

# Proceedings of an Extraordinary General Meeting

HELD AT

LONDONDERRY HOUSE, 19 PARK LANE, LONDON, W 1

ON DECEMBER 11TH, 1948 AT 2 30 P M

H A MARSH, A F C , A F R A e S *in the Chair*

The HON SECRETARY read the notice convening the meeting which was then addressed by the CHAIRMAN

*Ladies and Gentlemen*

Having heard our Honorary Secretary read the notice convening this meeting and also having received a circular giving extracts of the proposed new rules and regulations and subscription rates, you will all know the reason for calling this Extraordinary General Meeting

Taking the rules first, it has been obvious for some time that these require bringing up to date and in particular Membership qualifications have been very ambiguous and lax in certain respects. In point of fact the main difference between the present and proposed new rules, lies in such qualifications, and the alterations in other respects should call for very little comment

From the Association's point of view, the proposal to raise the subscription rate is very important and unless this is agreed to, it is extremely doubtful if we can carry on and become self-supporting. Had it not been for the generosity of certain individuals and firms engaged in the helicopter industry, the Association could not have possibly paid its way to date, but we cannot expect to continue working on these lines. For your information I would point out that the expenses entailed in running the Association are kept to an absolute minimum. Our only paid employee is the Assistant Secretary, MISS MACPHEE, and all the remainder of the work is done in an entirely honorary capacity by the Honorary Secretary and various members of the Council and the Association

The Journal, which I think you will agree is very well presented, is almost self-supporting on its advertisements, and it is hoped that by the end of 1949, it will be entirely so. This would not be the case unless the majority of the work was done by the Publications Committee, again in an honorary capacity

The move to the new office, together with necessary equipment, was made possible by the generosity of a number of firms, most of whom have agreed to finance the project over a period of three years

It is not a very difficult feat of mental arithmetic to assess the general financial status of the Association, when one considers that we have approximately 200 members at 2 guineas and 100 Associate and Graduate members at 1 guinea, making a total income of 500 guineas. Offset against this amount, the Assistant Secretary's salary, cost of lectures and meetings, auditor's fees, general office expenditure and other normal outgoings of an Association such as this, and the answer is fairly obvious

If the proposed new subscription rates are agreed to, expenses kept within limits, and membership continues to increase at its present rate, it

is felt that the financial affairs of this Association can be considered as reasonably sound I should point out that the Council have powers under the present rules and regulations to vary the subscription rates, entrance and transfer fees, but feel reluctant to do so without consulting the members

You will notice that there are two proposals, each of which will be taken separately Dealing with the first, the complete set of rules and regulations have been available for inspection at our Office for some time and it is not proposed, therefore, to have them read in detail here Any particular point which you may wish to raise will be open to discussion and subsequent amendments if duly proposed, seconded and agreed to

The new grade of Companion Member has been suggested in order that the Association may still retain the high level of prestige which it enjoys and yet be supported by those who have not the necessary technical qualifications A certain re-grading will be necessary amongst those who are now Graduate members and this matter will be dealt with by the Sub-Committee of the Council

Finally, before throwing the meeting open to discussion I would like to take this opportunity of thanking MR CROCOMBE for his very hard work in revising the rules and regulations, and also MR WINGFIELD, for his assistance from the legal aspect

The meeting is now open for discussion on the first proposal

The proposed alterations to the rules were considered in the ensuing general discussion A letter containing several suggestions from MR D R GARRAWAY was read to the meeting, and several members present had points to raise Some of these were adopted by the meeting as amendments to the proposal

The CHAIRMAN then proposed, and the VICE-CHAIRMAN seconded —

*That the draft Articles or Rules, a copy of which for identification has been signed by the Chairman, be adopted, with the amendments agreed by the meeting, as the Articles or Rules of the Association*

This motion was carried unanimously

The CHAIRMAN, continuing, said, we will now deal with the second proposal I have already explained in brief why it is necessary to suggest the new subscription rates, entrance and transfer fees, and do not consider this requires any further explanation from me If you think it is necessary I will ask the Honorary Treasurer to read a short financial statement of the Association's affairs

The meeting is now open for discussion on the second proposal

In the general discussion which followed, more details were given concerning the cost of running the Association, printing and stationery costs, etc These details are always available to members at the Associations' offices and are therefore not reproduced here There were no objections to, or dissensions from the proposed new subscriptions

The CHAIRMAN then proposed and the VICE-CHAIRMAN seconded —

*That the changes in members' subscription rates, and the introduction of entrance and transfer fees, be adopted*

This motion was carried unanimously

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 3 55 p m