

PROCEEDINGS OF THE
Fourth Annual General Meeting
OF
The Helicopter Association of Great Britain

President J G WEIR, C M G , C B E , F R A e S
Chairman H A MARSH, A F C , A F R A e S

The Fourth Annual General Meeting of the Association was held at The Royal Aeronautical Society, 4 Hamilton Place, London, W 1, on Saturday, 23rd April, 1949, at 3 p m

Before opening the Meeting, the Chairman made a reference to the very tragic accident on the previous Sunday, in which two Members lost their lives (Obituaries appear on page 40)

The Chairman then introduced the first President of the Association, J G WEIR, ESQ, C M G , C B E , F R A e S , who was heartily welcomed by the Members The President's address to the Meeting is reported on page 1

THE MEETING

The Notice convening the Meeting was read by the Honorary Secretary An apology for absence was received from Mr C G PULLIN

The Chairman then read a letter from the President of the American Helicopter Society

‘The American Helicopter Society extends cordial greetings upon the occasion of your Fourth Annual General Meeting It is a great pleasure to acknowledge Mr J G WEIR as your first President Under his leadership we look forward to continued advancement of the Association and cordial relations with the American Helicopter Society

RALPH B LIGHTFOOT, *President*”

The following reply has been sent to the American Helicopter Society

“The President and Executive Council of the Helicopter Association thank the American Helicopter Society for the message of greetings on the occasion of the Association's Fourth Annual General Meeting The Association wishes to express its most sincere good wishes to the President and Members of the American Helicopter Society on the occasion of its Fifth Annual Forum
J G WEIR, *President*”

The Chairman read the following cable from our former Honorary Secretary in South Africa

“Hearty greetings to first President —MAX STOKER

The Minutes of the Third Annual General Meeting held on 24th April, 1948, were read by the Honorary Secretary Mr J A CAMERON proposed that these be approved and Mr A G GREEN seconded the proposal, which was carried unanimously

The Chairman presented this year's Annual Report, which was in the hands of all Members

The Accounts and Balance Sheet were presented by the Honorary Treasurer, Mr G C TURNER It was proposed by Mr H ROBERTS and seconded by Mr A H

YATES that the Accounts and Balance Sheet be accepted, and this was passed unanimously

The result of the Ballot for vacancies on the Executive Council was announced and it was proposed by Mr C COOPER and seconded by Lt-Col F L HODGESS, and subsequently carried, that the following successful nominees be elected to the Executive Council

Dr J A J BENNETT, F F CROCOMBE, G C TURNER re-elected

J S SHAPIRO, L S WIGDORTCHIK elected to fill the vacancies on the Council

Messrs W B KEEN & Co were re-appointed the Association's Auditors and Accountants for the coming year

The Chairman then said that the lecture programme for the coming session would shortly be under consideration and asked that any Members who have suggestions for this should communicate with the Honorary Secretary. He also asked for suggestions or assistance for the service of teas after meetings in which the Honorary Secretary felt that some improvements might be made over the present arrangements

The Meeting closed at 3.40 p.m.

THE CHAIRMAN'S SPEECH

Ladies and Gentlemen In presenting the Annual Report of your Council, I would like to say a few words to amplify some of the points and also remark on some aspects not actually covered. It is inevitable that most of my remarks must overlap the report to a great extent but you will realise that this cannot be avoided. I do not propose to read the report itself as this has been in your possession for some time and it can be assumed that you have read it.

First of all I should like to extend a welcome to the new Council Members, whose names will be given to you later in the meeting. Also I should like to thank those retiring members, Messrs CARPMAEL and PULLIN, who have not sought re-election. These two gentlemen have been a tower of strength and it is with sincere regret that we lose their services.

As regards the financial state of the Association, we are obviously trying to build up our resources, as witnessed by the unanimous vote at the Extraordinary General Meeting to increase our subscriptions. Very careful consideration has to be given to every proposal which entails spending money and certain projects have been shelved on this account. We cannot be content until a really sound financial state is attained and this can be considerably assisted by members doing all in their power to attract new recruits. The new grade of Companion Member should materially assist in this respect.

There were 104 Members elected during the past year and Membership now stands at 320 total of all grades. This is not quite up to the target we set ourselves at the last Annual General Meeting, but it is a big step in the right direction.

The Journal, I am sure you will agree, is extremely well presented, and we have first hand knowledge as to how well it is received both at home and abroad. It is nearly self-supporting and by the end of the year, if progress continues at the same rate, it will be entirely so. The introduction by our Honorary Secretary of a "News Sheet" has also been well received by our Members and should do much to keep members informed of current events.

The outstanding event of the year's working is the acquisition of our own office, together with equipment. This has been made possible by the very generous response to a personal appeal which I made to a number of firms whose names have already been recorded. In connection with the office, I should say that a start has been made to get together a library for Members' use, and our thanks are due to Mr COLIN COOPER for the presentation of literature, etc., collected during his recent visit to the U.S.A. If any Members have suitable material to add to the library, we shall be very glad to accept it.

The Lectures arranged during the past session were very well attended and catered for a variety of tastes. One of the first jobs of the New Council must be to