

BRITISH LICHEN SOCIETY

President: D.G. Catcheside, D.Sc., F.R.S., F.L.S.

BULLETIN No.3. September 1959

Membership: The membership on 1 September was 140.

Librarian: Dr. D.C. Smith will be in U.S.A. until September 1960; in the meantime Dr. J.H. Tallis, Department of Botany, Manchester University, Manchester, 13, has kindly undertaken to take charge of the library.

Dr. W. Watson Lichen Collection: Dr. Walter Watson has presented his lichen collection to the Herbarium, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. The collection is to be used as a loan collection of British lichens.

Dahl's Keys to the Macrolichens: The Librarian reports that the stock of these is exhausted.

The Annual General Meeting 1960 is to be held on 2 January next at The Polytechnic, Regent Street, London, in conjunction with an exhibition meeting.

Recent publications on British and Irish Lichens.

A Guide to the Study of Lichens. Ursula K. Duncan. T. Buncle & Co., Ltd. Arbroath. 1959. 25s.

Huntingdonshire Lichens II. J.L. Gilbert. Hunts. Fauna and Flora Society 11th Annual Report for 1958, 14-16, 1959, 32 taxa, 31 not recorded for the county in the previous Report.

The Ecology of the Cairngorms, IV. The Juncus zone: Juncus trifidus communities. M. Ingram. Journ. Ecol. 46, 707, 1958. 13 lichen taxa, pages 717 and 731.

The Lichen Vegetation of Bookham Common [Surrey]. J.R. Laundon, The London Naturalist, No. 37 [1957], 66-79, 1958. A general historical account followed by a descriptive account of the lichen communities and a list of 73 species. Laundon reduces Lecanora albescens (L. galactina), L. dispersa, L. hageni and L. umbrina to forms of one species L. dispersa (Pers.) Rohl. He does not consider L. hageni and L. umbrina taxonomically distinct from L. dispersa forma dispersa.

On some interesting lichens from Gorumha (Western Ireland),
Michael E. Mitchell, The Irish Naturalists' Journal, 13, No.1,
13-15, 1959. New to v.-c.H16. Cladonia impexa Harm. C.
leucophaea Des Abb. C. rangiformis var. muricata (Ach.) Arn.
C. subcervicornis f. subregularis Magn. Cornicularia stuppea
(Fw.) (= C. aculeata var. muricata).
Glamorgan Botanical Records, A.E. Wade. Trans. Cardiff Naturalists'
Society, 86, 22-23, 1959. 21 taxa new to v.-c.41 are given.

LICHEN STUDY GROUP

Organiser: Mr F.H. Brightman, B.Sc., 2 Red
Oak Close, Orpington, Kent.

The Lichen Study Group was started some years ago by Mr F.A. Sowter, and has now become part of the British Lichen Society. Each member of the Group is asked to submit specimens on loan; they should be British species, though not necessarily from British localities. Groups of related species in which the distinguishing features can be compared are especially useful. The specimens should be accompanied by all the taxonomic data such as chemical reactions, spore size, internal structure of the apothecium, etc. together with all ecological data possible. This information should be given on a sheet of paper attached to the packet containing the specimen. Any other information should be added that will help the student in the identification, and any relevant literature cited. The specimens are made up into parcels which are circulated to members. Each member retains the parcel for not more than a fortnight, and then sends it on to the next person on the distribution list; it is hoped that members will receive a parcel about once a quarter.

The aim of the Group is to assist members in their study of lichens especially by helping them to see as much material as possible. Members are encouraged to take part even though they may feel unable to submit specimens at first. At present four parcels of specimens are circulating, as described above; it is hoped that later it will prove possible to circulate a collection of microscope slides of lichenological interest in a similar manner.