTORY

In designing Armorial Bearings it must be remembered that they should tell the student of heraldry at a glance the history of Ilkley and account for her present importance. Simplicity of design, unfortunately does not mean that the Arms can be easily understood as heraldry has its own grammar as complex as that of any language. Certainly no design depicting sheep jumping over garden walls or empty reservoirs would be accepted by the College of Heralds; and even if it were, it would merely tell of one particular incident.

Ilkley owes her present importance to five points: - firstly her archaeological and historical significance as the site of a Roman Fort and town; secondly, her development under the Middletons as a wool producing and processing village; thirdly, the discovery of the healing properties of the water, and their exploitation under the Middletons, followed by

the introduction of hydropathy under Hamer Stansfield; fourthly, the magnificent scenery and open moorland; and, finally, the open air bathing pool which draws regular week-end bathers.

The waters, hydropathy and even the bathing pool, can be represented by one heraldic device; the water budget, so familiar as the cap badge worn by the boys of Ilkley Grammar School. In ancient times this device is said to have indicated that its bearer took part in the Crusades. The budget is now generally recognised as referring to water in some form. (It is interesting to note that the twelfth century crusades were fought in the deserts of Palestine, and so a water carrier took on special significance). A white (argent) water budget on a black (sable) background would make an excellent device for the Council's Armorial Bearings; but we have as yet told only half the story.

THE MIDDLETONS

Ilkley would never have developed as a Spa without commercialisation by the Middletons, who then owned the moorland in addition to the manorial rights. It is during the squirearchy of the Middletons (circa 1500-1893) that Ilkley grew from a small village with only one tavern and less than a hundred inhabitants into a small town with a worsted mill, two cornmills and a flourishing woolcombing industry, not to mention a number of large hotels and hydropathic establishments, and a railway built in 1865. The Middleton family is responsible for a great deal of modern Ilkley, and in an era of democratic reform a Middleton sold the manorial rights and the moorland to the elected Local Board. The Council is by this purchase the Squire of Ilkley, so it has a claim to be entitled to make use of the Arms of the Middletons and at the same time pay tribute to this great Ilkley family.

When the Arms of the Middletons are quartered with "sable a water budget argent," the result is a very attractive Armorial Bearing in black and white. Two of my points, however, are not included. Ilkley's Roman heritage can be signified by using a Roman helmet as the crest instead of the more familiar Mediaeval one. The backbone of the Roman army was its Centurions (Sergeant Major), men risen from the ranks to positions of great authority and power. A Centurion's helmet in either gold or silver (or Argent) will make an excellent crest for our shield as the plumes can be coloured to choice.

The remaining point is the moorland which gave Ilkley its name of "The Heather Spa." A bunch of white heather at each side of the shield will be a relief from the usual laurel or animal supporters. Let us hope that the white heather will bring the council good luck in their efforts to improve the town's water supplies. It will not presume to compose a motto; but I would like to make a plea that it should be printed in latin. Most heraldic mottoes are in that language and it is especially important for an Ilkley, conscious of its importance in Roman times.

NOTE.—Mr. Teasdill included sketches illustrating his points, but these would not re-produce satisfactorily.—Error.

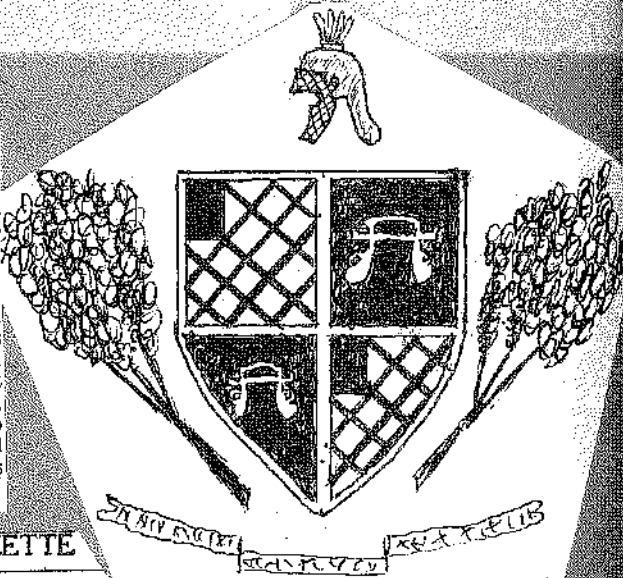
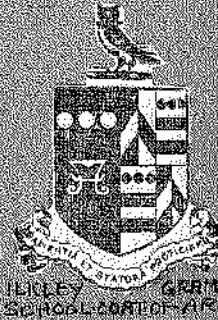


ILLUSTRATION 3.



TWO SWASTIKA REPLICAS FOR EXHIBITION

Two replicas of the original carving on the Swastika Stone on Ilkley Moor were made by members of the Ilkley Olicana Museum Society and the Cartwright Memorial Hall Museum Archaeology Group, Bradford, on Saturday.

The replicas were made under the supervision of Mr. Jackson (leader of the Bradford Group), Mr. Greaves (an amateur archaeologist) and Mr. Teasdill (of the Ilkley Society), and were made of small pieces of paper and gloy, after the surface of the rock had been coated with Sperm Oil.

One of the replicas will shortly be exhibited at the Olicana Museum, the other being for the Cartwright Museum, Bradford.

Before visiting the Swastika Stone the parties had tea at White Wells, where some of the visiting members took the opportunity of viewing the ancient baths there.

The previous evening (Friday) members of the Ilkley Society had paid a visit to Skipton, under the leadership of Mrs. J. C. Scott.

The curate of the Skipton Parish Church exhibited the church plate, and Mr. Scott gave an interesting and informative account of the church and of the architecture and history of the town.

Members were shown around the Museum and the Petyt Library by the Curator, Mr. Baldwin, and they paid particular attention to the six articles of Roman pottery purchased in 1929 from Ilkley.

Mr. Scott ended the evening tour by introducing the party to the magnificent rear view of the castle as seen from the moat.

LIBRARY AND MUSEUM

Present: Councillors Bowes (Chairman); Atkinson, Aveyard, Hampshire and Thackrah.

The Clerk submitted a report of the Hon. Curator of the Museum (Miss E. M. Fletcher) on the 61st Conference of the Museums Association which she had attended at Birmingham on 4-9 July, 1955. Arising out of the report the Committee considered the remarks of the Hon. Curator in relation to a replica of the cup and ring stones, and it was resolved that the Surveyor be authorised to make the necessary arrangements for the mounting on the wall of the Museum of a replica of the Cup and Ring stones on the Ilkley Moor.

14-10-55.
The Hon. Curator submitted also a report on the activities of the Olicana Museum for the year 1954/55, and she was thanked for her excellent work in connection with the Museum.

TRIBUTE PAID TO MUSEUM OFFICIAL

14-10-55

The annual general meeting of the Olicana Museum Society was held on Thursday in the Committee Room of the Town Hall. The President, Miss E. M. Fletcher, was in the chair.

The secretary-treasurer, Mr. Graham Teasdill, in his report, stated that the Society now had 44 members, a slight increase on last year's total. Mr. Teasdill commented that although expenditure during the year had just exceeded income, the Society was financially stable, there being a balance of £1 9s. 2d.

Miss E. M. Fletcher was again elected president, and remarked how greatly she appreciated being asked again to fill this post.

Mr. Teasdill was elected Vice-President and his former posts were taken over by Mr. A. David Glover. Mr. N. Parker was re-elected Librarian. The remaining members of the Committee were re-elected as follows:—Mr. W. Brian Dale, Mr. Peter B. Barker, Mr. J. P. Threlfall and Mr. Roger M. Bentley.

TRIBUTES

In a vote of thanks to the retiring officers, Mr. Dale made special reference to Mr. Teasdill's long tenure of the secretaryship and congratulated him on his success in that position since the foundation of the Society. His only regret was that Mr. Teasdill had to forego further active duties just at a time when his previous efforts in putting the Society on its feet were beginning to bear fruit. Mr. Dale went on to give a welcome to Mr. Glover and assured him of the Committee's willing assistance and co-operation in his new duties. Mr. Glover seconded Mr. Dale's vote of thanks, and expressed his appreciation of his welcome as Secretary.

A letter was read from a member of the Secretary, Mr. W. A. Dell, suggesting that the old Manor House would make an ideal centre for a Darby and Joan Club. After some discussion of this matter, and also discussion of the Anglican Crosses in the Churchyard, it was decided to let the Committee decide at their next meeting whether a special open meeting of the Society should be held to discuss these points more fully.

It was announced that Mr. Sidney Jackson, of the Bradford Museum of Natural History, and Mr. Eric T. Cowling, of Otley, had agreed to their appointment as Honorary Members of the Society.

OLICANA MUSEUM SOCIETY

ROMBALDS MOOR POINTS

Mr. H. W. Rhodes spoke on "The Romance of Rombald's Moor" at a meeting of the Olicana Museum Society which was held in the Committee Room of the Town Hall last Thursday. The talk was illustrated by lantern slides. Miss E. M. Fletcher (the president) was in the chair.

Mr. Rhodes began his talk briefly describing local conditions during the last ice age. He also described a tour of the Moor via Heber's Ghyll, the Swastika Stone, then up the Keighley road to Cowper's Cross, which was erected (so the story goes) by a priest of that name for the benefit of a former member of the Middleton family who suffered greatly from indigestion. A daily walk to the Cross and back, explained the priest, would soon cure his master's ailment.

Mr. Rhodes said that it was not generally realised that there was a lake on Rombald's Moor with boating facilities, at East Morton, and below its dam was a ruined mill formerly used for printing treasury notes.

In a description of White Wells Mr. Rhodes said the baths were not Roman as many people thought but Early English.

The talk included amusing legends and anecdotes and Mr. Rhodes was thanked by Mr. R. M. Bentley and Mr. R. Ibbetson on behalf of the Society, Mr. A. C. M. Duncan was thanked for operating the projector.

It was announced by the secretary, Mr. A. D. Glover that the Museum had been presented with some one hundred and twenty coins by the Leeds City Museum and that Councillor Hill had presented the Museum with a medal. Expressing thanks to Mr. Hill, Mr. Glover said he hoped that now the precedent had been made, it would become an annual event for succeeding Chairmen of the Ilkley Council to present some item to the Museum.

At the next meeting of the Society, Mrs. Le Patourel will speak on "The Roman Pottery in the Olicana Museum." 16-12-55

OLICANA MUSEUM SOCIETY

HEARS ABOUT HERALDRY

A talk entitled "Heraldry, its History and Development," was given to members of the Olicana Museum Society at a meeting in the Committee Room of the Town Hall recently, by Mr. T. F. B. Turner, of Leeds. The president, Miss E. M. Fletcher, was in the chair.

After tracing the origins of heraldry in the 12th and 13th centuries, Mr. Turner explained the necessity for this form of identification in an age when knights were invariably hidden inside suits of armour. From the artistic viewpoint, heraldry flourished well until the 18th century, when the decline set in and many objects which had no heraldic connections were incorporated in Coats of Arms. The worst of heraldic bad taste was reached in Victorian times, but fortunately, said Mr. Turner, the trend was now in the other direction, and more simple and pleasing Arms were coming into use. The speaker illustrated his talk with numerous examples of heraldic art, good and bad, which were passed among his audience. A family pedigree, 14 feet in length, and illustrated with many coats of arms, was also exhibited.

FOR ANYONE

Replying to a question, Mr. Turner stated that anyone of good character, whatever his station, could apply for a grant of Arms for himself. The fee was £125 for a gentleman, which was the least expensive. Urban Districts would pay rather more, Boroughs more still, and so on.

A vote of thanks to the speaker was proposed by Mr. Graham Teasdill, seconded by Mr. Brian Dale.

During the meeting four new members were elected to the Society.

The secretary, Mr. A. D. Glover, announced that at the next meeting on 8 December, Mr. H. W. Rhodes would give a lantern talk on "The Romance of Rombald's Moor." 11-11-55

OLICANA MUSEUM SOCIETY

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8th
at 7.30 p.m. in the
COMMITTEE ROOM, TOWN HALL
A LANTERN TALK

by MR. H. W. RHODES on
"THE ROMANCE OF ROMBALDS
MOOR." 2-12-55

ANCIENT STONE CRUSHER SITE AT ILKLEY (Gazette, 2-12-1955)

The circular stone pavement discovered near the Cow and Calf Rocks at Ilkley in April this year was part of a sandstone crushing apparatus, according to Mr. Frank Atkinson, Director of Halifax Museums.

A picture of the pavement appeared in a recent number of the Archaeology Group Bulletin, published at the Cartwright Memorial Hall, Bradford. When Mr. Atkinson saw this he wrote: "Without having a chance to visit the site, I would feel pretty certain that it is the remains of a sandstone crusher, practically identical to one still to be seen on the moor near Todmorden."

The November issue of the bulletin contains an illustration of this Todmorden crusher, drawn from a photograph lent by Mr. Atkinson. It shows a central post to which is attached a long square pole, which passes through the centre of a massive stone wheel. A horse would be harnessed to the other end of the pole, and as it walked round and round the heavy wheel would crush whatever lumps of stone were placed in its path.

The central post was found in position at Ilkley, and what was at first thought to be half a millstone lying nearby is probably part of the crusher wheel.

CUP AND RING

The bulletin also contains sectional drawings of two beehive querns, one an unusually shallow type, to be seen in the entrance to the Priory Church at Bolton Abbey, and an illustration of the Bronze Age cup-and-ring boulder recently discovered in the grounds of Hildcourt, Apperley Lane, Rawdon, the residence of Mr. R. Park Guild. This boulder resembles the Knotties Stone on Otley Chevin, and a drawing of this is also given, along with a map showing where it may be found.

Mr. Graham Teasdill, of the Olicana Museum Society Ilkley, writes on the Roman gold coins at Leeds City Museum, and there is a comprehensive report of the lecture on "Ancient Crosses" given by Mr. Allan Butterfield, of Gushburn, at the Archaeology Group's October meeting.

THE CHEVIN SANDSTONE CRUSHER 3-12-55

Further information about sandstone crushers, similar to that found by an Otley schoolboy, Paul Broadley, on the West Chevin recently, is given in the December number of the Archaeology Group Bulletin published at the Cartwright Memorial Hall, Bradford.

According to Mr. John Ogden, Curator of Keighley Museum, these crushers were employed to make sand for spreading on kitchen floors, a custom which was in vogue up to the end of the last century.

The bulletin contains notes contributed by Mr. Graham Teasdill, of New Way, Guiseley, on the 2,000 Roman silver and base metal coins at Leeds City Museum. A Bradford Grammar School boy, Michael J. Walker, of Ben Rhydding, reports on the three autumn term meetings of the school's Archaeological Society, when the speakers were Mr. E. T. Cowling, of Otley, on "Traces of Ancient Man," Mrs. H. E. J. Le Patourel, of Ilkley, on "Excavations at Kirkstall Abbey," and Professor Ian Richmond on "Hadrian's Wall."

In the series "How to find it," there is a picture of an Iron Age wall of 2,000 years ago at Shipley Glen. Other illustrations are of another cup-and-ring boulder on Baildon Moor, the largest of the three Devil's Arrows at Eborac Bridge, and a fine bronze axe head of the Early Bronze Age, found at Silsden a century ago, a replica of which has been given to the Cartwright Memorial Hall by Mr. John Ogden.

SEE
You &
FOR
OLICANA
ARTICLE
AND
PHOTOGRAPH

OLICANA MUSEUM SOCIETY MEDIAEVAL POTTERY

At a meeting of the Olicana Museum Society in the Town Hall Committee Room recently Mrs. J. Le Patourel spoke on "The Mediaeval Pottery in the Olicana Museum." Mr. G. Teasdale, the Vice-President of the Society was in the chair in the absence of Miss Fletcher the President.

Mrs. Le Patourel explained that when excavations were in progress thirty five years ago on the Ilkley Roman site the diggers were concerned only with Roman remains, and any Mediaeval articles found were largely ignored. Some rims of pottery were kept, but it was not easy to date Mediaeval pottery without seeing the shape of the vessel. Excavators destroyed evidence as they dug.

Glazed pottery came into fairly general use about the middle of the 13th century but lead-glazed pottery was made at Thetford. Coloured glazed jugs belonging to the 13th century had been found and part of a three handled pitcher belonging to the 15th/16th century had been found at Ilkley. These multi-handled vessels were peculiar to the North of England there having been four and five handed pitchers found. Those found in the South had only two handles.

It was unusual to find complete articles of pottery. The best places for these were in wells and good specimens only slightly chipped had been found in the main drain at Kirkstall Abbey.

Mr. W. Brian Dale expressed a vote of thanks to the speaker. Dr. D. Owen will be the speaker at the Society's next meeting on February 23rd, 1956.

Library and Museum

Present: Councillors Bowes (Chairman), Atkinson, Aveyard, Hampshire, Hill, Sarjeant, Scott and Thackrah.

The Surveyor recommended that the offer of the Otley Golf Club to give the door of the 17th century building in the club grounds should be accepted. It was resolved that the Clerk be authorised to make the necessary arrangements with the Otley Golf Club.

The Clerk submitted a letter from the Secretary, Museums Association inviting the Council to appoint delegates to attend the Annual Conference to be held at Amsterdam on 27 to 30 June, 1956. The Clerk reported thereon and in relation to the observations of the Hon. Curator (Miss E. M. Fletcher), in respect of attendance at this Conference. It was resolved that subject to the Council incurring a maximum expenditure of £15 in connection with this Conference, the Hon. Curator, Miss E. M. Fletcher, be appointed as this Council's delegate to attend the Annual Conference of the Museums Association, at Amsterdam, from the 27 to 30 June, 1956.

The Clerk reported that an Architect member of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings had inspected the Old Manor House on 9 February, 1956, and that a report thereon would be received in due course.

The Clerk submitted a register which the Hon. Curator was maintaining and which contained a record of various articles, etc., contributed for exhibition in the Museum.

It was reported that due to the increase in the membership of the Olicana Museum Society the meetings of the Society are now held in the Committee Room. The Finance Committee were recommended to grant the use of the Committee room, free of charge, for the monthly meetings of the Olicana Museum Society.

Moor and Parks

Present: Councillors Hardy (Chairman), Aveyard, Bowes, Cole, Hampshire, Hawkins and Hill.

The Clerk reported that Mr. W. Skipsay, of 38, Friarhall Road, Bradford, on 1 February, 1956, had found that the descriptive tablet of the Swastika Stone had been removed from its enclosure on the Moor. Mr. Skipsay handed this tablet in to the office. The Surveyor reported that this plaque had now been replaced and it was resolved that the best thanks of this Committee be accorded to Mr. Skipsay for his action in this matter.

OLICANA MUSEUM SOCIETY "KIRKSTALL ABBEY"

Dr. David Owen, F.G.S., Director of Leeds City Museums, spoke on "The History of Kirkstall Abbey" at a meeting of the Olicana Museum Society held in the Council Chamber of the Town Hall on Thursday of last week. The talk was illustrated by lantern slides.

Dr. Owen first described the building of the Abbey by the Cistercian Monks in the middle of the 12th century. The Cistercians, an enclosed Order, were not allowed to speak to one another except in certain circumstances. They were hard-working ascetic men who built up, over the years, considerable wealth. Their followers in the 15th century enjoyed the fruits their predecessors had gathered, and lived in comfort. About three hundred would live in the Abbey.

Dr. Owen illustrated the recent excavations at Kirkstall and explained the method of digging. In one place three pavements had been found, one on top of the other. The two lower ones were cobbled, and this explained why the others were laid, as over a period of 100 years the cobbles would sink in places and make a new surface necessary. One of the most exciting discoveries was a 13th century Mediaeval Bath which was a great rarity. It had been restored and was now on view to visitors. It was the only one of its kind in Western Europe to be seen.

TILED FLOOR

A large tiled floor had been found but as many of the tiles were either broken or missing, the remainder had been taken up and re-laid in one section to the original pattern and could now be seen in the floor's original site.

They were of many different patterns and shapes and their variety was effectively shown on the screen. A coin was no evidence of the age of anything with which it had been buried, for it could still be current after 100 years of use.

The Kirkstall excavations had been carried out during the past six years. Members of the Society were invited to visit this year's "dig" which would be held from 2 July to 28 July. Sir Mortimer Wheeler had visited the works on previous occasions and commented favourably on the method of excavation. GAZETTE, 15-2-56

OLICANA MUSEUM SOCIETY

Thursday, February 2nd
at 7.30 p.m. in the
Committee Room, Town Hall
A LANTERN TALK
by Dr. D. E. Owen, F.G.S., of Leeds
on
"The Story of Kirkstall Abbey."

General Purposes

Present: Councillors Hill (Chairman), Atkinson, Armistead, Aveyard, Binns, Bowes, Clough, Hampshire, Hardy, Hawkins, Jarvis, Scott and Wolfe.

