

THE CHELSEA SOCIETY

ANNUAL REPORT 1950



Price HALF-A-CROWN



SIR THOMAS MORE AND HIS FAMILY

Margaret Giggs,	Elizabeth Dauncey,	Anne Cresacre,	John More,	Henry Patison,	John Harris,
	Sir John More,	Sir Thomas More,	Cecily Heron,	Margaret Roper,	Dame Alice More,

THE CHELSEA SOCIETY

*Founded by Reginald Blunt in 1927
to protect and foster the amenities of Chelsea*

President

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Vice-Presidents

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Hon. Auditor

R. J. V. ASTELL, Esq.

OBJECTS OF THE SOCIETY

- (1) To maintain all features of Chelsea having beauty or historical interest, unless a proved necessity requires their removal,
- (2) To preserve the open spaces for the health of the community,
- (3) Where clearances are necessary, to promote the construction of substituted buildings that will be a credit to Chelsea,
- (4) To prevent the disfigurement of streets and open spaces by ugly advertisements or otherwise,
- (5) To protect the residents from smoke, noises and other nuisances arising from industrial premises; and generally
- (6) To preserve and amplify the amenities of Chelsea.

Early information is of the greatest importance for effective action, and members are asked to inform the Council at once, through the Hon. Secretary, of any plans or proposals of which they may hear that seem to come within the scope of the objects of the Society.

The Council would consider such matters, obtain further information, and, if thought advisable, make such suggestions or protests on behalf of the Society as seem to them desirable.

CONDITIONS OF MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to all who agree with the objects of the Society, on payment of either

- (a) a life subscription, without an entrance fee, of £5 5s. 0d.; or
- (b) an entrance fee of 10s. and annual subscription of 10s. which, it is requested, should be paid by banker's order.

It is hoped that, whenever possible, more than the prescribed minimum subscriptions will be given.

The subscription year runs from the 1st February.

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Painting representing from left to right: Margaret Giggis, Elizabeth Dauncey (daughter), Sir John More (father), Anne Cresacre (later John More's wife), Sir Thomas More, John More (son), Cecily Heron (daughter), Margaret Roper (daughter), Dame Alice More (second wife), with Henry Pattison (jester) and John Harris (secretary) in the background.

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The Annual General Meeting
of the Chelsea Society was held at the Chenil Galleries,
on Wednesday, 5th October, 1949, at 5.30 p.m.

The Minutes of the last Annual Meeting were adopted and signed.

The Chairman said there was little to add to the account of the Society's activities given in the Annual Report. He would like to make special reference to members of the Society who had died during the year. Among them he mentioned Mrs. Cockburn, a member of the Council of the Society; Mrs. Oakes, who had given £100 to the Society to hold until it could be used in connection with the rebuilding of Chelsea Old Church; Mr. Geoffrey Hobson, much valued for his knowledge and judgment in many fields of artistic interest; and Mr. Coles, a well-known collector of water-colours.

During the past year the rebuilding of Chelsea Old Church had passed through many stages. By Christmas or early in the New Year it might be possible to accommodate 130 people in the extension to the More Chapel, for which work licences had already been granted, and builders were already busy upon it.

Financially the Society had suffered, both from the rise in all costs and from the increase in its work; and although donations had been received for specific purposes, the general resources of the Society were inadequate to carry on the work.

He expressed his regret at the resignation of the Honorary Secretary, Mr. Richard Stewart-Jones, and paid tribute to his magnificent work during the past few years. He gladly announced, however, that Mr. Stewart-Jones would remain on the Council, and that the Society would continue to have the benefit of his experience and advice.

On behalf of the Council of the Society, the Chairman presented the retiring Honorary Secretary with a fine salt-glaze dish in recognition of his services.

Mr. Stewart-Jones then thanked the Council for their splendid gift, and spoke of the great pleasure he had derived from working for the Society. He referred to three outstanding things that had occurred during his tenure as Honorary Secretary: first, the improvement in the relations of the Society with the Local Authority, which was largely due to the co-operation and personality of the Mayor (Councillor G. L. Tunbridge); secondly, the introduction as an active member of the Society of its President, Lord Cadogan, who was proving how keenly interested he was in all that took place in Chelsea; and finally the work of the former Town Clerk, Mr. E. W. J. Nicholson, who had done much to smooth the Society's path.

A bouquet of flowers was then presented to Miss Hester Wickham-Legg (now Mrs. Edward Stewart-Jones), who had acted as Assistant Secretary since 1947.

