

THE HISTORY OF THE
BIOCHEMICAL
SOCIETY

1911-1949

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HISTORY OF THE BIOCHEMICAL SOCIETY

THE FOUNDATION, 4 MARCH 1911

Several considerations led to the formation of the Biochemical Society. The various medical schools in London had increased, or were about to increase, the staffs of their physiological departments, with chemists to teach and organize sections devoted to physiological chemistry and in some schools pathological chemistry. There was one department of Biochemistry in England at Liverpool, a corresponding department at Cambridge and a lecturer at Oxford. Similar posts were being instituted in Scotland, Ireland and the provincial Universities. Two appointments in Biological Chemistry existed at the Lister Institute with junior staff.

The holders of these new posts were actively engaged in research, and usually presented their papers to the Physiological Society, whose meetings were often mainly devoted to physiological chemistry so that papers on physiology were crowded out. At international Congresses of Physiology papers on physiological chemistry were given in separate rooms. Only those papers dealing with pure chemistry were suitable for publication in the *Journal of the Chemical Society*. The new Biochemists were always welcomed amongst the physiologists. The chemists regarded them as physiologists.

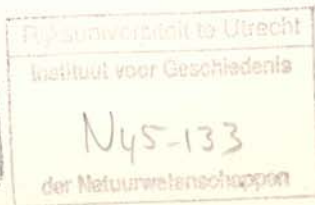
Numerous chairs of Biochemistry existed in the United States of America, also in Germany and elsewhere in Europe. Many professors of Physiology here and abroad devoted their research to physiological chemistry.

Three journals of Physiological Chemistry were published in Germany: Hoppe-Seyler's *Zeitschrift für physiologische Chemie*, started 1877; Hofmeister's *Beiträge*, started 1901; *Biochemische Zeitschrift*, started 1906. In U.S.A. the *Journal of Biological Chemistry* appeared in 1905. In Great Britain the *Biochemical Journal* was started in 1906.

Besides the physiological chemists various other workers had interests in Biochemistry: botanists, agriculturists, brewers, public analysts, medical clinicians and pathologists.

It was necessary to advance the status of Biochemistry, in all its connexions, in Great Britain; its development here should not lag behind its progress in other countries.

With these primary considerations in mind, and after conversations with colleagues, J. A. Gardner and R. H. A. Plimmer decided to call together as representative a gathering of biochemists as possible. A postcard dated 16 January 1911 was sent out to over fifty friends and fellow-workers asking them to attend a meeting in the Institute of Physiology, University College, London, on Saturday, 21 January 1911 at 2.30 p.m., to discuss the formation of a Biochemical Society. Thirty-two of those invited were present, fourteen



sent replies indicating their adhesion, and suggested others who would be equally interested.

J. A. Gardner presided and gave the chief reasons for calling the meeting. He emphasized the growing importance of Biochemistry both on the animal and vegetable sides. The increasing number of workers rendered the formation of a Biochemical Society desirable for four main reasons: (1) a common meeting place to discuss biochemical problems; (2) the association of the workers on the animal and vegetable sides; (3) a common journal to be owned by the society; (4) the advancement of Biochemistry in this country.

Professor W. D. Halliburton, in opening the discussion, was strongly in favour of the formation of such a combined society with its meetings on unconventional lines. He moved a resolution to this effect, which was seconded by Doctors F. G. Hopkins, A. E. Garrod and A. Harden.

Professor H. E. Armstrong, who was opposed to any specialization, said that the main object should be to have a 'focus point', and that a society or club wherein the social side of the gathering preponderated should be a primary condition. Dr E. J. Russell, speaking for agriculture, said the number of scientific papers was not large, and thought they would be of more value if brought before other biochemists. Dr E. F. Armstrong hoped no omission would be made of workers on the botanical side. Dr Plimmer, in summarizing the subjects so far mentioned, said the chemistry of brewing came into consideration as well.

Finally, it was proposed by H. E. Armstrong, seconded by W. D. Halliburton and carried unanimously, 'that provisionally a club be established to promote intercourse among those biologists and chemists who are mutually interested and concerned in the investigation of problems common to biologists and chemists'.

To make preliminary arrangements Professor Halliburton proposed that there should be a small committee limited to the conveners of the meeting. As these two gentlemen did not sufficiently represent all the interests, a committee of five was chosen: Gardner, Garrod, Halliburton, Plimmer and Russell. Plimmer was asked to be Secretary.

The Secretary circulated a postcard, dated 24 January 1911, saying that on 21 January it had been unanimously decided that a Biochemical Club or Society, co-ordinating the workers in the various branches of Biochemistry, such as physiological chemistry, pathological chemistry, botanical chemistry, agricultural chemistry, brewing chemistry, etc., should be formed; and that a committee (as above) had been elected to arrange and carry out this object, with instructions to call a meeting before Easter.

The committee met on 28 January and 2 February 1911. It decided to follow the practice of the Physiological Society, which met at various laboratories and had no appointed president, rather than adopt the formalities of the Chemical Society. With this simplicity of organization and with the

adoption of rules very similar to those of the Physiological Society it was a comparatively easy matter to make a start. The secretary was able to send out a circular letter dated 7 February 1911 saying that the committee had drawn up a provisional set of rules and suggesting that the number of original members be limited to about seventy. With it a copy of the rules was enclosed and a form designed to enrol members:

I, the undersigned, am willing to become one of the original members of the Biochemical Society.

(Signed)

I enclose 10s. 6d. the first annual subscription.

(Signed)

I hope to be present at the first meeting on 4 March 1911 at University College and will stay to the dinner.

I will give the following communication at the first meeting:

(Signed)

The first meeting was duly held on 4 March 1911 at University College, London. Dr W. M. Bayliss was invited to take the chair by Mr J. A. Gardner. Communications were given by Ryffel, Hopkins, Cramer, Nierenstein, Fraser Harris, Vernon, Buckmaster and Gardner, before a good gathering. Many took part in the discussions. An adjournment was made for dinner at Blanchard's Restaurant. Only thirty-eight members were then present. The Chairman proposed the reception of the report consisting of the circular letter, etc., and this was seconded by Dr Harden.

Professor H. E. Armstrong spoke strongly against the report, saying that matters had been hurried and that a society formed on the lines suggested would not give us a substantial organization, capable of promoting the interest of the subject and those interested in it. The present proposals had gone much too far. Biochemistry was the coming subject and would play an important part in the future. No limitation of the number of original members should be made, and until the association possessed a journal of its own it should remain a Club. After prolonged and argumentative discussion about the title Club or Society he moved that this association provisionally be called 'The Biochemical Club'. This was carried. The eligibility of women was next considered. Again after long discussion the meeting decided that men only be eligible as members of the Club.

The Secretary was asked to circulate to members the rules as amended, the title being altered to read Club and men only being eligible for election.

The following committee for the session 1911-12 was elected: H. E. Armstrong, W. M. Bayliss, A. J. Brown, H. H. Dale, J. A. Gardner, A. E. Garrod, W. D. Halliburton, A. Harden, F. G. Hopkins, F. Keeble, B. Moore, W. Ramsden, E. J. Russell, R. H. A. Plimmer (as Hon. Treasurer and Secretary), members who represented the various biochemical interests.

Meetings were held during the session 1911-12 as follows:

No. 2 on 6 May 1911 at the University of Oxford with Professor S. H. Vines in the chair. Dinner was at Pembroke College through the kindness of Dr W. Ramsden. At this meeting the committee's proposal that some meetings should be discussion meetings was highly approved, and the Secretary was asked to arrange this.

No. 3 on 10 June 1911 at the Rothamsted Experimental Station, Harpenden, with Mr A. D. Hall in the chair. Members were shown the various experimental plots. Communications were given after tea in the village institute and dinner was held in the sample room of the Experimental Station.

No. 4 on 8 July 1911 at the City and Guilds (Engineering) College, South Kensington, with Professor H. E. Armstrong in the chair. Dinner was at Blanchard's Restaurant.