The Clerk submitted a suggested design for the Arms of the Council, which had been prepared by the Chester Herald of Arms, The College of Arms, London. The Clerk also submitted a number of suggestions for a motto for incorporation in the Arms and it was resolved that the Clerk be authorised to indicate to the College the views of this Committee for amendment of the suggested design, together with the motto now selected for any observations the College may wish to make thereon. (1-2-56)

DAY, MARCH 16th, 1956

OLICANA MUSEUM SOCIETY

CURATOR'S ROME VISIT

At a meeting of the Olicana Museum Society, held in the Committee Room of the Town Hall on Thursday, Miss E. M. Fletcher, Curator of the Olicana Museum and President of the Society, spoke about her recent visit to Rome.

Miss Fletcher said that although she had been to Rome officially as a delegate to the 12th International Congress of Local Authorities, she had at the same time realised a life ambition, as she had always longed to visit Rome.

During the visit she had stayed at the British School, designed by Lutyens, who also designed "Heathcote" at Ilkley. Her greatest impression was of the vivid colours—the buildings were all bright and clean, unlike those in Britain.

COLISEUM

The Coliseum was more wonderful than she had imagined, and seen in the setting sun was a vivid red colour. Built from A.D. 72-80, it was the largest of its kind in the world, and was used for gladiatorial combats, and displays of wholesale slaughter in which Christian women and children were suspended naked in nets and gored to death by bulls. As Christianity spread so the Coliseum decayed, and many of the stones were used in the middle ages for building the splendid palaces of the Nobles.

Miss Fletcher expressed her surprise at finding so much of the early Christian background in Rome. She was pleased to note that it was not commercialised, like Jerusalem.

Commenting on architectural design, Miss Fletcher pointed out that the typically classical designs of our Georgian houses, and of many public buildings in America, owed their origin to the Romans which was proof of their timeless beauty and strength of line.

VATICAN CITY

During her stay, Miss Fletcher had visited Vatican City and was received in audience by the Pope who addressed her and other members of the Congress in French. She had visited many churches in Rome, but observed that as there were 400 in all, her visit was not long enough to allow her to see more than a fraction of that number. Modern Rome, she said, was built from the old, and Mussolini had done a great deal to improve the city by causing marsh land to be drained and by building blocks of flats, and the Congress Hall. Miss Fletcher stated that much work was being done on bombed sites to excavate early remains—even in the middle of busy streets where trams had to run over makeshift bridges.

A vote of thanks to the speaker was expressed by Mr. W. Brian Dale. At the next meeting, Mr. Eric Cowing will speak on "Ilkley at the Coming of the Romans."

Library and Museum

Present: Councillors Bowes (Chairman), Atkinson, Elliott, Hampshire, Hill, Scott and Thackrah.

The Secretary, The Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, enclosed a report by an architect member of the Society upon an inspection which he had made of the Old Manor House and setting out his suggestions in relation to the works necessary for the conversion and adaptation of the Old Manor House, for use as a Museum and/or Art Gallery. The Sub-Committee considered this matter carefully and it was resolved that the Surveyor be requested to consider this report and, in due course, report thereon with his recommendations and an estimate of the cost of making the necessary alterations to this building. (1-5-56)

DESCRIPTION OF ROME VISIT

BY ILKLEY CURATOR

A description of a three month visit to Rome was given to members of the Ilkley Townswomen's Guild at their meeting in the Blue Bird Cafe on Wednesday by Miss E. Fletcher, President of the Ilkley Museum Society.

Miss Fletcher said she had been fortunate enough to spend three months there. She thought an ordinary visit of a week or so would have made it quite impossible to get a true idea of the amazing city.

For the first few days Miss Fletcher said she had disliked Rome intensely, but she soon found she was changing her mind. "There is something in the air and atmosphere," she said. "Its roots were so far down and it had never ceased to grow."

Miss Fletcher had arrived at sunrise in an electric storm which proved to be a wonderful sight. The size and colour of the ruins astonished her. The stones which she had imagined to be dark were actually a lovely golden colour, and in sunset the walls of the Coliseum were a fiery red. She had attended an evening concert in the Coliseum and the whole arena had been bathed in moonlight and the sky a deep blue. The walls looked as if they had been carved in ivory.

OLD ROME

Many signs of the beginning of Christianity were to be found in old Rome, and these had not been commercialised as they had in Jerusalem. In one church there was a canopy which had once been over Pontius Pilate's throne, and in another were two chains brought from Jerusalem, which once bound Peter.

St. Peter's had been a great disappointment, said Miss Fletcher. It was so vast that it seemed more of a big show place than a church and seemed to portray the glory of man rather than God.

Modern Rome was an amazing sight. There was a wonderful new station and great blocks of flats had been built.

The congress which Miss Fletcher had attended during her stay had been a wonderful experience. There had been a week of receptions, balls, dinners and luncheons. There had been people from 31 countries. During the congress a prize had been awarded for the best reconstructed city since the war and to the joy of all the British present it was given to Coventry.

A visit to the Opera House to see "La Boheme" had been another highlight, the gowns and jewels being a wonderful sight, as were the masses of beautiful carnations which decorated the theatre.

Miss Fletcher said the inhabitants of the city of Rome were always friendly and willing to help visitors to their city.

Mrs. Glover presided at the meeting and thanks to Miss Fletcher were expressed by Mrs. Cook. (1-2-56)

DOOR SOUGHT FOR MANOR HOUSE

The door of a 17th century building in the grounds of the Otley Golf Club may be used in connection with the restoration of the old Manor House in Castle Yard. Following a report from Miss E. M. Fletcher, Curator of the Ilkley Museum, the Ilkley Council has asked its Surveyor to inspect the door and if he considers it worth while the Clerk was authorised to approach the Golf Club with a view to the door being acquired.

Miss Fletcher had reported that she had approached the Golf Club Committee which had indicated agreement to the proposal subject to receiving an official application. GAZETTE, 15-2-1956



The old Grammar School building in Skipton Road which was erected between 1635 and 1637 and continued as a school until the buildings in Leeds Road were opened in 1872 is again in the market. One of the few remaining historic buildings in the district, it was last offered for sale in 1940, when it was purchased privately to assure the occupants, the Christian Brethren, of their tenancy.

OLD SCHOOL

It may be that by the time these notes are read the old Grammar School in Skipton Road which is again in the market will have been sold privately. The old building which is about 300 years old was purchased 16 years ago by Mr. J. C. Brown, of Hesketh Road, Leeds, in order to preserve the tenancy for the Christian Brethren who have held their meetings there since 1883. Mr. Brown told the "Gazette" yesterday that since the brethren had obtained larger premises there no longer existed the reason for which he had bought it and he had since given the building to his daughter who was offering it for sale. He understood that a sale was imminent. Sixteen years ago when Mr. Brown bought the old school there was a suggestion that the Old Boys Association of the Ilkley Grammar School should make themselves responsible for its preservation and another idea that Ilkley Council should make the building as a museum. From what can be gathered the building is likely to be put to a useful purpose. It is, of course, protected from alteration or demolition by a Government order. Mention of it is frequently found in the old records and various local controversies have raged around it.

OLD GRAMMAR SCHOOL FOR PLAYERS 29-6-56

The Vogue Players, a group of amateur drama enthusiasts who have survived for nine years under the handicap of having no headquarters at which to rehearse for their productions, received heartening news this week when they were told that Mr. L. Plunkett, West Point, Hawksworth, had purchased the old Grammar School, in Skipton Road, Ilkley.

Mr. Plunkett had promised that if he purchased the old school, which is one of the few historic buildings left in the town, the Vogue Players could rent it from him to use as their headquarters for rehearsals and general running of the group. Mr. Plunkett's son, Keith, is one of the members of the Vogue Players.

Considerable interest centred on the results in the West and South Wards, where the Ratepayers Association put forward candidates, and did remarkably well. Mr. J. C. Scott was given only 12 votes less than the retiring member, Mr. H. Illingworth.



Mr. Scott 27-4-56

PREHISTORY OF ROMBALDS MOOR 6-6-56

The excavation long ago, by someone unknown, of the prehistoric burial mound called the Great Skirful of Stones, near the Shooting Box on Rombalds Moor, was typical of the methods of archaeologists of the past, said Mr. Maurice Greaves to the Archaeology Group at the Cartwright Memorial Hall, Bradford, last Saturday.

Keener to add to their collections cinerary urns and other funeral relics, than to discover how such mounds were constructed, as is the modern method these people merely sank a shaft down in the centre of the mound, he said. In the case of the Great Skirful no records were kept of the work or of what was found.

Mr. Greaves was talking on "Some Prehistory of Rombalds Moor." After a survey of the geology of the area he told of the Mesolithic sites at High Crag, near the Swastika Stone, Wicking Crag, Thimble Stones and Green Crag Slack, where the pygmy flint finds date back 10,000 years and are the earliest local relics of mankind. He spoke about Neolithic flint sites at Bucking Hill, Morton Moor, Shepherds Hill and High

Crag, and described Bronze Age relics such as the numerous cup-and-ring boulders and the stone circles.

Most of the circles, he said, were probably the kerbs of burial areas. Bones, ashes and a flint spearhead were found in the centre of the Grubstones Circle when J. M. N. Colls, an Ilkley solicitor, dug there over a century ago. Of the two embanked circles, 84ft. and 72ft. in diameter at the eastern end of Grubstones Terrace, he said there was a divergence of opinion as to their age. While Mr. E. T. Cowling gives a Bronze Age date Professor C. F. C. Hawkins thinks them to be later.

There has been an average attendance of 78 at the Group's five winter meetings. The summer programme is to include a joint tour with the Olicana Museum Society of the numerous cup-and-ring boulders on the moor above Ilkley, and a visit to York, to see the excavations at St. Mary's Abbey and the rich collection of Roman relics in the Yorkshire Museum. Copies of the syllabus may be obtained free from the Director of the Cartwright Memorial Hall.

RATEPAYERS' ASSOCIATION

Criticisms of the Ilkley Council were made at a meeting in the Grove School on Monday evening when an organisation to be known as the "Ilkley Ratepayers Association" was formed. Members of the Council attended the meeting and replied to some of the comments. The meeting had Mr. J. C. Scott as its Chairman.

CONFERENCES

"I think the most fatuous thing the Council has ever done, as regards conferences, was with regard to Miss Fletcher, the curator of the Museum. You will know what a good job of work she has done there. She went at her own expense to the International Museums Conference in Rome and in order that Ilkley could be officially represented she asked the Council to pay an affiliation fee of four guineas which was turned down on the grounds of expense."

COUNCILLOR REPLIES

In reply to Mr. Scott, Councillor J. Hardy announced that he had listened with joy to him.

Speaking on the matter of the affiliation fee which Miss Fletcher asked the Council to pay Mr. Hardy said that the decision was made by a majority vote.

Ilkley Urban District Council Election

SATURDAY, MAY 12th, 1956

To the Electors of the West Ward.

The Council have voted for three representatives to attend the U.D.C. Conference and two the Sanitary Inspectors' Conference, both at pleasant South Coast resorts, involving, with travel, five days in each case.

PARSIMONY. In astonishing contrast, they refused to pay an affiliation fee of four guineas, so that Ilkley might be officially represented at an international Museums Conference in Rome last year, despite the fact that Miss Fletcher, the honorary curator of our Museum, for which she has done so much, was paying the whole of her personal expenses. This is economy run riot.

Yours etc.,

J. C. SCOTT.

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(See also page 11)

STONE BALL FOUND AT WOODHEAD

MAY BE SLING STONE

Two interesting archaeological discoveries in Wharfedale have been reported to the Cartwright Memorial Hall, Bradford.

One is a finely-shaped fragment of a Celtic bronze ornament seven-eighths of an inch long, which Mr. Geoffrey Cowton of Woodcot Avenue, Baildon, picked up when he was investigating an Upper Wharfedale limestone cavern in March.

The other is a ball of fine-grained sandstone, 1.8 inches in diameter which Peter Davies (16), of 21, Woodbine Terrace, Idle, found projecting from the soil about 6ft. down the side of the Coldstone Beck ravine at Burley Woodhead. It is too perfect a sphere to be of natural origin, and references to similar stone balls found in other parts of Britain suggest that it was made in prehistoric times.

Sir John Evans, in "Ancient Stone Implements of Great Britain" (1872) tells of sandstone balls from one to four inches in

diameter found in burial mounds at Pickering, and one of 2 1/2 inches in diameter found with flint implements and a skeleton in a mound near Middleton, Derbyshire.

A smooth stone ball of 2 inches in diameter, found in the Iron Age fort of Uisneach, in Ireland is illustrated in Prof. V. Gordon Childe's report on the excavations at the Pictish village of Skara Brae in Orkney, 1931 in which he describes several types of carved stone balls found in various parts of Scotland.

The purpose of these stone balls is not definitely known. Mr. J. B. Fay, Director of Hull Museums, says of a number in the Mortimer Museum: "We assume them to be sling stones, or pounders if they show any signs of impact."

It is significant that the Burley Woodhead ball is pock-marked at one point, as if it had been used as a hammer. So far as is known, this is the first such ball to be recorded from this part of the West Riding.

ILKLEY AT COMING OF ROMANS

MUSEUM SOCIETY TALK

At a meeting of the Olicana Museum Society, held in the Committee Room of the Town Hall last Thursday, Mr. Eric T. Cowling, author of "Romald's Way," spoke on "Ilkley at the Coming of the Romans." Miss E. M. Fletcher presided, and there were 31 members and visitors present.

Mr. Cowling began by qualifying the title of his talk as he said there was no evidence to support the theory that Ilkley existed before the Romans came. He then went on to suggest reasons, in a concise and authoritative talk, for the probable situation of a settlement here in pre-Roman days. The importance of the Aire Gap was stressed—this is 300 feet lower than any pass from peak country to the border, and has been a natural passage for trade since the earliest times. Locally, Green Crag Slack was the metropolis of the area, and many Mesolithic remains have been found.

CRITICISM

Mr. Cowling said that the cup-and-ring stones in particular were worthy of preservation. He had been criticised, he said, by "some young archaeologists" who maintained that his drawings of these stones were not correct. He did not mind criticism, so long as his critics could do better work. Cup-and-ring stones had degenerated from the original stone circles such as the "Twelve Apostles" at Lanshaw Lad, which were used as meeting places for worship. Another important feature of Ilkley was the ford over the river, as it was one of two in the whole valley, the other being at Otley. This would be the site of Ilkley's first permanent settlement, as innkeepers would set up business to cater for travellers.

Gradually with the coming of the Anglians (Saxons) the valley bottom would become ploughed and cultivated for the first time. Some corn millstones and querns from the Museum were exhibited at the meeting, and the speaker suggested that these were evidence of Romano-British settlements, but more information was needed on this subject. The people of this period would have to be self-supporting, and doubtless the modern mixed farmer was doing roughly the same job as his ancestors 2,000 years ago. Sheep would be here then, as they were to-day, and would have to be protected against the wolves (hence Woolfa Bank—Wolf Bank). Bees would be kept, and fish from the river would supplement the meat.

A vote of thanks to Mr. Cowling was expressed by Mr. G. Teasdill.

ROMAN ROAD

The Olicana Museum may share with the Leeds Museum any worthwhile finds resulting from a search for the Roman Road at Adel which is being carried out by students at the Swarthmore Educational Centre at Leeds. The students are to attempt to trace the full line of the road from Adel to Ilkley and this week found parts of the road, previously undefined, to the east of Golden Acre Park. There are to be test diggings to confirm this latest discovery. The search will continue to next year with excavations carried out at suitable places and times, and will be carried out under the guidance of a fully qualified archaeologist. This is the road from Ribchester which crossed at Ilkley the road from Manchester to Aldborough and on a line through Ben Rhydding carried on to Adel and Tadcaster and York.

Fifty Years Ago

It was reported that a cup-and-ring marked rock, similar to those on Ilkley Moor, was said to have been discovered on Snowdon Moor in the neighbourhood of Thimble. The markings on the rock were not of the ladder pattern, which bore unmistakable evidence of human handiwork, but were simply caps with marks resembling partial circles.

Twenty-Five Years Ago

The ancient landmark, Cowper's Cross on Ilkley Moor was struck down by lightning 25 years ago. The cross is set a little to the west of the road from Ilkley to Keighley and about 300 yards from the gale which leads on to the Keighley side of the moors. The Cross stands at an altitude of 1,240 feet above sea level.

REPORT ON ILKLEY'S OLD MANOR HOUSE (11-5-56)

SOUND STRUCTURE SHOULD BE CAREFULLY PRESERVED

A report to the Ilkley Council on the Old Manor House, Ilkley, describes the building as an exceedingly interesting and historic one which calls for most careful reconditioning and preservation of every feature.

The report which has been compiled by Mr. John M. E. Macgregor and his partner, Mr. J. Kemp, architects, at the request of the Ilkley Council, for the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, London, follows the recent suggestion that the Manor House should be converted into a museum and/or art gallery.

The report describes the structures of the building as exceedingly sound and suggests that work to convert the building should consist very largely of careful removal of modern partitions.

To convert the Manor House in the way in which Mr. Macgregor suggests in this report would, he believed cost something between £6,500 and £7,000. Mr. Macgregor states "It is naturally impossible at this stage not knowing exactly to what use the building is to be put or the kind of exhibits, if any, to be shown, and therefore the style and quality of the finishing which would be required, to give a reliable estimate of the probable cost of conversion but with normal simple treatment I would consider that something between £6,500 and £7,000 would be entailed."

DEVELOPMENT EFFECTS

In his report Mr. Macgregor told how the Ilkley Town Clerk had explained to him that owing to the development of Ilkley as a spa and holiday resort and the resultant increase of traffic, major road improvements were urgent and inevitable and that old fashioned internal road widening would be disastrous.

Mr. Macgregor comments, "The Manor House is the oldest and by far the most interesting group of relatively historic buildings nestling round the old Parish Church on what was once the citadel of the Roman encampment."

"Ilkley clings to the lower parts of the northern slopes of Ilkley Moor, which descends steeply to the river at the bottom. The Church and its neighbours lie halfway between the river and the railway which run parallel to one another. The town naturally spreads east and west along the valley and the bulk of the present traffic in this direction passes along Church Street on the south side of the church, which cannot be expected to meet further requirements. It is, therefore, proposed that traffic coming from the east along Leeds Road and thence along Church Street should be diverted along Castle Road to the north and just below the artificial terrace of the Roman encampment upon which the buildings referred to stand.

"It had been proposed that the traffic should then turn south uphill toward Cunliffe Road and thence, as at present westward along Skipton Road.

INTEGRAL PRECINCTS

Mr. Macgregor states that these proposals were obviously excellent and would have the effect of producing an integral precinct neighbourhood round the Church which with careful treatment could be most charming, with unobstructed views over the newly widened road beneath to the river valley with its boating and recreation fields.

"It would if possible be most desirable to carry the traffic a little further west to Lister Street, say, or even to Stourton Road. It might well be preferable as it would ensure the preservation of two fine Georgian type houses on the west side of the Manor House block.

Mr. Macgregor referred to a report of the Manor House compiled by Mr. Sidney Kitson, of Leeds, in January 1922, and said he considered the report's description was fairly correct. He was, however, inclined to think that the original structure of walls, screen passage doors and one or two other features were fairly early 14th century and that the square headed windows and the hall floor were inserted at the beginning of the 15th century. The arched transoms marked the Elizabethan work. The carpenter's shop addition was 18th century.

"The suggestion that the building should be used as a folk or craft museum is admirable and for this the building could be most readily adapted as, although all the rooms would have a comfortable domestic atmosphere, some of them would be capable of housing some quite sizeable exhibits.

Mr. Macgregor said he did not agree with Mr. Kitson that the floor over the hall — which he considered of an earlier period than Mr. Kitson — should be removed. Its beams and joists had stop-chamfers in very good condition. Furthermore, there would be the upper range of contemporary windows to contend with.

PLANNING

With reference to planning, Mr. Macgregor recommended that two new solid simple oak ledged and braced doors on hook hinges on the original pattern but not consciously "period" should be set at either end of the screens passage. It was essential that they should close tightly and could well have "Hermaseal" strips to ensure that.

The report continued "The stonework beneath the external arch beyond the north door should undoubtedly be removed, if not, the inserted masonry above it. The stone screen should be left but the recess in the centre of it opened up for access to the original hall.

"This should be cleared of the relatively modern partitions and the fireplace in the south east corner, and the two modern external doors should be built up. A new oak staircase should be formed in the north east corner rising up through the old opening. The tall vertical mullioned staircase window fragments of which are discernible in the north elevation, should be reinstated. The partitions of the upper hall should be removed and the floor made good.

"In the solar wing the staircase should be removed and floored over and the blocked doors to the central halls on both floors opened. The fireplaces and blocked windows in the east wall should be revealed and made good.

"The modern door on the south front of this wing should be built up but that in the north east might be retained as emergency exit.

