

THE
BRITISH ACADEMY

The First Fifty Years

By

SIR FREDERIC G. KENYON

WITH A FOREWORD BY

Sir Charles K. Webster



LONDON: *Published for* THE BRITISH ACADEMY
by GEOFFREY CUMBERLEGE, OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS
AMEN HOUSE, E.C. 4

1952

Price 3s. 6d. net

THE
BRITISH ACADEMY

The First Fifty Years

By

SIR FREDERIC G. KENYON

WITH A FOREWORD BY

Sir Charles K. Webster

LONDON: *Published for* THE BRITISH ACADEMY
by GEOFFREY CUMBERLEGE, OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS
AMEN HOUSE, E.C. 4

1952

PRINTED IN GREAT BRITAIN

FOREWORD

SIR FREDERIC KENYON has added one more to the many services which he has rendered since 1903 to the British Academy by writing this characteristically modest and candid history. He alone could have written it, for the records of the Academy are far from complete and he had a greater share in its work than any other living member. It is largely his scholarly integrity and careful administration that have enabled it to maintain a consistently high standard in all the purposes for which it was founded; and his long and faithful service has recently been recognized by the unprecedented step of transferring his name to the very small and distinguished roll of Honorary Fellows.

Most of the academies of the world came into existence as the result of princely patronage and were often well endowed from the outset. It is harder to obtain recognition for such work in democracies, and the present record shows how difficult it was in this country, in spite of the great names on the Academy's list of members, to win even such assistance as was necessary to keep it in being. On the other hand, there is something to be said for such a body growing slowly and gradually finding its proper place in the society of scholars.

It has become clear that under present conditions, with the inevitable decline of private benefaction, the work of the Academy is increasingly necessary for the preservation of many forms of learning. Not that private benefaction has entirely ceased; for example, the new Albert Reckitt bequest and the fund recently founded from the estate of the late Sir Aurel Stein have appreciably enlarged the capacity of the Academy for supporting archaeological research. But it is above all gratifying to note that the changing economic situation has been recognized by the State. In one way or another, the activities of the Academy, both national and international, are now greater than ever before; it has undertaken many new tasks, and its position as an adviser and administrative centre in matters of humanistic scholarship is now established. Its machinery is being adapted to these new duties and will, I hope, be able to carry them out to the satisfaction of the Fellowship and of the wide community of scholars of which it is a part.

January 1952

CHARLES K. WEBSTER
President

THE BRITISH ACADEMY

The First Fifty Years

IN view of the fact that the British Academy hopes to celebrate in 1952 the fiftieth anniversary of its Royal Charter, I have been asked, as the only survivor of those who were concerned with its institution, to place on record what I remember of its origin and of its early activities. It is indeed the fact that an interval of seven years separates me from the Fellow who now stands second in order of election, and fifteen years from the third. I was associated with the negotiations and discussions which preceded its foundation, and have been closely connected with its history from the very beginning. I became a member of Council in 1906, and with the exception of the single year 1909-10 I have been connected with its administration, either as Member of Council or (since 1930) as Secretary, ever since.*

The Academy owes its origin to a meeting at Wiesbaden in October 1899 of representatives of existing European and American Academies, which resolved to endeavour to form an International Association of Scientific and Literary Academies throughout the world. This proposal brought into prominence the fact that while Great Britain was very adequately represented in the domain of the natural sciences by the Royal Society, that Society had for a long time past ceased to concern itself at all with the literary or 'humane' fields of learning, which had in consequence no central or official representation in this country. The representatives of the Royal Society were accordingly asked to make themselves the channel of a request that steps should be taken as soon as possible to fill this gap. The Royal Society was forward in accepting this mission, and in all the negotiations that followed it cordially promoted the foundation of the new body, which was to become the British Academy.

The history of these earliest steps was fully set out in 'A Brief Account of the Foundation of the Academy', which is prefixed to the first volume of the Academy's *Proceedings*; and since I was not concerned with many of these earliest steps, and the volume containing the 'Brief Account' is not now generally available, it will be convenient to reprint it here *in extenso*:

* [Sir Frederic Kenyon was President from 1917 to 1921.]

At a Meeting of the Representatives of the chief European and American Academies, held at Wiesbaden in October, 1899, a scheme was drawn up for the organization of an International Association of the principal Scientific and Literary Academies of the World.

The scheme provided for the division of the Association into two Sections, viz. a Section of 'Natural Science' and a Section of 'Literary Science', the term 'Literary' being used to indicate the sciences of language, history, philosophy, and antiquities, and other subjects the study of which is based on scientific principles, but which are not included under the term 'Natural Science'.

While the Royal Society represented at the Association the United Kingdom in the Section of 'Natural Science', no existing institution was at that date deemed competent to represent the United Kingdom in the section dealing with historical, philosophical, and philological studies.

In consequence of this defect in existing English institutions, these branches of study in the United Kingdom were not represented at the first meeting of the International Association of Academies held in Paris in 1900.

It was urgently demanded by the International Representatives present at the Meetings of the Association that immediate efforts should be made to secure the due corporate representation of these branches of study in the United Kingdom.

On November 21, 1899, the Council of the Royal Society addressed a letter to certain selected persons suggesting the possibility that some body might be formed capable of representing this country in the International Association of Academies in respect of those studies in which the country is not represented by the Royal Society. The persons who received that letter conferred with each other, and at a meeting held on December 14, 1899, drew up a statement of their views, which was communicated to the Royal Society. The main point in the statement was that the idea of an academy formed by the simple federation of existing societies did not meet the views of those present at the meeting. At the same time a letter from the late Professor Henry Sidgwick was forwarded to the Royal Society, enclosing 'a plan for the institution of a new Academy or Section', which had been approved by several of the gentlemen taking part in the meeting. According to Professor Sidgwick's 'Plan', the aid of the Royal Society might be given in one of two ways—(a) It might propose to enlarge its scope so as to include the representation of the subjects in question; or (b), if it preferred to maintain the restriction of scope, it might support a body external to itself in the attempt to obtain a new Charter.

On January 18, 1900, the Council of the Royal Society considered the matter, and appointed a Committee of Fellows, with power to confer with such persons as they thought desirable, and to report to the Council on the suggestions made in Professor Sidgwick's memorandum. The Committee placed themselves in communication, through

Professor Sidgwick, Professor Jebb, and Lord Acton, with a number of representatives of philosophico-historical and philological studies, and on May 29, 1900, a Conference took place between the Committee and the latter representatives of 'literary' science. At the conference views were exchanged as to various methods by which the desired object could be effected. The Committee of Fellows subsequently furnished to the Council of the Royal Society a report of considerable length, stating the reasons which might be urged for and against the several measures suggested. Upon the receipt of that report the President and Council thought it desirable that the subject should be considered by the whole body of Fellows, and it was accordingly decided that the meeting of the Society on May 9, 1901, should be devoted to the consideration of the report in order that the President and Council might have an opportunity of hearing the views of the Fellows on the questions raised therein.

The feeling of the meeting held on May 9 was against the possible enlargement of the scope of the Royal Society, so as to include the representation of the new subjects; and on June 4, 1901, the following decision was arrived at by the President and Council of the Society—'That the President and Council, while sympathizing with the desire to secure corporate organization for the exact literary studies considered in the British Academy Report, are of opinion that it is undesirable that the Royal Society should itself initiate the establishment of a British Academy.'

Soon after the meeting of the Fellows of the Royal Society held on May 9, 1901, certain persons who had received the original letter from the secretaries of the Royal Society, in association with other persons, took independent action, with a view of supplying what the Royal Society felt itself unable to supply. A meeting was held at the British Museum on June 28, 1901. At that meeting it was unanimously resolved as follows—'That, in the opinion of this meeting, it is desirable that a society representative of Historical, Philosophical, and Philological Studies be formed on conditions which will satisfy the requirements of the International Association of Academies.' The persons present, with power to add to their number, were constituted a Provisional 'General Committee', and a sub-committee was at the same time appointed for the purpose of considering how the project might be realized. The sub-committee held frequent meetings in the summer and autumn of 1901, and on November 19 reported to the 'General Committee' by which it had been appointed. The 'General Committee' then decided that certain persons should be invited to become the first members of a new body to be called 'The British Academy for the Promotion of Historical, Philosophical, and Philological Studies'.

On December 17, 1901, the new body, as an unincorporated society, met for the first time, and drew up a Petition to His Majesty in Council for the Grant of a Royal Charter for incorporating the society under the title of 'The British Academy for the Promotion of Historical,

Philosophical, and Philological Studies', or under such other title as to His Majesty might seem fit; in accordance with the terms of the Draft Charter submitted, or in such other terms as might seem proper.