No. 5 on 14 October 1911 in the School of Agriculture, University of Cambridge, with Professor T. B. Wood in the chair. A discussion on Animal Nutrition arranged for this meeting was opened by F. G. Hopkins's 'Some Feeding Experiments'. Other papers were by Cathcart and Green, E. Mellanby and Gardner and Ellis. Dinner was in the new Combination Room in Caius College.

No. 6 on 17 November 1911 in the Physiological Laboratory, King's College, London, with Professor W. D. Halliburton in the chair. Dinner was at the Howard Hotel. The Chairman spoke of the honours conferred on H. E. Armstrong (the Davy Medal) and on W. M. Bayliss (a Royal Medal) by the Royal Society. Dr Plimmer asked the members to include in their congratulations W. D. Halliburton, who had been awarded the Baly Medal by the Royal College of Physicians.

No. 7 on 12 December 1911 at the Lister Institute, London, with Dr A. Harden in the chair. Dinner was served before the meeting in the library of the Institute.

No. 8 on 3 February 1912 in the Kanthack Library and Department of Chemical Pathology of St Bartholomew's Hospital, with Dr A. E. Garrod in the chair. Dinner was at the Manchester Hotel, Aldersgate Street.

No. 9 on 2 March 1912, the first annual general meeting, in the Institute of Physiology, University College, London, with Dr W. M. Bayliss in the chair. After dinner, in the refectory of the College, the Secretary reported (1) as Treasurer, that the accounts, audited by A. Harden, showed a deposit of £40 and a balance of about £6; (2) as Secretary, that the number of members at 31 December was 132, and that one member, Dr F. W. Pavy,

had died. Dr Hopkins had previously at Cambridge alluded to Dr Pavy's great enthusiasm for Biochemistry and to his valuable work on the subject apart from that in medicine.

The attendance at the meetings averaged forty, considerably less at the dinners.

A summary of the work of the committee with regard to the *Biochemical Journal* was presented (see below). The recommendation that the *Journal* be acquired was agreed to.

There was no rule about the retiring members of the committee. The Chairman put forward the proposal of the committee that two members retire on account of least attendance and one member on account of seniority. A. J. Brown and B. Moore (his absence was due to his resignation during negotiations about the *Biochemical Journal*) retired for the first reason and A. E. Garrod for the second (by ballot).

An amendment to this proposal, to the effect that the retiring members be selected by the Club, was carried.

After this announcement H. E. Armstrong tendered his resignation as member of the Club. Though it was explained that this vote was not meant as a reflection on the committee, Professor Armstrong still refused to reconsider and rejoin the Club and committee and left the meeting. The motion was subsequently rescinded. A. J. Brown, A. E. Garrod and W. D. Halliburton were voted as the retiring members. J. S. Ford, W. H. Hurlley and J. Lorrain Smith, as proposed by the committee, were elected as the new members.

Finally, it was resolved that Professor H. E. Armstrong be specially asked to reconsider his resignation. Dr Plimmer went next day to see him and later Professor Starling tried, but to no avail. The Club can never be unmindful of the help, encouragement and advice that Professor Armstrong gave in its early days.

We wish to record the meetings held during the session 1912-13, to show the variety of interests and of the places where they were held.

No. 10 on 4 May 1912 in the Botanical Department, University College, Reading, with Professor F. Keeble in the chair. Dinner was in the Common Room of the College.

No. 11 on 22 June 1912 at the Woburn Experimental Fruit Farm. The director, Mr Spencer Pickering, invited members to lunch and afterwards conducted them over the farm; a visit was made to the Duke of Bedford's Park and dinner was at the Fruit Farm.

No. 12 on 13 July 1912 in the Physiological Laboratory, University of London, South Kensington, with Mr J. A. Gardner in the chair. Dinner was at Bailey's Hotel. Notice was given that a special general meeting would be held in October to accept the committee's conclusions in regard to the *Biochemical Journal* with a consequential change in the rules.

No. 13, the special general meeting, on 12 October 1912 in the Institute of Physiology, University College, London, with Professor E. H. Starling

in the chair. The meeting was informed that the *Biochemical Journal* had been purchased, that W. M. Bayliss and A. Harden had consented to be editors, and a representative editorial committee chosen. The new rules and constitution were carefully considered and adopted with one alteration (that women should be eligible as members) and with some improved wording. The subscription was fixed at £1. 5s., payable 1 January 1913.

No. 14 on 2 November 1912 at the John Innes Horticultural Station with Mr W. Bateson in the chair. Members were shown over the Institution and its work explained to them.

No. 15 on 7 December 1912 in the Brewing Department, University of Birmingham, with Professor A. J. Brown in the chair.

No. 16 on 5 February 1913 in the Research Institute of the Cancer Hospital, London, with Dr S. B. Schryver in the chair. Notice was given of alteration of rule 4.

No. 17 on 13 March 1913, the second annual general meeting, in the Chemical Department, London Hospital, London, with Mr Hugh Candy in the chair. The Secretary-Treasurer reported a balance of £2. 16s. 2d. after paying all expenses, including the purchase of the *Biochemical Journal*. The first number of the *Biochemical Journal*, edited by Bayliss and Harden, appeared in January. J. A. Gardner was appointed Hon. Treasurer and R. H. A. Plimmer Hon. Secretary. The new members of the committee were elected.

The number of members at 31 December 1912 was 148, after three resignations and the loss of one member by death. During this period of two years the lengthy negotiations about a *Journal* were dealt with by the committee.

The acquisition of the Biochemical Journal

At the outset it was realized that if the Biochemical Club were to become permanent and improve its status from an informal discussion and dining club to a real society it was essential to possess its own *Journal*. The stumbling block was not financial, but the existence of the *Biochemical Journal* edited by B. Moore and E. Whitley at the University of Liverpool.

Professor Moore was a member and strong supporter of the Biochemical Club. The committee met Professor Moore in consultation on 11 February 1911. It decided not to issue printed proceedings for distribution at the meetings. Professor Moore offered to accept papers of members of the Club and act in conjunction with the committee in regard to their publication, and proposed to issue the new volume under the editorship of B. Moore and E. Whitley with the collaboration of the committee of the Biochemical Club. The subscription to the Club should not include the *Journal*, but members would be able to obtain it through the Club at a discount of 15% on the published price. These terms were reported at the meeting of the club on 4 March 1911.

This proposal was not acceptable to the Club Committee which wanted a *Journal* of its own. Professor Moore was to be asked on what terms he would hand over the *Biochemical Journal* to the Club. He met J. A. Gardner and R. H. A. Plimmer on 4 July 1911 and explained that he started his *Journal* because of his desire that contributions should be published as submitted without criticism or editorial suggestions. His view was that authors of poor papers would take the blame and not the *Journal*. He was prepared to transfer his *Journal* on this basis of free and unrevised publication. The cost of publication was about £150 a volume, and there was a deficit of about £200 which might be settled satisfactorily. Gardner and Plimmer pointed out that a rival journal would compete with Moore's journal and had a good chance of success as most workers in Biochemistry had joined the Biochemical Club; yet it might not succeed. Moore wrote four days later (8 July) to say that the Club should start its own journal, and in order to give the committee freedom of action he resigned his membership of the Club.

The committee on 8 July 1911 discussed the pros and cons of publishing. Some journals had guarantors who had never been called upon. It was believed it would be possible to publish a journal without loss. So Dr Ramsden was asked to make inquiries at the Oxford University Press, Dr Hopkins at the Cambridge University Press, Dr Plimmer at the London University Press, and at some private publishers and printers. They reported to the committee on 14 October 1911. Comparison of the estimates showed the cost to be from £170 to £200 a volume. A private publisher offered to take the whole responsibility without guarantee and give half the profits to the Biochemical Club.

A suggestion of H. E. Armstrong that he with Plimmer and others act as guarantors, so that a journal be speedily published, and hand over the journal when published to the Club was not received favourably.