FIRST SUMMER EXCURSION MUSEUM SOCIETY

The first of four summer excursions arranged by the Olicana Museum Society took place on Thursday of last week when a party of 31 members and friends were conducted round Kirkstall Abbey and Museum by courtesy of the Director of Leeds City Museums. The party leader was Mr. G. Teasdill who, after briefly outlining the origins of the Monastic Orders, led the party through the Abbey and explained architectural interest. Members were interested to see the mediaeval bath and tiled floor mentioned by Doctor Owen in a recent talk to the Society. From the Abbey the party visited the museum. Particular interest was shown in the reconstructed "street" and in the recent alterations to the museum rooms, while some members looking round the dimly lit music room, were intrigued to learn of ghostly footsteps and musical boxes playing in the empty rooms at night. A vote of thanks was expressed to Mr. Teasdill by Mrs. A. Barker. The secretary, Mr. Glover, said he was pleased to have seen several members of All Saints' Fellowship who had joined with the Society. The party left the Museum at 9.30 p.m. The next excursion will be on 21 June when members will follow the old Roman road from Addingham to Skipton. 11-5-56

ARCHAEOLOGY TOUR OF ILKLEY MOOR

Saturday's poor weather did not cause a cancellation of the tour of the Bronze Age cup-and-ring boulders on the moor above Ilkley, by the Archaeology Group associated with the Cartwright Memorial Hall, Bradford, and the Bradford Grammar School Archaeological Society, one of whom, Michael J. Walker, was the leader. Michael lives at Ben Rhydding, and during the past two years has made a particular study of these carved rocks.

After tea at White Wells the party of 35 climbed to the Hangingstone on the escarpment west of the Cow and Call Rocks, where they saw the fantastic series of grooves and cups on the flat surface of this great boulder.

Other carvings on boulders above Gill Head Reservoir were examined, then remains of Celtic field walls, now in a ruinous state, followed by the boldly-marked Idol Rock. By this time the swirling mist had reduced visibility to a few yards, but in spite of this and the wet weather the party went on to see all that had been planned.

Finally, on coming down the Goldstone Beck ravine to Burley Woodhead they found that there was no mist in the valley, and on looking back realised they had literally been up in the clouds.

"In the west wing, I would suggest removing the staircase in the south rooms and flooring over, but retaining or replacing, with something on similar lines, that in the north rooms. The lowest of these rooms could then be used as reception office, etc., with alternative staircase to the floor above. The blocked openings from the two rooms in this wing to the upper hall could then be opened allowing of complete circulation.

USE OF FLOORS

"Thus, except for the reception office the whole floor area of both ground and first floors would be available for display, reading, discussion, or other communal use. "The retained staircase in the west wing could be left to lead up to a warden's flat consisting of a good sitting room, bedroom, and bathroom, and kitchenette in the attic.

"I have not indicated any sanitary accommodation for visitors but should it be required I would suggest forming it in the 18th century addition at the south west corner rather than sacrificing room inside the building or erecting a new building.

He suggested that pointing should be of lime and coarse sand kept well back from the face. Old plaster and lime washed stone should be preserved wherever possible, he advised.

"What will make or mar the whole project is the way it is carried out, the materials used, and the way in which the new is subordinated to the old," stated Mr. Macgregor.

1956

SWASTIKA STONE

The Ministry of Works, London, have informed the Ilkley Council that it is unable to recommend the use of stone preservatives on the swastika stone and that in their opinion the only suitable method of protection would be to provide some form of shelter round the stone.

The matter has been deferred for further consideration by the Council and the Surveyor requested to submit a report to the next meeting of the Moor and Parks Committee. (3-8-1956)

THIRD SUMMER EXCURSION OF MUSEUM SOCIETY

Members of the Olicana Museum Society visited Adel Parish Church and St. John's Church, Leeds, recently on the third of their four summer excursions. The twenty-four members travelled under the leadership of Mr. J. C. Scott by private coach.

After inspecting some old stone coffins in the churchyard at Adel, the party gathered round the fine Norman doorway as Mr. Scott pointed out details of the carving and explained the history of the church.

The Norman atmosphere was more evident inside the church but not all the work was original. Mr. Scott said that Adel church was fortunate as it had not suffered architecturally at the hands of Victorian "Improvers" but had been carefully restored in the Norman manner so that today it was possible to see what a village church of those times was like. In the middle ages the population had dwindled and the church neglected but as Adel was now such a large parish with ever-growing congregation it was a pleasure to note that the church was regularly full on Sundays. There had been a proposal to extend the building.

Mr. Scott pointed out that whilst this might be regretted by the purists the great majority of churches up and down the country had been added to as the need arose and over a period of many centuries and although it might be thought that modern church architecture was plain and ugly our great-grandchildren would no doubt consider it very interesting and worth preserving.

From the outside of the St. John's church in Leeds City centre there was a black undistinguished appearance. The interior, however, was found to be rich in carved woodwork of Charles I period. Mr. Scott gave a short outline of the foundation and history of this church. The building follows an unusual pattern, consisting of two parallel naves divided by arches down the centre of the church.

The northern one is used as the nave in practice. The fine Jacobean screen and pews were examined with interest as were the original silver chalice and pewter tankard which were brought out of the safe for inspection. The tankard is depicted in the corner of one of the east windows being offered to King Charles I whilst he was imprisoned in a nearby house.

It was supposedly full of ale, but under the froth the King found gold sovereigns with which he bribed his jailers and escaped.

The party also examined the old parish records and one member discovered a reference to one of her ancestors.

Mr. Scott was thanked by Mr. G. Teasdale on behalf of the Society. Acknowledgements are due to the Rector of Adel and to Archdeacon Ellison. 29.7.1956

EXAMINING THE SWASTIKA STONE



Ilkley Council has asked the Ministry of Works for advice on preserving the swastika marking on a stone on Ilkley Moor. Two visitors from West Hartlepool are here seen examining the stone this week. 22.6.56.

Ilkley Gazette

ILKLEY—5, Walks Road. Telephone ILKley 428
OTLEY—Victoria Works

FRIDAY, JUNE 15th 1956.

REFLECTIONS

ROMAN BULL

The design for the coat of arms which has just been approved by Ilkley Council includes something ostensibly representative of outstanding features of the Urban District. The shield itself is surmounted by a bull apparently emerging from a crown which is underlined by something not immediately recognisable. The bull has nothing to do with a particular agricultural establishment at Burley-in-Wharfedale but is a reference to Agricola, the Roman, whose conquest of this country in A.D. 78 included the subjection of the important Brigantian station in this area. Agricola is believed to have been known as "the Bull." The crown is officially described as a "crown palisado" and this is intended to convey that the Romans had a fort there, but historians maintain that these forts were surrounded by walls and not by a palisade. The portion below the crown palisado is meant to indicate rocky moorland. Across the top of the shield itself is a black lion with red claws. This is Menston's contribution. It is from the coat of arms of the Fairfax family, which occupied Denton Hall, but had in Col. Charles Fairfax, a member of the family at the old hall at Menston. Burley is represented by the W. E. Forster memorial cross, at either side of the shaft is a circle with three blue wavy lines. These denote springs. The District's motto is "Per Salubritatem Opes," which may be freely translated as "Wealth through Health." The cost of it all to the ratepayers is £157 10s.

(See also pages 12 & 15)

FLORAL ARMS

27-7-1956

The Coat of Arms for Ilkley which has now been officially approved and accepted is being set out as a floral design in one of the gardens on the Grove. It presents certain problems with its various intricacies but the Parks' Department appears to be overcoming these very well and the ratepayers will be able to gain some idea of their future coat of arms, which was discussed in this column some weeks ago, from this. Those who read the description may be reminded and those who did not may be informed that the cross is not one of those in the churchyard but a representation of the W. E. Forster memorial cross which stands immediately in front of the Lecture Hall at Burley. A further reminder or item of information is that the bull which surmounts the design is intended to show the connection with Agricola, the Roman who conquered Britain, and thereby had some influence on the lengthy establishment of a Roman station at Ilkley.

ALONG THE OLD ROMAN ROAD MUSEUM MEMBERS

The second of four Summer Excursions arranged by the Olicana Museum Society took place last Thursday, when a party of 18 members and friends walked from Addingham to Skipton along the old Roman road. Arriving in Addingham the party proceeded up the road, making a short detour to examine the site of the Iron Age encampment, a short distance to the left. The presumed sites of the huts and walls were pointed out by Michael Walker, who also explained the methods of building and siting Roman roads.

He pointed out that it was a fallacy to believe that all Roman roads were perfectly straight, from beginning to end, and this was evident as the walk progressed when the road could be seen to bend perceptibly.

Mr. P. D. Lamming was among the visitors accompanying the party, and he remarked on some of the interesting old rock formations by the side of the road—remains of a vast bulge in the earth's crust which the Wharfe valley once was.

The Draughton-Kildwick road was crossed about half-way and an old milestone was examined with interest. Skipton was reached and the Ilkley members returned on the bus after an enjoyable and instructive evening. 29.6.56.



O.M.S. RAMBLE. 4TH AUGUST 1956.

Photographed by Mr. Dakroyd—
(Mr. Hanning's assistant)

LEFT TO RIGHT: Mr. D. QUAY, Miss Patsy HAWKESWORTH, Mr. Michael WALKER, Mr. CHRISTOPHER FRACE, Mrs. G. HAWKESWORTH, Miss M. ROSEMARY PAYNE, Miss VERONICA LENOVEL, Mr. H. DODGSON, Miss W. SUEAN MARGARESON, Mr. ANDREW LAMMING, Mr. THOMAS HEDDEN.

RAMBLE ACROSS MOOR BY MUSEUM SOCIETY

The last of four summer excursions arranged by the Olicana Museum Society took place on Thursday of last week, when a party of twelve members and friends followed a route over Ilkley Moor, suggested by Mr. H. W. Rhodes, who for many years has led similar moor rambles, until quite recently. Miss E. M. Fletcher, Curator of the Olicana Museum and President of the Society, saw the party off from the Public Library.

After walking up Cowpasture Road to Highfield, members visited the Pancake Rock, then continued south-west to Barthwork. Then one of the many cup-and-ring stones, known as the Mystery Stone, was seen on the way to the Pillar Rock. The peculiar grooves in the rock, caused naturally and not man-made, were examined with interest.

Continuing south-west, Lams Shaw Delves were reached, and the party walked along the length of them. These unusual mounds, which look so artificial in the flatter landscape, and which at first could be taken for ancient burial mounds, are in fact the result of glacial action, being a moraine. The Ashlar Stone Chair was the next point of interest, then the party turned to the right along the boundary wall, from where the highest point on the Moor could be seen. After inspecting the Thimble Stones and one of the several boundary stones marked by the old "Ilkley Local Board," members then continued to Cowper's Cross, and so down Wells Road and back into Ilkley—from start to finish a distance of six and a half miles. Fortunately, the evening kept fine, with very little wind, and the walk was enjoyed by all who took part. The next meeting of the Society will be the annual general meeting, on Thursday 4 October. There will be no outing in September.

SWASTIKA

Though the plaque at the Swastika Stone has been reconditioned, painted and refixed, Ilkley Council has accepted an offer contained in a letter from the Hon. Secretary of the Olicana Museum Society that Mr. Eric Cowling would be willing to assist in wording a new notice in the light of modern knowledge of the Swastika Stone. The Moor and Parks Committee has been concerned about the preservation of the stone which is showing signs of weathering, and the Surveyor has expressed the view that the only solution is the construction of a complete shelter to cover it. Mr. Cowling is also to be asked if he can make any suggestions in this respect. At Wednesday night's Council meeting Mr. Eric Wolfe asked if there was any urgency about the matter, pointing out that the stone was something which must be preserved for Ilkley, but Mr. W. Hill, Chairman of the Moor and Parks Committee, said there was no urgency for a month or so. His Committee was taking the best advice on the preservation of the stone which was an ancient monument. 5-18-56

STONE STEPS 2-11-56

The block of stone steps which stand prominently on the island at the junction of Wells Road and Queen's Road has once again brought a query to this office as to its origin. These steps originally stood in Wells Road lower down than their present position and were to assist people to mount the donkeys which carried visitors to White Wells. For some years they lay neglected and overgrown with grass in the field which was to be the site of the Christian Science Church. When that Church was about to be built it was suggested by the "Gazette" that it would be unfortunate if the steps were lost. The Trustees acted promptly and offered them to the Council who in turn caused them to be erected on the present site. It would add to their interest if the Council were to erect nearby a small notice indicating their original purpose.

OLICANA MUSEUM SOCIETY
THURS., NOVEMBER 8th. 7.30 p.m.
in the COMMITTEE ROOM,
TOWN HALL.
THREE SHORT TALKS.
Mr. Anthony Child — "Evolution"
Mr. John Cox — "Norfolk Broads"
Mr. M. Walker — "Cup & Ring Stones"
Visitors Welcome.

2-11-1956

12-10-1956
**MUSEUM SOCIETY
 MEMBERSHIP**

PAST YEAR INCREASE

The total membership of the Olicana Museum Society of sixty-five is an increase of twenty-one over the membership of last year. This was stated at the annual meeting of the society on Thursday of last week by the secretary-treasurer, Mr. A. D. Glover.

During the past year eight members had, for various reasons resigned, and twenty-nine members had been elected. Attendances at the winter meetings had varied from twelve to thirty-one, the average attendance being twenty-three. There was a marked contrast between the present figures and those of the early days of the Society.

Mr. Glover reported a healthy increase in the Society's funds. There had been a balance of £1 9s. 2d. in the previous year when Mr. Glover had taken over the work of Treasurer from Mr. G. Teasdill and this had now risen to £6 6s. 6d. The year's expenditure had been £9 18s. 5d. and income had been £16 4s. 11d., £8 2s. of this had been received in annual subscriptions.

Certain minor alterations had been made to the rules and these were explained by Mr. Glover. The annual subscription was fixed at 2s. 6d. but in the amended rules this would be only the minimum amount. The amendments were adopted.

APPOINTMENT

It was announced by Miss E. M. Fletcher, President that a former Secretary of the Society Mr. G. Teasdill, would shortly take up an appointment at the Tolson Memorial Museum, Huddersfield. Appreciation of his services was expressed.

Officers and committee for the coming year were elected as follows.—President, Miss E. M. Fletcher; Vice-Presidents, Mr. G. Teasdill and Mr. W. Brian Dale; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. A. David Glover. All the officers and Mr. N. H. Parker, Mr. J. P. Threlfall, Mr. F. E. Barker and Mr. R. M. Bentley were elected to the committee.

Commenting on Mr. Dale's election as a Vice-President, Mr. Teasdill said it was a well-deserved honour as Mr. Dale had been a founder-member of the Society and had been an active committee member and an enthusiastic supporter for the past six years.

The meeting ended with a lantern talk on "The Old Towns of Belgium," given by Mr. J. C. Scott. Many of the photographs had been taken by Mr. Scott. Of particular interest were slides showing the complete restoration of Ypres to its old-world charm after the devastation of the 1914-18 war. Mr. Scott was thanked by Mr. Dale.

Two new members were elected during the meeting.

SWASTIKA STONE

Provision is to be made in the annual estimates for 1957-58 of the Ilkley Council for the preservation of the Swastika Stone.

This move was agreed to following a letter received by the Council from Mr. E. T. Cowling, indicating that he would be pleased to prepare a new notice on the subject of the Stone and submitting his proposals for the preservation of the stone.

Mr. Cowling also indicated in his letter that some action should be taken for the preservation of the cup and ring stones near St. Margaret's Church, Ilkley.

Mr. Cowling is to be thanked by the Council for his interest shown in the matter. 9-11-56

Moor and Parks

Present: Councillors Hill (Chairman), Bell, Bowes, Clarke, Clough, Hardy, Hawkins, Moss and Sarjeant.

The Committee gave consideration to a report that "Crawleys Fountain" (near Old Reservoir) was not working and that the stone bridge near the fountain was in a bad state of repair. The Surveyor was requested to investigate this matter and to report there on at the next meeting of this Committee.



MISS FLETCHER, 6-9-1956.

Photographed by A.D. Glover.

**YOUNGER MEMBERS OF
 MUSEUM SOCIETY**

Give Three Talks

23-11-56

Three of the younger members of the Olicana Museum Society spoke at the November meeting, held in the Committee Room of the Town Hall.

Introducing the speakers, Mr. W. Brian Dale (who took the Chair in the absence of the President, Miss E. M. Fletcher) said it had been felt by the Committee that an opportunity should be given to some of the young members to deliver short talks to the Society on subjects which interested them. All three speakers were pupils of Bradford Grammar School.

"Evolution" was the subject of the first talk, which was given by Mr. Anthony Child, of Guiseley. He said that Darwin's "Origin of Species" published in 1859, and "Descent of Man" (1871) quashed the hitherto firmly held belief in the special creation of man by God. These books, although strongly denounced from every pulpit at the time, were the basis for all subsequent theories and there was still no reason to doubt Darwin's views. Tracing the development of life as deduced from fossils, Mr. Child said it had been calculated that the Earth was three thousand million years old. The first sign of life would appear some six hundred million years ago, and would consist of simple plant life. This had been found lower than any other kind of life in digging and drill operations through the Earth's crust, so it was logical to assume that these plants were the oldest kind of life—the deeper one dug, the older things would be uncovered. Nearer the surface more elaborate types of vegetation could be found, and shells or bones of small mammals, until one reached the bones of the famous "prehistoric monsters," and finally man. These successive strata of remains, said Mr. Child, were a link in the evolution of man. "It is a link between those of no-one but man's direct ancestor."

photographs and a large map of the area.

Cup and Ring Markings

The last speaker was Mr. Michael J. Walker, of Ben Rhydding, who had chosen as his subject, "Cup and Ring Markings in Yorkshire." Mr. Walker is making a detailed study of these markings, and in the earlier part of his talk enthusiastically covered a wider field than the title would suggest. The Swastika Stone, he reminded the meeting, is the most famous of these cup-and-ring stones in the area, and in August last year he had assisted in making two replicas of it, under the supervision of Mr. S. Jackson, Mr. Greaves and Mr. Teasdill. These replicas are now in the Olicana Museum and the Cartwright Museum, Bradford. Mr. Walker said he had found in his research that there was a thin chain of cup-and-ring stones linking the Ukley-Fewston-Shipley-Skipton area, and showed a sketch map to illustrate this interesting point. He pointed out that the copy of the Swastika Stone which was placed in front of the original on the moor, was inaccurate in one or two details—a line was carved straight which should have been curved, and one of the dots was wrongly positioned. These discrepancies could be seen by anyone visiting the stone. Various theories had been put forward concerning this stone, but Mr. Walker said he thought it was a map. The centre dot would be the ford over the river, and other dots and loops, various landmarks round about. His theory on certain large hollows in some of these stones was that they were used to hold beehive querns—he had not actually tested one for size, but was confident one would fit quite well. A book of drawings of cup-and-ring markings compiled by the speaker in some detail, and collected from various parts of Yorkshire, was passed round for inspection.

Mr. Walker said nobody really knew what the markings were used for—the Cup and Ring markings were doodles, while away the time by or watchmen, had been since it was found that them were of similar different parts of Europe. view was that they were used with the Druids, and to this quoted from Caesar, astronomical significance not be ruled out. Mr. Walker had by no means finished his research into cup-and-ring markings, and hoped to find out more about them.

Words of thanks to the three speakers was moved by Mr. H. Teasdill. No new members were elected at the meeting, and the Hon. Secretary, Mr. D. Glover, announced that the Society now had members.

**SCOUTS' COIN
 DISCOVERY**

12-10-56

CURATOR'S COMMENT

The discovery of a French coin of the period of Louis XIII, 1610 to 1643, found in Scooka Cave near Arncliffe in Littordale, by members of the Ben Rhydding Senior Scout Troop and which set the problem of why it should be found there at all, has prompted an account of its designer and engraver from Miss E. M. Fletcher, the curator of the Olicana Museum. Miss Fletcher suggests that the background of the coin may point to a clue which would help to solve the mystery of why the coin, which was badly worn, was embedded in the clay of the stream running through the cave.

During this period Nicholas Briot was experimenting and perfecting, in France, machinery for striking coins, writes Miss Fletcher. The machinery was so successful, so smooth and disciplined, that after 1645 the manual method was obsolete. His machinery allowed flatter, rounder and neater coins to be produced than anything which the hammer made possible.

Not only was he a mechanical genius, but an exquisitely sensitive and skilful engraver. Influenced by Italian tradition he produced a coinage that was spacious, graceful, light and imaginative.

The first baroque features made themselves felt under Henri IV but under Louis XIII, in the first half of the seventeenth century, they sprang into full life.

In 1625 Nicholas Briot left France to reside in England. This was the year of Charles I's accession to the throne. Charles, who was a connoisseur and patron of the arts, recognised the man's genius and under his patronage and protection, Briot produced lovely portraits and equestrian figures which appeared on the coins and medals which he was engaged to execute in England.

This caused an astonishing change in our coinage, "not only in its improved technique but in the whole spirit of design. His silver coins breathe the full spirit of his excellence, his perfection in engraving and rhythmical balance of composition, and were perhaps finer than any others in the whole of Europe."

In the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, are exquisite pieces. One is a gold three-pound piece, coined out of college gold plate requisitioned when the Parliamentarian Forces were surrounding Oxford.