Miss Dorothy Macnamara, in proposing a formal vote of thanks to Mr. Stewart-Jones, expressed her appreciation of his indefatigable work for the Borough, achieving as he did at times tasks which others had deemed impossible. This was seconded by Sir Albert Napier.

The President, the Earl Cadogan, having taken the Chair, said that the Society could be well satisfied with its elected members of the Council, representing as they did so wide a field of the Society's work. He proposed their re-election, which was seconded by the Lady Clare Hartnell and carried unanimously.

On resuming the Chair, the Chairman moved the adoption of the Report and Accounts, with a rider that future accounts be made to run to the 31st December, and not the 31st March as previously. He then called on the Honorary Treasurer to explain the accounts.

Mr. Elliston pointed out that since the accounts had been compiled the Annual Report had been paid for and there had been a further six months' expenditure on the running of the

Society. The financial situation, therefore, was much weaker than shown in the printed statement.

The adoption of the Report and Accounts was seconded by Mr. Bool, who said that he looked upon the Society as the watch-dog of the amenities, ancient buildings and general well-being of the Borough. He was sure that they had done their best in the past, and was certain they would continue to do so in the future.

A vote of thanks to the Honorary Auditor was proposed by Mr. John Brown and carried unanimously.

It had been found necessary to institute an annual subscription in order that the work of the Society might be continued. Members had been circularised with the proposed form of resolution :

1. To institute for new members a minimum entrance fee of 10s. with a minimum annual subscription of 10s.
2. That existing members should pay a minimum annual subscription of 10s.
3. That life membership of the Society should be obtained by making a donation of not less than five guineas.

The resolution was proposed by Mr. Adam and seconded by the Mayoress, Mrs. Tunbridge, who expressed her astonishment that the work had been carried on so long on a voluntary basis. The resolution was carried unanimously.

Mr. Astell proposed that the Accounts should run to the 31st December, rather than the 31st January as printed in the circular. This was seconded and carried unanimously.

Mr. Summerson then addressed the meeting, his subject being the Architecture of Chelsea. An account appears on page 21.



SIR HANS SLOANE

Portrait presented to the Chelsea Society by Mr. George Cross

Chairman's Report for 1950

DONATIONS.

Mr. George Cross, who has previously given the Society four views of Chelsea by H. and W. Greaves, has now generously presented the portrait of Sir Hans Sloane which is reproduced on the opposite page. It is painted in oils on a relined canvas measuring $20\frac{1}{2}$ inches by $16\frac{1}{2}$ inches, and is in a carved gilt wood frame. It portrays Sir Hans wearing a powdered wig, blue dress and white cravat. In the opinion of Mr. C. K. Adams, Assistant Keeper at the National Portrait Gallery, it may be the work of Thomas Murray, who was responsible for at least two other portraits of Sir Hans Sloane, those in the Royal College of Physicians and the British Museum. He considers that it is an earlier likeness than either of these two pictures, which appear to be contemporary with yet another portrait, painted by Sir Godfrey Kneller in 1716 and given by the sitter to the Royal Society the same year. Before coming into Mr. Cross's possession this interesting picture had belonged to the late Mrs. Farquharson, of Tilshead Lodge, Wiltshire. It has been placed in No. 3, Cheyne Walk, where the four Greaves drawings had previously been hung.

Another member, Mr. H. Murray Leveson, has been kind enough to give a well-chosen collection of books about Chelsea. The printed volumes are hard to come by in these days, and his scrap-books are unique. They also are being kept at No. 3, Cheyne Walk. A list of the books is given on page 23.

AMENITIES.

Last spring the Secretary took up with the L.C.C. the question of the replacement of the parapet lanterns along Chelsea Embankment. The Clerk of the Council replied that they would be put back before the opening of the Festival of Britain, 1951.

The Society has obtained permission for the bombed sites between Old Church Street and Danvers Street to be used as

gardens. A number of Chelsea residents have taken up plots, and the transformation of the derelict site has given much pleasure to the public.

Early in the year the Society supported the protest of the Paultons Square Residents' Association against the diversion of No. 19 'buses through Danvers Street and Paultons Square, which had occurred owing to the closing of Battersea Bridge. All the authorities concerned were approached, but no alternative route could be found by which the 'buses might turn round.

On information received last summer from Mrs. Hippisley Cox, a Member of the Society, the Secretary sought the assistance of the Georgian Group to obtain the replacement of the fanlight at No. 119, Sydney Street. The L.C.C., who were repairing the building, undertook that this would be properly done.