Professor F. Keeble then moved that the *Journal* be published by a University Press, and that detailed particulars be obtained from the Oxford and Cambridge University Presses. Doctors Ramsden and Hopkins were asked to continue their previous negotiations.

Dr Ramsden and the Oxford University Press felt that in the interests of Biochemistry in this country two journals should not exist, and Ramsden again tried to get Moore's co-operation. Professor Moore sent a draft memorandum of his terms: a sum of £260 payable in four yearly instalments of £65, Professor Moore and E. Whitley to remain as editors until the money was paid. The *Biochemical Journal* had 170 subscribers of whom twenty-four were members of the Biochemical Club. The Club committee was told later that the price represented 1½ years' purchase at £1. 1s. a subscriber. This high price could not be accepted by the committee.

Professor H. E. Armstrong, though he considered it desirable to buy the *Biochemical Journal*, said that no more than £100 should be offered. Later at Dr Hopkins's suggestion, he proposed that Principal Miers of Manchester

University be asked to assess the value of Moore's *Journal* to the Club. Moore and Whitley met the committee and agreed to the valuation, but neither side was to bind itself to accept. Principal Miers agreed to act if a short statement of the negotiations with Moore were submitted to him. His valuation of £150 was reported to the committee on 20 January 1912. Dr Ramsden was not content with this verdict and asked Moore to send his own statement to Principal Miers. He made no alteration in his valuation. The disparity was great and not pleasing to Moore.

The Secretary reported to the committee that he had met Professor Moore in December and asked him if he would agree to a valuation by Mr W. M. Meredith of Messrs Constable and Co. The answer was 'Yes'. Mr Meredith had agreed to act only if he could ask any questions, and that his award was adhered to by both parties. Moore wrote that he could not agree to the conditions.

Finally, at this meeting of the committee, to overcome this deadlock Professor Keeble proposed that Principal Miers's valuation of £150 for the purchase of all rights in the *Biochemical Journal* as specified in the memorandum below be communicated to Professor Moore as a definite minimum proposal from the Biochemical Club—'Should he be unwilling to accept the proposal, the offer is made to refer to Mr Meredith for final adjudication, both parties agreeing to accept Mr Meredith's valuation as final.'

Memorandum

1. In consideration of the terms contained in subsequent paragraphs the vendors, Messrs B. Moore and E. Whitley and the University Press of Liverpool, agree to hand over the *Biochemical Journal* to the Purchasers, the Biochemical Club, as a going concern and free from all debts together with a list of subscribers thereto standing at present at 170, but all copies of back volumes and numbers already issued of the current volume shall remain the property of the vendors.

2. The Biochemical Club agree to pay forthwith to the vendors the sum of £150 in purchase of the goodwill and subscription list mentioned in clause 1 and to take over and be financially responsible for the issue and management of the *Journal* as from a date to be agreed upon.

3. The *Biochemical Journal* shall be wholly and solely held, edited and managed by The Biochemical Club.

If this offer now made to Professor Moore be not accepted the Biochemical Club proceeds to establish its own *Journal* independently.

On 3 February 1912 two letters from Professor Moore stated that he agreed to accept the Biochemical Club's proposal to buy the *Journal* for a minimum price of £150, but he wished for an interview with Mr Meredith to see if the figure could be raised. He desired (1) to have the first option of recontinuing the *Biochemical Journal* if for any reasons the Biochemical Club ceased to

publish it, and (2) that the title should not be changed and the volumes renumbered as from the taking over. Professor Moore was informed that the committee could not accept the limitations of the second point, and that he should give a statement that he agreed to the original terms.

On 2 March 1912 the Secretary informed the committee that Professor Moore was unable to meet Mr Meredith and had written agreeing to accept the valuation of £150.

The arrangements were thus at last complete, and it was decided to take over at the completion of the current volume (number 6). Professor Moore would state in his next number that in future the *Biochemical Journal* would be issued by the Biochemical Club.

Later, he inserted a slip repeating this information, setting out the objects of the Biochemical Club, and stating that the subscription was 25s. per annum including the *Journal* for the year. Other subscribers were asked to pay £1. 1s. per volume.

The payment of £150

Before the negotiations with Professor Moore were completed a generous gift of £25 from Professor Sir William Osler (through Dr Ramsden) was gratefully accepted. There was a deposit of £40 and a balance of £6 from the first year. A similar balance of £40 was expected from the second year. The Secretary felt that members would like to give donations and feel that they had helped to buy the *Journal* for the Club. In this way £30 was subscribed. A gift of £5 from Mrs Herter was sent from New York through Dr H. D. Dakin. Dr Vincent kindly contributed the last £10.

An agreement for the purchase was drawn up by a solicitor. The Chairman of committee (Dr A. Harden) and the Secretary (Dr R. H. A. Plimmer) were authorized to sign the deed of assignment, and the Secretary authorized to pay £150 to Professor Moore and Mr E. Whitley.

The Biochemical Society and the *Biochemical Journal* are now so well and firmly established and taken for granted that few of the present members know anything of the troublesome negotiations which harassed the committee of the Biochemical Club during the first two years.

Final arrangements

Some additional details were still necessary. A subcommittee consisting of J. A. Gardner, A. Harden, F. G. Hopkins and the Secretary was appointed to report on (1) the title and constitution of the association, (2) the cost of publication of the *Biochemical Journal*, (3) the amount of subscription, based if necessary on a canvas of members.

The subcommittee, in view of past argumentative discussions at annual meetings, decided to take a poll by postcard on three questions:

(1) Is it your opinion that membership of the Club should involve compulsory subscription to the *Biochemical Journal*? Answer: Yes 65; No 25.

(2) In the event of the subscription to the *Biochemical Journal* not being compulsory for all members, are you prepared to subscribe to the *Journal* at a cost of 15s. to £1 per annum, in addition to the present subscription to the Club? Answer: Yes 72; No 19.

(3) Are you in favour of changing the name of the association to 'The Biochemical Society'? Answer: Yes 79; No 10.

It was clear that the subscription to the *Biochemical Journal* should be compulsory for all members and that the title should be The Biochemical Society.

The tenders for printing the *Biochemical Journal* showed that the most favourable terms were those of the Cambridge University Press: £200 approximately for an issue of 500 copies of eight parts of 80 pages per volume in the style of the present *Journal*. It was estimated that a subscription of £1 per member would cover the cost of publication. Under the title of the *Journal* the words 'edited for the Biochemical Society' should be inserted.

Editorship of the Biochemical Journal

The committee decided that the *Biochemical Journal* should be edited by two editors and a representative editorial committee.

No definite record exists of how the first editors were chosen. The Secretary well remembers how he thought that one editor might represent the more chemical side and the other the more physiological, and that if he could secure the services of Dr A. Harden and Dr W. M. Bayliss as editors the greatest benefits would come to the Biochemical Society and the *Biochemical Journal*. He made special visits to Doctors Harden and Bayliss and was agreeably surprised and overwhelmed with delight to learn that both would accept. It was the finest possible culmination to all the work in connection with the *Biochemical Journal*.

PROGRESS OF THE BIOCHEMICAL SOCIETY

Since the foundation of the complete society with its own *Journal* in 1913 there has been continuous development which is best described under different headings.

Membership

Fewer members than expected of the original Biochemical Club resigned on its being transformed into a Society. In the first few years, even during the war years of 1914-18, there was an average yearly increase of eight or nine. A more rapid increase in numbers started in 1920 in spite of losses by death and resignation. For many years the increase averaged about fifty. In one year it was over eighty. The number exceeded 1000 (1017) on 1 January

1944. In one of the later years over 100 new members were elected. At the annual general meeting in March 1949 the membership was reported to be 1398. The founders and original members hardly contemplated such a large number, and those surviving cannot but be highly gratified with the great success achieved during these 36 years.