So, though this find is of a French coin, it has this significance for us, that its maker revolutionised our coinage, which followed his pattern and influence for the next 150 years.

The information Miss Fletcher puts forward is to be found in the book of Dr. C. H. V. Sutherland, "Art in Coinage."

MUSEUM.—Readers who have spent their holidays in the Channel Islands will have noticed the distinctive small change which circulates there. This was originally introduced because of the shortage of British pence and halfpence at the time, first in Guernsey in 1830, then Jersey in 1841. The practice of minting these coins for Jersey and Guernsey is still carried on, although the special need for them has long disappeared as British coins are also used. About two months ago coins of new design were issued for use in Guernsey, and the Olicana Museum has been presented with two of each type by the Guernsey State Supervisor. These are now on show in the museum together with a representative selection of Channel Island coins. The Guernsey coins circulate also in the Islands of Alderney, Sark, Herm and Jethou. They are not known as pence, but doubles, and one double equals half a farthing. Therefore the penny is the same value as eight doubles. The new issues are eight and four doubles, and a threepenny piece which is a completely new type for Guernsey and has not been issued before. It is interesting to note that this coin is called the threepence and not 24 doubles. The new coins are dated 1956. Other coins recently presented to the Museum are a complete set of the latest coins of the Irish Republic, which first issued its own types in 1928. Since then the designs have remained almost unaltered. Coins being presented to the Museum may be left at the Public Library counter and will be gratefully acknowledged. Coins may also be left for identification without charge.

SCOUTS AND GUIDES
 The Olicana Museum Society has been invited to hold a meeting at the Town Hall on Thursday, December 13th, at 7.30 p.m. The meeting will be held in the Committee Room of the Town Hall. The subject of the meeting will be "The Swastika Stone and Cup and Ring Markings." The speaker will be Mr. Michael J. Walker, of Ben Rhydding. The meeting will be held in the Committee Room of the Town Hall. The subject of the meeting will be "The Swastika Stone and Cup and Ring Markings." The speaker will be Mr. Michael J. Walker, of Ben Rhydding.

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MUSEUM CURATOR SPEAKS OF ROMAN ILKLEY FORT WOULD BE SURROUNDED BY INHABITED AREA

Ilkley in Roman days was the subject of an address given to the Olicana Museum Society by its Hon. Curator, Miss Elsie M. Fletcher, in the Committee Room of the Town Hall recently.

As a preface to her talk, Miss Fletcher said she was surprised how little was generally known about Roman Britain. She had recently conducted a party of school children round the Museum and to test their knowledge, asked them if they knew who conquered England. To her astonishment she found that both children and teacher thought it was Julius Caesar in 55 B.C. and that this information was still in their text books.

In fact, said Miss Fletcher, after Julius Caesar left, England settled down again, and although the Emperor Augustus had the idea of conquest in mind it was left to Claudius (41-54 A.D.) to put it into effect. The advance of the Roman Legions did not proceed without resistance however, and it was not until the year 70 that the Northern Counties, including Yorkshire, were under Roman Domination.

CIVIL WAR

The tribes in this area were ruled by Queen Cartimandua who by her friendly attitude to the Roman invaders led by Petilius Cerialis, alienated her husband and provoked civil war. Order was restored by Agricola during his conquest of the north, and the importance of Ilkley's position was realised. The old name for Ilkley, "Llecan" which meant, said Miss Fletcher, an overhanging rock, was altered by the Romans basically by adding an "O" and an "A" at either end to make "Olicana." The first fort was built of earth and turves heaped into a rampart, the north side of which could still be seen facing on to Castle Road. On this would be wooden buildings, later replaced by stone when conditions permitted. The whole fort would be surrounded by a boundary wall, none of which was now visible, but foundations of it had to be removed when New Brook Street was laid. The eastern wall would run roughly near the present Playhouse.

FORT LAYOUT

Miss Fletcher explained by means of a diagram the layout and position of the Ilkley fort. In the centre was a chapel where the Roman Emperor was worshipped. There would be barrack blocks, an armoury, the Commandant's house, store-rooms etc., and 500 people would live in the

fort—480 soldiers plus the Commandant and his servants. In the 2nd Century A.D. the Commandant's house was burnt down and rebuilt. Remains had been found, including a hypocaust. With the influx of troops, shops would spring up outside the walls of the fort, i.e. for clothes, shoes, livestock etc. Inside the fort was always kept enough corn to last the garrison for a year. In time, the Roman soldiers would marry local girls and settle down in their own houses and raise families. By the reign of Septimius Severus (193-211 A.D.) peace had set in, and the fort was no longer used for military purposes.

AREA SPREAD

Roman Ilkley would then have spread as far south as Albany Walk and the bottom of Sedbergh Park; as far east as Tivoli Place and Mornington Road; and as far west as Bridge Lane, Cudliffe Road and Parish Ghyll Road, as far as could be judged from Roman remains found in the locality. Miss Fletcher said it was important to remember that the Roman occupation was not a passing thing—it lasted over 300 years, and when the Legions withdrew to bolster up the collapsing Roman Empire, this country was plunged into the Dark Ages, from which it did not recover for another 300 years.

EASIER ROUTES

The Romans introduced their own culture and industry, and it was easier in those times to travel from Ilkley to York than it was 150 years ago when the original Roman roads were still in use after 1,500 years of wear and tear and neglect. In those days York was known as Eboracum, and was a more important centre than to-day. Constantine the Great was proclaimed Emperor there. Miss Fletcher described some of the Roman exhibits in the Museum, and mentioned a lady's toilet box at York—this contained a hand mirror of polished bronze, also rouge and lipstick. After the historical survey, Miss Fletcher briefly mentioned family life which was strict but good.

In a vote of thanks Mr. Peter Barker said Miss Fletcher had the rare gift of making history live, and he expressed appreciation for a most interesting talk. The next meeting will be on 3 January.

Library and Museum

Present: Councillors Elliott (Chairman), Atkinson, Clarke, Hampshire, Hill, Sarjeant, Scott and Thackrah.

The Organiser of the School Museum Service of the County Education Department, addressed a letter to the Hon. Curator, Miss E. M. Fletcher, suggesting that the Council might consider acquiring a film strip projector for use in connection with the Museum at an estimated cost of £25. It was resolved that this matter be further considered in connection with the annual estimates for 1957/58.

The Hon. Secretary, the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, suggesting that in connection with the works of conversion and adaptation of the Old Manor House, the Council should consider retaining the services of the architect nominated by the Society who had inspected the building and submitted a report thereon. It was resolved that the Clerk be authorised to communicate with the architects concerned to enquire whether they would be prepared to prepare the necessary scheme and if so, the probable cost thereof.

DOGWHIPPER AND BEADLE

William Brown was elected Dogwhipper and Sexton of the Ilkley Parish Church in this year 1833. Dogwhipper! What on earth is that and why link it with the occupation of Sexton?

Dogwhipper was the northern word for church-beadle and when you realise that in ancient days (long before 1833) the church beadle was required to whip the dogs out of the church and the church yard it is not hard to imagine where the word came from. In these ancient times there were many stray hounds and the church buildings offered warmth and shelter and attracted them.

William Brown combined the duties of the Sexton with those of the Beadle. As Sexton he was obliged to ring the church bell and dig the graves and broadly speaking as beadle he was required to keep order in the church.

He was told to dress decently on the Sabbath day and to be an example to the parishioners. Decency and order were to be preserved by him throughout the Divine services, in the churchyard and the adjoining street.

He began ringing for the services at 10 a.m. and 2.30 p.m. and had to lock the churchyard gates when there was no service in progress. At those times he did not ring for an evening service for there was no gas for lighting and in winter the church would have been too gloomy to hold services with only the flickering lights of candles.

GRAVE DIGGER

William was also the grave digger of the parish. He received 2s. for making a grave four feet in depth and 3s. for a five foot grave. Perhaps it would be mercenary to say that he was glad to dig a six foot grave but at any rate he would be certain not to despise his fee which was 4s. 6d.

Diplomacy seemed to play a large part in his job. He would need a statesman's tact and understanding to cope with wailing women and forgetful children at funerals. He was obliged to "preserve decency and order" at these functions.

Superstition was rife amongst the people of those times. There were tales of souls, having been buried on the North side of the church, finding difficulty in "resting." Many believed that this side of the church was reserved solely for the burial of heretics, "suicides" and those who had met with violent death. William had to persuade mourners to trust the bodies and souls of their deceased to this side of the church.

William was no inauspicious man of the parish. He tolled the bell for deaths and services.

A fifteen minutes toll informed the parish of a death. Six strokes followed by a pause denoted a child's death, and eight and a pause tolled a woman's death and ten and a pause tolled a man's death.

After a short pause William would ring out the deceased person's age. If a man of 65 had died William would ring three sets of twenty and a ring of five following a short pause.

William was not badly paid. He received £1 for his Dogwhipping duties, 18s. for sweeping out the church and 25s. for winding up the church clock.

Fifty Years Ago

Mr. Edward Middleton, the Square of Wakefield until shortly before his death, died fifty years ago at Bath. He was born in 1836 and was the youngest son of the late Mr. Peter Middleton, of Middleton Lodge, Ilkley, and Stockeld Park, Wetherby.

For some years he had a house in Parish Ghyll Road, Ilkley, and was undergoing treatment at Bath at the time of his death. Mr. Middleton left a widow and a married daughter.

MUSEUM SOCIETY (1957) MEETING

TALK ON "TILES"

At the January meeting of the Olicana Museum Society, held in the Council Chamber of Ilkley Town Hall on Thursday of last week, Mr. C. V. Bellamy, of Horsforth, spoke on "Tiles," and illustrated his talk by lantern slides. The meeting was presided over by the Curator, Miss Elsie M. Fletcher.

Mr. Bellamy explained that tiles have been found which date from very early times, the oldest being from Egypt (three to four thousand B.C.). These, and some which had been assigned to the Assyrians and the Persian Royal Palaces, were glazed. This was a method which died out about the time of Alexander the Great (330 B.C.). Tiles did not reappear in western Europe until the 9th Century, as the Romans did not use this method of decoration but made mosaic floors. Early tiles were made by simply slicing up the columns of the Roman buildings, but as the supply of columns ran out, local stone was used.

REPLACED BY CLAY

This was in turn replaced by clay, which afforded greater scope in shape and design but in the 13th Century tile manufacture underwent a further change with the increasing use of freestone. The design was cut out in relief, and the background then filled in with a dark contrasting resinous compound. This type of tile, although generally of good workmanship, was individually hand-made and slow in production. About the same time that printing was introduced, however, it was found that if a master die was made and the tiles were made of white clay from this die, the whole operation was speeded up considerably. These tiles could usually be distinguished from the earlier hand-made types as they were less deeply patterned and were rougher at the edges—an unavoidable result of mass-production in those days. In a later method of manufacture, the tile was turned out without any indentation of pattern, which was then added in a separate operation on top of the tile.

Slides were then shown of various shapes and sizes of tiles. Mr. Bellamy said that the earlier types of tiled floor followed the Roman method in that the tiles were themselves arranged in groups and patterns, with differently shaped and coloured ones for the effect. Later, the patterns were put on the tiles themselves.

KIRKSTALL ABBEY

Illustrating some of the tiles from Kirkstall Abbey, the speaker explained that sometimes a pattern was not complete on one tile, but would only be so if four, or sometimes sixteen, were grouped together. One of the floors which had been uncovered at Kirkstall was found to be of 13th Century tiles on a 15th Century base, with 15th Century coins beneath them. This was a clear indication that the tiles had been obtained second hand and relaid in their present site. In 1953, a floor was uncovered only 2in. under the ground, and a large number of tiles were still intact as laid. Mr. Bellamy said that during the excavations in 1955, the sun shone so continuously that tiles which had been put aside ready to sort into their various patterns had completely dried out and lost their colours, and he had had to throw a bucket of water over them to find what the colours were. He advised anyone who went to see the tiled floors at Kirkstall to go when it was raining, as the colours then could be seen to better advantage. A vote of thanks was expressed by Mr. W. Brian Dale. The projector was kindly lent by Mr. J. C. Scott, and operated by Mr. Peter Barker. Three new members were elected during the meeting.

SCHOOLBOYS' EXCAVATIONS (15-2-1937) ON ILLKLEY MOOR

1957

COINS THROUGH THE CENTURIES

MR. G. TEASDILL ADDRESSES MUSEUM SOCIETY

LEAD TO INTERESTING FINDS

A fifteen year old Ilkley boy Michael J. Walker, of Wheatley Avenue, Ilkley, has found cup and ring markings on the Hangingstone Rocks three hundred yards to the West of the Cow and Calf.

Mr. Graham Teasdill, of the Tolson Memorial Museum, Huddersfield, gave a talk on "Coins through the Centuries" to an appreciative audience at the February meeting of the Olicana Museum Society. Mr. Teasdill is a vice-president of the Society. Last November he was appointed secretary of the Yorkshire Numismatic Society, the largest association of coin-collectors outside London. The meeting was presided over by Miss E. M. Fletcher, F.R.S.A., Hon. Curator of the Olicana Museum.

only method of buying and selling, but this had obvious disadvantages—for instance, a man selling TV sets could not now go to a baker and exchange a set for its equivalent value in loaves of bread. Such difficulties would be experienced with other goods in the days before coins, thus bringing about some common tokens of exchange. Such tokens had of necessity to possess three qualities—durability, divisibility and value.

EARLIEST COINS

Therefore from the earliest times gold and silver had been used for coins. The very earliest were issued in Greece in 670 B.C. but these were little more than lumps of metal stamped with the authority of the State and the weight. Greek coins circulated all over Europe, including Britain. The Roman coins were influenced by the Greek ones, and during the Roman occupation of Britain from A.D. 43 to 410 they circulated here, as in all parts of the Roman Empire. Mr. Teasdill wondered if, in spite of all present-day advances, anything had been gained in the economic field as far as coins were concerned?



Michael, who is a pupil of the Bradford Boys' Grammar School and secretary of their Archaeological Society which was founded by him about two years ago, has submitted a report of his findings to the Ilkley Urban District Council.

In his report he says that traditionally the markings were carved by a gardener as a plan of a garden lay-out, but this is probably untrue. On examining the markings on the rock Michael became aware of sculpture going back under the turf and this coupled with the finding of several flints near the site made him eager to excavate.

Helped by friends, who along with Michael are members of the Ilkley Museum Society, and members of his school society and guided by Mr. S. Jackson of the Cartwright Memorial Museum of Bradford, Michael first drew a plan of the hill where the rocks are situated. Secondly, his party marked out the line of their trial trench, which was to have been 8ft. wide and was to have run back into the hill to see what lay beyond the edge of the turf.

They found the edge of the rock and came upon a new rock, and so decided to abandon their original trench and uncover the main rock and the new one.

DISCOVERIES

Two deep bowl-shaped hollows were found on the new rock and one on the main rock with traces of a fourth. There were several strange straight line carvings and three flints were found.

Michael believes the rocks to have been used in religious rituals of some kind and dates their markings in the Bronze Age. He puts forward the theory that the

hollows were used in conjunction with bee-hive querns which were used for grinding corn. Many querns of this type have been found in various parts of Britain, but there have never been any iron pivots found. These would have been used to hold the top part of the quern in place. Wooden ones would have worn away, and by experimenting, one of Michael's friends has found that iron ones eventually need "packing" to be of any use.

BRONZE AGE?

The querns which have been found in the past have all been dated in the Iron Age after being found on Iron Age sites, but Michael puts forward the theory that some of them which have been found ought to have been dated in the Bronze Age. The Bronze Age Querns would need no pivot, the hollow entirely supporting them.

The hollows in the rocks on the Moor found by Michael may well be of the Bronze Age, which would tie up with the dating of the flints and the carvings.

The querns were made of millstone grit and placed in the hollows. There are querns in the Ilkley Museum. The Bronze Age is dated roughly from about 1800 B.C. to about 600 or 400 B.C. according to the part of Britain being dealt with.

In his report Michael includes drawings of the querns and hollows. He also submitted a plan of the rocks detailed with the markings, hollows, changes in the rock level, the position of the flints and the original and present position of the turf.

On the smaller rock the name "Sid Holmes, Ilkley," appears. Michael thinks that the rocks had probably been uncovered some time within living memory but theorises that owing to increased smoke from mill chimneys during the first world war the growth of the turf was increased, causing the rocks to become partly covered.

During their excavations they were helped by the Council who gave them permission to use wheelbarrows belonging to them. They are, however, short of tools near to the site, for they intend opening up their excavations round about Easter. They are troubled by the fact that all their equipment has to be carried long distances and would appreciate offers of places near at hand where this might be lodged.

Their excavations were first started in April of last year and Michael's report was submitted to the Council in October of the same year.

Michael was born in Colchester in Essex and moved with his parents first to Heckmondwike and then to Gomersal and finally to Ilkley. He has a younger brother who as yet is too young to show any interest in Archaeology. The find is being reported to experts whose views will be reported to the Council.

OLD MANOR HOUSE (15-3-37) CONVERSION COST

The conversion of the old Manor House in Castle Yard into a Museum and Art Gallery would cost approximately £7,000, it has been reported to Ilkley Council by the architects nominated by the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings.

The Library and Museum Committee have recommended that in view of the fact that they had accepted Mr. Percy Dalton's offer to give this building to the Council for use as a Museum and Art Gallery and had also in principle agreed to its restoration and adaptation—

(a) the Finance Committee be recommended to approve of the inclusion of an approximate amount of £1,000 in the estimates for the coming financial year to enable the work of restoration and adaptation to be started and with the intention that a sum of approximately £1,000 be provided each year for a period of seven years for completion of the work.

(b) that the architects concerned be paid a fee of 20 guineas plus out of pocket expenses, for their report in this matter

(c) that the Clerk be authorised to consult the owner, Mr. P. Dalton, and the scheme be further considered by this Committee due course.

In the estimates for next year only a sum of £200 is set aside in connection with the Manor House and it is understood that the whole scheme is to be further considered before a decision made.

DIFFERENCES

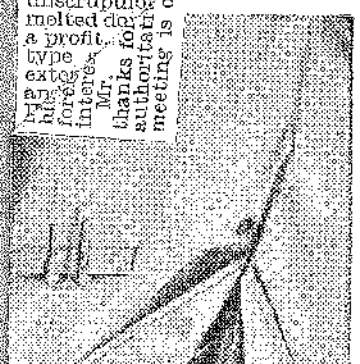
Abroad, different values of coins and exchange rates were encountered at every frontier, and even the British Commonwealth had no common currency. In Roman times however, the same coins were used throughout the Empire—the same in Rome as in England. The Roman word for 'pound'—Libra—was used in the same way as 'pound' is today, and could mean either money or weight. Thus there was the abbreviation 'lb.' for weight, and 'L' which later became 's' for money. Another unit was the Solidus, from which was obtained the letter 's' written against shillings and another was the Denarius, shortened to 'd' for the penny.

The reason that s, s. and d. were used today for pounds, shillings and pence, explained Mr. Teasdill, was because until the time of the Reformation in Henry VIII's reign, only Latin was written and no English, on official documents. For the same reason they still have Latin inscriptions on their coins, and Latin mottoes for nearly all coats of arms.

ROMANS GO

In A.D. 410 the Roman Legions withdrew from Britain. The speaker stressed the staggering blow this had on those living at that time, by asking his audience to imagine the effect now if the Queen, the House of Lords, all the M.P.'s and the armed forces suddenly left the country and they had to fend for themselves. Naturally the whole Roman monetary system in Britain collapsed, and with the advent of the Dark Ages a barter system began again, but after a short time French coins began to circulate here. Eventually Britain recovered, and at the time of the Conquest in 1066, King William found the coinage in a better state than that in his native Normandy, and so he copied it.

Early pennies were of silver, marked with a cross and were often broken into halves and quarters, for half-pennies and farthings (fourthlings=farthings). The first king to issue halfpennies and farthings regularly was Edward I. Pennies issued from 1180 to 1247 were known as 'Short Cross' coins from the small cross in the centre of the design. These were often clipped, unscrupulously melted down for a profit, and of a type entirely unexpected. Mr. Teasdill's thanks to the authorities for their meeting is on



Twenty-five Years Ago

A collection of lantern slides showing views of old Ilkley, which were principally the work of the late Mr. J. W. Benson, were presented to the Ilkley Museum by his daughter, 25 years ago. The slides were shown to a gathering at St. Margaret's Hall by Mr. J. C. Scott, Chairman of the Ilkley Library Committee, under the chairmanship of Mr. Wm. Dobson, chairman of the Ilkley Urban District Council.

The slides dealt with such spots as Hebers Ghyll and other spots of a more historic value. The New Bridge was shown in course of construction and the great flood of 1900 which devastated portions of Ilkley was also shown. There was a picture of the Ilkley Orpheus Glee Union of 1900 and a view of the Rose and Crown Hotel and of Church Street when the old Vicarage was still intact. There were slides of the frozen river and of the frozen waterfall in Hebers Ghyll. A set of slides dealing with old Wharfedale were also shown.