BLUNT MEMORIAL.

The Society has long had under consideration an appropriate memorial to the founder, the late Mr. Reginald Blunt, funds for which have already been subscribed. The provision of a mural tablet in the Old Church must necessarily be deferred pending further reconstruction, but recently an opportunity presented itself for devoting the balance of the fund for the purchase of a picture of especial local interest that had come into the market. This painting is a copy after the picture of Sir Thomas More and his family by Hans Holbein the Younger, and in view of its historical associations it has been presented to Crosby Hall. The painting, which is more fully described on page 26, forms the subject of the frontispiece to this Report.

LECTURE.

In connection with the Festival of Britain, 1951, the Society invited Mr. Hugh Casson, F.R.I.B.A., the Director of Architecture, to deliver a public lecture on the 1951 Exhibition—

South Bank. Much of the designing was being executed by architects, artists and others living in Chelsea, and it was felt that their problems and the novel conceptions involved would be of interest generally to Chelsea people. The meeting was held in the Town Hall on the 16th June, and a display of models and drawings arranged in an adjoining room. An account of the proceedings is given on page 27.

RECORDS.

The Borough Council have decided to revise their catalogue of historical manuscripts, and to extend it to cover all local records. To assist this undertaking the Society will afford particulars of its own records. It is also strongly recommended that Members should furnish to the Town Clerk details of any MSS. of local interest in their possession, or suggest likely sources of information that might have been overlooked.

In this connection Dr. Phene's papers, now in the possession of Chelsea Polytechnic, have been examined by Captain Dean. The doctor, who lived in Chelsea about half a century ago, was a keen antiquary; but his papers were found to contain nothing of local interest.

MEMBERS' ACTIVITIES.

Mr. Adam represented the Society at two conferences organised by the Central Council of Civic Societies. On the first occasion, on the 17th May, the subjects discussed included the provision of window boxes, and of flowers and shrubs in streets. Attention was drawn to a new edition of the National Gardens Guild's booklet on this subject, and to a pamphlet on Town Trees obtainable from Endcliffe Vale House, Sheffield 10, for 10d. post free. At the second conference, on the 12th October, it was resolved to support the Gowers Report on the preservation of the larger houses of architectural merit, and to recommend that its provisions should be extended to include smaller houses also.

On the 20th May your Chairman gave a lecture on Chelsea, followed by a conducted tour, to the Association of Teachers in Colleges.

A conference of Civic Societies on town planning held under the auspices of the L.C.C. on the 4th August, was attended by your Chairman and Mr. Stewart-Jones. Your Chairman pointed out the advantages of Chelsea as a residential area, and the need to preserve it from new traffic arteries and other encroachments.

In the Society's Annual Report for 1944 the late Mr. Reginald Blunt mentioned that a history of the Royal Hospital by Captain Dean awaited publication, but owing to unavoidable delays this book was only published last September (Hutchinson, 21s.). It has been well reviewed in *The Times Literary Supplement* and other papers.

COUNCIL.

The death is recorded with deep regret of Brigadier-General Lionel Banon, who served for many years on the Council of the Society and since 1947 as a Vice-President. A tribute is given at page 15. Mr. Stewart-Jones, who remains a member of the Council, and Miss Darlington have resigned the posts of Hon. Secretary and Assistant Hon. Secretary, respectively. A warm welcome is extended to General Sir Bernard Paget, who joined the Society on his appointment as Governor of the Royal Hospital in 1949, and was elected a Vice-President shortly afterwards. Mr. W. A. Martin is to be congratulated on taking up his duties as Hon. Secretary in succession to Mr. Stewart-Jones: and the Council has been fortunate in the election to it of Dr. de Beer.