Honorary members

No definite ideas were held by the members of the early committees about elections to honorary membership. Later, it was not considered advisable to appoint any of our members whilst they held their official appointments and were actively engaged in research. Consequently, few members have been elected to honorary membership. The Society welcomed the acceptance of this distinction of the Biochemical Society by W. D. Halliburton on 12 November 1923; A. Harden on 11 November 1938; F. G. Hopkins and R. H. A. Plimmer on 25 September 1943.

The sole survivor of these four may be allowed to state his surprise at his selection and his pride in this honour.

Meetings

The original practice of holding meetings at various colleges and medical schools in London and at other centres outside London with the head of the laboratory as Chairman has been continued throughout the 38 years of the existence of the Biochemical Society. The informal character of the meetings has been maintained.

The procedure was altered at the annual meeting in 1913. The minutes, announcements, business and communications were taken first instead of after dinner, so that more members were present to discuss any special matter. The attendance at dinners was small. The social side was kept separate and a Biochemical Dining Club was formed. It was not well supported and was discontinued after 15 May 1915. Still the social side was not neglected. Arrangements where possible were made for members and guests to have lunch or dinner. During the last years meetings have been held on days preceding the meetings of the Physiological Society so that members of both societies could sometimes attend a joint meeting at dinner.

Eight meetings a year were considered a suitable number. During the war years of 1914-18 the number was less and six to eight were arranged. Again, in the years 1939-45 meetings, though fewer, were held in spite of the war-time difficulties. The annual general meeting in March 1949 was the 275th meeting to be held.

The attendance at the meetings from 1913 to about 1921 averaged from 40 to 50. It became greater with the increase in membership, and at times in the last years has reached over 200. The accommodation in some lecture theatres has been taxed to the utmost. At some meetings the com-

munications were given in two sections, and an extra meeting was inserted in 1948-49. As the communications also largely increased a time limit was fixed. Two to three hours was sufficient time in the early years; half days and whole days have been necessary recently.

Meetings in London

University College: 1911, '12, '13, '14, '16, '17, '18, '20, '21, '22, '23, '25, '26, '27, '28, '29, '30, '31, '32, '33, '35, '36, '37, '38, '39, '48, '49.
 City and Guilds' Engineering College: 1911.
 King's College: 1911, '13, '15, '20, '21, '22, '25, '42, '46.
 Lister Institute: 1911, '13, '14, '15, '17, '18, '19, '21, '22, '23, '24, '25, '26, '27, '28, '29, '30, '31, '32, '33, '34, '35, '38, '39.
 St Bartholomew's Hospital: 1912, '15, '19, '20, '24, '26, '29, '36.
 University of London: 1912, '14, '16, '17.
 Royal Cancer Hospital: 1913, '17.
 London Hospital: 1913, '18, '23, '30, '37, '45.
 St Thomas's Hospital: 1913, '16, '22, '24, '25, '26, '28, '30, '33, '40, '43, '47, '49.
 Imperial College: 1914, '16, '19, '20, '22, '23, '24, '25, '26, '27, '31, '42, '43.
 Guy's Hospital: 1914, '17, '35, '47.
 Chemical Society, Burlington House: 1915.
 Royal School of Mines: 1920.
 National Institute for Medical Research, Hampstead: 1923, '27, '32, '41, '44, '46.
 Institute of Mechanical Engineers: 1923.
 Engineers' Club, Coventry Street: 1923.
 London (Royal Free Hospital) School of Medicine for Women: 1923.
 Middlesex Hospital: 1925, '34, '39, '41, '43, '44, '45, '48.
 Hotel Great Central: 1926.
 J. Lyons & Co., Kensington: 1928, '32, '38.
 London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine: 1931, '32, '34, '35, '36, '45, '46, '47, '48.
 United Dairies: 1936.
 St Mary's Hospital: 1937, '42.
 Wellcome Research Laboratories: 1938.
 University College Hospital: 1938, '41, '42, '47.
 Postgraduate Medical School: 1940, '42, '43, '44, '45, '46, '47, '48, '49.
 Royal Society of Medicine: 1944.
 National Hospital, Queen Square: 1945.
 Westminster Hospital Medical School: 1948, '49.

Meetings outside London

From the list it will be seen that these meetings have been spread well over the country. It was unavoidable that more meetings were held in some places than in others, but every effort was made to go to as many provincial centres as possible.

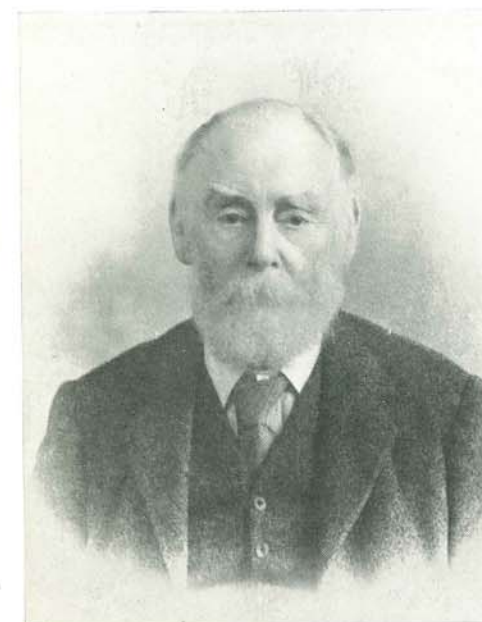
Oxford University: 1911, '14, '26, '27, '29, '30, '31, '32, '34, '35, '36, '37, '38, '39, '40, '42, '46, '48, '49.
 Rothamsted Experimental Station, Harpenden, Herts: 1911, '13, '15, '19, '23, '28, '33.
 Cambridge University: 1911, '13, '16, '20, '24, '25, '26, '27, '28, '29, '30, '31, '33, '34, '35, '36, '37, '38, '41, '47.
 Reading University: 1912, '25.
 Woburn Experimental Fruit Farm: 1912.
 John Innes Horticultural Institute, Merton, Surrey: 1912, '29.
 Birmingham University: 1912, '28, '37, '44, '47.
 Royal Holloway College, Englefield Green, Surrey: 1914.
 Edinburgh University: 1921, '27, '35, '38, '40, '43, '46.
 Leeds University: 1922, '30, '39, '40, '45.
 Manchester University: 1924, '27, '42.
 Wellcome Research Laboratories, Beckenham, Kent: 1926.
 Liverpool University: 1929, '34, '46.
 Marine Biological Station, Plymouth: 1931.
 Agricultural Research Station of I.C.I., Jealott's Hill, Berks: 1932.
 Research Laboratories, Distillers' Company, Burgh Heath, Epsom: 1933.



J. A. Gardner, co-founder 1911.
Hon. Treasurer 1913-1943.



R. H. A. Plimmer, co-founder, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer 1911-1912, Hon. Secretary 1913-1919, Hon. Member 1943.



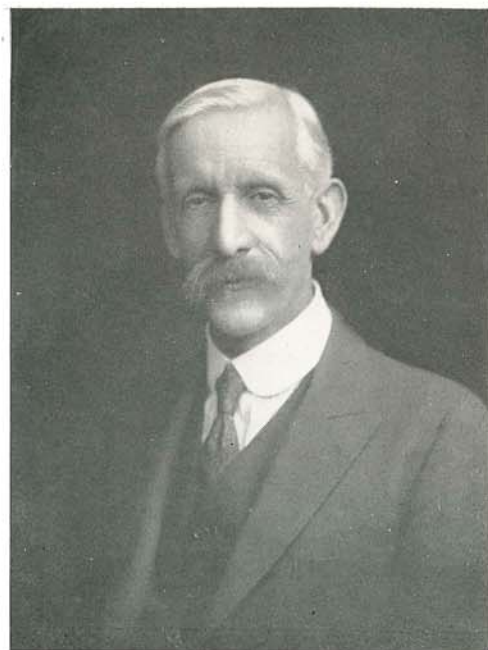
H. E. Armstrong, proposed formation of Biochemical Club 1911. Active member of committee 1911-1912.