Fifty Years Ago

Mr. J. Edwards and Mr. J. Denby, two Ilkley men, were walking by the side of the river, near the Crum Wheel, 50 years ago, when they noticed an object floating down the stream which they found to be a bird that had been choked in an attempt to swallow a fish. The fish was firmly stuck in the bird's throat, the tail projecting some 2 1/2 inches beyond the bird's beak. The bird was a dipper. Both bird and fish were to be stuffed and mounted by Mr. J. Jackson, a well-known Ilkley taxidermist, and were to be found a place in the Ilkley Museum. 21-2-37

The service on 17 February which is to be held in the Parish Church is not just for serving scouts and guides but for all who have at any time taken part in the movements and contributed to it. The service is one of the events to mark the centenary of the birth of Baden Powell and the jubilee of the Scout movement which he founded 50 years later. Baden Powell was the defender of Mafeking whose Mayor during the siege was Mr. Frank Whiteley who spent his retirement at Ilkley. Baden Powell came to see Mr. Whiteley at Ilkley in 1933 shortly before the ex-Mayor died at the age of 77. In the Ilkley Museum are copies of the siege edition of the Mafeking Mail, no doubt formerly in the possession of Mr. Whiteley. Mr. Whiteley is buried in Ilkley cemetery, and Baden Powell, who died in 1941 at the age of 83, is buried in a cemetery on the slopes of Mount Kenya in Africa.

Mafeking Mystery

In a recent article in this paper on the Baden-Powell centenary, Alfred Taylor mentioned that the Mayor of Mafeking at the time of the famous siege was Mr. Frank Whiteley, who afterwards retired to Ilkley, where he died in 1933 aged 77. This solved a small mystery for Mr. A. David Glover, honorary secretary of the Olicana Museum at Ilkley. "Several copies of the Mafeking Mail, issued during the siege, have been part of our museum collection for many years, though not on show," he writes. "It has been something of a mystery to us how these newspapers came to be in Ilkley, but it seems likely, from the Evening Post article, that they were left to the museum by Mr. Whiteley. The papers were issued daily, shells permitting. They are now on show in Ilkley public library."

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22nd, 1957

REFLECTIONS

SIEGE ISSUES

The issues of the "Mafeking Mail" and "Protectorate Guardian" to which reference was made in this column last week are now on exhibition in the Library and Museum in connection with celebrations of the birth of Baden-Powell 100 years ago and the founding of the Scout movement by him 50 years ago. The papers were originally in the possession of Mr. Frank Whiteley who was Mayor of Mafeking at the time of the siege, and later an Ilkley resident. Baden-Powell was in charge of the defence forces. The issues cover a period from 21 October, 1899, to 22 May, 1900, and the decreasing size and the quality of the paper as the siege continues indicates the increasing seriousness of the position. The final issue which is described as "Special Siege Slip" contains messages of congratulation to the defenders on their successful resistance, and General Orders from Col. R. S. S. Baden-Powell, Commanding Frontier Force, which included commendations for individuals and troops in respect of the final action.

SPIRIT

Glancing through these issues it is possible to gain some idea of the spirit shown by those besieged. In amongst the forays to capture cattle from the Boers and the similar engagements there was time for the social side. A siege exhibition was arranged for the Masonic Hall on 25 March, 1900, and the paper published on 10 March, "149th day of siege, issued daily, shells permitting," indicates that £5 was offered by Baden-Powell for the best model of any locally manufactured Siege Weapon or Armament or of any Fort or Redan. Other £5 prizes were for the "Quaintest or Most Original Curio, ornamental or useful, constructed of any shells or bullets which have been fired into the town by the enemy during the Siege," for the "best piece of Fancy Work made during the Siege," for the "best piece of Lace worked during the Siege," for the "best collection of not less than Forty Siege Photos," "The Mafeking Mail" offered £5 for the "best Musical Composition, either Waltz or March, to be written for Piano or for Orchestra the successful composition to be known as 'the Mafeking Siege Waltz or March.'" Boys and girls under 15 were invited to present themselves at the Hall at 9 a.m. for the purpose of writing an Essay on Siege Life, the winners of each

section to receive a prize of two guineas. Best anecdotes, best pen sketch of an incident during the siege, the best dressed doll and the best trimmed Lady's hat from materials purchased in Mafeking during the siege were also invited. The issue of 1 May contains an extract from the Illustrated London News stating that the most popular book of the month is Baden-Powell's "Aid to Scouting" which had already sold over fifty thousand copies. The Illustrated London News had said that Baden-Powell would be unaware of the success of the book because he was locked up at Mafeking. B-P's corrected proofs were in the last post that evaded the Boers ere they surrounded the town.

FRIDAY, MARCH 29th, 1957

RATEPAYERS' DISCUSSION ON INCREASES REVIEW COUNCIL'S PAST YEAR'S ACTIVITIES

There was an attendance of about twenty-seven at a meeting held by the Ilkley Ratepayers' Association with the idea of holding an open discussion on high rates and the reasons and remedies for them.

In opening the meeting, the chairman of the Association, Mr. J. C. Scott said they interpreted the poor attendance as showing confidence in both the Council and the Association.

MUSEUM

Mr. Crabtree said if he had heard Mr. Hardy correctly he had said they were going to spend £1,000 for the next seven years in converting the Old Manor House into a museum. They accepted that it had to be preserved as an ancient monument, but Mr. Crabtree did not see the different ways in which this money was to be spent. Ilkley might or might not require such a museum but he had recently walked around the existing museum and it had occurred to him that there had been plenty of room there for the goods displayed. Could they afford at the present moment to spend £7,000 of ratepayers' money in setting up a museum?

Pointing out not a quarter of the exhibits in the possession of Ilkley were displayed in the present museum Mr. D. Glover, secretary of the Olicana Museum Society, said in reply to Mrs. S. Todd's question as to what record they had of how many people visited the Museum, as there was no charge they had no such record. If the proposed scheme was carried out he understood that the present museum would be used to supplement the present library.

Mr. H. Illingworth, chairman of the Street Lighting Committee of the Council, said that it was true that Mr. Hardy had named £7,000 as the amount to be spent but only £250 had been put in the estimates for that purpose and the question of the £7,000 had been put in suspension until the Council had decided on the best thing to do. Himself a keen archaeologist, Mr. Scott thought that the encouragement of arts, libraries and museums should be conducted on a national scale.

OLD DOCUMENTS REVEAL DISTRICT'S HISTORY

The Leeds City Archivist, Mr. R. F. Dell, at the March meeting of the Olicana Museum Society, held in the Committee Room of the Town Hall on Thursday of last week spoke on "Old Documents" with particular reference to those of the Ilkley district. The meeting was presided over by Miss Elsie Fletcher, the Hon. Curator of the Museum.

Old documents, Mr. Dell said, were of incalculable value and were usually located in the houses of leading local families, in churches and some old-established business houses. He said that all parishes had extensive records. The historian relied to a great extent on local church records for material. Most Record Offices were of recent foundation for during the last ten or twelve years national interest had grown in archives.

Turning to Ilkley Mr. Dell said that Dr. R. Collyer's and Horsfall Turner's book "Ilkley Ancient and Modern" was magnificent and ranked as a primary record or archive. No one but an Ilkley person or a person in sympathy with Ilkley or loved Ilkley could write another history successfully. The basis of the old documents of Ilkley consisted of deeds and titles to land.

Accounts and correspondence were less important. Deeds could tell details of a family and describe the land they owned and also referred to previous settlements.

Mr. Dell traced the history of the main land-owners of Ilkley from the time of the Domesday Book onward.

MIDDLETON FAMILY

In 1461 the Manor of Ilkley was left in trust to William Middleton, of Stokeld, thus beginning the long association of the Middleton family with Ilkley. Their family records were to be found mainly at Stokeld, near Wetherby, although some of the records were held by the Yorkshire Archaeological Society. In all, they consisted of deeds, court rolls, boundary papers, correspondence, family papers, house inventories and wills. There were also bills and receipts.

Mr. Dell said this was a typical country house collection. He stressed the importance of court rolls which gave an insight into the kind of crimes people committed and the severe penalties they received. He gave examples of local bye-laws and corresponding fines.

The papers of the Plumpton

family of Nesfield were in the form of a Deed Book which Mr. Dell thought was possibly in the British Museum. Also in existence was the "Plumpton Letter Book." This contained copies of letters which had been reprinted by the Camden Society. The originals were in the hands of the Duke of Devonshire at Chatsworth.

The papers of the Vavasours of Weston and the Fairfaxes of Denton were mainly untraced and the existing ones were dispersed.

Mr. Dell referred to the Olicana Museum Deeds saying they were a useful group of documents although not of great importance. They were to be included in the National Register of Archives.

Mr. P. B. Barker thanked the speaker for an interesting talk.

THE ROMAN ROAD ALONG OTLEY CHEVIN

The Ribchester—York Roman road, which ran along Otley Chevin, continues to provide interesting research work for archaeologists.

In the April issue of the Archaeology Group Bulletin, published at the Cartwright Memorial Hall, Bradford, there is the first part of a report by Mr. P. M. Greaves on a recent and detailed examination of the stretch between Alwoodley Gates, Leeds, and Ilkley. At some places the road is clearly visible, but at others all traces of it are gone. Near Wrinkle Hill Wood the field which it crosses is known locally as "the desert," because the stony road surface prevents any worthwhile crops being grown there.

Mr. Eric T. Cowling, author of "Rombalds Way," writes of five "rough-out" stone discs found by him on Wharfedale moorlands, and says he believes these are missiles used by prehistoric people to kill small game. Two similar discs found on Harden Moor, near Bingley, in November by a Baildon boy, John Ogden (15) are illustrated, along with four flints from Burley Moor, from among nearly a hundred which John has collected on local moorlands during the past year.

Mrs. Jean Le Patourel, of Ilkley, contributes notes on seven sherds of medieval pottery found by Mr. J. C. Shaw in the garden of his house in Baildon. Two of these are unglazed gritty ware, probably from cooking pots between 1250 A.D. and 1400 A.D. Four more querns in the Kirkstall abbey collection are illustrated by sectional drawings, and to accompany further notes on millstones there is a picture of two old millstones at High Hall, Steeton, which Mr. Alexander Keightley had made into a direction indicator and a giant sundial. (54-57)

Library and Museum

Present. — Councillors Ellcott (Chairman), Atkinson, Bowes, Clarke, Hampshire, Scott and Thackrah.

The Clerk submitted a report from the Hon. Curator of the Museum, Miss E. M. Fletcher, (a) that the School Museum Officer of the County Education Department had applied for the loan of three pieces of Egyptian pottery for showing at a County Schools Museum Display; and (b) that

a catalogue had been received from the National Department of Archives of the contents of the 43 documents in the Museum Library, which included four documents relating to Leeds. Miss Fletcher stated that the Leeds City Archivist had proposed that one document relating to Hollins Hall held by the Leeds City Museum should be exchanged for the four documents in the Ilkley Museum relating to Leeds. It was resolved (a) that subject to the period of loan being limited to three months and to the County Education Department insuring the articles the Clerk be authorised to make arrangements to lend three pieces of Egyptian pottery for exhibition at a Schools Museum Display; (b) that the Clerk be authorised to exchange the four documents relating to Leeds for the documents in the possession of the Leeds City Museum relating to Hollins Hall.

SOME VIEWS ON CARVINGS ON ILKLEY MOOR

(CONTRIBUTED)

Do we ever pause to think, as we sit round the fire while the early spring rain lashes our houses, of our remote ancestors who lived on the top of Ilkley Moor? To us the valley bottom seems the only reasonable place to live, providing, as it does a certain protection from the weather, but to the prehistoric peoples the valley bottom was an impossible place.

Instead of the hills providing the dividing line between populations as in our case, the valleys performed this function, in fact a boat would have been necessary to cross from Rombalds Moor to Middleton. We can imagine our Early Bronze Age settler as he pauses in his work on the top of Hangingstone looking out over the valley at a view quite different from the one we see to-day. The main contours would be unchanged but instead of the orderly Wharfe winding through the valley a wide marsh would prevent a crossing except by boat. The lower slopes would be thickly wooded and the tops more or less as they are to-day. Because of the lack of soil trees would not grow on the moor top, apart from scrub around the streams.

ROCK MARKINGS

Why did a sculptor carve these marks on the Hangingstone and many other rocks in the district? Many theories have been advanced. Some claim that the cup and ring marks were a method of collecting small amounts of surface water, but this seems most unlikely owing to amount of natural surface water on the moors.

Another theory is that they were man's first doodles. Here again the consistency of certain patterns and the time and patience necessary to make the marks makes this improbable.

They are almost certainly religious symbols of the early Bronze Age whose exact meaning has been lost. E. T. Cowling in his book "Rombalds Way" states that each tribe carved its own device. That on the Hangingstone is a ladder and marked the portal of chiefs. The "Cup and Ring" marking was to the Bronze Age man what the Cross is to the Christian.

Though I have seen other markings in the district, those I have been mainly interested in are those on the flat top of the Hangingstone. This is an ice smoothed rock overlooking Hangingstone Road. As a boy I called the two principal carvings, a beetle and a mermaid, though a certain amount of imaginations is required in both cases. The markings on the edge of the rock being a two-legged beetle made more lifelike because part of the outer circles is broken off.

LONG TIME AGO

This breakage must have taken place some long time ago as the break has weathered to the same state as the remainder of the rock. The mermaid is inverted from the traditional form by having a fish's head and an indeterminate body.

Though it is difficult to come to any certain conclusion these carvings seem to have appreciably worn over the last thirty years due to the weather and the feet of passers by. It seems a pity that these memorials to a vanished people should themselves disappear, relics of much greater antiquity than the castles and abbeys which we go distances to see.

Without erecting railings or covering the marks over it is difficult to know what to do to preserve the markings. Many years ago a member of our family took some turf from the top of Hangingstone and replaced it after studying some cup and ring marks underneath, but whether these were the same ones unearthed by two schoolboys recently it is impossible to say after so many years.

Near to these cup and ring marks is a rock formation which I have never seen mentioned in print but which used to fascinate me as a boy. This is an almost parallel horizontal slit in the rock which can be negotiated only by worming forward until you can stand precariously overlooking the valley. It was always known as the Devil's Oven but whether the name has any pagan significance apart from the obvious likeness to a huge oven I don't know. It can never have been used as a dwelling.

50 Years Ago

After Ilkley councillors' attention had been drawn to the fact that very slow progress was being made on the completion of the Town Hall buildings, efforts were made to push the work along. Thus there was greater activity on the job than ever before, and a "Gazette" of that time said that if the rate of progress was kept up the Library would be ready for opening by September. The carvings in front of the buildings were subjected to a good deal of criticism, and some wondered why figures with so little pretence to beauty were selected. It was pointed out that several of them had a distinctly classical character, while the others were symbolic of the purposes to which the buildings were to be put. The two medallions, for instance, in front of the Assembly Hall, represented Comedy and Tragedy, the one on the west outlining the features of Dante, the poet, while the full figures represented music and art. The medallions in front of the Free Library represented Minerva and Apollo, Minerva on the east and Apollo on the west, and the figures between represented literature and science.

5-7-1957

MANOR HOUSE CONVERSION DECISION 5-7-57

An application is to be made by Ilkley Council to the Historic Buildings Council for a grant of £7,100, the estimated cost of converting the Old Manor House in Castle Yard to a museum. The matter will be reconsidered after the decision of the Historic Buildings Council has been received.

Architects consulted by the Council had expressed the opinion that an application for a grant would be considered. They included in their letter figures on which it was proposed that the application should be based and indicated that if Ilkley Council decided not to proceed further beyond the application their fee would remain at 20 guineas plus out of pocket expenses.

Library and Museum

Mr. M. J. Walker indicated that he had now completed the removal of turf from the Hangingstone Rock and made application to carry out additional excavations in the region of the Green Crag Slack. It was resolved that subject to Mr. Walker informing the Surveyor of the exact location of the proposed excavations the Burial Board, Moor and Parks Committee be recommended to give the necessary permission for these excavations.

The Clerk reported that the School Museum Officer of the County Education Department had indicated that it would be more convenient if the Council would be prepared to lend for an indefinite period the Egyptian vases in the Museum to the County Education Department. It was resolved that permission be granted for the loan of these vases for an indefinite period.

12-7-57

MUSEUM SOCIETY VISIT TO DENTON CHURCH AND HALL

The July excursion of the Olicana Museum Society was held on Thursday of last week, when a party of over thirty assembled at Denton village, to view St. Helen's Church, and visit Denton Hall by kind permission of Mrs. Arthur Hill.

Mr. J. C. Scott, who was to have led members round the church, was unable to be present through indisposition, and some notes he had prepared were read out. The church was built in 1778 at the same time as the present Hall, and the architect of both was John Carr of York. Denton church is probably the only church of which Carr was the architect, but even so it is of little structural merit. Much of its Georgian character has been removed in restoration. The East Window is its chief feature, having been removed from the old church when it was pulled down. It depicts David playing on his harp.

Mr. R. Morley, who had opened the church by arrangement, said he did not really like the window being situated as it was, low down and directly behind the altar, as he thought it distracted attention. He pointed out the new roof, which was entirely restored about four years ago. The memorial window to Mrs. Arthur Hill, Esq., was examined with interest.

ROUND THE HALL

The party then walked to the Hall, and were received by Mrs. Hill, who conducted them round the principal rooms. The interior of the Hall is mainly Adam, and a most interesting feature is the staircase which winds round the wall of a circular room the height of the house. At the top is a landing with symmetrically-placed doors leading off, and to preserve the exact balance, a dummy door is situated where the rise of the staircase breaks the landing.

The entrance hall is a large, finely-proportioned room with elegant pillars and ceiling. An unusual feature of Denton Hall, however, is the period restorations which have been carried out in

the ballroom and billiard room. The former is decorated in Tudor style with an original mediaeval fireplace from Coombe Abbey, Dorset. The rectangular Georgian windows are cleverly disguised by a series of inner windows, arched, and having leaded panes. The billiard room is in the Gothic manner, with an intricately carved wooden ceiling, stained glass windows, and several pieces of furniture from churches. Even the lamp shades over the billiard table fit into the Gothic scene, and the whole effect is one of richness and solidity, in direct contrast to the lightness of the Georgian rooms.

CHINA COLLECTION

Mrs. Hill pointed out her collection of English china figures which have taken many years to collect, and warned members not to sit on the Chippendale Ribbon-backed chairs which she said would probably break. The carving on these was so fine and delicate that they could not be used for sitting on.

Many pictures were admired during the tour, especially "The Rape of the Lock" in the ballroom. There was noticed too, signed portraits of the Prince of Wales (now Duke of Windsor) and of the late Duke of Kent, to mark their visit to Denton Hall. At the end of the tour, Mrs. Hill was thanked by the secretary, Mr. D. Glover, and she again shook hands with each member of the party as they left.



"HEMLOCK" ILKLEY, DESIGNED BY
SIR EDWIN LUTYENS, B.A. (1869-1944).

OLICANA MUSEUM SOCIETY VISIT TO WESTON HALL

The third of the summer excursions arranged by the Olicana Museum Society took place last Saturday when a party of 18 members and friends visited Weston Hall by kind permission of Captain W. Stopham Dawson.

The party was under the leadership of Miss E. M. Fletcher, President of the Society, and first visited Weston Church, where the well-known pulpit was examined. Members noticed the unusual arrangements of the old pews and the private pew used by Captain Dawson.

The grounds of the Hall were next viewed, including the interesting tower used as a gambling room in the 18th century and which is connected to the Hall by means of a secret passage. It is now used only for storage purposes. Advantage was taken of the fine weather to enjoy the fine views of the countryside.

Inside the Hall are some good pieces of furniture and excellent pictures, including a valuable one of Oliver Cromwell. In the drawing room is a fine ceiling in the Adam manner, and although several members expressed concern that one of the beams seemed to be sagging rather ominously, they were assured it had been like that during the whole of Captain Dawson's lifetime. At the Hall also is a magnificent example of a mediaeval Tithe Barn, which was inspected.

The Winter session of the Society will begin with the annual general meeting at the beginning of next month and this meeting will be addressed on the subject of "Domestic Life in Elizabethan Times."

A practical group has been formed within the Society with Mr. Michael Walker as its secretary.

JOB SENIOR, HERMIT OF BURLEY WOODHEAD

HE DIED 100 YEARS AGO

(8-3-1957) IN WORKHOUSE

Burley's famous hermit, Job Senior, died one hundred years ago on 6 March, 1857 at Carleton Workhouse. Outside the Hermit Inn at Burley-Woodhead, named after him, is a sign which is believed to be a "fair portrait" of old Job.

A writer nearly eighty years ago describes him in the following terms.—"Clutching a stick in each hand his bent figure is clothed in a multi-coloured coat generously patched with a variety of cloth and a pair of trousers undoubtedly of the same age as the coat and boasting just as many patches. A piece of hempen belting, reminiscent of the remains of an old horse belt winds round his body and holds his trousers. On his feet is a pair of heavy clogs, the tops reaching to his knees. These are stuffed with hay and his legs bandaged with straw. A bag is slung over his shoulder, the ends being tucked into the belt at the front.

