

A

YEAR-BOOK

OF THE

ROYAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.

1908

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CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Fixtures of the Society.....	1
List of the Society	2
Standing and Occasional Committees.....	43
Sectional Committees	46
Government Grant Boards	49
Statutes of the Society	51
Standing Orders of Council	70
Notes on the Reading and Publication of Papers.....	80
Procedure in the Nomination of the Council	83
Procedure of the Council in the Nomination of Foreign Members	84
Procedure of the Council in the Adjudication of the Medals.....	85
Conditions of Award of the Society's Medals, &c.	86
Mackinnon Studentships Regulations.....	88
Regulations for Administering the Gunning Fund	89
Regulations for Administering the Joule Fund	89
Regulations for the Administration of the Government Publication Grant..	90
Regulations for Administering the Scientific Relief Fund	91
National Physical Laboratory	94
Regulations for Administering Government Grant	101
Account of Appropriation of Government Grant, 1906-1907	110
Regulations governing the Use of the Library of the Society	118
Additions to Library, 1906-1907.....	119
Institutions on which the Society is represented.....	123
Other Public Functions performed by the Society.....	124
Institutions which receive the Publications of the Society.....	125
Catalogue of Objects, &c., exhibited at Conversazione, May, 1907	143
The Croonian Lectures.....	149
The Bakerian Lectures.....	157
Medal Awards during the past Twenty Years.....	167
Award of Medals and Studentships, 1907.....	169
Anniversary Meeting.....	170
Report of the Council	171
Presents received by the Society during 1907	181
Income and Expenditure Account.....	182
Catalogue of Scientific Papers Account.....	183
Balance Sheet, 1907	184
Estates and Property	186
Trust Funds, 1907.....	187
" " " (Balance Sheet).....	197
Progress and State of the Society, 1907.....	198
Account of Grants from the Donation Fund in 1907	198
Minutes of Meetings of the Society	199
Index.....	221

MEMORANDUM AS TO THE WISHES OF THE COUNCIL
IN RESPECT OF BENEFACTIONS TO THE SOCIETY.

From time to time since its foundation, the Royal Society has, through the generosity of benefactors, received funds, now amounting to a very considerable sum.

In the majority of cases the terms of gift have limited the application of the money to certain definite purposes, and, in particular, to the award of medals or other prizes for scientific discoveries or other contributions to the advancement of Natural Knowledge.

Every year the Council have to award several medals, including the Copley, Royal, Rumford, Davy, Darwin, Buchanan, Sylvester, and Hughes Medals, or some of these, and have been led by experience to the conclusion that it is neither to the advantage of the Society nor in the interests of the advancement of Natural Knowledge that this already long list of medals should in future be added to, and that, therefore, no further bequests to be awarded as prizes for past achievements should be accepted by the Society.

They desire, however, to make known that the funds belonging absolutely to the Society, funds tied down by no special directions as to their applications, funds which the Society are free to use for general purposes, are very few indeed. And the President and Council have again and again had the experience that the usefulness of the Society for the advancement of Natural Knowledge has been greatly hampered by the lack of funds of which they could freely make use according to their own judgment.

The President and Council are confident that it would not be difficult, wherever desirable, to associate in some conspicuous manner with any gift to the Society the name of the benefactor, and indeed they would wish to do so.

The President and Council accordingly desire to make it generally known that, while they will willingly receive gifts to be applied to special objects or for the benefit of particular sciences indicated by the donors, they consider that, in view of the varying necessities of Science, the most useful benefactions are those which are given to the Society in general terms for the advancement of Natural Knowledge.

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YEAR - BOOK
OF
THE ROYAL SOCIETY.
1908.

CALENDAR.

1908.

JANUARY	16.	<i>Ordinary Meeting at 4.30 P.M.</i>
"	23.	" " "
"	30.	" " "
"	31.	<i>Last day for receiving applications for Government Grants.</i>
FEBRUARY	6.	<i>Ordinary Meeting at 4.30 P.M.</i>
"	13.	" " "
"	20.	" " "
"	27.	" " "
MARCH	5.	" " "
"	12.	" " "
"	19.	" " "
"	25.	<i>Annual Contributions due.</i>
"	26.	<i>Ordinary Meeting at 4.30 P.M.</i>
APRIL	2.	" " "
"	30	" " "
MAY	7.	<i>Election of Fellows at 4 P.M.</i>
"	7.	<i>Ordinary Meeting at 4.30 P.M.</i>
"	14.	" " "
"	21.	" " "
"	28.	" " "
JUNE	4.	" " "
"	18.	" " "
"	25.	" " "
NOVEMBER	5.	" " "
"	12.	" " "
"	19.	" " "
"	26.	" " "
"	30.	<i>Anniversary Meeting at 4 P.M. (Monday).</i>
DECEMBER	3.	<i>Ordinary Meeting at 4.30 P.M.</i>
"	10.	" " "
"	31.	<i>Last day for receiving certificates of Candidates for Election.</i>