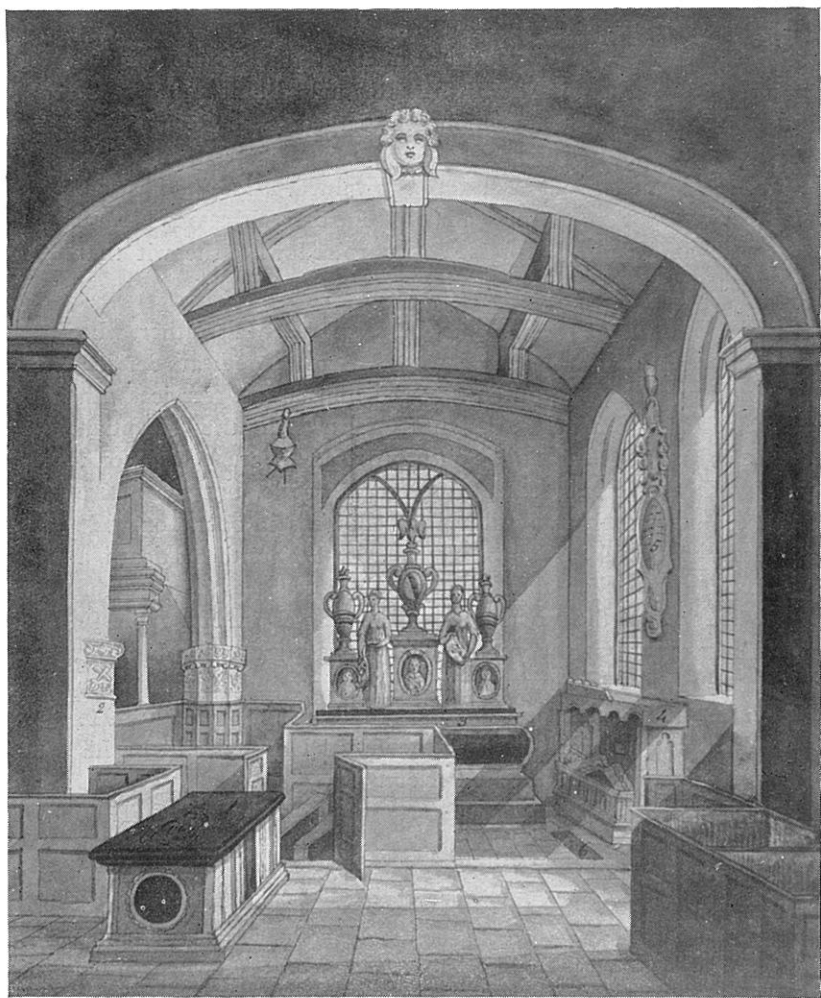
Basil Marsden-Smedley

BRIGADIER-GENERAL F. L. BANON, C.B.

By the death on the 13th August of Brigadier-General Banon, the Chelsea Society has lost one of its original members, who was largely responsible with Mr. Reginald Blunt and Mr. St. John Hornby for its inception. He served on the Council for 17 years until 1947, when he became a Vice-President. His advice was often sought and always valued, for he had a wide experience of men and affairs. Further, his views were logical and clearly expressed, and spiced with the wit that endeared him to so many friends.

Frederick Lionel Banon was born in 1862. His father, who became Inspector-General of the Army Medical Service, had served in the Mutiny, and he himself saw service with the King's Shropshire Light Infantry in the Egyptian campaign of 1885 and South African War. In World War I he commanded an Infantry Brigade, but his active career was cut short by ill-health following an operation. He served as a Chelsea Commissioner from 1920 until his death, a tenure longer than that of any of his predecessors since the foundation of the Royal Hospital. He was indefatigable in his attendance at the weekly Board meetings, and only quite recently had been instrumental in tracing and obtaining for the Hospital a fine portrait of Lord Ranelagh by Lely. He will be much missed both at the Royal Hospital and by his many friends in the Chelsea Society.

C. G. T. D.



THE MORE CHAPEL, *circa* 1800



THE MORE CHAPEL, 1950

RESTORATION OF THE MORE CHAPEL, CHELSEA OLD CHURCH

Sir Thomas More's Chapel, the only part of the church to survive more or less intact, has been restored and several of the remarkable monuments, which miraculously escaped complete destruction, have been re-erected in it.

The chapel is to serve for the time being as the chancel, and has been extended westward in the form of a temporary building to provide room for a small congregation. This is a rectangular red brick structure and occupies the site of the southern portion of the original nave. It has a steep asbestos roof which looks neat enough on the outside, considering its temporary nature and the strict economy that has had to be exercised, and which inside produces a surprisingly spacious effect, giving enough height to allow the magnificent Dacre monument of 1594 to be rebuilt in a way that even includes the tall obelisks that crown each corner.

While the wall above the western arch of the More Chapel was being restored the architects (Mr. Walter H. Godfrey and Mr. Emil Godfrey) discovered an oak roof-truss clearly belonging to the fourteenth-century building that was bombed. This find throws new light on the design of the original church, since it indicates that the roof of the chapel once continued westward at the same level, over what must have been an aisle. It also provides an interesting addition to the remarkable small amount of information available about the medieval structure of the many London churches that were rebuilt in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.