On his heavy shoulder length, dirty grey hair is an ancient hat older by far than Job, which he had stitched and restitched with hempen cord to keep it together. It is brimless.

It was said that the only part of Job's chubby face which could have been termed clean was where tobacco juice had flowed from the sides of his mouth.

With black prominent eyebrows and sunken and watery eyes, a long nose and wide mouth Job was described as of a Moorish appearance. His head was low in front and he was said to be reminiscent of the days of darkness and superstition. Perhaps some mistook him for a wicked magician.

PIPE ON STRING

The whole of the man was covered with dirt which seemed centuries old. He smoked a pipe which he carried on a string round his neck. Walking around the countryside he would sing in his "four voices."

taking anything offered to him, food, drink or money and sometimes a night's lodging in an outbuilding.

Dressed in his outlandish clothes Job attracted visitors from Leeds and Baildon to his stone shelter, which was built in a corner of a field on the road which curves upwards towards Ilkley from Coldstone Beck bridge (from where the Youth Hostel now is). He would sit on the ground, with his legs astride a peat fire and a little bag of oatmeal.

With his staff he would poke potatoes out of the fire, peel them with his dirty fingers, roll them in oatmeal and stuff them into his mouth. These were helped down with warm buttermilk and water which had been warming in a bottle in the midst of the fire.

A visitor once asked him if he drank the water warm. Job replied, "Yes, to clear my voice. I drink it when I sing and now yer sal hear the four voices."

Standing he would lick his lips, set his screwed up face towards a crag which hemmed his land in, and dramatically clear his throat. Then he would sing in four voices, alto, treble, tenor and bass.

His songs were generally hymns and he would often begin with "My God, the Spring of all my joys," "While Shepherds watch'd their flocks by night," and finish off with the doxology in the Old Hundredth tune.

His visitors would throw him pennies and once he was taken to the Leeds Theatre to sing, and to Headingley Gardens, and to Woollsorter's Gardens, Bradford. He said he had been taught to sing with four voices at the Leeds Parish Church.

Job's mother was Ann Senior

and she does not appear to have been married. They lived somewhere about Beck Foot at Middleton, when Job was born. It is said that his father's name was Hawksworth and that at his death he left Job and his brother John some little money.

The old Hermit had not always been a recluse. When he was young he had good looks and was employed amongst the farmers driving the ploughing team and afterwards he became a regular farm servant about Ilkley.

FELL IN LOVE

It was after he had gone to live at Whitkirk, near Leeds, that Job first fell in love. In courting a young woman he became a father and then the Parish authorities began to take a good deal of notice of him and punished him with a fine. This fine nearly cleared him of money. The young woman refused to have anything further to do with him the reason, it was supposed, being that he was already growing slovenly and becoming careless and unsteady. Some said that this crisis and disappointment affected his brain.

He removed to Ilkley and continued as a farm labourer. Apart from being a valuable ploughman he was considered a good fence waller and would use heavy stones in this work. When the days drew in he would do this work by candle light.

In winter, at night, he would do wool combing and he was known to have worked in the Castle and elsewhere in Ilkley. It was said that he once lay down on the floor whilst his fellow workmen traced his figure on the floor. From this pattern he made his own shirts from coarse harding and hempen cord.

It was Job's habit to save his money and then to spend all his savings at one go in drinking.

When he was employed at Burley Woodhead as a farm labourer he became infirm and troubled with rheumatism. He would work when he was able and made no stipulation for wages. He told the farmers that they could pay him with board and give him what he earned above that.

It was at this time that he became friendly with an old widow who lived alone in a cottage near Coldstone Beck at Burley Woodhead. She was called Mary Barret and her cottage was surrounded by a

small garden. She owned an adjoining field and old Job fell in love with her. She was eighty. He was about sixty and probably more in love with her property than the widow herself.

Tales were told of how Job had thought and pondered on the matter for a long time, calculating upon age, likelihood, costs and profits. Often he was heard to sing in his second courtship "It's an easy gotten penny by the light of the moon." The pair were married and Job seemed an affectionate husband.

As her age progressed Mary became infirm and unable to do the housework. She felt the cold easily and Job contrived her bed nearer the peat fire and made her an appetising meal of bacon and bread. It was the last meal she ate for shortly after she died.

MONEY STOLEN

After the funeral Mary's relations were determined to retrieve her property from Job. By some means they wrested the field out of his hands and one evening when he returned to the cottage he found it in ruins and his money stolen. The following day he built a stone shack from the cottage remains which was just large enough for him to shelter from the wind and rain. He lived in the place for many years even though it was so small that in order to get inside he had to sit down on a stone in front of the entrance and edge himself in, head and shoulders first. He pulled the fruit trees out of the soil which had grown around his cottage and made large and unsightly ridges where he planted potatoes.

He considered these more profitable for he lived off them, sold some and those which had gone to seed he replanted for the following year.

Another tale which is told of old Job is of the time when a young man went to see him. "Are yer marrit?" said the hermit. "No," said the young man. "Then yer reit, young man, yer reit; keep so. If yer get a wife, yer see, shoo'd be comin' on we a family, an' then they'll tak' all yer brass. I'd first place, yer see, ye'll want a hooos an' furniter, an then there'll be the rent and kirk-rates, an yer wife all us be wanting summat for hersen or the barns. And beside, just look hoo mich moar flour yer'l want, an sugar, an soap, an cannels; an look hoo mony moar potatoes yer'l eat; why, yer cannot tell what brass it taks, yer see." "An then," went on the hermit, "ther'll be the risk what sort an a wife yer get, yer see; if yer wor to get one o' them as wants fine gowns, an caps, an bonnets, shoo'd ruin yer threctly. Now mind what I say; if yer want to save yer brass an snap a bit o' grund, yer munnot be marrit."

FINAL DAYS

Up to his death Job still went about the country singing. His last trip is said to have been to the neighbourhood of Silsden, where it is thought, he had been drugged as a joke. He had a sudden and violent illness and when he got back to Ilkley he lodged in the Wheat Sheaf barn. After a few days the landlord was afraid and sent for the parish authorities.

He was sent to the Carleton Workhouse, as he belonged originally to Ilkley and not to Burley. He died in the course of a few days at the age of 77. He was buried in Burley Churchyard.

There is no mark of his burial place in the church yard today. The church verger, Mr. Vine, says that Job was originally buried at the East end of the church and when extensions were built on this side his grave was moved to the north side on the edge of the footpath.

OLICANA MUSEUM

SOCIETY 12-4-57

"Palestine and the Middle East today" was the subject of a talk to the Olicana Museum Society at its recent meeting by Mr. John La Page of Baildon. He said it was necessary to have two passports, one for Israel and one for Jordan because neither country would acknowledge the other. He said that Palestine had an important religious background but little else. Many Jews returning to Palestine could speak only the language of the country they had left and were having to attend classes to learn Hebrew.

Illustrating his talk with his own lantern slides, Mr. La Page said in former times the Sea of Galilee was surrounded by towns and villages which thrived on the fishing industry, but there was now nothing of these to be seen. It was unusual that there was no trace. After a reference to a ruined synagogue of the First or Second Century A.D. at Capurum which contained stones carved with Roman Eagles and other symbols Mr. La Page spoke of the excavations at Megiddo known in the Armageddon.

In 1925 the University of Chicago had been responsible for starting these and had been there ever since. They had uncovered tombs and much of a well built ancient town. Ruins of King Solomon's stables were shown. On to Jerusalem Mr. La Page spoke of its history and ancient buildings. He deplored the attitude of the Jordanians who demanded exorbitant fees of archaeologists before issuing permits for work to be done in their section of Jerusalem and said this prevented the discovery of valuable remains. On the other hand in Kericho relics of civilisation 5,000 years old had been discovered.

Mr. La Page said Cyprus was rich in buried remains and there was enough to keep all the archaeologists busy for the next 20 years.

He was thanked by Mr. Peter Barker, and Mr. W. Brian Dale presided in the absence of the president, Miss Fletcher, who was indisposed. The next meeting of the Society will be a visit to Markenfield Hall in May.

MARKENFIELD HALL

SOCIETY'S VISIT

Members and friends of the Olicana Museum Society visited Markenfield Hall on the first of this year's excursions, on Thursday evening of last week.

Markenfield Hall lies three miles south of Ripon, and is owned by the 7th Lord Granley. Although never advertised as being open to the public, it is open to view on Saturday afternoons. The Hon. Curator of the Olicana Museum, Miss E. M. Fletcher accompanied the party, and explained the history of Markenfield during the journey. The hall dates from the 14th Century, was added to in Tudor Times, and has been left virtually unaltered ever since. Miss Fletcher said it was a rare example of a fortified manor house, complete with a moat, and formerly had a drawbridge which was now replaced by a stone bridge. It was unusual in that history had largely passed it by—Cromwell had left it untouched and it had not suffered at the hands of 19th century "restorers," so that one could see it to-day practically the same as it was 500 years ago.

NOT STATELY

She said nobody should go to Markenfield and expect to see a "Stately Home" in the generally accepted sense of the term. Lord Granley did not live there, and it was in fact used as a farm house. Members of the party found this to be so, when after viewing the outside of the buildings, they were escorted through the principal rooms by Mrs. Foster, the wife of the tenant, and saw large hams etc. hung up (there was even one in the dungeon).

LETTERS TO EDITOR

LOCAL SPELLING

Sh.—I would appreciate your confirmation that the district of Myddleton, Ilkley, should be spelt in this way, rather than Middleton, Ilkley.

Can you give our local people any guidance on this matter? I have four addresses in front of me to-day, two in favour of MYDDLETON and two in favour of MIDDLETON.

OLICANA

Note.—One of the earliest known deeds relating to the district refers to "Middleton" and is dated 1167 and there is the same spelling in documents of the following century. In the past 50 years various spellings have been introduced but there appears to be no authority for any spelling other than Middleton. The Ilkley Council in its affairs always refers to "Middleton."—Editor.

The banqueting hall with its white-washed walls and lofty roof, and the chapel with its organ, were viewed with great interest. Mrs. Foster explained that the hall had been struck by lightning last year, and part of the tower was demolished and all the windows with their leaded glass had been blown out. Fortunately the windows were now restored by Messrs. Pickett's, but work on the tower was proceeding more slowly. She showed members the signatures of Queen Mary and the Princess Royal when they visited the hall in 1931, and members added their names in the same book.

Points of interest in Ripley churchyard were inspected on the return journey, and brought an end to a most successful excursion.

Library and Museum

Present — Councillors Ellicott (Chairman), Clarke, Hampshire, Hawkins, Hill, Lickley, Sarjeant and Thankrah.

The Clerk reported that Mr. O. J. Weaver of the Inspectorate of Ancient Monuments and Historic Buildings had inspected the Old Manor House, Ilkley, and that his report thereon would be submitted to the Historic Buildings Council.

It is good to see schoolboys such as Michael Walker of Ben Rhydding taking such an interest in local history that they can talk about it with some authority as Michael did in the television programme, "All Your Own" on Sunday. The Museum Society also has a fair percentage of young people amongst its members and they are doing something to add to the discoveries of the past. At one time when there were not so many things to interest them as there are today the more active residents spent a good deal of time walking across the moor and on either side of the river tracing and walking the old footpaths, and found things out. More shared a knowledge of local history than possibly do today. It is a great pity that so much knowledge has been lost because so few records have been left behind. Ninety years ago the first land sales of the Middleton estate were taking place and familiar names of that time were passing into the title deeds of buildings and out of common memory. New roads were being built. Evidence of Roman occupation was dug up and for a time was so common-place that it was regarded of little value.

STILL THERE

But there is still much for young people like Michael Walker and enthusiasts of the Museum Society to find. Things still are being discovered to provide a reason for worth-while research. Some time ago allotment holders in Castle Road dug up huge stones with their top sides level and set in rows a few feet apart about a cart track in width. Was this a road which led to the gravel pits across the river, or was it something older? Was it part of the old pack horse road which older writers of local history tell us could be traced through Stubham Wood and away over the Langbar Moors. Was it a minor road which linked up with the Roman Road which passed through Olicana from North to South, crossing that from East to West? It undoubtedly made for the river at a point close to the stream which helped to form part of the eastern defence line of the fort. And, incidentally, is there anyone today who can tell us just which line northwards the Roman Road took when it left Olicana? There is a record of its foundations being uncovered near some brickworks close to the Old Hall, and of references to it, also, passing through Stubham Wood. But little is known about it today. The main valley road for many years it must not be forgotten passed on the north side of the river and there must have been various off-shoots which crossed the river at shallow points. There is much, it would seem, still to be discovered and possibly a good deal we have been told to be corrected in the light of later knowledge.

MUSEUM SOCIETY

The November meeting of the Olicana Museum Society was held in the Committee Room of the Town Hall recently, to mark the fiftieth anniversary of the opening of the Public Library and Museum, by Dr. Robert Collyer in 1907, the Hon. Curator of the Museum, Miss E. M. Fletcher, was to have given a talk on the life of Dr. Collyer. Due to illness she was unable to be present at the meeting and the talk was given by Mr. Brian Dale from notes prepared by Miss Fletcher.

GROWING INTEREST MUSEUM SOCIETY

INCREASE REPORTED IN AND MEMBERSHIP

Growing interest in their activities was the annual meeting of the Olicana Museum Society held on Thursday of last week in the Committee Room Hall. The President, Miss Elsie M. Fletcher, was

The Hon. Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. A. David Glover, stated in his report that the year had again been one of progress both in membership and funds. At the last annual meeting the Society had 65 members, and this figure had now risen to 79. Only two members had resigned during the year. Attendance at the 1956-57 Winter Meetings had varied from 17 to 27, the talk by the Leeds City Archivist, Mr. R. F. Dell, having attracted the largest number of members. The three Summer Excursions had been very successful, and were favoured by good weather. The visit to Denton Hall in July was especially memorable.

A "Practical Group" had been formed within the Society in June, and Mr. Michael Walker appointed as its Secretary. The intention was for members who were actively inclined to form a team in order to carry out local excavations under supervision, and it was expected to begin work in the Spring of 1958. It was announced that Mr. Graham Teasdale had been appointed the fourth Honorary Life Member of the Society in recognition of his work in founding the Society in 1950, and as Secretary from 1950 to 1955.

"GAZETTE" THANKED

Thanks were expressed to the "Ilkley Gazette" for their ready co-operation during the past year.

He invited members to examine the Society's Scrap Book which was then passed round. Turning to the financial side, Mr. Glover stated that at the last annual meeting there was a balance of £6 6s. 6d. which had now increased to £10 17s. 2d. Gross income during the past twelve months had been £9 6s. 9d., and gross expenditure £4 16s. 1d., resulting in an excess of income over expenditure of £4 10s. 8d. on the year's working. Postage had accounted for £4 5s. 10d. of expenditure, and £3 9s. of the income was received as subscriptions. During the year, a deposit account had been opened at Lloyd's Bank, Ilkley.

Miss Fletcher thanked Mr. Glover for his reports, saying how pleased she was with the continued rise in the Society's funds. It was all the more gratifying when one considered that the annual subscription still remained at the low minimum of 2s. 6d.

The election of Officers and Committee for 1957-58 then took place, and the following were appointed: President, Miss E. M. Fletcher

Curator of the Olicana Museum, Vice-Presidents, Miss E. M. Fletcher (President) in the chair, and Mr. Peter B. E. Glover; Treasurer, Mr. Glover; Committee Members, Mr. Graham Peter Threlfall and Mr. Walker. The retiring President, Mr. G. Teasdale, presented his successor on his election.

In addition to the Meeting, member interesting talk on Life in Elizabethan times by Mr. Bunnnett, of the Yorkshire Archaeology. In the time he said, only four lived in this corner of the land. Such everyday things were unknown, rotation of crockeries and rush mats, and the home. Men were old at forty, and taught in the school the language of the

BELIEVED IN

It was an age of superstition—the ill-educated and belief in witchcraft. Even the educated and the ill-educated as well as the universal. Even the educated and the ill-educated as well as the universal. Even the educated and the ill-educated as well as the universal. Even the educated and the ill-educated as well as the universal.

Queen Elizabeth I was the first person in England known to have

MUSEUM SOCIETY TALK ON HISTORIC HOMES

The December meeting of the Olicana Museum Society was held in the Committee Room of the Town Hall on Thursday of last week when the speaker was Mr. G. Bernard Wood, author of "Historic Homes of Yorkshire." He spoke on some of the less well-known historic houses of the country.

The talk, which was illustrated with lantern slides, was enjoyed by an appreciative audience of members and friends, with Miss E. M. Fletcher (President) in the chair.

Mr. Wood's first slides illustrated details of Shibden Hall, near Halifax. This, he said, was a good example of an old half-timbered building, but unfortunately a 19th century owner—Miss Anna Lister—had seen fit to add a massive pseudo-Norman tower. Her plans included various other "improvements" but she died before they could be carried out. At Shibden was an interesting mediaeval stained-glass window with odd-looking birds included. Close to Pinderfields Hospital, near Wakefield, was Clark Hall which was built in 1583. Part of the original moat could still be seen, and there was a Jacobean fireplace carved in great detail behind which was a secret room, called a Priest Hole. Low Hall, Yeadon, had a fine Tudor staircase, and a series of enamelled-glass windows of about 1800 depicting the life of Mary, Queen of Scots. These were put in by Marshall Barwick, whose ancestors were connected with the Queen.

banister at the top was the lead figure of a little black boy. This was contemporary with the staircase and was recorded in Sir Henry's diary. The chapel was still in use for school services.

Near Flamborough, and looking out to sea in splendid isolation stood Buckton Hall, built in the 17th century for eccentric John Robinson, who was over eighty when he decided to have the hall built. It had a flat, tall frontage and was built from the same chalk stone as the tall cliffs which it overlooked. A disastrous fire in 1920 burned out the interior with its excellent fireplaces and decoration, and although the building had again been restored for habitation, there is nothing worth seeing inside.

A SMUGGLER

Mr. Wood told the story of a late 18th century owner of Buckton Hall who was a smuggler. In order to keep prying people away he had it spread about that his son was an imbecile and roamed the fields nearby looking for someone to attack. A few miles distant was Boynton Hall, which was until some five years ago owned by the Strickland family. The last Mrs. Strickland finally decided to sell the Hall and go to the Channel Islands to escape taxation, taking with her several items of furniture which were really made for the Hall. Mr. Wood regretted their removal. The Stricklands of the 16th century sailed round the world with Cabot and brought turkeys back to England with them. The turkey was made their family crest, and could be seen in the village church as well as in the decoration of the Hall itself. The Hall was now owned by an architect, who was dividing it into three while at the same time preserving its traditional appearance.

Mr. Wood was thanked for a most absorbing and enjoyable talk by Mr. John Cox.

The secretary announced that the next meeting would be held on 2 January when Mr. Pope would speak on "Roman Roads."

Miss Fletcher expressed her good wishes for Christmas and the New Year to all members.

AT FARNLEY HALL

Mr. Wood said that when he visited Farnley Hall and was waiting for Major Horton-Fawkes to answer the door, he noticed a small lead statue of Pan hidden among the ivy surrounding the entrance. This was part of an antique boot-scraper which Major Horton-Fawkes did not even know had been there. Near the village of Poppleton was Red House, former wooden conduits home of the Slingsby family, which used for pipes was now a prep. school and had use spread only been altered "much to the worse average house the architecturally." The old family or three chairs in chapel, was more of interest, and with a table cover was built in 1606 as could be seen carpet and rushes in Sir Henry Slingsby's diary, floor. These rushes were rarely cleared away and reached by a most interesting old staircase brought from the house. It had a profusion of carved newel posts surmounted by heraldic beasts from various coats-of-arms of the day, and sitting on the

Morris dancing were outdoor amusements.

Mr. Bunnnett was thanked by Mr. Brian Dale for a most enjoyable talk. He said it was so much more interesting to learn about the lives of ordinary people like themselves, instead of wars and battles.

Nine new members were elected at this meeting.

Information Wanted

Sir,—I have in my possession an old reading table. It has two high turned legs, a narrow table top with two small drawers and a hinged lid with prop for holding a book. The table was, I imagine, intended to be used before a fire, the high legs and small top permitting warmth to reach the reader.

The table is a beautiful piece of craftsmanship in wood. On a point of interest could you or your readers tell me anything of the maker's. Inside the lid is the maker's label. This reads: "Thomas Robinson, Manufacturer, Prospect Place, Steam Cabinet Works, 100, Victoria Road, Ilkley, West of Leeds."

Is the firm still in existence? I am intrigued also with the word "steam" in their title, as the sample I have of their work has no connection with it, unless possible they turned by that power. E. J. MACKRELL, Chiswick, W.4.

Note.—We shall be glad to hear from any reader who can help. The makers would appear to be the forerunners of Hartley and Sons who succeeded to the business of Robinson and Sons some 50 years ago. There is now no Prospect Place, though there is a Prospect Place in Cowpasture Road. Editor.