The Royal Society cordially welcomed the institution of the new body, and petitioned His Majesty in favour of a Charter being granted.

In reply to a petition presented to the Lords of the Privy Council by a number of men of science and men of letters, to the effect that such incorporation as was sought could be most effectively provided for in some relationship to the Royal Society, it was submitted that the granting of the Charter would not preclude any ultimate combination of the Royal Society and the British Academy.

On August 8, 1902, the eve of His Majesty's Coronation, the Royal Charter was granted, incorporating the new Society as 'the British Academy for the Promotion of Historical, Philosophical, and Philological Studies'.

The Bye-laws, in accordance with the terms of the Charter, were allowed by Order of Council, dated February 5, 1903.

My own connexion with these negotiations began with the meeting at the British Museum on 28 June 1901. It so happened that almost a year before, in March 1900, I had been elected a Corresponding Member of the Prussian Academy, on the occasion of the celebration of the bicentenary of its foundation. The Prussian Academy was then by general consent the leading Academy of Learning in Europe (the special character of the more widely known Académie Française placing it in rather a different category), and I was accordingly much interested in academies, and was attracted by the idea of the creation of one in Great Britain. My chief at the Museum, Edward Maunde Thompson, was intimately concerned with the negotiations in progress, and through him I was brought into touch with them, and was able to provide some information with regard to academies in general. It was no doubt for that reason that I was invited to attend the meeting on 28 June which definitely launched the enterprise. Maunde Thompson took a leading part in the discussions and negotiations which followed. Many of the meetings took place at the Museum, and either he or Lord Reay usually presided.

I do not know who drew up the list of persons invited to attend the meeting on 28 June. Probably it was done at Cambridge, since the original communication from the Royal Society was addressed to three distinguished Cambridge scholars, Professor Henry Sidgwick (who had already submitted a memorandum to the Royal Society), Sir Richard Jebb, and Lord Acton. The list of persons invited was as follows:

Sir E. Maunde Thompson	Prof. Ingram Bywater
Lord Dillon	Prof. Joseph Wright
Lord Reay	Prof. John Rhÿs
Mr. James Bryce	Prof. Percy Gardner
Sir John Evans	Dr. C. H. Firth
Dr. G. W. Prothero	Sir Richard Jebb
Prof. W. P. Ker	Dr. J. Peile
Mr. F. G. Kenyon	Dr. A. W. Ward
Mr. Sidney Lee	Prof. W. W. Skeat
Sir William Anson	Prof. W. Ridgeway
Sir Frederick Pollock	Prof. F. W. Maitland
Dr. J. A. H. Murray	Prof. W. R. Sorley.

Dr. Israel Gollancz, who had been active in secretarial work at Cambridge, was added as secretary to this inchoate body; and at Lord Reay's request three representatives of learned Societies with which he, as President of the Royal Asiatic Society, had been in communication were invited to attend, viz. Dr. F. J. Furnivall, representing the President of the Philological Society, Mr. F. Legge, representing the President of the Society of Biblical Archaeology, and Dr. A. C. Haddon, President of the Royal Anthropological Institute.

A sub-committee of this body was appointed, consisting of Lord Reay, Mr. Bryce, Sir W. Anson, Sir J. Evans, Sir E. Maunde Thompson, Sir R. Jebb, Dr. Ward, Professor Bywater, and Dr. Prothero, with Dr. Gollancz as Secretary.

A proposal was put forward by Dr. Gollancz that in order to obviate the need for applying for a Royal Charter (which it was thought might arouse opposition) the Academy might be brought into existence by amalgamation with the existing Royal Society of Literature, which already possessed a Charter. It was suggested that the existing members of the Society would gradually drop off and would not be replaced, leaving the Academy in sole possession of the Charter. This scheme was warmly advocated by Sir John Evans, who brought it up on two occasions (5 and 12 July), and when it was decisively rejected he withdrew from the Committee. It so happened that at this time I had frequent opportunities of discussing the Academy negotiations with Gollancz. I was then living at Harrow, where he regularly spent week-ends as tutor to the Jewish colony in the School. He was in close touch with the Cambridge end of the negotiations, as I was (through Maunde Thompson) with the London end. Gollancz mentioned his proposal with regard to the Royal Society of Literature, which I strongly deprecated as likely to prejudice the

prestige of the Academy by making it a mere appendage of a body which had no strong position of its own. The proposal had in fact no chance of success, as it was generally felt that the Academy must likewise receive a Charter, so as to acquire at once its proper status, on a par with the Royal Society.

The Royal Society had offered its good services in promoting the foundation of the Academy, and in supporting its application for a Charter, but was definitely unwilling to take the lead in establishing it. The sub-committee therefore set to work with a free hand, and at its second meeting, on 12 July, it invited members to draw up lists of about thirty persons who might be added to those already approached. It was suggested that the Academy might have seven Sections, viz. History, Classical Philology, Oriental (including Biblical) Studies, Law and Politics, Metaphysics and Ethics, Economics, and Archaeology. As the result of this invitation, at a meeting on 19 July eighty names were submitted, out of which a list of forty was drawn up, arranged under these Sections.

I

Lord Acton
 Prof. H. F. Pelham
 Dr. T. Hodgkin
 Prof. S. R. Gardiner
 Prof. J. B. Bury

II

Prof. J. E. B. Mayor
 Prof. R. Ellis
 Mr. D. B. Monro
 Prof. R. Y. Tyrrell
 Prof. W. W. Skeat
 Dr. J. A. H. Murray
 Dr. Whitley Stokes
 Prof. J. Rhys

III

Prof. H. B. Swete
 Prof. S. R. Driver
 Prof. W. Sanday
 Provost G. Salmon
 Prof. A. B. Davidson
 Prof. E. B. Cowell
 Prof. T. W. Rhys Davids

IV

Prof. F. W. Maitland
 Sir F. Pollock
 Prof. A. V. Dicey
 Prof. T. E. Holland
 Prof. J. Westlake
 Sir C. P. Ilbert

V

Dr. E. Caird
 Mr. H. Spencer
 Mr. Leslie Stephen
 Mr. S. H. Hodgson
 Prof. R. Flint
 Dr. A. M. Fairbairn

VI

Prof. A. Marshall
 Prof. F. Y. Edgeworth
 Dr. W. Cunningham

VII

Lord Dillon
 Prof. W. M. Ramsay
 Mr. J. G. Frazer
 Mr. A. J. Evans
 Mr. H. F. Tozer

To these the names of Bishop Westcott, Professor S. H. Butcher, and Sir H. Maxwell-Lyte were at once added; and the General Committee on 19 November, in accepting this list, added also the name of the Right Hon. W. E. H. Lecky. Sir William Anson was deputed to draft the Charter, to be submitted for the approval of the Crown, with instructions to make it as short and simple as possible, leaving details to be settled by the Academy itself.

The draft report of the sub-committee, having been considered and approved on 24 October, was accepted by the General Committee on 19 November. The list of names was also put forward, with the addition of those of the sub-committee itself, for submission as the recipients of the Charter. Some modifications in the list were, however, made before the end of the year. It was decided to add the names of three persons who combined political importance with scholarly eminence, viz. Lord Rosebery, Mr. A. J. Balfour, and Mr. John Morley. The sub-committee also put forward the names of Sir George Trevelyan, Sir Alfred Lyall, Professor David Masson, Professor Edward Dowden, Mr. Sidney Lee, Mr. W. P. Ker, Mr. W. Courthope, Dr. Aldis Wright, Dr. F. J. Furnivall, Mr. Frederic Harrison, and Professor Joseph Wright, but the General Committee decided to postpone these. On the other hand, Mr. Herbert Spencer, Professor Westlake, Sir John Evans, and Professor Edgeworth declined election, and Dr. Prothero withdrew in consequence of the non-acceptance of his proposal for considerable additions to the list.

At a General Meeting on 17 December the petition for the Charter was approved, and an Organizing Committee was nominated to carry the business through, consisting of Lord Reay, Mr. Bryce, Sir William Anson, Sir E. Maunde Thompson, Sir Richard Jebb, Professor I. Bywater, and Dr. A. W. Ward, with Dr. Gollancz as Secretary.

So ended 1901.