Chelsea Old Church, the future of which was the subject of recent correspondence in *The Times*, is eventually to be rebuilt as it was before the bombing. Some years must pass before this can be done, but meanwhile the rebuilding of the vestry by the voluntary labour of some of the parishioners, followed by the restoration of the More Chapel and the completion this week of its temporary extension, has been greatly welcomed in Chelsea as bringing the church once more into active use.

Reprinted from "The Times," 1st July, 1950, by permission

MR. GEORGE STRONG AND CARLYLE'S HOUSE.

The death of George Strong at 24 Cheyne Row this summer, recalls the debt which Chelsea owes to the Strong family, custodians of Carlyle's House for 55 years.

In 1895 Reginald Blunt, the Secretary of the Carlyle Trustees, appointed Mr. Strong's mother as the first curator of the memorial house which had been purchased by public subscription. Her husband, whose parents, it is interesting to note, were the first tenants of No. 2 Christchurch Terrace, and her son George, then aged 20, moved to Cheyne Row with her. Mr. Strong senior died in 1898. He was a cousin of Sir Vesey Strong, chairman of the committee which was instrumental in moving Crosby Hall from the City of London to Chelsea. George Strong continued to live with his mother in Cheyne Row until he married in 1909.

In 1917 he returned to Carlyle's House and his wife took over the assistant curatorship. For 29 years he worked at Odhams Press until he retired from his work as a compositor in 1940. His health was then failing, and latterly he became a complete invalid. In spite of the great difficulty of nursing an invalid in a house which was being preserved in its 19th century condition, Mrs. Strong managed to nurse him at home, and he died in the house in which, as Henrietta Strong says with justifiable pride, "A Strong has slept for fifty-five years".

R. L. S. J.



THOMAS CARLYLE'S HOUSE
Cheyne Row

THE ARCHITECTURE OF CHELSEA

Address By JOHN SUMMERSON, Esq., F.S.A., A.R.I.B.A.,

at the Annual Meeting on 5th October, 1949

Mr. Summerson prefaced his address by remarking that the buildings he proposed to mention constituted the major architectural treasures of Chelsea, which everyone would agree should not be destroyed.

Crosby Hall was in effect "a displaced person". It was built in the City of London in 1466, taken down in 1909 and bodily removed to its present site on what was formerly the garden of Sir Thomas More's house. Another link with that unfortunate statesman is afforded by the More Chapel, which with the so-called Holbein capitals, survived the bombing of the Old Church in 1941. He considered that the Church should be rebuilt so as to house the fine monuments which were salvaged almost intact. He would have liked to include in his list the gateway of Beaufort House, designed by Inigo Jones and now an "exile", having been given by Sir Hans Sloane to the Earl of Burlington for his villa at Chiswick. Although no longer a Chelsea monument, however, this gateway is being well cared for.

The Royal Hospital remains Chelsea's greatest building by England's greatest architect. Begun in 1682, it has an almost monastic austerity. It is a barracks, humanised and monumentalised by the use of a great Doric order. Slightly earlier, dating from the 1670s, is Lindsey House, a row of individual houses which was in fact a single mansion, heavily disguised, but no less charming for that.

Cheyne Row, 1708, is one of the best Queen Anne streets in London; while the remaining original houses of Cheyne Walk, built in 1718 and later, form a beautiful group, with one or two houses, especially Queen's House, evidently by architects of the Vanbrugh school. Argyll House in the

King's Road was built by Giacomo Leoni in 1723. It is Chelsea's most Palladian building, and boasts a fine staircase and original panelling.

Royal Avenue, Smith Street and St. Leonard's Terrace are good examples of the speculative builder's work of the late 18th and early 19th centuries. Hans Town was laid out by Henry Holland before 1780. It has been nearly all rebuilt, but some of Holland's characteristic doorways have been preserved in Sloane Street.

The Duke of York's Headquarters, built in 1810, is a really notable work by a Regency admirer of Wren, George Sanders. It was designed as an asylum for the children of men killed in the Napoleonic wars.