REFLECT

REMAINS

Enquiries concerning the unusual table which was made in Ilkley by Thomas Robinson so many years ago have brought a reminder that it was on the site of the shop property now occupied by Hartley and Sons who succeeded the Robinson firm 50 years ago, that an important link with the Roman occupation was unearthed. In May, 1874, the Robinsons were digging out the foundations for a block of showrooms which they were to add to their workshop erected about 15 years previously. The excavations revealed about three feet deep two "rude vaults" which contained urns with the calcined remains of human bones. In the earth removed were found jet ornaments, rings, bracelets, beads and broken glass. Some of these articles were afterwards presented to the Ilkley Museum. It was considered at the time that this was probably

the resting place of a Roman Officer's family which had been buried there somewhat hurriedly. Various articles of Roman origin were found in this area. Building in the Cow Pastures began after 1858 when they were disposed of as building sites and round about that time Ilkley Railway Station was being built. There is no doubt that during those operations much valuable information was lost concerning the Roman period, just as it was when Brook Street was extended through the Roman fort and across the river. There has not been a planned map produced showing where Roman remains have been discovered in Ilkley, but it would be a job well worth while and might help to indicate something new in the extent of the fort's surroundings and the possibilities of further discoveries in land which had remained undisturbed for centuries.

268

REFLECTIONS

OCCUPATION

The suggestion contained in these comments last week that a map should be produced to show where Roman remains had been found in Ilkley has been followed by a visit from Miss Elsie Fletcher, president of the Museum Society, with a copy of just that type of map almost completed. It has in fact been completed this week and is ready for exhibition. Not only this, but Michael Walker, the schoolboy who has done some excavating on Ilkley Moor, has prepared a plan of the moor showing all the ring marked stones and their markings. A further activity has been the making of a model by Miss Fletcher with the help of the practical group of the Swastika stone on Ilkley Moor. It is an indication of the way in which the Museum Society has progressed since it started as a group for young people conducted by Miss Fletcher as a summer occupation. She not only held their interest but advanced it and their enthusiasm has attracted the interest of others so that membership and activity is extending. It is something which deserves official encouragement. Not so very long ago the Council were prepared to loan many of the exhibits to Bradford and it was only after an open debate that this move was stopped and the museum pieces preserved for Ilkley.

CURIOSITY

In most people there is a curiosity about things of the past. It may be lying dormant but it takes only enthusiasm on the part of others to arouse it. This interest is spreading throughout the country. Radio and television series have attracted the attention of thousands of people to the fascinating subject of buried treasure. The point has been made in this column more than once that Ilkley is rich in its store of things discovered and an even richer vein is probably awaiting discovery. More of this could be made in the town's publicity. Let the Council encourage further research. There are plenty of eager potential searchers who want only official sanction and help. More attention could be focussed on the Museum. It may be some considerable time before the scheme for the old Manor House is brought to completion. In the meantime let there be full attention paid to the exhibits in the Museum. For instance that treasured possession, a Roman grave-stone, could be brought from behind the door at the Library entrance and shown to better advantage. The Museum Society is only too willing to help and it has something to offer to the benefit of Ilkley. Let us have a new attempt to discover what else is to be found in the foundations of the Roman Fort. The site is in private ownership but leased to the Council, and there is no reason to believe that any objection would be raised to further excavation. In any case, it may not be long before the Council will be able to put into effect the opportunity of purchasing the land when application is made to transfer the licence of the Wheat Sheaf to a proposed new public house. There is an understanding on this point.

CREMATION

The reference last week to the discoveries made so many years ago in Cowpasture Road interested many readers. It is not generally known that at

various local points there has been discovered evidence that cremation was practised by people of many years ago. In 1887 the field below Bridge Lane, now the Memorial Gardens, was to be used for tipping ashes, and workmen were removing soil in readiness to place on top of the ashes. In doing so they discovered two vaults, the more perfect of which was 6 ft. 6 ins. long and 3 ft. wide. They were constructed of rough stones, squared on the face and flagged at the bottom. Charred wood and bones, limestone and scorched stones were found. Detailing the discovery an issue of the Ilkley Free Press said nearby was found a stone which appeared to have formed part of an arch and recalled that two stones similarly shaped had been found in the garden of the Rose and Crown Hotel when the Roman grave-stone was unearthed. In the Bridge Lane field, the site was about 75 yards north-west of the fort, was also found a stone with a cup-like hollow. A similar one was found near the Rose and Crown. The question was then asked, were the arched stones part of a postern gate and did the hollowed stone provide a socket for the post to revolve in? Was this place of discovery at Bridge Lane the river gate. Some investigations carried out by this newspaper in recent months indicate that there is strong evidence that the Roman Road crossed the river near the point of this discovery and not near the Old Bridge as generally accepted. This is but part of the many things to be discovered about Ilkley and which when discovered may show the importance of Olicana and bring worthwhile attention to the town.

MANOR HOUSE

Following a further inspection of the old Manor House by an architect of the Ministry of Works, a decision is now expected from the Historic Buildings Council with regard to the making of a grant towards the proposed conversion of the building as a museum and art gallery. 3-1-58

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14th, 1958

MR. PERCY DALTON'S GENEROUS OFFER THREE YEAR LOAN OF £2,500 FOR MUSEUM SCHEME FOLLOWS MANOR HOUSE GIFT

Mr. Percy Dalton who in December, 1955 offered the old Manor House in Castle Yard as a gift when the existing tenants had been re-housed, has now offered to lend £2,500 interest free for three years towards the cost of its conversion for use as a museum.

Since Mr. Dalton offered the Manor House in 1955, the building has been inspected by an architect from the Society for the Protection of Historic Buildings and following his recommendations to the Minister of Works the Council has received an offer of financial assistance.

The cost of conversion and repairs is estimated at £7,500 and subject to certain conditions the Minister has offered to make a grant of £3,250 towards this, or the total cost of the repairs, whichever is less. Mr. Dalton's offer is a loan contribution towards the remaining £4,250.

The Minister's conditions are—
1. That the Council acquire the buildings and carry out the scheme prepared by the architects nominated by the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings.
2. That before the work is begun specifications will be submitted for the Minister's approval.

TRACING ROMAN ROADS FASCINATING WORK OLICANA MUSEUM SOCIETY HEARS FROM ENTHUSIAST

Tracing Roman roads, especially if they were still buried, was fascinating work. Mr. J. R. Pope, of Harrogate, told members of the Olicana Museum Society when he addressed them in the Committee Room of the Ilkley Town Hall on Thursday of last week on "Roman Roads in Yorkshire." In the absence of the President, Miss E. M. Fletcher, the chair was taken by Mr. W. Brian Dale.

Mr. Pope began by referring to the popular belief that "Roman roads ran absolutely straight in all directions and all led to Rome" as amusing but completely untrue. Roman roads, he said, did not even run straight regardless of all obstacles, but would bend into a new course as conditions warranted, much as an ocean-going ship would do. The roads in England were built to convey troops and to quell local rebellions, and were constructed it is thought by the Roman legionaries, with native assistance. The names Ermine Street, "Watling Street," etc., were not given to these roads by the Romans, but were later English inventions.

ROAD DEPTH

Mr. Pope said he was sometimes asked how deep a Roman road was made, but said no definite depth could ever be given. Roads over the moors would be a mere two inches deep, while those near to rivers and approaching fords would be anything up to eight feet deep. On average however, the depth was likely to be two feet or two feet six inches. Besides being very solidly made, and paved with large flat stones, the roads were often surprisingly wide. In order to make some of the major highways a strip of land 84 feet wide might be cleared. This was necessary so that no trees or bushes were left growing near the road which might harbour attackers. Roman roads had a very high camber, as much as two feet in 15, and Mr. Pope wondered how two heavily-laden waggons would be able to pass each other without capsizing.

Mr. Pope then outlined the Yorkshire roads which, he said, would be well known to his hearers. The main ones were from Lincoln to Peasebridge (Ermine Street) and Watling Street which ran over Blubberhouse Moor to

Hampsthwaite. From there to Aldborough, the road had disappeared completely, and more information was needed about it. There was also the road from Tadcaster which forked at Thorne one branch coming through Adel to Ilkley and Skipton. A road also ran from Malton to the east coast ports at Ravenscar, Scarborough and Fliley which were built to repel invaders, and another well-known road ran from Lincoln to York via Market Weighton. Mr. Pope pointed out Bealbridge in Wensleydale as an interesting centre for Roman roads, as five roads radiated from it.

UNDISCOVERED

Many other Roman roads existed in Yorkshire apart from these, and many supposed routes had yet to be excavated. Mr. Pope said that Yorkshire is full of possibilities in this direction, and his motto was "Go and see." Although when one passed the age of forty, digging for buried roads might not appear such an attraction, Mr. Pope said he himself was well past the forty mark and found it fascinating work, and moreover had only one arm to dig with. He suggested that when one travelled around the country one should be on the look-out for such names as Coldharbour, Blueharbour, St. Helen's Well, Brass Castle, and Mount Pleasant, also names with "Street" and Street in them, as the chances were that a Roman road would be there.

Thanks were expressed by Mr. W. G. Cox, who said it was a pleasure to hear such enthusiasm for one's subject so fluently expressed.

The Secretary announced that the next meeting would be on 6 February, when Professor Le Patourel would be speaking on "Castles."

50 Years Ago

The collection of the Ilkley Museum Society which had been housed in the Museum Buildings at the junction of Skipton Road and Bolton Bridge Road, was moved to Ilkley Free Library, in 1908. The museum came into existence in 1832 as the outcome of a desire on the part of a number of local people to preserve locally the many interesting evidences of Ilkley's Roman and Saxon occupation frequently unearthed in the nature of coins, urns, pottery, crosses and monumental stones.

BETTER PLACE

Inevitably bound up with the scheme for the conversion of the old Manor House are the plans for the improvement of the Churchyard and the demolition of the Wheat Sheaf Hotel. Ilkley it would seem has an ideal opportunity of providing something not to be found in any other part of the country. Why not use a part of the site of the Roman Fort, when it does come into the Council's possession, for building a replica of as much of the fort as space will permit. Several places have their models how many have an actual replica? It could attract annual educational visits from school children with the Manor House museum as an additional attraction. It could be some time before such a scheme could be brought about, but the idea could receive consideration. It is a few years since the churchyard scheme was accepted, but it may be more than a year before it is completed. It is understood however, that the survey of the gravestones has now been completed.

PROF. LE PATOUREL SPEAKS TO MUSEUM SOCIETY ON CASTLES

Professor Le Patourel, of Leeds University, spoke to a large and appreciative audience on "Castles," the talk being illustrated with lantern slides, at the February meeting of the Olicana Museum Society.

Professor Le Patourel introduced his talk by defining a castle. It was, he said, essentially a private residence built to protect wealth and property from attack. Only three were built in England before 1066—Pain's Castle and two others, all in Herefordshire, which were put up by Normans. The first one to be built after the Conquest was the Tower of London, followed by several others up and down the land which William the Conqueror caused to be erected in order to keep the people in subjection.

About the first six to ten castles were built to the orders of the King, after which the Barons began to build, but only the richest of them could afford to do so. These early castles, said Professor Le Patourel, when viewed today were very complicated both architecturally and functionally; architecturally because a castle might well be in use continuously for four or five hundred years, and as methods of warfare and defence changed, so the building would have to be altered to conform to the new conditions. The functional complication arose because medieval castles acted in much the same way as the present-day County Hall, and were centres of administration as well as a home.

YORK HAD TWO

Slides of York Castle, known to many as Clifford's Tower, were then shown. Professor Le Patourel said that York was the only place he knew of which had two castles. They were both built shortly after the Conquest, in 1068 and 1069, on either side of the river to repel Danish invaders. Only one now remained standing, but this would not be the original structure, as the great majority of castles in those early days were made of wood. A notable exception to this was Richmond Castle, which was thought to date from about 1076. The wooden castles were, of course, easily set on fire by attackers, and an actual illustration of such an occurrence was to be seen on the Bayeux Tapestry. Only three castles in England now remained which dated from the first century after the Conquest—the Tower of London, Richmond and Colchester.

Slides of many Yorkshire castles were shown, including Tickhill, Pickering, Scarborough, Middleham, Helmsley, Bolton, and Conisborough, which Professor Le Patourel declared was "the finest thing we've got in Yorkshire." Middleham Castle was very impressive and of enormous size, with walls ten to twelve feet thick, dating from the second half of the twelfth century. Early castles had a large square keep, but as these would partially collapse if undermined (as in fact happened when King John besieged Rochester) they were later made round. Conisborough was an example of the transitional type of keep, a semi-round plan, with four massive buttresses. Later still the keep would be built in an open circle, of which Windsor was an excellent example.

NO KEEP

As times became more settled, the keep would disappear altogether, and the castle would look more like a fortified country house, as did Bolton Castle, built in the fourteenth century. After Cromwell's day, castles were quite obsolete, and rich landowners built more for comfort and effect and less for safety and defence. To illustrate this, the last slide depicted Castle Howard, as the ultimate in castle design.

Thanks were expressed to Professor Le Patourel by Miss R. Moore.

The Secretary announced that the next meeting would be held on 6 March, when Mr. Eric T. Cowling would speak on "Place Names."

ARCHAEOLOGY was a dry as dust subject to most of us before TV. Sir Mortimer Wheeler and others revealed its fascination. Now the pendulum is swinging almost the other way. Such is the keenness of many youngsters about it that their untrained enthusiasm on ancient sites is now almost a menace to the trained researchers.



Mrs. Jean Le Patourel, of Hebers Ghyll Drive, Ilkley, wife of Professor J. Le Patourel, Professor of Medieval History at Leeds University, feels strongly about unsupervised enthusiasts.

She is in charge of the pottery excavations at Kirkstall Abbey, and has taken part in many "digs" in other parts of the country, including that in Peter Gate, York, last year on the site of an old school.

TV has certainly fired many people with enthusiasm for archaeology," she told me, "and this can almost be a danger on sites, because once a site is disturbed our evidence is gone for all time. It can't be replaced, and much valuable information can be lost.

"ON MORE THAN ONE OCCASION THIS HAS HAPPENED, AND THESE ENTHUSIASTS HAVE HAD TO BE STOPPED.

"Generally at Kirkstall the untrained diggers are closely supervised.

"Schoolboys, fited with enthusiasm can be a great danger, and we have to watch closely for them. They decide to dig up the nearest thing, without appreciating the harm that could be done, or the evidence they could destroy."

A ROOM at the top of her Ilkley home bears evidence of Mrs. Le Patourel's own trained enthusiasm.

There she showed me boxes of fragmented pottery which she is engaged to painstakingly putting together for posterity.

"Much of what I am dealing with just now came from the Peter Gate site in York," she said.

She showed me washing vessels of 15th century manufacture, dated quite easily by their design, and bowls and pots of an animal design of the same period.

"Don't think I am against this enthusiasm for archaeology," she stressed. "I'm not. Helpers on these sites are very welcome, but they must be under adequate supervision."

Vincent Hawthorn
May or June 1958

Library and Museum
14-3-58
Present—Councillors Atkinson, Hampshire, Hawkins, Hill, Lickley, Sarjeant and Thackrah. In the absence of the Chairman of the Committee (Councillor J. L. Ellicott), the Vice-Chairman (Councillor F. Atkinson) took the Chair.

The Secretary, the Museums Association, invited the Council to appoint delegates to attend the annual conference to be held at London from 7 to 12 July, 1958. The Hon. Curator (Miss E. M. Fletcher) was authorised to attend this conference.

The Clerk reported that the Hon. Curator had enquired whether consideration might be given to the re-decoration of the Museum. The Treasurer and Surveyor reported thereon and it was resolved that in view of the proposal to move the Museum its due course to the Old Manor House, no action be taken in this matter at the present time, but that the amount of £50 included in the estimates of expenditure of this Committee for the current financial year for the re-decoration of the Museum be utilised for the improvement of the

BAHT 'AT' 13-2-58
The March edition of that delightful monthly magazine, "The Dalesman," devotes some two and a half pages to readers' contributions on various aspects of the song, "On Ilkka Moor Baht 'At." Local people have become accustomed to the claims made on behalf of other Yorkshire moors as the subject of the song and rest content that Ilkley is now so firmly associated with it that other claims need not be regarded seriously. One of the letters, however, has what to many must come as a new angle. It states that the song originates from a visit to Ilkley Moor of a Halifax choir on a summer picnic in 1886 and concerns a man and a girl who wandered away from the remainder of the party to be greeted on their return with the opening line of the song. It seems a most unlikely explanation. In a fat wad of clippings in our files collected from various newspapers over a long period of references to the song there is no mention of this story. It has obvious weaknesses. The other letters make some interesting points and together with the remainder of the magazine, are well worth reading.

CAVES AND POT HOLES MUSEUM SOCIETY

Owing to the indisposition of Mr. Eric Cowling, who was to have been the speaker at the March meeting of the Olicana Museum Society, held recently in the Committee Room of the Ilkley Town Hall his place was taken at very short notice by next month's speaker, Mr. Herbert W. Rhodes.

Mr. Rhodes addressed the meeting on "Mountaineering Underground" with the aid of lantern slides. Members were shown a most varied and interesting selection of views taken inside many of the Yorkshire caves and pot-holes, and followed the speaker on an unburied tour past grotesquely shaped stalagmites and stalactites, along torturous labyrinthine passages formed by underground streams in prehistoric days, and into cathedral-like caverns such as Gaping Ghyll which is of the same dimensions as York Minster.

EARLY MAN

Mr. Rhodes said that many remains of early man had been found in the more accessible pot-holes, and in Dower Bottom hole the skeleton of a prehistoric child had been discovered. He recommended anyone not used to pot-holing to begin by visiting Eleuts Gull cave in Littondale, on the left of the road to Arcliffe, where it could be found at the bottom of a scree.

Mr. Rhodes was thanked for a most absorbing talk by Mr. Peter Barker, and thanks were also expressed to Mr. Colin Duncan who operated the projector.

The Secretary announced that Mr. Cowling would give his talk on "Place Names" at the next meeting on 3 April. He stated that the Society now had 89 members, which was just over double the number of two and a half years ago.

DISCOVERY 11-14-58

High Stead, an Elizabethan cottage, which was scheduled as an ancient monument some years ago, is undergoing renovation and in the course of it a cavity was found alongside the fireplace which in turn led to the discovery of a small domed salt oven. In this was found a little charcoal iron in perfect condition, but it quickly turned rusty when brought out into the open. Under the flagged flooring was found an old fashioned shoe and there are hopes that further indications of possible discoveries will be brought about. High Stead is close to Clevedon House School and King's farm, and it is strongly suspected that there are still discoveries to be made about this district, which at one time was quite an important hamlet known to the monks of Bolton, the nuns of Esholt, and which had for a period its history bound up with the fortunes of the Vavasour family.

PRESERVING ILKLEY'S RECORDS 14-3-1958

A scheme for microfilming all records of the Ilkley Council and also volumes of the "Ilkley Gazette" is being considered by Ilkley Council.

At a meeting of the Library and Museum Committee the importance of preserving early issues of the "Ilkley Gazette" and the "Ilkley Free Press" was emphasised by the Librarian. These were valuable historical records of everyday life in the town, he said. He considered that the cost of producing a micro-film of issues covering a period of twelve months would be under £5. He suggested that a programme of filming the volumes each year together with the current volume might be undertaken until a complete set was produced.

The Librarian considered this expense could be reduced by a contribution out of the allocation for book binding as a saving would result by not binding the volumes of the "Ilkley Gazette" each year. The equipment for reading the film would cost under £50.

The Library Committee approved the suggestion in principle and recommended the Finance Committee to consider the micro-filming of records in all departments as well as in the Library.

The Finance Committee authorised the Clerk to consult other chief officers and to report on the estimated cost of microfilming records of various departments.

50 Years Ago

The Town Hall buildings were publicly opened on Monday, 27 April, 1908, by the chairman of Ilkley Town Hall committee, Mr. J. T. Jackson. Mr. and Mrs. Jackson arrived by motor car. The opening ceremony took place at the entrance to the public offices. Mr. and the Misses Jackson were joined by Mr. and Mrs. F. S. Jackson, Alderman S. Thrippleton (Mayor of Pontefract), Mr. T. R. Leuty (a former member of Parliament for North Leeds), Mr. B. M. Hood, Mr. W. Whitaker, Mr. S. Kelliet, Mr. F. H. Humphris, and the Rev. L. P. Watchurst. There were also present Mr. J. C. Barker (chairman of the District Council), and the following members: Messrs. J. C. Naylor, A. Waugh, H. Mott, J. Dinsdale, J. W. Dixon, L. M. Wilkinson, J. R. Harper, J. Dean, J. W. Benson, and J. Sugden, and Mr. William Blackburn (architect of the building) and Mr. F. Barker (operator of the camera). Mr. Jackson presented and presented to Mr. Jackson a handsome gold enamelled key and seal. The key bore on one side a photograph of the buildings in coloured enamel, together with the seal of the council, also in coloured enamel, and on the opposite side a portrait of Mr. Jackson in similar material with an appropriate inscription.