The forty-eight original members, as approved by the General Meeting, were therefore as follows:

The Earl of Rosebery
 Viscount Dillon

Lord Reay
 The Right Hon. A. J. Balfour

The Right Hon. John Morley	Sir Richard Jebb
The Right Hon. James Bryce	Mr. D. B. Monro
The Right Hon. W. E. H. Lecky	Dr. A. W. Ward
Sir William Anson	Mr. Edward Caird
Sir Frederick Pollock	Prof. H. F. Pelham
Sir Edward Maunde Thompson	Prof. John Rhys
Prof. J. B. Bury	The Rev. Dr. George Salmon
Prof. S. H. Butcher	Mr. S. H. Hodgson
Prof. I. Bywater	Prof. T. E. Holland
Prof. E. B. Cowell	Prof. F. W. Maitland
The Rev. W. Cunningham	Prof. Alfred Marshall
Prof. T. W. Rhys Davids	The Rev. Prof. J. E. B. Mayor
Prof. A. V. Dicey	Dr. J. A. H. Murray
Canon S. R. Driver	Prof. W. M. Ramsay
Prof. Robinson Ellis	Canon W. Sanday
Mr. A. J. Evans	The Rev. Prof. W. W. Skeat
The Rev. A. M. Fairbairn	Mr. Leslie Stephen
The Rev. Prof. R. Flint	Mr. Whitley Stokes
Mr. J. G. Frazer	The Rev. Prof. H. B. Swete
Mr. T. Hodgkin	The Rev. H. F. Tozer
Sir Courtenay Ilbert	Prof. R. Y. Tyrrell
Sir Henry Maxwell-Lyte	Prof. James Ward.

To this list was added, when the application was forwarded to the Privy Council, the name of Dr. Israel Gollancz, who had been acting throughout as Secretary, and had been very active in all the business of bringing the Academy into being.

There had been apprehensions of opposition to the creation of a new body, making such high claims to the representation of the scholarship of the United Kingdom; but in point of fact there was little opposition, and very few refusals to accept membership. On 11 March 1902 the Clerk to the Privy Council informed the petitioners that the Royal Irish Academy had put in a petition against the grant of a Charter, seemingly on the Hibernian ground that since there was already a Royal Academy in Ireland there was no occasion for one in England. This opposition was apparently led by Professor J. P. Mahaffy, who had been invited to join the Academy, but had declined.

Another petition against the grant had been put forward by a small group headed by Lord Rosebery, which advocated an application to the Royal Society. This, however, was due to ignorance of the negotiations with that Society which had already taken place, and collapsed when the facts were explained.

The application therefore went forward without serious opposition. Before it could be carried into effect, however, four persons

who had been concerned in the preliminary consultations and had been included in the earliest drafts had passed away, viz. Lord Acton, Professor Davidson, Professor S. R. Gardiner, and Professor Henry Sidgwick. Their names therefore do not appear in the Charter of Incorporation. Bishop Westcott also had died before the invitation to join had reached him.

With these modifications the petition for incorporation went forward, and was approved by His Majesty on the recommendation of the Privy Council. The Charter was accordingly signed by His Majesty on 8 August 1902, the eve of his coronation.

The Academy being now formally established with a Charter and a nucleus membership, the first need was to provide it with officers, and to make up its numbers to something like the total previously contemplated. Sir William Anson, Mr. Bryce, and Sir Courtenay Ilbert were appointed a Special Committee to draft Bye-Laws. It was also agreed to invite Lord Rosebery to become the first President; but on his declining the name of Lord Reay was substituted, and his name, with a draft list of the Council, was submitted to, and accepted by, a General Meeting on 19 November.

Lord Reay had been Governor of Bombay and Under-Secretary of State for India. He then abandoned politics, and at the time when the formation of the Academy was under discussion he was President of the Royal Asiatic Society. He was not the best-known scholar among the original Fellows, but he had taken an active share in the creation of the Academy, and he made a distinguished figure-head. His presidential addresses showed a cordial interest in the work and prosperity of the Academy, which he served as President until June 1907.

The first Council of the Academy, which was therefore responsible for guiding its early steps, was as follows:

Sir William Anson	Prof. J. E. B. Mayor
The Right Hon. J. Bryce	Dr. J. A. H. Murray
Prof. I. Bywater	Prof. H. F. Pelham
Prof. Rhys Davids	Prof. W. W. Skeat
Canon S. R. Driver	Sir E. Maunde Thompson
Principal A. M. Fairbairn	Dr. A. W. Ward
Sir Courtenay Ilbert	Prof. J. Ward.
Sir Richard Jebb	

The first task of the Council was the organization of the work of the Academy, and the completion of the membership up to

something like the number originally contemplated. On 26 November it nominated Dr. Gollancz as Secretary and it decided that the general body should be organized in four Sections, instead of the seven previously intended. These four were to be:

- i. History and Archaeology.
- ii. Philology (Oriental, Biblical, Classical, Medieval, Modern).
- iii. Philosophy (Logic, Psychology, Ethics, Metaphysics, &c.).
- iv. Jurisprudence and Economics.

The Chairmen of these Sections were respectively Mr. Bryce, Sir R. Jebb, Dr. Caird, and Sir C. P. Ilbert.

To complete the membership, a special provision in the Bye-Laws authorized the election of new Fellows in the year 1903 at meetings other than the Annual General Meeting. Accordingly the Sectional Committees were invited to submit lists of proposed additions, it being resolved that the total maximum should be 100 instead of the 70 originally contemplated. At the first meeting of the Sections, lists were accordingly drafted. Section I put forward 11 names, subsequently reduced to 8; Section II nominated 29, subsequently reduced to 12; Section III apparently failed to produce any list; and Section IV proposed 5. The Council thereupon decided on 27 February to bring the total at once up to 70 by electing the following, some at least of whom had been concerned in the previous consultations.

I

E. G. Browne
C. H. Firth
P. Gardner
Sir A. Lyall
A. S. Murray
G. W. Prothero

II

F. C. Conybeare
F. J. Furnivall
H. Jackson
M. R. James
F. G. Kenyon
W. P. Ker
W. R. Morfill
J. Armitage Robinson

III

B. Bosanquet
A. Campbell Fraser
G. F. Stout

IV

F. Y. Edgeworth
Lord Lindley
Sir E. Fry
A. Cohen
J. S. Nicholson

This brought the total up to seventy before the first Ordinary Annual Meeting on 26 June, as announced by the President in his address on that occasion.

The Academy was now well and truly launched on its career; and it showed no anxiety to avoid shouldering the responsibilities which rightly fell on it. It was, however, extremely inadequately equipped for its task. It had no local habitation and an almost negligible income. The lack of income limited most seriously its power to serve the causes which it was founded to promote. The Royal Society, its counterpart in the domain of natural science, had long been in receipt of a substantial subsidy from public funds; but the Treasury steadily refused to consider a corresponding grant for the service of the humanities. Whether its doctrine was that humane learning is of no public interest, or that a new institution must show its ability to stand and run alone before it receives public recognition, or merely the ingrained official tendency to say 'No' to any application for money, may be uncertain, but the fact remains. For the first twenty-two years of its existence the Academy received no public grant. By 1920 the officials of the Treasury had been converted; but the then Chancellor of the Exchequer was still obdurate. In this connexion it may be legitimate to quote some sentences from the memoir of Lord Balfour in the Academy's *Proceedings* for 1930 (xvi. 418):

In 1923, when Balfour had become President, he readily responded to an appeal to use his great influence with his political associates. He had lately retired from office, but he had a right to believe that his advocacy would carry weight with his late colleagues; and it was a sharp disappointment to him when almost the last act of the Conservative Chancellor of the Exchequer, before leaving office after the electoral defeat of the Government, was to refuse an application which had appeared to be on the eve of success. Characteristically, however, Balfour did not abandon a cause because it had failed once. When the Labour Government took office, he returned to the charge; and this time, with the ready assistance of another Fellow of the Academy, Lord Haldane, he was successful. The Government Grant, which makes such a vital difference to the utility and status of the Academy, was approved in February 1924. Balfour wrote as follows on hearing the good news: 'I can't tell you what pleasure your letter of the 26th has given me. I was inclined to despair of the situation, and felt that no amount of individual devotion on the part of the members of the Academy would enable them to do for this country what all other Academies do in their respective spheres. The relief is immense.'

The first grant was of £2,000, with the proviso that the whole amount should be devoted to the promotion and publication of research, and that no portion of it should be applied to the ordinary expenses of the Academy.