W. D. Halliburton, proposed association of all branches of Biochemistry 1911. Hon. Member 1923.



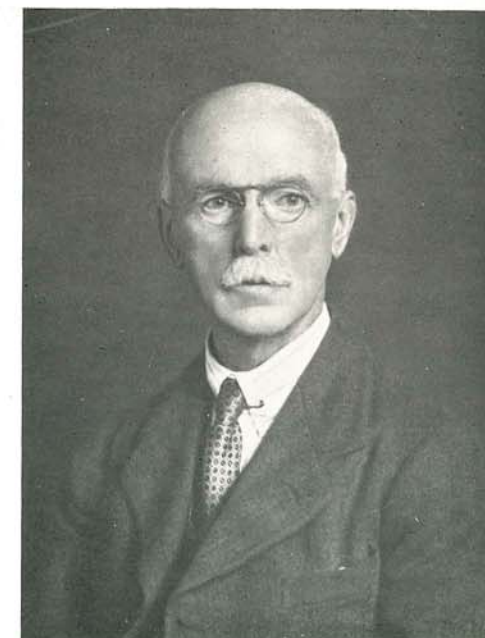
W. Ramsden, active in negotiations over publication of *Biochemical Journal*.



F. G. Hopkins, active in negotiations over publication of *Biochemical Journal*. First Chairman of committee 1913-1914, Hon. Member 1943.



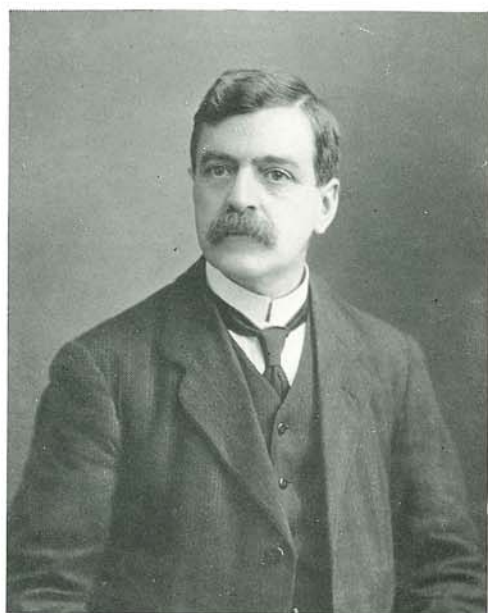
W. M. Bayliss, editor of *Biochemical Journal* 1913-1924.



A. Harden, editor of *Biochemical Journal* 1913-1937. Hon. Member 1938.



F. Keeble, clinched negotiations with B. Moore over purchase of *Biochemical Journal*.



B. Moore, editor with E. Whitley of *Biochemical Journal* 1906-1912.



H. W. Dudley, Hon. Secretary 1922-1924. Editor of *Biochemical Journal* 1924-1930.



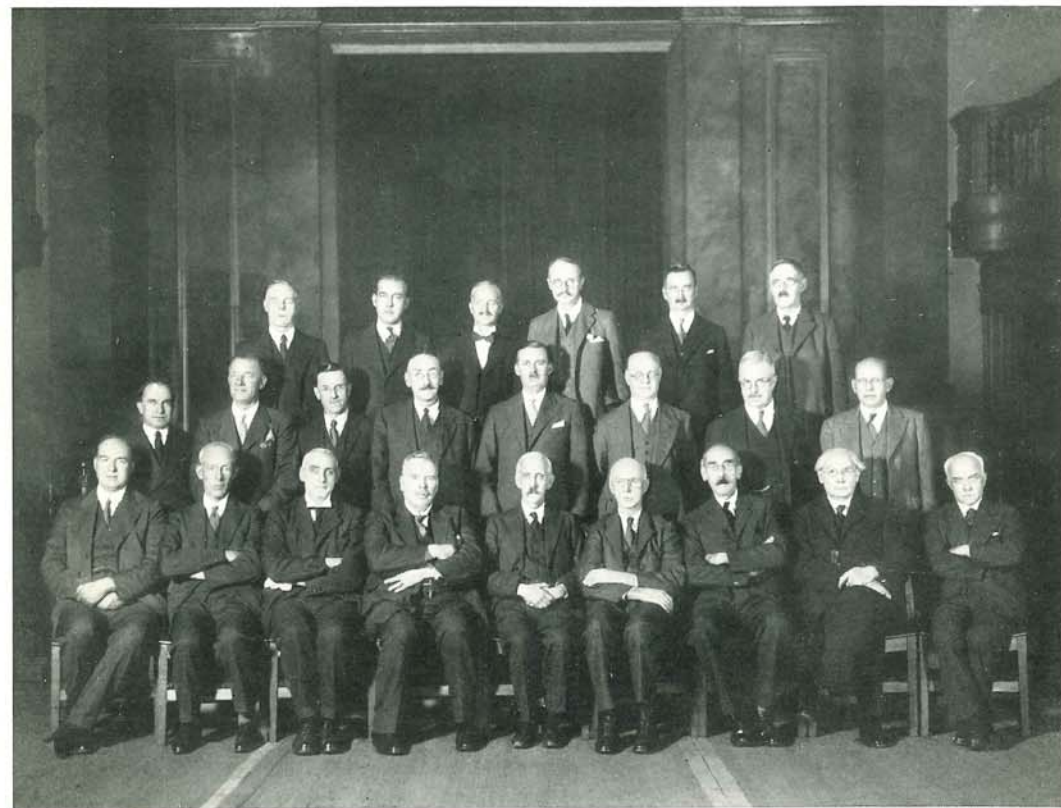
C. R. Harington, Hon. Secretary 1929-1930. Editor of *Biochemical Journal* 1930-1942.



F. G. Young, Hon. Secretary 1938-1943. Chairman of Editorial Board 1943-1946.



E. J. King, Chairman of Editorial Board 1946 to date.



F. P. Worley C. Lovatt Evans P. Hartley E. L. Kennaway H. W. Bywaters W. H. Hurtley
 J. V. Eyre S. A. Mann C. Dorée J. K. Close H. J. Page S. G. Paine J. Golding W. Cramer
 E. Mellanby W. Ramsden R. H. Plimmer J. A. Gardner F. G. Hopkins A. Harden C. J. Martin B. Dyer T. A. Henry
 Group of Original Members taken at the 21st Anniversary Meeting, University College, London,
 17 November 1933.

Nottingham University College: 1933, '49. Dairying Research Station, Shinfield,
 Glasgow University: 1934, '37, '39, '42, Reading: 1939.
 '45, '48. Sheffield University: 1940, '43, '44, '48.
 Durham University: 1935. Dundee University College: 1941, '44,
 Aberdeen, Marischal College: 1936. '49.
 Cardiff University: 1936. Aberdeen, Rowett Institute: 1947.
 Glaxo Research Laboratories, Greenford: 1937. Dublin University College: 1948.

Discussion meetings

Meetings for discussion of special subjects were proposed (as stated above) at the second meeting of the Club in Oxford. Several were held in the early years of the Society. We may note:

1. December 1914. Demonstration of Micro-methods of Analysis at the Lister Institute with Professor A. Harden in the chair. The Society of Public Analysts was invited.
2. May 1915. Joint meeting with the Society of Public Analysts in the rooms of the Chemical Society with their President, Mr A. Chaston Chapman, in the chair. 'Methods adopted in the estimation of the nitrogenous constituents of extracts derived from albuminous substances, such as meat extracts, with special reference to the interpretation of the results.'
3. June 1918. Discourse by Dr R. Stenhouse Williams on 'The commercial production of uncontaminated milk' in the London School of Medicine for Women.
4. November 1918. Joint meeting with the Physiological Society in the Medical College, London Hospital, with Professor E. P. Cathcart in the chair. 'The validity of the isodynamic law of nutrition or interavailability of fat and carbohydrate.'
5. February 1921. At University College, London. Informal Discussion opened by Professor W. M. Bayliss. 'The internal structure of the protein molecule and its bearing on the chemical, physical and biological properties of proteins.'
6. September 1921. At the University of Edinburgh with Professor G. Barger in the chair. 'The place of biochemistry in medical research and education.'
7. January 1923. Joint meeting with the London section of the Society of Chemical Industry at the Institute of Mechanical Engineers, Westminster, with Mr A. Chaston Chapman in the chair. 'Micro-organisms and their application to industry and research in organic chemistry.'
8. May 1923. Joint meeting with the London section of the Institute of Brewing at the Engineers' Club, Coventry Street, W., with Professor A. Harden in the chair. 'Biochemical aspects of fermentation', opened by A. Slator; 'Physiological aspects of germination', opened by V. H. Blackman; 'Chemical aspects of germination', opened by J. L. Baker and H. F. E. Hulston.
9. July 1926. Joint meeting with the London section of the Society of

Chemical Industry at the Hotel Great Central with the Rt. Hon. Sir Alfred Mond in the chair. 'The scientific and industrial problems presented by the hormones.' The speakers were H. H. Dale, H. W. Dudley, F. H. Carr, H. A. D. Jowett, G. Barger.

