

# THE MUSEUM

The museum attendances are continuing to increase, and for each of the past two years more than 17,000 people have paid a visit. Since the last number of the *Records* was published 400 items have been lent or given to the museum.

The work with the Hambleden Museum material is now proceeding and the cases are being adapted for use here, each being provided with individual lighting and storage cupboards underneath. Once this work has been completed the display of the very fine geological collections possessed by the Society and all the natural history collections will be undertaken in the large exhibition room. Exhibitions of work by local artists, photographers and craftsmen are being planned for the future.

Mr. J. F. Head has placed on permanent loan a varied and interesting collection of archaeological material which he has acquired over many years from his own excavations at Bledlow Cop, Lodge Hill and Saunderton. The whole of the Whiteleaf Neolithic Barrow material has been given by the Earl of Buckinghamshire.

Amongst the Folk material a large collection of nineteenth-century costume has been presented by Mr. A. H. Packe. This included some nineteenth-century men's suits. Mr. C. H. Guillam Scott and Mrs. S. P. Laker have also presented a number of interesting dresses.

Mrs. J. P. Crouch, in accordance with the wishes of her husband, the late Guy R. Crouch, has deposited the "Postal History of Aylesbury", a unique and valuable collection with specimens dating well back into the nineteenth century. A collection of coins, a bailiff's staff and constable's truncheons have also come in from Mrs. L. M. High. Lord Addington has given nine volumes of mounted newspaper cuttings dealing with the private, public and political affairs of his family in the nineteenth century. From Chilton the museum was fortunate to acquire a complete set of wheelwright's tools, a wheel lathe and blacksmith's tools, the property of the late E. J. Perkins of Chilton, whose family had used this equipment for several generations. Mr. W. T. Philbey continues to produce interesting domestic and agricultural utensils and implements at regular intervals, and there is a regular flow of medieval and later material from Mr. S. H. Sheffield, who always preserves any interesting objects found on his building sites.

Some valuable additions to the geological specimens from the Claydons have come from Sir Harry Verney.

T.A.H.

*History on the Ground* by Maurice Beresford (Lutterworth Press, 1957). These studies cover open fields, deserted villages, Elizabethan market places, mediaeval town-planning and parks. Two Bucks. villages are referred to: Maids Moreton and Wootton Underwood. Mr. Beresford contributed 'Glebe Terriers and Open-Field Buckinghamshire' to the *Records*, vol. 16, part 1.