Apart from the Old Church, Chelsea possesses three notable ecclesiastical buildings. St. Luke's, 1820, was one of the first churches built under the Commission of 1818. It is remarkable for the fact that it is completely vaulted in stone—a thing unprecedented since the Middle Ages. The architect was James Savage. St. Mary's, Cadogan Square, is a beautiful Gothic essay by J. F. Bentley, the architect of Westminster Cathedral. Holy Trinity, Sloane Square, built about 1890, is interesting not only for J. D. Sedding's architecture, but for the many works of art by his contemporaries which it contains.

THE MURRAY LEVESON COLLECTION OF BOOKS
ON CHELSEA

- Reginald Blunt, *Paradise Row* (1906); *Cheyne Walk and Thereabouts* (1914); *The Wonderful Village* (1919); *Memoirs of Gerald Blunt* (1919); *By Chelsea Reach* (1921); *The Lure of Old Chelsea* (1922); *Red Anchor Pieces* (1926); *Thomas, Lord Lyttelton* (1936).
- G Bryan, *Chelsea* (1869).
- T. Carlyle, *The French Revolution* (1888); *On Heroes and Hero Worship* (World's Classics edition).
- Randall Davies, *The Greatest House at Chelsea* (1914).
- J. A. Froude, *Thomas Carlyle, 1795-1835* (1882); *1834-1881* (1885).
- P. Garell, *Chelsea Charm* (1931).
- B. E. Martin, *Old Chelsea* (1889).
- Anne Manning, *The Old Chelsea Bun House* (1895); *The Household of Sir Thomas More* (1908).
- G. E. Milton, *Chelsea* (1902).
- J. Nichol, *Thomas Carlyle* (1902)
- The Hon. Justice O'Hagan, *Blessed Thomas More*.
- Edith Place, *Guide to Chelsea* (1922).
- Don Saltero's *Rarities* (1737).
- Constance Smedley, *Justice Walk* (1914).
- W. H. Stewart, *Chelsea Old Church* (1925).
- G. B. Stewart, *A Road Book to Old Chelsea* (1914); *The Story of Chelsea* (1924).
- Catalogue of the Chelsea Exhibition, 1927.
- Three scrap books containing numerous engravings, press cuttings, etc., about Chelsea.



No. 1 SWAN WALK

No. 1, SWAN WALK, CHELSEA

From notes by PAUL PAGET, ESQ., L.R.I.B.A.

Few London landmarks can so narrowly have escaped complete obliteration during the war years as No. 1, Swan Walk.

Early plans and records give every indication that originally, it was closely associated with the Physic Garden across the way, and that Philip Miller, the Curator of the Garden from 1722 to 1771, made his home here. Evidence revealed when, after the bombing, the structure was laid bare, suggested that some earlier building stood on the site before Miller adapted it to his requirements in about 1740.

A later tenant must have built the addition to the North, which, as No. 67, Royal Hospital Road, was subsequently occupied, sometimes independently of, and sometimes in conjunction with the earlier house; latterly both parts reverted to one ownership, and advantage has been taken of the recent works of reconstruction to couple up their planning, as must have been the original intention.

Turning to more recent vicissitudes, a nearby H.E. bomb in April, 1941, not only severely damaged both houses, but in totally destroying the adjoining premises, deposited a large section of structural steelwork through the long suffering roof of No. 1, Swan Walk. There followed the too familiar and protracted period of "first aid" repairs with substitute materials for window and roof coverings which, if they kept out the worst of the weather, in doing so automatically created the most favourable conditions for the propagation of dry rot. Thus, when, at the end of the war, the time had come to consider the possibilities of restoration, the whole structure, which had been none too solid to begin with, was found to be seriously weakened by bomb, blast and decay.

No sooner had the roof been reinstated than a worse misfortune befell than any which had preceded. A fire, of which the cause was never established, broke out during the early hours of the 24th October, 1946, and before it could be extinguished, had completely destroyed the new roof and much

else besides. At the time it looked as though this catastrophe had finally sealed the fate of the old house, but in spite of difficulties the work of reconstruction was resumed and at last completed in September, 1949.

SIR THOMAS MORE AND HIS FAMILY

PICTURE BOUGHT BY THE SOCIETY, AND PRESENTED TO CROSBY HALL,
AS PART OF THE MEMORIAL TO THE LATE MR. REGINALD BLUNT.

Crosby Hall, Chelsea, has been presented by the Chelsea Society with an old copy of a picture of Sir Thomas More and his family, painted by the younger Holbein in about 1527. The painting has been bought by the Chelsea Society from Lord Petre, with funds raised to commemorate the founder of the Society, Reginald Blunt, who died in 1945. A memorial tablet to him will also be put in Chelsea Old Church.