Before the receipt of this official support, the financial resources of the Academy were, in fact, very small. The annual subscription of the Fellows was deliberately kept low, in order that no scholar should be deterred from accepting election from considerations of a financial character; and receipts from the sales of the Academy's publications, which eventually became considerable, were at first naturally small. The Academy nevertheless, from the time of its foundation, was not backward in endeavouring to live up to the responsibilities that had been laid upon it. It will be remembered that it had been brought into existence in response to an appeal by the International Association of Academies for the co-operation of Great Britain in the Association's efforts for the promotion of humane studies; and when the Association met in London in May 1904, the Academy did not hesitate to take its share, along with its elder sister, the Royal Society, not only in organizing and conducting its activities, but also by putting forward a substantial proposition of its own. Sir Richard Jebb on behalf of the Academy proposed that the Association should undertake the preparation of a Thesaurus of the Greek language, and that the control of it should be committed to the Academy. The proposal was adopted in principle, and a committee appointed to consider it, but the German academies, already somewhat overweighted by the Latin Thesaurus to which they were committed, went far towards killing the new project by excessive kindness. They insisted on an extreme elaboration, beginning by listing every word in all known Greek literature (as had been the principle adopted in the Latin Thesaurus), as against the selective method exemplified in the *Oxford English Dictionary*. This was really an impossible proposition, and would have involved an intolerable waste of time, of labour, and of money. This was, however, the decision of the International Association at its meeting in 1907, when a committee was appointed, with a request that the British Academy should prepare a specimen, based upon Thucydides, for submission to the Association at its next meeting in 1910. The Academy accordingly nominated a committee (Bywater, Butcher, Jackson, and Kenyon), which promptly reaffirmed its preference for the methods of the *Oxford English Dictionary*, and expressed regret at the refusal by the Association of the proposal to found a special periodical for the discussion of matters connected with the preparation of the Thesaurus. In July 1908 the British Committee came to the conclusion that the difference of opinion among the members of the Association made the whole scheme impracticable, and it accordingly died a silent death.

A better fate befell the participation by the Academy in two other undertakings of the International Association, an *Encyclopaedia of Islam* and an edition of the great Indian epic, the *Mahābhārata*. The *Encyclopaedia* was undertaken by the Association in 1902, and the Academy was represented on its committee from the start. At the same time an edition of the *Mahābhārata* was discussed. For both of these the Academy succeeded in obtaining support from the India Office, which was more disposed to liberality than the Treasury. For the *Encyclopaedia* it made a grant of £200 in 1905, and long continued its support; and in 1910 it granted £60 a year for ten years for the *Mahābhārata*. The Academy has been represented in the editorial work of the *Encyclopaedia*, and in both of these Oriental projects the influence of Lord Reay as President may probably be discerned. Several small grants were also made to the Pali Text Society from the Academy's own funds.

Meanwhile some financial strength was coming to the Academy from other sources. For this it was indebted to its Secretary, Dr. Gollancz. It was perhaps in enabling the Academy to make a good show of activity in these early years, and at the same time to serve learning and enlist public interest, that Gollancz rendered his greatest service to the Academy, for which it should be lastingly grateful. It was not easy for the Academy to show any corporate activity. It had no official quarters, and almost no funds. Its members were not concentrated near any centre, as is usual with continental academies, and they could hardly be expected to travel long distances in order to listen to papers which they could much more conveniently study when they appeared in print. To meet these difficulties Gollancz induced a number of his relatives and friends to endow lectures on specified subjects, which were not only contributions to learning but also served to make the Academy publicly known.

The first and largest of these benefactions was the Leopold Schweich Fund. This was a gift (at first anonymous) by Miss Constance Schweich in memory of her father 'for the furtherance of research in the archaeology, art, history, languages, and literature of ancient civilization with reference to Biblical Study'. Its centre of interest was to be Biblical, but the connexion might be rather remote; and the sum was sufficient to provide not only for an annual course of three lectures, but also for grants of substantial amounts in aid of archaeological research. The Schweich Lectures have in fact provided a series of valuable monographs on subjects connected with

'Bible Lands'. The first course was delivered in 1908 by Canon S. R. Driver.

The next benefaction of a similar kind was received in 1910 when an anonymous donor (subsequently known to be Mrs. Frida Mond) endowed two annual lectures, one to be on Shakespeare or subjects connected with him, the other (to be known as the Warton Lecture) on some historical, philological or philosophical subject connected with English Poetry. There was a further provision for occasional grants of Gold Medals 'to commemorate exceptional achievement and pre-eminent merit' in studies belonging to these categories.

These were followed in 1914 by a bequest by Miss Henriette Hertz of a sum amounting to £5,400 for the endowment of three lectures, one on Philosophy (Eastern or Western, or on 'theories of the phenomena of life in relation to eternity'); one on Art in its relations to human culture; and one on some Master Mind considered individually. The publication of some meritorious work on philosophy, or the reward of such a publication, was also included in the scope of the bequest.

In 1917 an Annual Lecture on 'the Literature, History, Art, &c., of Italy' was founded by Mrs. Angela Mond, and Mr. Arthur Serena endowed a Gold Medal to be granted for eminence in Italian studies; and in 1918 Sir Charles (afterwards Lord) Wakefield endowed an annual Raleigh Lecture on History. Both of the lectures were due to the influence of Sir Israel Gollancz; as also was the the Sir John Rhÿs Memorial Lecture in 1924, which was endowed by a committee of which Mr. Lloyd George was President and Sir Israel Gollancz Secretary. Finally in the same year (1924) Mrs. Frida Mond endowed a Lecture and Prize (which the Council, under her authority, decided should be awarded in alternate years) for work on subjects connected with Anglo-Saxon or Early English Literature. This benefaction was to be specifically associated with the name of Sir Israel Gollancz, though at his request the association was not to be publicly announced in his lifetime.

It is therefore to Sir Israel Gollancz that the Academy, directly or indirectly, owes all the endowed lectures which are the principal visible signs of its activity.

It may be convenient to mention at the same time two endowments, not for lectures, which are administered by the Academy. One is the Cromer Greek Essay Prize, founded in 1916 by the first Earl Cromer, to be awarded for work by a *young* British scholar on Greek literature. In the same year the Academy

accepted the transfer of a fund created by Miss Rose Mary Crawshay for an annual prize for a work (published or unpublished) by a woman of any nationality on English literature, with a preference for work bearing on Shelley, Byron, or Keats.

In spite of the exiguity of its income, the Academy did not hesitate to embark on a large-scale project worthy of its claims as a representative of humane learning. In March 1906 Professor (afterwards Sir Paul) Vinogradoff laid before the Council a proposal for the publication of a series of Records of British Economic and Social History. This, after consideration by a sub-committee, was adopted, and the first volume was published in 1914. A year previously the Treasury, largely as the result of pressure from Principal (afterwards Sir John) Rhÿs, had made a contribution of £400 a year to this series, but this was suspended from 1915 and was never renewed as a separate grant. In 1924, however, a general grant to the Academy made it possible to renew the series. The series ran for nine substantial volumes, all planned by Vinogradoff. After his death in 1925 (by which time five volumes had appeared), the editorial supervision was carried on by Professor Tout. On his death at the end of 1929 the editorship was taken on by Professor (now Sir Frank) Stenton, but no new volumes were put in hand, and the series must now be considered as closed, its place having been taken by the new series initiated in 1948 by Professor Galbraith, which will be mentioned later. The Social and Economic series stands, however, as a substantial achievement to the credit of the Academy.

A few smaller enterprises were assisted by the Academy in its early days. In 1907 a grant of £50 was voted to Professor Conway to enable him to collect in Italy materials for his proposed edition of Venetic and Ligurian inscriptions. In 1919 £100 was granted in aid of this publication. In 1911 an annual grant of £25 for three years was voted as a contribution to the Bibliography of British History since the end of the Middle Ages. In 1912, on the instigation of the then President (Dr. Ward), it was agreed to contribute £60 (in three annual instalments of £20) to the publication of the Register of Sound Dues.

Two important publications appeared under the aegis of the Academy, though in fact the funds for them were provided by outside benefactors. One was a magnificent facsimile, with an elaborate introduction by Sir Israel Gollancz, of the celebrated manuscript of Cædmon in the Bodleian Library, undertaken at the expense of friends of Sir Israel in 1911, and ultimately

published in 1927 with a specific dedication to the President and Fellows of the Academy in commemoration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of its incorporation. The other was a contribution (at first anonymous, but subsequently known to be by Mr. Sigismund Goetze) of £1,000 towards the facsimile edition, published by the Oxford University Press, of the Old Testament portion of the *Codex Sinaiticus*.

Another form of activity was shown in the organization of commemorations of anniversaries of outstanding personages whose works came within the ambit of the Academy's interests. In 1904 special meetings were held to commemorate the centenary of the death of Immanuel Kant and the bicentenary of the death of John Locke. Much more elaborate was the celebration in 1908 of the Tercentenary of the birth of Milton, which was undertaken by the Academy at the formal request of the Lord Mayor, the Vice-Chancellors of the Universities, the London County Council, and the High Master of St. Paul's School. It included an inaugural meeting in Burlington Gardens, opened by an address by Dr. Adolphus Ward, after which a poem by George Meredith, written for the occasion, was recited, and a lecture on 'Milton and Music' was given by Sir Frederick Bridge, illustrated by songs from Milton's works sung by members of the Westminster Abbey choir. On the actual Tercentenary day (9 Dec.) a memorial service was held in Bow Church (published with full music) and a banquet was given by the Lord Mayor (Sir George Wyatt Truscott) with a programme containing reproductions of seven portraits of the poet and the words of extracts from his poems sung by students of the Guildhall School of Music. On the following day a special meeting of the Academy was held, at which papers were read by Mr. A. F. Leach, Professor C. H. Firth, Dr. W. J. Courthope, Mr. J. G. Robertson, Professor Edward Dowden, and on behalf of the late Sir Richard Jebb.

