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A
YEAR-BOOK

OF THE

ROYAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.

—
1905.
—

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CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Fixtures of the Society	1
List of the Royal Society	2
Standing and Occasional Committees	42
Sectional Committees, 1905	45
Government Grant Boards	48
Statutes of the Royal Society	50
Standing Orders of Council	69
Notes on the Reading and Publication of Papers	79
Procedure in the Nomination of the Council	82
Procedure of the Council in the Nomination of Foreign Members	83
Procedure of the Council in the Adjudication of the Medals	84
Conditions of Award of the Royal Society's Medals, &c.	85
Mackinnon Studentship Regulations	87
Regulations for Administering the Gunning Fund	88
Regulations for Administering the Joule Fund	88
Regulations for the Administration of the Government Publication Grant	89
Regulations for Administering the Scientific Relief Fund	90
National Physical Laboratory	93
Regulations for Administering Government Grant	100
Account of Appropriation of Government Grant, 1903-1904	109
Regulations governing the Use of the Library of the Royal Society	116
Additions to Library, 1903-1904	117
Institutions on which the Society is represented	121
Institutions entitled to receive the Publications of the Society	123
Catalogue of Objects, &c., exhibited at Conversazione, May, 1904	141
The Croonian Lectures	148
The Bakerian Lectures	156
Award of Medals and Studentships, 1904	166
Anniversary Meeting	167
Report of the Council	168
President's Anniversary Address	186
Election of Council and Officers	213
Presents received by the Society during 1904	213
Income and Expenditure Account	214
Catalogue of Scientific Papers Account	215
Cash Account	216
Balance Sheet, 1904	217
Estates and Property	218
Trust Funds, 1904	219
" " " (Balance Sheet)	230
Progress and State of the Society, 1904	231
Account of Grants from the Donation Fund in 1904	231
Minutes of Meetings of the Royal Society	232
Index	253

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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OF

THE ROYAL SOCIETY.

1905.

CALENDAR.

1905.

JANUARY	19.	<i>Ordinary Meeting at 4.30 P.M.</i>		
	26.	" "	" "	
	31.	<i>Last day for receiving applications for Government Grants.</i>		
FEBRUARY	2.	<i>Ordinary Meeting at 4.30 P.M.</i>		
	9.	" "	" "	
	16.	" "	" "	
	23.	" "	" "	
MARCH	2.	" "	" "	
	9.	" "	" "	
	16.	" "	" "	
	23.	" "	" "	
	30.	" "	" "	
APRIL	6.	" "	" "	
	13.	" "	" "	
MAY	11.	<i>Election of Fellows at 4 P.M.</i>		
	11.	<i>Ordinary Meeting at 4.30 P.M.</i>		
	18.	" "	" "	
	25.	" "	" "	
JUNE	8.	" "	" "	
NOVEMBER	16.	" "	" "	
	23.	" "	" "	
	30.	<i>Anniversary Meeting at 4 P.M. (Thursday).</i>		
DECEMBER	7.	<i>Ordinary Meeting at 4.30 P.M.</i>		
	14.	" "	" "	
	30.	<i>Last day for receiving certificates of Candidates for Election.</i>		