TOWN HALL KEY 30-5-58

Earlier in May an item in "50 years ago" referred to the opening of Ilkley Town Hall, and now from Birmingham comes a letter from Mr. John F. Hudson including letters concerning the making of the presentation key. Mr. Hudson says his father, who died in 1945, came of an old Ilkley family and was a watchmaker and jeweller. He was very proud of the fact that he made the presentation key. The two letters enclosed were written in February, 1908, and contain the signatures of the then clerk, Mr. Frank Hall. The earlier letter addressed to Mr. J. W. Hudson, Brook Street, says the Council has under consideration the purchase of "a solid-silver Hall-marked Key (fine gilt and enamels) for presentation to Mr. J. T. Jackson on the occasion of his opening the new Town Hall at Ilkley in April next, and I have been instructed to invite you to submit a design and specification for the Key at a price not exceeding £14 14s." The second letter accepts Mr. Hudson's design, specification and tender at the sum of 14 guineas and asks him to put the work in hand at once. The key was duly presented, Mr. Jackson saying as he received it that it would be handed down to his family as one of their heir-

MUSEUM SOCIETY HEARS ABOUT NAMES

Mr. Eric Cowling's Views

Place names and personal names was the subject of an address given by Mr. Eric T. Cowling, of Otley, to members of the Olicana Museum Society, at their April meeting held in the Committee Room, of the Town Hall.

Place names, he said, were nearly always connected with names of people, and many well-known families had taken their names from the places where they lived. Middleton was a local example. Many names were derived from the French, such as Beevers and Bever from the French "Belvoir".

Mr. Cowling pointed out that Belvoir Castle in Leicestershire was pronounced "Beever." Similarly, Rivers was derived from Rievaulx, and Jarvis from Jervaulx. All names had their meanings—Pickles would be "Pig-Hills," meaning the rough land used as pig pastures; Stoddard would be "Stot-Herd," a stot being a young horse, therefore meaning someone who looked after the stots; Gelderd would mean a coiner of money; Margerison was Margery's son.

Such names as Longfellow and Crookshank would be nicknames given to people because of their appearance, in the same way as "Ginger" is applied to-day.

TRADES

Many trades had found their way into surnames, such as Carter, Miller, Cooper, Chandler, Glover, Wainwright, Cartwright, and of course the ubiquitous Smith.

The speaker confessed he was quite puzzled by the name Snowball, and had never been able to find where or what it was derived from. The name Longbottom,

considered faintly amusing by some people who imagined it referred to a certain part of the anatomy, meant simply that its owner kept the long field in the bottom of the valley. Lightowler meant a little wood where the owls lived.

Of local interest was the name Ben Rhydding. The word Rhydding meant that a clearing of trees had been made after the Black Death in the 14th Century, and Ben had done the clearing.

GOLDEN BUTTS

The name of Golden Butts Road was interesting, and Mr. Cowling said he sometimes walked up this road and was entranced. The butts were odds and ends of land, usually triangular, which were awkward to plough and were left untilled. In this case they would have some yellow-coloured flowers growing on them, hence the name of Golden Butts. Hang-lingstone meant standing stone, and was the same as Stonehenge. Yew Bank should really be Ewe Bank (this original spelling still survives in Ewe Croft), and was where the ewes were put before the birth of their lambs.

Mr. Cowling said he did not wish to be at all dogmatic about some of the derivations offered, but considerable research had led him to believe they were correct. Mr. H. Dodgeon expressed thanks for a most interesting talk.

REFLECT

NAMES

Mr. E. T. Cowling is not a man to give an opinion lightly and he has made careful research into local history. His views on the derivation of certain place names as given to the Museum Society at their last meeting therefore will be considered seriously, but they may surprise some who have for several years held other views, and quote various authorities in support of them. For instance, many people thought that Golden Butts had something to do with archery, though in support of Mr. Cowling it may be recalled that various other parts of the district were known as some sort of butts. There have been various accounts about Ben Rhydding which was not generally known as such until the Hydro was erected. There is a story that this name was recalled by the hostess of the Wheatsheaf, Nancy Wharton, when the founder of the hydro was seeking a name. She said Ben Rhydding was the name of the district in the old days. It is accepted that Rhydding meant clearing, but there have been views other than that expressed by Mr. Cowling about Bean. This is not to say his is the wrong one. It is to men such as Mr. Cowling who spend so much time on careful research that districts owe much for their history and frequently they prove popular conceptions to be misconceptions.

SUPERSTITIONS ABOUT AXE HEADS

Superstitions connected with axe heads, about which Mr. Joe Davies wrote in the April issue of the Archaeology Group Bulletin published at the Cartwright Memorial Hall, Bradford, are commented on in the May issue by Mrs. K. M. Mason, Reynard Ing, Ilkley.

She says that in Littondale 20 years ago she saw man wrap an axe head in brown paper and hold it over a fire, when the water condensed on it. This he called "axe fat" and with it dressed a patch of ringworm on his son's head.

Mrs. Mason also refers to an allotment in Silsden parish, adjoining Addingham Moorside, known as "millstone lumps," which has several half-dressed millstones on it. She recalls that in Hebers Ghyll at Ilkley are two nearly finished millstones, and there is one set in the mistal doorway at Howker Hill Farm Beamsley.

WESTON GRAVES

Two grave ornaments in the secluded churchyard at Weston form the subject of the "How to find it" feature. One is a cup and ring boulder of the Early Bronze Age, which serves as a headstone on the grave of Colonel Walter Stopham Dawson and his wife, and the other is a mediæval household mortar, also on the same grave. There are drawings of both objects on the bulletin, along with one of the lower stone of a put quern or mediæval hand millstone in a garden at Sutton in Craven.

The Days When the Menston Archers Shot Their Arrows

By Miss Elsie M. Fletcher, F.R.S.A.

HON. CURATOR OF OLICANA MUSEUM, ILKLEY

There was a query in a recent article in the bulletin of the Bradford Archaeological Group about the origin of the place name "Cross Butts Close, Menston" which the enquirer had noticed in an old account of a sale of land in Menston.

He wondered whether it referred to the right-angled junction formed by lynchets—the terraced fields of pre-historic and Anglo-Saxon days—or to shooting butts. I incline to the latter explanation, as there is no evidence—at least not now-a-days—of any lynchets in Menston, only of a possibility, but much further west. True, in the Park of Menston Low Hall there can still be discerned, though faintly, the lines of a strip-field system. This is interesting, as the site can be dated from Anglo-Saxon days.

Mrs. Denby, who died recently and had lived there from childhood until some years ago had in her possession a font, which had been pronounced of Anglo-Saxon origin, which she entrusted to me for preservation. An extremely ancient chapel, possibly of this date also, was incorporated into the Hall which preceded the present one.

The field referred to by the enquirer is situated between Menston Station and the Fox and Hounds Hotel, as shown in a map of the eighteenth century and part of it is the present cricket field.

Public House

The likeliest explanation is that it—or its name, dates from Tudor times. Though there were days of peace a trained militia was always in readiness and spears, bills (a kind of pike) and bows and arrows had to be always in readiness (to quote from Holinshed) "in one several place in every town appointed by the consent of the whole parish to be worn within an hour's warning." Some townships

seem to have owned public armour and Menston even had a public house!

An Act of Parliament of 1541 ordered that every man, being the King's subject, not lame, decrepit nor maimed, nor having any other cause or impediment, being within the age of 60 years, shall from the Feast of Pentecost, use and exercise shooting in long bows and also have a bow and four arrows in his house to use in shooting.

In Otley, Too?

In Ilkley the name is perpetuated in "Golden Butts" and it is thought by some archaeologists that in Otley the names West Busk Lane and East Busk Lane are corruptions of an original "Butts Lane," which sounds feasible.

From the present Eastinghall Street in Leeds, a lane used to lead to the archery butts situated near Park Lane called "Butts Lane," and doubtless many others can be recalled.

The upkeep of the butts was the duty of the Constable, a voluntary appointment, surviving from feudal times until a hundred years ago. So also was that of the Surveyor in an account both of the Menston Surveyors deposited with the Cartwright Memorial Hall, we find that the Surveyors for Menston in 1779 were Christopher Lupton and William Waite, whose descendants are still with us. It was they who completed the transactions for the sale of this piece of land by Francis Hawksworth Pawkes of Farnley Hall, to the Commissioners for a new "Road and Highway" and here on this turnpike road, the Old Toll Bar was situated, possibly where the Island is now. The Old Inn, The Fox and Hounds, was leased to Mr John Jennings for 20 years at a yearly rent of £1.

Cross Butts Close

Did an old track from Menston

MUSEUM SOCIETY SUMMER EXCURSIONS

The Olicana Museum Society has recently held two out of its programme of four Summer Excursions.

The first was to Harewood Castle and Church, and the second which was held on Tuesday of last week, was to Red House, Moor Monkton. This excursion was a joint function with the Otley Archaeological and Historical Society, and marked the first occasion on which the two Societies have joined together in this way.

Red House, or better known as Red House School, is of Elizabethan origin, but was completely refaced in the latter half of the last century. The headmaster of the school conducted the party over the chapel and grounds, and explained that there had been a house on the site long before the present building was erected, and that the property was then owned by the Oughtred family. Red

House became a preparatory school at the time of the first world war.

CHAPEL

The chief feature of the house is its chapel, which will just accommodate the staff and 45 boys of the school. The staircase leading to the gallery was originally in the house itself, but during alterations in the 17th century it was removed (as can be read today in Sir Henry Slingsby's diary) and set up in a chapel. It is remarkable for a number of carved newel-posts surmounted each by a different animal, representing the heraldic crests of notable families of the time. These figures, of brightly coloured plaster, are now in a regrettable state of neglect. One or two have disappeared, and others wobble dangerously on their pedestals—perhaps this is inevitable in a school? In the chapel building is also a small museum of items dug up in the grounds, and including a firearm used at the battle of Marston Moor, which was fought nearby. A short tour of the garden brought this most interesting visit to its close.

Village to this road cross the Butts Close (Cross Butts Close)? I wonder, for surely the Cross Bows would never be used here, only the long bows as recorded.

With this and other pleasant surmises our thoughts might be occupied when sitting on a summer afternoon in the glorious sunshine, which seems to be attracted to this spot, and we think of the men of our village in the other Good Queen Bess's Days, who also came here to practise. That is, if the cricket match strikes a dull patch.

Now, we can think back still further, till in imagination the tramp of Roman soldiers is heard for their road crossed in this vicinity, nearly behind us.

But no we have been drowsing, and the sound now heard is not of tramping but of clapping, as a cricketer scores his century. Hurrah! we cry. Pass the cap around. Cheers! Carry on, Menston!

CREM The die years t inheres not ge

MANOR HOUSE GRANT FROM MINISTRY

A loan of £3,250 has been approved by the Ministry of Works towards the cost of general repairs to the Manor House in Castle Hill, which Mr. Percy Dalton has not only offered to present to the Council but also to loan a sum of £2,500 interest free to complete the works necessary for conversion to a museum and art gallery, estimated to be £7,500.

It is one of the most ancient structures in the district and centuries ago was the administrative centre for the district. An expert's report says the oldest surviving part is undoubtedly the stone of the walls and the screen passage doors which date from early 14th century. The square windows and the hall floor are later insertions and the arched transoms are features of Elizabethan work. Originally the building would have a centre hall, with screen at one end and kitchen and buttery beyond; a spiral staircase would have been at the other end leading to the withdrawing room.

Library and Museum

Present. — Councillors Elliott (Chairman), Atkinson, Clarke, Hampshire, Hill, Lickley, Sarjeant, and Smith.

The thanks of this Committee were given to Miss E. M. Fletcher for her most interesting report on the annual conference of the Museums' Association.

The Ministry of Housing and Local Government enclosed the formal consent of the Minister to the borrowing by the Council of a sum of £4,250 for the acquisition and restoration of the Old Manor House, Ilkley, for use as a museum.

Foundations of a Wooden Bridge

Sir,—I should like to bring to the attention of the public the condition of the ruins of the medieval wooden bridge across the River Wharfe just below the stone bridge now closed to motor traffic. These remains are in no way protected and are liable to extensive damage by wanton marauders. Such vandalism occurred some eight years ago when several of the ancient beams were dragged out and half a pier foundation destroyed in order to make the river more navigable to rowing boats.

Surely the authorities will do something to preserve this relic of the town's past? Might I suggest that the obvious course of action would be to entrust careful investigation of the remains to some responsible body such as the Olicana Museum Society as a preliminary to taking steps to protect and clear out of the surrounding pebbles, the beams and foundations.

M. J. WALKER.

Ashwell, Wheatley Avenue, Ben Rhydding.

BRIDGE SURVEY REFUSED

An application from Mr. M. J. Walker, Wheatley Avenue, Ben Rhydding, for permission to carry out a survey of the remains of the foundations of the "15th century bridge" in the river bed near the Old Bridge has been refused by Ilkley Council.

They have reached this decision, they say, "having regard to the possibility of detrimental effects upon the flow of the river."

Two years ago with the consent of the Council, Mr. Walker, who is a student at Bradford Grammar School, carried out a survey of the remaining stones on Ilkley

ILKLEY MUSEUM SOCIETY TOLD ABOUT A GHOST FORMER ADDINGHAM RECTOR FINDS ONE AT GUISELEY

Members of the Olicana Museum Society were told by the Rector of Guiseley, the Rev. J. Wranham Hardy, who was formerly Rector of Addingham, when they visited the Church and Rectory, that he believed in the story of a ghost at the Rectory. He said he had experience of it himself.

The Society was having on Thursday of last week the third of four summer excursions and they were conducted round St. Oswald's Church, at Guiseley and the adjoining Rectory hall by the Rector.

The Rev. J. F. Wranham Hardy, outlined the history of the church, which was greatly enlarged in 1910 when a new nave and chancel were added parallel to the original. The additions were made under the direction of Sir Charles Nicholson, Bt., an architect who specialised in work for cathedrals and churches. The Rector said that the church was now thanks to Sir Charles, acoustically excellent, and a preacher could be heard throughout the building without having to raise his voice.

Members were shown the historic parchment scrolls of

Guiseley records which had been restored by the British Museum, and inspected the church silver including a communion cup made in 1639 and still in use.

RECTORY

The Rector then conducted the party round his home, the Rectory Hall, which was built in its present form in 1601 and has remained unaltered ever since, even escaping the normally inevitable Victorian "improvements." Miss Fletcher noted the similarity between the Rectory and the old Manor House at Ilkley, especially the windows. About the same time that the church was undergoing its last great alteration in 1910, the Rectory was carefully restored to structural soundness by Archdeacon Howson, the Rector of the time.

GHOST

The story of the ghost was told by the Rector, who himself does not doubt its existence. Evidently on the morning of the battle of Marston Moor, Cromwell (who had spent the night at the house) was discussing his plan of campaign with his Generals in an upstairs room. A royalist spy who was listening at the door was discovered, shot, and his body thrown over the banisters. The Rector explained that the ghost was never seen, but one heard the heavy thud of the fallen body. He had heard it himself on two separate occasions once when three people were sleeping in the house, and all were woken up by it. The ghost, it seemed, had a particular aversion to "maiden ladies of uncertain age," and once made itself heard three nights in succession, after which the visitor could stand no more and she left. The noises then ceased.

ROMAN BATH

The party then were shown a genuine Roman bath in the garden, stone-lined and sunken in the ground with steps leading down to the water. The Rev. Wranham Hardy stated that the bath had been used for baptisms by total immersion at one time. He also pointed out the moat, which encircled the Hall at one period, but only part of which was now left. He was anxious he said to obtain some fish which would eat up the surface weed.

Thanks were expressed to the Rector and his mother for a most interesting evening by the Secretary Mr. D. Glover.

The outing to Parceval Hall on 4 September may have to be cancelled if more support is not shown. The Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday 2 October.

25 Years Ago

Ilkley's last "Cabby," Mr. William Garnett, Nelson Road, Ilkley, retired at the end of September, 1933. He had been a cab driver in Ilkley for over 37 years. Mr. Garnett was born at Grassington. When he first came to Ilkley he was employed by Mr. Ramsden at the Midland Hotel, who had a large fleet of cabs and waggonettes, and afterwards worked for Messrs. Rishworth and Croft, who took over the hotel from Mr. Ramsden. In addition to this Mr. Garnett worked at the White Wells Stables. He worked on his own account for about 23 years.

DEATH'S HEAD HAWK MOTH FOUND IN ILKLEY

A Death's Head Hawk Moth with a wing span of nearly four inches and with a body measuring just over two inches long was found by Mrs. M. Matterson, at her home, 4, Leamington Road, Ilkley, on Thursday of last week.

The moth, an immigrant from the continent which in favourable years breeds in this country, usually in potato fields, was found by Mrs. Matterson crawling in the concrete yard attached to her house. The moth was later killed by her next door neighbour.

Mr. John Armitage, of the Leeds Museum, told the "Ilkley Gazette" this week that this year had not been a favourable one for breeding, but in good seasons several are recorded from the county, usually from the eastern parts. It is likely that the one found was a visitor, as it was found in an enclosed place, away from soil and potato tops.

ENORMOUS SIZE

Caterpillars of the moth at this time of the year may be found in the potato fields. These caterpillars grow to an enormous size, sometimes as much as five inches in length.

The moth found by Mrs. Matterson was of a yellowish-brown colour and had black spots along its back. It is said that these moths are the largest to be found in Britain, and sometimes the wing span exceeds five inches.

But its main claim to fame is said to be its macabre appearance.

Just behind the insect's head is a large yellow mark exactly like a human skull, while the orange-yellow body is marked with lines that suggest the ribs of a skeleton.

In addition the Death's Head Hawk is unique among moths in that it can make quite a loud squeak, rather like that of a mouse. They are completely harmless.

Although they breed in this country each summer, very few of these moths or their chrysalises can survive an English winter.

Mrs. Matterson says she is to present the moth to the Olicana Museum Society.

In Days Gone By 75 Years Ago

The Old White Wells Fountain was officially handed over to the Local Board on Saturday afternoon, 8 September, 1928. The ceremony took place on the hill and above the stone building known as "The old Rectory." The fountain was erected through the generosity of Mr. J. W. Parceval. Members of the Local Board who attended the ceremony were Mr. J. S. Tolson (chairman) and Messrs. T. Crabtree, W. J. Downes, J. Wilde, W. Harrison, G. W. Wainwright, W. Holmes, T. Horsman, W. Wainwright and W. J. S. Thompson. Among the spectators were Mrs. Abbott, the Misses, and Master E. H. Crawley, Mrs. Gaunt, Mr. J. H. Parceval, Mr. M. Hainsworth (Mayor), Mr. J. H. Knight, Mr. Paley, Mr. H. Scott, Mr. Harry Spall, Mr. T. Stephenson, Mr. Wainwright, Mr. Ward (Parish Clerk), and Mrs. G. Wordsworth. The fountain, "a neat erection of cast iron and gilt ornamentation," was cast by Messrs. McFarlane of Glasgow. The stone pedestal of which it is fixed was the work of Mr. Wm. Dean. The water was obtained in its pure state by inserting an earthen pipe into the old well, and running the lead pipe into this, the distance being mixed with that of the springs. The fountain was supplied from this pipe, and as its course was uphill from the well, the mound of trees, the same principle had to be resorted to. "The party having assembled near the fountain, Mr. Parceval introduced the donor, Mr. Wainwright, who said that the stream which was to be turned on was that of their forefathers 300 years ago, but owing to certain arrangements on the part of the waterworks' system, the spring had not been of the native purity for seven years. Mr. Tolson said the donor's gift was that those who from infirmity were not capable of mounting the hill should have the water at a nearer point. The water was turned on by Mr. Edward Harold Crawley, and afterwards freely tested by the party. Meanwhile, on a knoll near the fountain, a case of champagne had been unpacked, and the invitation of Mr. Crawley, and other members of the local board and other friends toasted the health of the donor and 'success to the fountain.'"

LAST SUMMER OUTING

A visit to the grounds of Parceval Hall, Appleton, by permission of Sir William Milner, was the fourth and last summer excursion for members of the Olicana Museum Society on Thursday of last week. There were some 30 members present.

The hall itself was built in 1929 by Sir William, who is an architect. The interior was arranged and some features added to the exterior of the building which however still retains an appearance of considerable antiquity, the modern additions having blended well with the original structure.

At the same time, the garden was reconstructed, and the series of terraces in front of the house now capture the visitor's attention more than any other feature of the grounds.

GAY BORDERS

The lily-ponds, flowering shrubs, trim hedges and lawns and gay borders were of much interest and it was noticed that another terrace was under construction at the foot of the existing ones. The party was conducted round by the head gardener who pointed out that the best time of the year to make a visit was in May when the many thousands of daisies were in bloom. The outing was favoured with fine weather.

The annual general meeting of the Society is to be held in October when the vice-chairman of the Ilkley Council, Mr. J. Elliott will tell members of last year's tour of Australia and New Zealand. She will also take part with lantern slides concerning Ilkley is the chairman of the Local Board and Museum Committee.