In 1909 the Academy made itself responsible for two further literary commemorations. One was a memorial service in Westminster Abbey for George Meredith, who had lately assisted the Academy by the poem in honour of Milton, mentioned above. The other was a celebration of the centenary of the birth of Tennyson, which was made the subject of a special address by Dr. Henry Jones, and also of the greater part of Dr. Butcher's presidential address. The Tercentenary of Shakespeare's death in 1916 would no doubt have been the occasion of a major celebration, comparable with that for Milton, and a committee to consider it had been appointed early in 1914; but the war made

such celebrations impossible. No such commemorations of a literary kind have been undertaken since.

In other respects, during the early years of the Academy's existence when it had almost no funds to devote to scholarly undertakings, it was nevertheless fulfilling the function for which it was primarily created, by representing the country at international congresses and other gatherings. It was accepted abroad as the official representative of British scholarship, and in every year received invitations, which were generally accepted (although its representatives usually had to pay their own expenses), to attend meetings in every part of Europe. Thus in 1908 it was represented at the International Historical Congress, the International Congress of Orientalists, and the 500th anniversary of the University of Leipzig. In 1911 it took part in celebrations at Oslo, Breslau, and St. Andrews. The latter was a memorable occasion, when the naval squadron anchored in the estuary did not dare to send combatant representatives to the ceremonial banquet, for fear it might be ordered off on active service at a moment's notice, though somewhat inconsistently it allowed its medical officers to come on shore. In 1912 the Academy joined in celebrating the 250th anniversary of its elder sister, the Royal Society; it was represented also at the festival, both academic and patriotic, at Athens, the Congress of Orientalists at the same place, the Eugenics Congress in London, and the Archaeological Congress in Rome. The Academy also entertained the Congress of Universities of the Empire. In 1913 the International Historical Congress was held in London under the auspices of the Academy.

The Academy had thus began actively to play the part for which it had been brought into being, as the representative of British humane scholarship among the nations of the world; and its personnel, if not its financial resources, enabled it to do so with credit to the country. But in 1914 this activity was shaken, and in some respects wholly stopped, by the outbreak of the First World War, and the first chapter of the Academy's history closes here.

The inevitable immediate result of the outbreak of war was to bring to an end the International Association of Academies. As will be seen, when international co-operation again became possible after the war it was revived in a different form. Of the projects in hand, co-operation in the edition of the *Mahābhārata*, which was mainly in the hands of German and Austrian scholars, became impossible; and other projects which did not revive after the war were the Corpus of Greek records, the *Corpus Medicorum*

Antiquorum, and the *Pali Dictionary*. On the other hand the *Encyclopaedia of Islam*, being edited outside Germany, continued to exist, together with the purely British undertakings, the *Social and Economic Records* and the *Bibliography of British History*, though progress in both was delayed. The Treasury grant for the *Social and Economic Records* was suspended in 1915, and (as stated above) was never revived as an independent grant. The first volume, however, had already appeared in 1914.

A serious question which confronted the Academy in the early days of the war was the treatment of German and Austrian scholars who were Corresponding Fellows of their body. There was an agitation which had some vogue in the country to deprive them of their membership of British learned societies. The problem was made acute by the publication in Germany of a manifesto denouncing the Allies, signed by ninety-three professors, members of academies, and other scholars. The publication was peculiarly challenging, because the signatories, as scholars, had no concern with, or special knowledge of, the political events which led to the war, and, as scholars, they should have been chary in interference with matters in which scholarship was not concerned. The language of the manifesto, moreover, was deliberately offensive and ill-mannered. Some societies therefore deprived German and Austrian scholars of their positions as Corresponding Fellows or members; but both the Academy and the Royal Society declined. It was realized that the names of several German and Austrian scholars were, to their honour, absent from the list of signatories; that many of those who signed probably did so under considerable compulsion, since they held their posts under Government and could hardly risk the loss of employment; and that it was more dignified to take no action, and to hope for a return to sanity after the war. It may be permissible to quote some words from a presidential address shortly after the war (in 1920):

It was nothing that these ninety-three persons should, as individuals, believe that their country was right, or should accept as gospel the statement of the case put before them by their unscrupulous politicians, but that, speaking as scholars (and their scholarship was their only title to be heard at all), they should make emphatic affirmation of the truth of statements which they had not investigated and on which they were not in a position to pass judgement, was a gross crime against scholarship; and that men among them who had accepted honours and hospitality from England, and whom we believed to be honestly our friends, should go out of their way to insult the name and fame of

our country, was an offence against good manners and the common decencies of life which cannot be simply ignored as if it had never happened.

It was perhaps hardly to be expected that German scholars after the war, and smarting under the consciousness of defeat, should explicitly disavow their action under official pressure; but intercommunication and friendly relations were gradually restored. In 1920 the Academy took steps to ascertain whether its German and Austrian Corresponding Fellows wished to receive its publications as before. In 1935 (not without some warm controversy) Germany and Austria were invited to become members of the organization which (as narrated below) had taken the place of the International Association; and from 1936 they had done so, until the catastrophe of 1939 broke all relations afresh.

So much for international activities during the war period. At home the Academy was by no means idle. The presidential addresses of Lord Bryce (1914-17) would alone have made the period memorable. They were full-scale discussions of subjects connected with the Academy's interests, and the last in particular comprised an amazing survey of what he described as 'some few of the fields in which the work of the Academy is likely to lie during the next thirty years'. The fields surveyed would not by most people be described as 'few', and the range of knowledge shown in the survey could be paralleled by few indeed. It is regrettable that in respect of the scale of presidential addresses his example has not been maintained; but Lord Balfour, who occupied the chair for six years and rendered notable services to the Academy in other ways, was too much occupied by public affairs to undertake such annual liabilities, and his successors have limited themselves to much briefer surveys of some of the interests of the Academy.

Among other activities the Academy in 1914 promoted the foundation of the School of Oriental Studies, and in 1918 it set up a committee for the establishment of a British School of Archaeology in Jerusalem. During the war it played a considerable part in securing the attachment of archaeologists to our forces in Palestine and Mesopotamia. It also joined, early in 1918, in the general protests against the Government's proposal to hand over the buildings of the British Museum for occupation by the Air Ministry and thus make them a legitimate target for air attack.

Another war-time activity arose from the destruction by the Germans of the Library of Louvain. In March 1915 the Academy

was invited by the Institut de France to co-operate in the provision of a new library. The Academy readily agreed, and appointed a committee to deal with the matter; but the organization of aid from this country was taken over by Dr. Guppy, Librarian of the John Rylands Library, and action by the Academy became unnecessary.

The war period also saw the foundation, as recited above, of the annual Philosophical Lecture, the Aspects of Art Lecture, the Master-Mind Lecture, the Italian Lecture, and the Cromer Prize; and work on the Social Records series continued, in spite of the suspension in 1915 of the Treasury grant. The Annual Report, which has since been a feature in the Academy's publications, was instituted in 1917.

When the First World War ended in November 1918, the Academy had to make a fresh start in several respects, and the next few years were important in its history.

On the international side, a complete new departure was necessary. The war had brought to an end the activities of the International Association of Academies, and for some time to come no co-operation between Germany and Austria on the one hand and the Allied nations on the other would be possible. The initiative in filling the gap was taken by France. A preliminary meeting was held in Paris in May 1919. The Academy was unable, on somewhat short notice, to send a representative to it; but it was kept in touch with the proceedings, and was represented at a meeting in October, at which the statutes of the new organization were approved. The organization was on somewhat different lines from the old International Association. That had comprised both Academies of Natural Science and Academies of Humane Studies; but the combination of the two was cumbrous and caused a good deal of waste of time. It was decided now to separate the two, and while the Royal Society became a member of the new organization of Academies of Natural Science, it fell to the British Academy to represent this country in the new Union Académique Internationale, the official seat of which was fixed at Brussels.