Crosby Hall is a particularly appropriate home for this picture, the original of which is known to have been painted in Chelsea. Sir Thomas More had close connexions with Chelsea (his chapel and his monument are among the portions of the Old Church that survived the bombing) and he was once the owner of Crosby Hall when it stood in Bishopsgate. It was moved to Cheyne Walk stone by stone between 1907 to 1909 and re-erected on More's land. It now forms part of the premises of the British Federation of University Women.

The original Holbein painting has disappeared, but a drawing for it by Holbein which once belonged to Erasmus, exists at Basle. There is another old copy at Nostell Priory* differing in some details from the Basle drawing, bearing the signature of Richard Locky and the date 1530. The history of the second copy, now acquired by the Chelsea Society, is obscure, but more information may be revealed when it is cleaned. It is painted on canvas, and measures about 8ft. by 11ft., the full-length figures being practically life-size. It is hoped to exhibit it to the public next year.

Reprinted from "The Times", 13th October, 1950, by permission.

* This picture is now on view at the Royal Academy.

THE 1951 EXHIBITION—SOUTH BANK

LECTURE by HUGH CASSON, Esq., F.R.I.B.A.

At Chelsea Town Hall on the 16th June, 1950

The Chairman presided over a packed audience. It was the first time the Society had taken the large Hall. On the platform were the Mayor of Chelsea, Captain R. Edwards, R.N., the Mayoress, representatives of Chelsea organisations and the Secretary of the Royal Horticultural Society.

Mr. Casson, whose lecture was illustrated by lantern slides, traced the history of exhibitions and their influence on trade and architecture, and on the general life of the people. He explained that exhibitions were the laboratory of architecture, the nursery of new ideas, and the testing ground of experiment. Everywhere were to be found the scars left by the trail blazers, Paxton, Eiffel, Dutert, Gropius and Asplund.

Mr. Casson then referred to the South Bank site. He stated that it was the only large cleared site in the centre of London with the necessary transport facilities. He cited an article in *The Times* of June 1850, which expressed the opinion that an exhibition must be accessible by water. The disadvantages were admitted: the restricted area of about 27 acres, the lack of greenery apart from two dusty wych elms, and the railway viaduct which severed the site in two. On the other hand the situation was unrivalled, since it could be linked directly with the Trafalgar Square area by means of a bridge. Finally, with the aid of the lantern, the lecturer described several of the Exhibition buildings, including in particular the Dome of Discovery, the largest dome in the world and a structure of considerable technical interest.

After warmly thanking Mr. Casson, the Chairman read extracts from some of the many letters he had received concerning the meeting. He then announced that there would be time for questions and discussion, and invited the first citizen of Chelsea, the Mayor, to speak. The Mayor expressed his appreciation of the admirable lecture and the ideas it un-

folded, and hoped the people of Chelsea would not be behind-hand in playing a part during the memorable year of 1951. He reminded the meeting of the wish of H.M. The King that everyone should "share in this great Festival". To enable Chelsea, with its wonderful record of contributions to the present and to the past, to "join in showing that Britain lives on," Captain Edwards proposed the opening of a fund to give effect to these ideas, and opened it with a personal donation. Sir Geoffrey Vickers then suggested the formation of an executive committee. This resolution was formally seconded, and after various questions had been put and suggestions made, it was submitted to the meeting and carried with but one dissident.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

- FRIENDS OF ABINGDON. Annual Report, 1949-50.
BATH PRESERVATION TRUST. Annual Report, 1949-50.
CAMBRIDGE PRESERVATION SOCIETY. Annual Report, 1950.
CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CIVIC SOCIETIES. Report, 1949.
CHELSEA HOSPITALS' QUARTERLY. Nos. 2 and 3, 1950.
CLAPHAM ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY. Report, 1949-50, and information sheets.
CITY OF DURHAM PRESERVATION SOCIETY. Annual Report, 1949.
HASTINGS AND ST. LEONARDS CIVIC SOCIETY. Annual Report, 1949-50.
HENLEY-ON-THAMES CIVIC SOCIETY. Report, 1949.
HOYLAKE CIVIC SOCIETY. Annual Report, 1949/50.
JOURNAL OF THE LONDON SOCIETY. Annual Report, 1949-50.
MERSEYSIDE CIVIC SOCIETY. Annual Report, 1949.
PETERSFIELD SOCIETY. Annual Report, 1950.