10. July 1927. Joint meeting with the Society of Chemical Industry at the University of Edinburgh with Professor G. Barger in the chair. 'The physiological and industrial aspects of the chemistry of the carbohydrates.' W. N. Haworth: 'Structural relationships in the carbohydrate group.' A. R. Ling: 'Recent advances in our knowledge of the polysaccharides.' C. G. Lambie: 'The intermediary metabolism of carbohydrates.' C. J. Fox and L. Hall: 'Cellulose from the industrial standpoint.'

11. October 1928. At the University of Cambridge. Professor F. G. Hopkins gave an address in commemoration of the centenary of Friedrich Wöhler's synthesis of urea.

A gap appears between 1928 and 1941. It is recorded that discussion meetings were initiated in 1941; more correctly the word should be 'renewed'. 'Symposium' is the term applied to these meetings of the last years.

12. November 1941. In the Courtauld Institute of Biochemistry, Middlesex Hospital, with Professor E. C. Dodds in the chair. 'The mode of action of chemotherapeutic agents.' Discussion opened by G. M. Findlay; various aspects presented by A. Fleming, Warrington York, F. Hawkins and H. H. Dale.

13. November 1942. In the Department of Organic Chemistry, Imperial College of Science, with Professor I. M. Heilbron in the chair. 'The theory and application of chromatographic methods to biological problems.'

14. November 1943. In the Department of Organic Chemistry, Imperial College of Science, with Sir J. Barcroft in the chair. 'The tetrapyrrolic pigments', opened by D. Keilin on the properties and function of natural tetrapyrrolic compounds.

15. December 1944. Joint meeting with the Pathological Society in the rooms of the Royal Society of Medicine with Professor C. R. Harington in the chair. Discussion on cancer. (1) Oestrogens and malignant disease. E. C. Dodds: 'Synthetic oestrogens in cancer'; A. Haddow: 'Inhibition of growth by amino-*S*-diarylethylenes'; G. M. Bonsor: 'The evolution of mouse mammary cancer; the roles of milk factor and oestrogen'; F. K. Herbert: 'The differentiation between prostatic phosphatase and other acid phosphatases in pathological human sera'; E. J. King and G. E. Delory: 'Plasma phosphatase in the diagnosis of malignancy'; E. W. Riches: 'The clinical use of synthetic oestrogens in carcinoma of the prostate.' (2) With Professor H. R. Dean in the chair. 'Viruses in relation to cancer with special reference to the milk factor', discussed by W. E. Gye, J. McIntosh, M. H. Gordon, J. G. Carr, C. E. van Rooyen, P. R. Peacock.

16. April 1945. Joint meeting with the Nutrition Society in the London School of Hygiene with Professor R. A. Peters and Dr L. J. Harris in the chair. 'The vitamin B complex.'

17. November 1945. In the London School of Hygiene with Professor R. A. Peters in the chair. 'The chemical basis of cell structure and function.' Professor Peters welcomed Professors Fabre, Fromageot and Wurmser of the Société de Chimie Biologique and Dr Jorpes from Stockholm. Professor Fabre on behalf of the French Biochemical Society presented a Pasteur medal with the inscription: 'La Société de Chimie Biologique à la Biochemical Society, Témoignage d'Amitié le 10. xi. 45.' Professor Peters accepted this token of friendship with thanks to Professor Fabre and his colleagues for their kindness (see *Biochem. J.* (1946) 40, 1).

18. February 1946. In the London School of Hygiene with Professor E. L. Hirst and Professor A. R. Todd as chairmen. 'Amino sugars and uronic acids in nature.' Professor Gunnar Blix of Uppsala and Dr E. G. V. Percival of Edinburgh were welcomed as guest speakers.

19. November 1946. Joint meeting with the Society for General Microbiology in the London School of Hygiene with Sir Paul Fildes and Mr A. L. Bacharach as chairmen. 'Quantitative biochemical analysis by microbiological response.'

20. February 1947. At University College Hospital Medical School with Professors A. C. Chibnall and C. Rimington as chairmen. 'The relation of optical form to biological activity in the amino-acid series.'

21. December 1947. In the London School of Hygiene with Dr M. Dixon and Professor R. A. Peters as chairmen. 'The biochemical reactions of chemical warfare agents.'

22. October 1948. In the London School of Hygiene with Doctors E. Baldwin and R. L. M. Synge as chairmen. 'Partition chromatography and its application to biochemical problems.'

23. February 1949. In the Westminster Hospital Medical School with Professor J. B. S. Haldane and Dr A. Neuberger as chairmen. 'Biochemical aspects of genetics.'

One hundredth meeting

This meeting coincided with the Annual General Meeting on 13 March 1926. It was celebrated by a dinner at the Grosvenor Hotel, S.W.1. Professor F. Gowland Hopkins presided and gave the toast of the Biochemical Society. A record of the other speakers does not appear to have been made. The signatures of those at the dinner, collected on a large card, was framed and presented to the Department of Biochemistry, University College, London (p. 16).

Nobel Laureates

Three of our distinguished members (F. G. Hopkins, H. von Euler and A. Harden) were awarded the Nobel Prize in 1929. This notable event could not be allowed to pass without recognition. The Laureates were entertained at dinner on 3 February 1930 at the Hotel Victoria. The President of the

The Biochemical Society.

(FOUNDED MARCH 4TH, 1911.)

The Hundredth Meeting Celebration Dinner.

Grosvenor Hotel, Victoria, S.W.

MARCH 13TH, 1926.