The new Union embarked at once on a much larger programme of activity than its predecessor had achieved. Of the enterprises undertaken by the latter, the *Encyclopaedia of Islam*, the headquarters of which were domiciled in Holland, went on independently, while the others mostly, if not wholly, lapsed. But the U.A.I. at its first business meeting in Brussels in May 1920, under the Presidency of M. Pirenne, embarked at once on three sub-

stantial enterprises, and gave preliminary consideration to seven others. The schemes actually adopted were (1) a *Corpus of Greek Vases*, (2) an edition of the works of Hugo Grotius (already in hand in Holland), and (3) a *Catalogue of Greek and Latin Manuscripts relating to Alchemy*. Schemes considered favourably, but postponed for further elaboration, were (4) publication of materials relating to Indonesia, (5) new editions of the *Corpus Inscriptionum Graecarum* and the *Corpus Inscriptionum Latinarum*, (6) an *Atlas of the Roman World* on a uniform scale of 1:1,000,000, (7) a *Catalogue of Greek Manuscripts* to replace that of Gardthausen, (8) a new *Dictionary of Medieval Latin* (to replace Ducange). All of these were eventually adopted except the *Catalogue of Greek Manuscripts*; and to them from time to time were added (9) a *Corpus Philosophorum Medii Aevi*, which reduced itself to the publication of Latin and Arabic translations of Plato and Aristotle, (10) *Codices Latini Antiquiores*, a catalogue of Latin manuscripts prior to the ninth century, (11) *Concordance et Indices de la Tradition Musulmane*, (12) *Emploi des signes critiques* (in editions of Greek and Latin classical authors), (13) *Monumenta Musicae Byzantinae*, (14) *Dictionary of the Terminology of International Law*. Some of these, such as the edition of Grotius, the documents of Indonesia, and the catalogue of early Latin manuscripts, were relatively small projects, undertaken by constituent Academies under the general patronage of the Union, while others were larger enterprises, involving the co-operation of many members. The British Academy from the first took its share in the *Corpus of Greek Vases*, the *Catalogue of Alchemical Manuscripts*, the *Corpus of Latin Inscriptions*, the *Forma Orbis Romani*, the *Dictionary of Medieval Latin*, and eventually the *Corpus Philosophorum*, the *Musulman Concordance and Indices*, and the *Monumenta Musicae Byzantinae*. It was enabled to do so by acting as the medium and sponsor for the work of others who bore the expense; thus in the *Catalogue of Greek Vases* the earlier British parts were produced and paid for by the British Museum, the *Catalogue of Alchemical Manuscripts* was the contribution of Mrs. Waley Singer, the volumes of *Glossaria Latina* were produced, nominally as a contribution to the *Dictionary of Medieval Latin*, by Professor W. M. Lindsay and his disciples and paid for by the universities to which they were attached; and the *Map of Roman Britain* was the work of His Majesty's Ordnance Survey department, under the direction of Mr. O. G. S. Crawford.

The work of the Union has, I think, been fruitful, not only in the production of contributions to scholarship, but also in the promotion of friendly relations between the scholars of the various

countries concerned (which included the United States of America and Japan, as well as most of Europe, apart from the Soviet Union). In 1935 Austria and Germany were invited by a unanimous vote to join the Union, though not without some lively previous discussions, and in 1936 they were duly represented, and continued to be so until the outbreak of the Second World War. Sweden, which had originally held off because Germany was excluded, accepted an invitation to join in 1939, and made its first appearance in 1947, the first meeting after the war.

I represented the Academy at the meeting in October 1919 and at nearly all the annual meetings thereafter up to 1947, since when it has been represented by Sir Charles Webster and Professor Mynors. Other Fellows who attended as the Academy's representatives for shorter periods were Professor Tout, Professor Stuart Jones, Mr. R. L. Poole, Sir Paul Vinogradoff, Mr. A. H. Smith, Professor (now Sir Maurice) Powicke, and Sir David Ross, with Professor J. H. Baxter of St. Andrews as Assessor throughout in respect of the *Dictionary of Medieval Latin*.

To complete the record of the Academy's connexion with the U.A.I., in 1939 the Academy itself entertained the Union in London. A change of Statutes, allowing the Union to meet elsewhere than in Brussels, had been made in 1932, and a meeting had accordingly been held in Copenhagen in 1935. At the meeting in 1938 (mainly at the instigation of the United States representative, Mr. Waldo Leland, then President of the Union) the Academy invited the Union to hold its meeting in the following year in London; and the last meeting of the Union before the Second World War was accordingly held in Burlington Gardens on 8-11 May 1939. Apart from the normal business of the meeting, an official banquet was given to the members by His Majesty's Government, and a visit was paid to Oxford on the invitation of the Vice-Chancellor (the President of Magdalen) and Sir David Ross (Provost of Oriel). The thanks of the Union were expressed by Mr. Leland to the Secretary and Assistant Secretary (Miss D. W. Pearson), 'pour tout ce qu'ils ont fait pour la réussite parfaite de la réunion, et pour leur attention aux détails des arrangements et au confort des délégués'. The thanks and acknowledgements of the Academy were expressed in return by Sir David Ross. In 1951 the Academy again acted as host to the Union.

With regard to the domestic affairs of the Academy, the next few years after the end of the war in 1918 were of considerable importance. By 1920 the Treasury officials had become reconciled

to the idea of a Government grant for its support, but it took another four years to give effect to this conversion, and it was not until 1924 that a sum of £2,000 was included in the annual estimates (above, p. 15). The grant could not be considered as excessively liberal in amount, or as comparing well with the annual income allowed to the Royal Society, but it enabled the Academy to undertake the assistance of research by substantial financial help. The Annual Report for 1924-5, which announces the grant, gives a list of nine societies or projects to which grants had been made. These included the series of Social and Economic Records (already in hand), the English Place-Name Society, the Egypt Exploration Society, and three publications of the Union Académique Internationale, viz. the *Medieval Latin Dictionary*, the *Corpus Vasorum Antiquorum*, and the *Catalogue of Alchemical Manuscripts*, besides a subscription to the Union itself. Two short-term projects also received support.

Since this date the range of the Academy's encouragement of research has been considerably enlarged. It may be of interest to give a conspectus of grants made between 1925 and 1951.

Of long-term projects the following have received annual grants over a number of years:

- Social and Economic Records (published by the Academy).
- English Place-Name Society.
- Pipe Roll Society.
- Economic Bibliography.
- Egypt Exploration Society.
- Medieval Latin Dictionary (U.A.I.).
- Word-List of Medieval Latin.
- Roger Bacon's Works.
- Catalogue of Alchemical Manuscripts (U.A.I.).
- Corpus Vasorum Antiquorum (U.A.I.).
- Canterbury and York Society.
- Critical Edition of the Greek New Testament.
- Glossaria Latina.
- British School of Archaeology at Jerusalem.
- British National Committee of International Historical Congress.
- Concordance of Muslim Tradition (U.A.I.).
- Monumenta Musicae Byzantinae (U.A.I.).
- Corpus Philosophorum Medii Aevi (U.A.I.).
- Journal of Assyriology (*Iraq*).
- Anglo-Norman Text Society.
- Royal Institute of Philosophy.
- Royal Asiatic Society.
- Warburg Institute.

Prof. P. Jacobsthal, for Celtic studies.
 Thesaurus Linguae Latinae.
 Series of historical texts, ed. Galbraith.
 Sylloge Nummorum Graecorum.

Shorter-term or single grants have been voted to the following objects amongst others:

- Edition of Marsilius of Padua's 'Defensor Pacis', by C. W. Previté-Orton.
 British School at Athens, for excavations at Sparta.
 Chronicle of St. Mary's Abbey, York.
 Excavations at Caerleon, Colchester, and Bath.
 Works of al-Shahrastānī, by A. Guillaume.
 Edition of Sanskrit text, by E. H. Johnson.
 Collation of MSS. of Pelagius, by A. Souter.
 Edition of Anglo-Norman St. Brendan, by E. G. R. Waters.
 H. G. G. Payne, Corinthian archaeology.
 Excavations at the Hippodrome of Constantinople.
 Coptic Lexicon, by W. E. Crum.
 F. Pelster, *Historia Litteraria Scholasticorum Anglorum*.
 C. J. M. Weir, *Lexicon of Accadian Prayers*.
 J. D. Beazley, *Supplement to Florentine Fasciculus of Corpus Vasorum*.
 Dictionary of Armourers.
 R. M. McKenzie, work on Liddell and Scott's Greek Lexicon.
 R. Klibansky, work on edition of Meister Eckart's Latin works.
 F. Lugt, *Répertoire des Catalogues de Ventes*.
 W. P. Yetts, *Chinese Ritual Bronzes*.
 Gross's *Sources and Literature of English History*, new ed. (from Prothero Fund).
 Works of William of Ockham.
 J. M. F. May, *Coinage of Damastion*.
 " " *Coinage of Ainos*.
 Dictionary of International Law (U.A.I.).
 L. B. Frewer's *Bibliography of Historical Writings* (Prothero Fund).
 Miss Wegener, work on *Oxyrhynchus papyri*.
 D. S. Margoliouth, ed. of *Chronicle by Quṭb al-dīn Mūsā al-Yūnīnī*.
 Critical edition of *Mahābhārata*.
 O. Pächt, *Inventory of Illuminated MSS.*
 Council for British Archaeology.
 Campbell Thompson, *Dictionary of Assyrian Botany*.
 F. W. Thomas, work on the language Nam.
 Translation of Bolzano, 'Paradoxien des Unendlichen'.
 Ashmolean Museum, publication of the *Crondall Hoard of Coins*.
 Excavations at Khirokitia and Kouklia (Cyprus).
 British School at Rome, excavations and other work in Tripolitania.
 Prosopography of Later Roman Empire.