CONDEMNED HOUSES IN MILMANS STREET

A pleasant row of eighteenth and early nineteenth century houses, backing on to the Moravian Burial Ground, due to be demolished under the West Chelsea development plan.

THE CHELSEA SOCIETY — GENERAL FUND ACCOUNT

Statement of Income and Expenditure for the Period 1st April, 1949, to 31st December, 1950

INCOME	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To Balance brought forward						
1st April, 1949 ...				193	5	11
„ Members:—						
Life Members ...	317	0	0			
Annual Subscriptions ...	177	7	0			
Donations ...	37	8	6			
Entrance Fees ...	12	17	0			
				544	12	6
„ Interest on £200 3½% War Stock 1952 (2 years) ...				14	0	0
„ Interest on P.O.S. Bank Deposit A/c (1950) ...				6	6	3
„ Sales of Annual Reports				4	6	
„ Donations given for Chelsea Old Church				5	10	0
				£763	19	2

EXPENDITURE	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
By Turner Exhibition (1949)				11	19	0
„ Festival of Britain Lecture (1950) ...	40	0	6			
„ Annual Report (1949) ...	90	17	0			
„ Annual Meeting (1949) ...	25	15	9			
„ Council of Civic Societies	1	1	0			
„ Clerical Assistance ...	87	10	5			
„ Printing, Stationery & Photographs ...	60	14	6			
„ Postages ...	17	8	6			
„ Bank charges and cheque books ...	1	1	3			
„ Sundries ...	4	3	6			
„ Transfer to P.O.S. Bank:—						
General Account ...	400	0	0			
„ Transfer to P.O.S. Bank:—						
Chelsea Old Church Account ...				5	10	0
Post Office Savings Bank (Interest) ...	6	6	3			
Barclays Bank ...	9	10	8			
Cash ...			10			
				15	17	9
				£763	19	2

23rd January, 1951

WILFRED ELLISTON,
Hon. Treasurer

Audited and found correct.

R. J. V. ASTELL,
Hon. Auditor

NOTE:—The Certificates for £200 3½% Stock 1952/aft. in the name of The Chelsea Society are held by Barclays Bank, Ltd., 348, King's Road, Chelsea, S.W.3.

THE REGINALD BLUNT MEMORIAL FUND ACCOUNT, 1949-50

INCOME	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To On Deposit in P.O.S. Bank	125	0	0			
„ Interest on Deposit 1947/8	7	18	9			
„ Balance at Barclays Bank	8	12	6			
				141	11	3
„ Donations:—						
Lady Chalmers ...	5	0	0			
per the Chairman ...	2	2	0			
				7	2	0
„ Interest on Deposit 1949	3	6	10			
„ Interest on Deposit 1950	2	16	0			
				6	2	10
				£154	16	1

EXPENDITURE	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
By Purchase of the painting of Sir Thomas More and his family ...				70	0	0
„ Cost of its removal and transport to Crosby Hall				30	0	0
„ Balance in P.O.S. Bank	54	1	7			
„ Balance at Barclays Bank	14	6				
				54	16	1
				£154	16	1

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WILFRED ELLISTON,
Hon. Treasurer

23rd January, 1951

Audited and found correct,

R. J. V. ASTELL,
Hon. Auditor

CHELSEA OLD CHURCH RESTORATION FUND ACCOUNT

To 31st December, 1950

INCOME		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	EXPENDITURE		£	s.	d.
To	Balance in P.O.S. Bank as last account ...				103	11	4	By	Balance in P.O.S. Bank	114	6	5
..	Donations:—											
	Mrs. C. H. Shepherd	5	0	0								
	Mrs. Muir Dixon ...		10	0								
					5	10	0					
..	Interest on Deposit 1949	2	12	0								
..	Interest on Deposit 1950	2	13	1								
					5	5	1					
					£114	6	5			£114	6	5

WILFRED ELLISTON,
Hon. Treasurer

Audited and found correct.

R. J. V. ASTELL,
Hon. Auditor

23rd January, 1951

THE CHELSEA SOCIETY

Analysis of Post Office Savings Bank Account as at 31st December, 1950

	£	s.	d.
General Fund Account	406	6	3
Reginald Blunt Memorial Fund Account	54	1	7
Chelsea Old Church Restoration Fund Account	114	6	5
Total ...	£574	14	3

List of Members

An asterisk denotes a life member. The Hon. Secretary would like to be notified of corrections or changes in name, title or address.

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