H. S. Rapson.	Percival Hartley.	<u>Rose H. Rapson</u>	F. Graham Hopkins
J. J. Smyth.	R. A. Peters	Mary Dudley	J. Garland & Hopkins
C. R. Miniphan.	H. Channon.	Barbara Wykeham-George	Oiga Hartley.
R. M. Lane.	G. A. Harrison.	H. W. Dudley.	<u>S. B. Schryver</u>
H. D. Carey	R. O. Lawrence	<u>Raymond Hartley</u>	Eric Schryver.
H. W. Kinnorsley	Ed. Hinks.	E. F. Morrison	H. Brown Rees.
<u>Alfred</u>	E. Wacker.	G. L. Peckett.	Dorothy B. Staabon
M. Dore	J. A. Gaudman	K. Cuthbert	<u>Leucial Bond</u>
U. B. Read.	Hilda A. Channon.	W. H. Drummond.	<u>H. Drummond</u>
J. S. Leates.	Harold King.	Edith King	E. Shorton
Beatrice Kay.	H. D. Kay.	J. H. Hillman	H. I. Coomb.
T. S. Hele	Nan Gluckstein.	Edith P. Kempitt.	<u>Sue Ellenston</u>
J. M. Duncan Scott.	R. J. Archibald.	Hilda W. Slater	W. K. <u>Leitch</u>
E. K. Cotton.	Ran Robison	J. B. S. Haldane	<u>M. Fleet</u>
F. E. Garland Hopkins	Robert Robison	J. G. Hoet	P. Haples.
S. Gephart.	H. J. Gephart.	<u>Pauli Collett</u>	E. M. Hughes.
V. G. Plimmer.	W. A. Smith	John Boydell	V. K. Shipston
<u>Maud Hyslop</u>	E. H. Armstrong.	Harriclie Chick	E. T. Morrison
K. Tansley.	H. Haselchop.	H. K. Roof	R. K. Cannon
<u>F. M. L. Gann</u>	Nora Armstrong	H. R. Rastale.	E. L. Kidby
<u>Ernest Maclean</u>	L. King Harris.	Hugh Maclean	<u>Ernest Starling</u>
<u>W. H. Armstrong</u>	S. G. H. H. H. H.	E. B. Maclean	<u>Flame Starling</u>
R. H. A. Plimmer	Arthur Hadden.	<u>John Maclean</u>	Beatrice Roof
E. Babin Light	Margaret Stephenson	Dorothy Jordan Lloyd.	George Barger.
Paul Haas.	W. H. B. B. B.	S. P. Hilding	A. C. Chibnall.
<u>W. H. B. B. B.</u>	Henry E. Armstrong.	Edith Chibnall	<u>W. H. B. B. B.</u>
<u>W. H. B. B. B.</u>	J. F. Pirie	G. H. V. Lumsden.	<u>Temple Fee</u>
<u>W. H. B. B. B.</u>	Edith Maclean	John Lumsden	Helen B. Downes
<u>W. H. B. B. B.</u>	Henry H. Ellis	W. S. B. B. B.	P. B. B. B.
<u>W. H. B. B. B.</u>	W. B. B. B. B.	M. S. C. B. B.	H. C. B. B. B.
<u>W. H. B. B. B.</u>	Margaret Best	Mary S. B. B. B.	S. H. B. B. B.
<u>W. H. B. B. B.</u>	Laura Evans	C. L. B. B. B.	

Royal Society, the presidents of other societies and a representative of the Physiological Society were invited as guests. The Swedish Minister honoured the Society by his presence. Over 200 members and guests were present. The card of signatures was framed and presented to the Lister Institute for custody.

Twenty-first birthday

To mark this anniversary a dinner was arranged on 17 November 1933 at the Hyde Park Hotel; A. Harden, J. A. Gardner and R. H. A. Plimmer were honoured; 158 members and guests were present. The photograph of original members was taken at the 21st anniversary meeting, and is included in this history by the desire of the Chairman of Editors of the *Biochemical Journal*.

The committee

According to the rules of the Society the changes in the committee have been carried out at each annual general meeting. At its first meeting after its formation in 1913 the Society decided to appoint a Chairman for each year. In 1921 the Chairman was asked to act as President on any special occasion. The Chairman was not necessarily the representative at other times. The Secretary or Treasurer or Editor was often the most suitable, or a member of the committee might be asked.

Few members will be able to recall the many Chairmen of the committee and they may be pleased to glance through the list of names.

Chairmen of Committee

1913-14 F. G. Hopkins	1932-33 C. G. L. Wolf
1914-15 W. M. Bayliss	1933-34 R. Robison
1915-16 V. H. Blackman	1934-35 F. L. Pyman
1916-17 G. Barger	1935-36 H. J. Page
1917-18 A. Harden	1936-37 P. Haas
1918-19 Bernard Dyer	1937-38 H. J. Channon
1919-20 W. M. Bayliss	1938-39 R. A. Peters
1920-21 P. Haas	1939-40 R. H. A. Plimmer
1921-22 S. B. Schryver	1940-41 G. M. Findlay
1922-23 R. H. A. Plimmer	1941-42 D. P. Cuthbertson
1923-24 J. C. Drummond	1942-43 J. C. Drummond
1924-25 P. Hartley	1943-44 J. Vargas Eyre
1925-26 H. W. Dudley	1944-45 E. C. Dodds
1926-27 C. Lovatt Evans	1945-46 A. C. Chibnall
1927-28 Ida Smedley Maclean	1946-47 F. A. Robinson
1928-29 R. A. Peters	1947-48 Margaret M. Murray
1929-30 T. S. Hele	1948-49 W. T. J. Morgan
1930-31 T. A. Henry	1949- H. Raistrick
1931-32 E. Hatschek	

Rules of the Biochemical Society

The basic rules of the Society as drawn up and accepted in 1913 have undergone many alterations during the course of its 36 years. The changes have mostly been adaptations arising in connection with increase in subscription, changes in secretarial, financial or editorial matters, power of the committee to deal with new and extra business questions, election of new members, etc. All the changes were for the benefit of the Society as a whole.

Honorary secretaries

R. H. A. Plimmer retired as Secretary in November 1919 on his appointment to the Animal Research Institute, Aberdeen, later the Rowett Institute, which was largely founded by Plimmer's friend, J. Q. Rowett (Rowett was one of the members of the Biochemical Club). The next Secretary was J. C. Drummond, who succeeded Plimmer at University College. Two new Secretaries followed Drummond. With the increase in membership and with other responsibilities arising from the growth of the Society it was necessary to appoint two Secretaries, one to deal with meetings and the other with the business of the committee. The Honorary Secretaries have been:

1911-19	R. H. A. Plimmer
1919-22	J. C. Drummond
1922-24	H. W. Dudley
1924-27	P. Hartley
1927-29	H. D. Kay and R. Robison
1929-30	R. Robison and C. R. Harington
1930-38	A. C. Chibnall and H. Raistrick
1938-40	A. C. Chibnall and F. G. Young
1940-43	F. G. Young and W. T. J. Morgan
1943-45	W. T. J. Morgan and W. Robson
1945-46	W. Robson and D. P. Cuthbertson
1946-47	W. Robson and J. N. Davidson
1947-	J. N. Davidson and J. H. Birkinshaw

At the annual general meeting 1943 the members accepted the committee's proposal that the officers should serve for a number of years: Treasurer, 10 years (not to apply to J. A. Gardner); Assistant Treasurer, 7 years, to extend to 10 years on becoming Treasurer; Secretaries, 7 years; Chairman of Editorial Board, 10 years; Members of Editorial Board, 7 years, extended to 10 years if one of them becomes Chairman.

Honorary Treasurers

R. H. A. Plimmer acted as Honorary Secretary and Treasurer of the Biochemical Club, but on the formation of the Biochemical Society in 1913 J. A. Gardner was elected the first Honorary Treasurer. The present sound

financial state of the Society is due to his persistence and skill in preserving the funds, with the hope of building up a reserve to pay for any increase in general expenses, and also a capital sum for the future for the extra amounts which were likely to be required for the publication of the *Biochemical Journal* and the remuneration of editors.

The Society's deep sense of gratitude was expressed to Gardner at the annual meeting in 1943. It was not possible to honour him in a manner he would have liked, as his retirement took place during the war years. He became a member of the committee on his retirement, and his sage advice, continuing till his death in 1946, was of the utmost value. A delightful description of his personality was written by G. W. Ellis (*Biochem. J.* 1947, 41, 321). The happiest memories of Gardner and his kindness and helpfulness are held by the writer of this history, which Gardner conceived in 1941 and planned to write himself.

Gardner was Honorary Treasurer for the long period of 31 years; only during his last year did he ask for the appointment of an Assistant Honorary Treasurer. J. H. Bushill was appointed in 1941 and he succeeded Gardner on his retirement.

The financial state of the Society was not always on the positive side. Small profits came from the sale of the *Journal* for the first few years. After the 1914-18 war the cost of publication rose and exceeded the available funds. The accumulated profits had to be used, and with the help of a grant from the Royal Society and other gifts Gardner managed to keep the Society solvent. It was necessary to raise the subscription to 35s. and to charge outside subscribers more. The Cambridge University Press was very helpful and gave a more advantageous agreement. Still, with the continued rise in the cost of printing, the small profits of the next few years were not enough and losses again ensued. With another grant from the Royal Society and another reduction in charges by the Cambridge University Press a balance was again struck. The subscription was raised to £2. 2s. and outside subscribers paid £3. 10s. The great increase in membership and outside sales and the smaller type used in the present two-column format have yielded sufficient funds to enable the Society to invest and build up for the future.