S. Weinstock, *Catalogus Codicum Astrologorum Graecorum*.
 U. Kahrstedt, Air photographs of the Rhine valley.
Tabula Imperii Romani.
Encyclopaedia of Islam.
Archaeological Survey of the Plain of Cilicia.
 A. J. B. Wace, excavations at Mycenae.
 O. G. S. Crawford, archaeological survey in the Sudan.
 Oxford excavations in Nubia.
 Excavations at Mohenjo-daro (Stein-Arnold Fund).
 Excavations in Apulia.

Grants from the Schweich and Henriette Hertz Funds include:

Excavations at Ur.
 „ Jerash.
 „ Samaria.
 „ Jericho.
 „ Tell el-Amarna (Egypt Exploration Society).
 „ in Palestine (Sir Flinders Petrie).
 Publication of *Samaria-Sebaste*, vol. i.
 Publication of *Prae-Italic Dialects*, by Conway and others.
 G. Heard, *The Ascent of Humanity*.
 A. Souter, rotographs of MS. of Jerome's Commentary on St. Matthew.
 Critical edition of Greek New Testament.
 Lexicon of Patristic Greek.
 Babylonian Texts (illustrative of Prof. Langdon's lectures).
 S. Birnbaum, work on Hebrew palaeography.
 Institut International de Collaboration Philosophique (for bibliography of philosophical literature).
 Excavations at Gaza (P.E.F.).
 „ Ophel (P.E.F.).

The relations of the Academy with the Treasury and other Government departments have fluctuated from time to time. Although no financial aid was granted until the Academy had been in existence for nearly a quarter of a century, the Academy was not without friendly relations with both the Treasury and other Departments of State. At the end of the First World War, the Academy made representations to the Foreign Office with regard to the organization of archaeological research in the territories of the Near and Middle East which had been detached from the Turkish Empire, notably in Mesopotamia (Iraq) and Palestine. Mr. Balfour was the Foreign Secretary, and (as always) sympathetically disposed towards the Academy. On his suggestion the Academy undertook (November 1918) to form a

committee representing the principal archaeological societies in the country, which should act as the channel of communication between the societies and the departments of State concerned. In January 1919 it was able to notify to the Treasury the formation of an Archaeological Joint Committee comprising representatives of the Academy itself, the Society of Antiquaries, the Royal Asiatic Society, the Royal Institute of British Architects, the Societies for Hellenic and Roman Studies, the British Schools at Athens, Rome, and Jerusalem, the Egypt Exploration Fund, the Palestine Exploration Fund, the Byzantine Research Fund, the Royal Numismatic Society, and the Royal Anthropological Institute, and in close touch with the British Museum and the Victoria and Albert Museum. For some years this Committee functioned actively. A proposal for the foundation of a British Institute of Archaeology in Egypt, with a Government endowment of £12,000 a year, met with no success; but valuable work was done in drafting Laws of Antiquities for Palestine and Iraq, which were eventually adopted.

In 1923 the Academy was invited by the Foreign Office to set up a committee to organize the collection of books to restore the Imperial University Library of Tokyo (which, incidentally, brought into the employment of the Academy the lady who eventually became its very efficient Assistant Secretary, Miss D. W. Pearson). The Foreign Office also encouraged the raising of an endowment fund for the British Institute at Florence, which, having been founded at the instigation of the Government to encourage the good relations between Great Britain and Italy arising out of the war, had been left in the cold by the withdrawal of official financial support when the political object had lost its urgency.

In 1924, as stated above, the Treasury at last provided the Academy with an annual grant, but it was still some years before official quarters were allotted.

It may be convenient to record here, though it belongs to a much later date, the development of the Academy's position as an intermediary between the Treasury and the various Schools or Societies concerned with archaeological research. The Treasury had for some time past been making grants to some of these Schools, in each case as separate organizations. It was suggested that such grants would be better controlled if all were handled together through the agency and on the recommendation of the Academy, much as grants to scientific societies were made through the Royal Society. In 1946 this arrangement was

accepted in principle by the Treasury, though it was thought convenient that the actual payments should continue to be made direct to the Schools by the Treasury, and should not pass through the Academy's accounts. The matter was taken up again in 1949, and a more methodical procedure was established, making the Academy the normal channel for all grants of this character.

The financial support of the Treasury has fluctuated. After being withheld for twenty-two years, it was fixed at £2,000 a year in 1924. In 1932 this was reduced to £1,800, on the ground of the need for national economy, but in 1935 it was restored to £2,000. In 1940 it was suspended altogether, on account of the war (a step, it may be observed, not taken by any continental government, so far as is known), but as the result of an urgent appeal, not so much on behalf of the Academy as of the Societies which it supported and which were in danger of extinction, it was restored in 1941 to the extent of £1,000, and at this rate it continued until the year 1946-7, when it was re-established at the increased figure of £2,500. Since 1950 it has been further raised to £5,000.

With regard to other Government Departments, the Academy in 1918 suggested to the President of the Board of Education that it (and likewise the Royal Society) might occasionally be found useful for advice with regard to particular projects which came within their sphere, and in the following year it was invited by the President to nominate a representative on the newly-constituted Service Students (Foreign Universities) Committee. But not much came of this.

With regard to the provision of official quarters for the Academy, Government help did not materialize until 1927. Then, on the eve of the Academy's celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the reception of its charter, the President (Lord Balfour) was able to announce the receipt of a letter from Mr. Winston Churchill, as Chancellor of the Exchequer, stating that 'in recognition of the position of the Academy and its services to the nation, the Government has decided to assign it free quarters in Burlington House'. Previously the Academy had been indebted for hospitality in respect of its meetings to various Societies which had quarters in Burlington House—primarily to the Royal Society, but also on occasion to the Linnaean Society, the Society of Antiquaries, the Royal Astronomical Society, and the Chemical Society.

The Government offer took the form of a portion of the building in Burlington Gardens previously used by the University of

London, and now shared by the Academy with the Civil Service Commission. Its reconstruction was entrusted to the architect, Mr. Arnold Mitchell, who provided it with a large and a small Lecture Room (capable of being thrown into one), a Council Chamber, two rooms for secretarial purposes, and (on an upper floor) accommodation for a library. Since, however, it was felt that in view of the number of libraries already in London there was no need for another which would be little used and could not long be housed in the existing premises, it was decided not to undertake the formation of a library beyond the Academy's own publications and publications assisted by it, with a few casual additions. The upper floor accommodation has therefore, up to date, been shared with the Bibliographical Society, which also holds its meetings in the Academy's rooms.

By 1927, therefore, the Academy had at last obtained an official income and official quarters. The announcement of the latter gift was made by the President (Lord Balfour) at a dinner held on 14 July to celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the incorporation of the Academy. At the same time it was announced that Sir Charles Wakefield had presented to the Academy a portrait of the President by Sir William Orpen, together with fifty copies of Sir Israel Gollancz's volume of the *Cædmon MS.*, to be disposed of as the Council should think fit among academy and cathedral libraries and Fellows specially interested in the book.

On 24 July 1928 the rooms were ready for occupation, and after a formal opening a luncheon was held which was honoured by the presence of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. At the same time the Academy received gifts of three portraits which now (together with that of Lord Balfour already mentioned) hang on the walls of the Council Room. These are the portraits of Lord Reay by Mr. A. van Anrooy, presented by the Netherlands Minister and some friends; of Sir John Rhÿs by Solomon J. Solomon, R.A., presented by his daughter; and of Sir Richard Jebb, O.M., by the Hon. John Collier, presented by Lady Jebb. On the same occasion Gold Medals were presented by the Academy to Lord Balfour (inscribed 'Pro Eximiis in Studia Academica Meritis'), to Sir George Grierson, O.M., in recognition of the completion of the Linguistic Survey of India, and to the eldest son of the late Sir James A. H. Murray, in honour of the completion of the *Oxford English Dictionary*. In recognition of the latter Lady Murray presented a photograph of her husband, which hangs with a selection of portraits of other Fellows on the walls of the Lecture Room.

On the occasion of the opening of the rooms it was announced that the cost of reconstruction and decoration had been borne by that generous benefactor of the Academy, Sir Charles Wakefield. A tablet on the wall of the Lecture Room commemorates this gift, and as a small token of appreciation of his generosity a bound volume of the Raleigh Lectures delivered up to date was presented to him. In 1938 he was elected an Honorary Fellow of the Academy.

The Academy might now consider itself fairly launched, adequately if not lavishly equipped with rooms, and with an income which, though not luxurious, enabled it to make some real contribution to the progress of the studies which it was founded to promote.

Its membership was originally fixed at 100, with an indefinite number of foreign Corresponding Fellows. The number of Ordinary Fellows had for twenty years remained unchanged. Those who were most concerned with the working of the Academy were very soon convinced that it was too low. Candidates, eminently eligible, were often rejected for want of room, and (what impressed some Fellows more) the average age of election was undesirably high, so that in many, if not most, cases a man's active work was apt to be finished before he obtained the honour of election. In 1915 and again in 1916 the Fellows were consulted as to the desirability of an application for powers to increase the permissible total, but on both occasions the response was either unfavourable or showed so small a majority that it was considered undesirable to press the proposal. In 1921, however, a renewed proposal to authorize an increase up to 150 by gradual stages was accepted almost unanimously (by 57 votes out of 62). At this figure the maximum remained until 1946, when authority was sought and obtained to raise the total to 175 by additions of not more than 5 (in addition to filling vacancies caused by death or resignation) in any one year.

The number of Corresponding Fellows has remained unfixed. It is now (1951) 55.

In 1916 it was agreed to institute a grade of Honorary Fellows, to include persons whose seniority made them unsuitable for Ordinary Fellowship, or whose services to learning were rather outside the range of ordinary scholarship. The first so elected was Earl Cromer (a benefactor of the Academy, and a keen, if unprofessional, friend of scholarship); the latest was Earl Russell, whose position in our academic life was thus suitably recognized. Only ten Honorary Fellows have been elected up to date.

In 1919 it was decided to divide the Academy into nine Sections instead of the original four. These are the existing Sections I-IX. Section X was added in 1934, in view of the increasing activity in the sphere of Archaeology; and in 1950 Section XI was established for the History of Art. Otherwise the constitution of the Academy has remained unchanged.

The Annual General Meeting of the Academy has always been held at its headquarters in London. Suggestions were made in early days that meetings should occasionally be held at Oxford or Cambridge, which were within easy reach of London, and where a large proportion of the Fellows were normally to be found; but effect has only once been given to this proposal, in February 1923, when a meeting was held at Oxford. Six short papers were read at it, of which summaries appear in vol. x of the *Proceedings*.

In the same year Professor Burkitt placed at the disposal of the Academy a stock of bronze medals which he and some of his friends had had struck for presentation in recognition of special service to Biblical studies. After his death in 1935 these medals were given the name of Burkitt Medals.

It may be convenient to mention here some miscellaneous activities of the Academy in the years preceding its establishment in its own rooms. In 1916 it appointed a committee to report on the best method of transliteration of (a) Russian and other Slavonic languages, (b) the languages of the Nearer East. The result was a couple of pamphlets published in 1918, which are included in vol. viii of the Academy's *Proceedings*.

In 1927 the Academy was enabled by the liberality of a generous private donor, who at the time preferred to remain anonymous, but who may now be revealed as having been Sir Philip Sassoon, to undertake an archaeological enterprise of primary importance, namely the exploration and excavation of the Hippodrome at Constantinople. The work was under the direction of Mr. Stanley Casson, assisted by Mr. D. Talbot Rice and Mr. A. H. M. Jones. A second season was financed by Sir Joseph Duveen, and the results of both were published in two elaborate memoirs. The hopes that specimens of first-class Greek sculptures, such as are recorded to have been carried from Greece by Constantine to adorn his new capital, might be found were disappointed; but the Hippodrome, with its visible monuments (the Serpent Column from Delphi, the Column of Porphyrogenitus, and the Obelisk of Theodosius), was cleared and its dimensions and substructures were ascertained. The latter comprised a series of chambers opening into a central corridor which ran the whole

length of the Hippodrome, and which were subsequently converted into large cisterns for assuring the conservation of water in case of a siege. The second season's work identified the subterranean Baths of Zeuxippos and the remains of a large monument which appears to have been a great arch in honour of Theodosius. The Report for the second year included the first publication of a remarkable miniature recently discovered by the authorities of the Stamboul Museum in the Library of the Serai, depicting Mahomet II, on his entry into Constantinople, breaking with his mace one of the heads of the Serpent Column. The main other discoveries underground were further extensive cisterns to secure the water-supply of the capital. But of the hoped-for sculptures nothing was discovered beyond a few fragments.

In 1929 and 1930 the Academy joined in the protests made by many antiquarian societies against the danger being caused to Hadrian's Wall by quarrying operations. The protests had effect, and it may be hoped that the Wall is now secure against such perils.

In June 1930 Sir Israel Gollancz died, after a short illness, and the Academy lost a Fellow who had taken an active part in its foundation, and had been its zealous servant throughout its existence.

Gollancz had been Secretary from the beginning until his final illness in 1930. But during that time there had been no less than eight Presidents, of whom it will be convenient to give a list here:¹

1902-7 LORD REAY
 1907-9 SIR E. MAUNDE THOMPSON
 1909-10 MR. S. H. BUTCHER
 1911-13 SIR A. W. WARD
 1913-17 VISCOUNT BRYCE
 1917-21 SIR F. G. KENYON
 1921-28 EARL BALFOUR
 1928-32 MR. H. A. L. FISHER.

During the period 1932-50, for which there was again only one Secretary, the following names have been added to the list:

1932-36 MR. J. W. MACKAIL
 1936-40 SIR W. D. ROSS
 1940-46 SIR J. H. CLAPHAM
 1946-50 SIR H. I. BELL
 1950- SIR CHARLES K. WEBSTER.

On Gollancz's death there was no very obvious successor to

¹ By a strange omission, for which I am mainly, if not wholly, responsible, no mention of the changes of President is made in the Annual Reports.

his post. The field of choice was small, since the Secretary must be able to be in town at least two or three days in each week. It so happened, however, that I was on the eve of my retirement from the British Museum, and I accordingly informed the President (Fisher) privately that I could undertake it, if desired. The Council appointed me to the post, which I held until 1949, when Dr. Mortimer Wheeler succeeded me.

The Academy had now settled into its stride, and a record of its activities has appeared regularly in its annual *Proceedings*. A detailed history of them is therefore not necessary here. Its activities fall into two main categories, viz. its share in the operations of the Union Académique Internationale and its domestic and miscellaneous concerns. It may be convenient to summarize these briefly.

The U.A.I., since its foundation, has initiated a number of enterprises (p. 25), in several of which the Academy has taken a part. To the *Corpus Vasorum* it has contributed eleven fascicules (seven of vases in the British Museum, two of the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, and two of the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge), while it is giving support to fascicules from Reading University and Sydney (Australia). To the *Catalogue of Alchemical Manuscripts* it has contributed three volumes on the manuscripts in the British Isles (edited and financed by Mrs. Dorothea Waley Singer). The *Dictionary of Medieval Latin* was taken up seriously by a committee organized by the Public Record Office, which, besides undertaking the British contribution to the main Dictionary, produced a *Medieval Latin Word-List* which has been particularly valuable.

For the *Forma Orbis Romani* a map of Roman Britain on the prescribed scale of 1:1,000,000 was produced by the official Ordnance Survey. Quite recently the Academy has undertaken a share in the responsibility for the sheets dealing with Roman Libya. For the *Corpus Philosophorum* British activity has been concentrated mainly on the *Corpus Platonicum*, which (thanks largely to the stimulating activity of Sir David Ross) has made real progress, while the *Corpus Aristotelicum*, the direction of which was at first undertaken by Italy, is progressing. Finally, a considerable part of the *Monumenta Musicae Byzantinae* has been due to Professor H. J. W. Tillyard and Dr. E. J. Wellesz.

On the domestic side, there is no need to say much with regard to the period since the death of Sir I. Gollancz. Within the last year or two, however, its field of operation has expanded. The Treasury grant has been increased, the Stein-Arnold and

Albert Reckitt Archaeological Trusts have come under the control of the Academy, and the Treasury subsidies to the various British Schools of Archaeology are now regulated by the Academy, which receives an annual block-grant for the purpose. The Academy has thus, after fifty years, acquired its rightful position at the head of humanistic scholarship in this country, and my successors will have a more varied tale to tell.