Gardner was assisted by his brother, Thomas E. Gardner, of Thomas Gardner and Co., chartered accountants. With his assistance the difficulties of finance were overcome. He became expert auditor to the Society in 1920, and was chiefly responsible for the appointment of six Trustees to hold the funds which accumulated to the credit of the Society as the result of the sale of the *Journal* by the Cambridge University Press. We owe the Press our best thanks for the generous way in which they have treated the Society, as well as for their able publication of the *Journal*.

Trustees

Gardner acted as secretary and convener of the Trustees till his death in 1946. R. H. A. Plimmer was appointed his successor. The trustees have been and are:

1929 Julian L. Baker
 H. W. Dudley, succeeded in 1938 by A. C. Chibnall
 J. A. Gardner, succeeded in 1946 by H. Raistrick
 A. Harden, succeeded in 1942 by J. C. Drummond
 H. D. Kay
 R. H. A. Plimmer

Gardner's hopes of reserve funds for future necessities have been realized. He could be well satisfied with his efforts.

Editors of the Biochemical Journal

Two editors and a representative editorial committee were appointed to edit the *Biochemical Journal* in 1913. The editorial committee was:

E. F. Armstrong	F. Keeble
V. H. Blackman	B. Moore
A. J. Brown	W. Ramsden
J. A. Gardner	E. J. Russell
F. G. Hopkins	

G. Barger replaced Armstrong in 1918 on his resignation. No successors were appointed to A. J. Brown and B. Moore. These names appeared on the title pages of the *Journal*, Vols. 7-32.

The success of the Society and the *Biochemical Journal* must be chiefly attributed to the first editors, especially A. Harden, who had as his first colleague, W. M. Bayliss, then H. W. Dudley, and afterwards C. R. Harington. F. J. W. Roughton assisted for three years with the papers on statistical questions and physical chemistry. Their periods of office were:

W. M. Bayliss and A. Harden, 1913-24; A. Harden and H. W. Dudley, 1924-30; A. Harden and C. R. Harington, 1930-34; A. Harden and C. R. Harington and F. J. W. Roughton, 1935-37.

Presentation to Sir Arthur Harden

Arthur Harden resigned the chief editorship after 25 years of service. To mark the high respect and gratitude felt by all members of the Society the committee decided to offer him a distinctive token of remembrance. With Harden's concurrence it consisted of a silver salver bearing facsimile signatures of all those still living who had served with him on committees with the inscription:

To Sir Arthur Harden, F.R.S.
 From the members of the Biochemical Society.

To express their appreciation of the invaluable services rendered by him to the Society as Editor of the *Biochemical Journal* from 1913 to 1937 and their gratitude for his friendship and wise counsel, available for all members at all times.

The presentation took place at the annual general meeting on 11 March 1938. The Chairman of Committee, H. J. Channon, in his address traced the growth curve of the number of words in the 25 volumes. Starting at 180,000 it reached 1,500,000 per volume. The total in the period was some 18 million, all of which Harden read in proof. This is only one sign of the magnitude of his work. Sir F. Gowland Hopkins, who spoke afterwards, stressed the sacrifices Harden must have made in his time for his valuable researches on fermentation. Arthur Harden in his reply spoke of the function of editors. Expecting 'another enemy made' for any alteration he desired, he found instead 'there was another friend'. He expressed his gratitude to the Cambridge University Press for their care in the production of the *Journal*. The account of this occasion is in the *Journal* (1938) 32, 769.

Private dinner to Sir Arthur Harden

Arthur Harden was entertained by a few of his colleagues at a private dinner at Kettner's on 12 October 1937. This was a happy and memorable occasion. The menu is worth notice.

WINES	MENU
TIO PEPE	Huitres
PIESPORTER GOLDTROEPFCHEN 1929	Melon
RICHEBOURG 1923	Hors-d'Œuvre
ROUYER GUILLET V.S.O.P. 40 years old	Consommé Yvette en Tasse
ADAMS '15'	Crème St Germain
	Blanchailles
	Faisan Rôti sur Canapé
	Choux de Bruxelles
	Coupe aux Marrons
	Soufflé aux Laitances
	Café

It shows the knowledge and taste of the organizers in their choice for a celebration. Though no record exists we might guess J. A. Gardner and A. C. Chibnall to have been concerned.

The *Journal* was edited from 1938 to 1942 by C. R. Harington with three associate editors, S. J. Cowell, F. Dickens, F. J. W. Roughton.

An Editorial Board was constituted in 1943 with one member as Chairman or chief to co-ordinate the work and be the responsible officer. In this way

the heavy burden for the chief editor of reading and editing the numerous papers could be lightened. To date the Editorial Boards have been:

1943	1944	1945	1946
S. J. Cowell	F. Dickens	K. Bailey	K. Bailey
F. Dickens	E. J. King	F. Dickens	F. Dickens
R. A. Kekwick	B. C. J. G. Knight	E. J. King	E. J. King
E. J. King	J. R. P. O'Brien	B. C. J. G. Knight	B. C. J. G. Knight
B. C. J. G. Knight	A. R. Todd	J. R. P. O'Brien	S. K. Kon
A. R. Todd	F. G. Young	A. R. Todd	J. R. P. O'Brien
F. G. Young (Chairman)	(Chairman)	F. G. Young (Chairman)	C. Rimington
			A. R. Todd
			F. G. Young (Chairman)
1947	1948	1949	
K. Bailey	K. Bailey	R. K. Callow	
R. K. Callow	R. K. Callow	G. D. Greville	
G. D. Greville	G. D. Greville	R. A. Kekwick	
B. C. J. G. Knight	S. K. Kon	M. G. Macfarlane	
S. K. Kon	H. McIlwain	H. McIlwain	
H. McIlwain	R. A. Morton	R. A. Morton	
R. A. Morton	A. Neuberger	A. Neuberger	
A. Neuberger	J. R. P. O'Brien	J. R. P. O'Brien	
J. R. P. O'Brien	C. Rimington	R. H. S. Thompson	
C. Rimington	A. Wormal	A. Wormal	
E. J. King	E. J. King	E. J. King	
(Chairman)	(Chairman)	(Chairman)	

Proceedings

A new journal, *Chemistry and Industry* was started in 1924 by the Society of Chemical Industry with Stephen Miall as editor, who proposed the publication of our proceedings in this journal. The committee felt that this method of publication would satisfy the desire of many members for prompt publication. It was not possible to issue the parts of our *Journal* at monthly intervals on account of the extra expense and the extra editorial work. (All members do not know that prompt publication depends on care of preparing typescripts, with references properly quoted and carefully checked, and that delay follows tardy return of proofs.)

Members were informed in 1929 that if they supplied a short abstract to the Secretary on or preferably before the date of the meeting it would appear promptly in *Chemistry and Industry*, and in 1936 they were informed that these could be circulated if handed in before the meeting. This procedure continued until 1941.

In 1942 the abstracts were published in our own *Journal* in a style different from that of the *Journal*. Abstracts of the discussion meetings were also included.

Abstracts of Biochemical papers

For many years abstracts of papers on Biochemistry were published by the Chemical Society. *Physiological Abstracts* also included such papers. The Chemical Society in 1935 formed the Bureau of British Chemical Abstracts. *Physiological Abstracts* joined the Bureau in 1937. Later, other societies joined, and a joint issue known as *British Abstracts* was published.

The Biochemical Society is represented on the Bureau and subscribes handsomely both financially and through the assistance of its members in the work of abstracting.

Relations with other Societies

1. Board of Scientific Societies. The Biochemical Society was added to this board in 1917 and remained attached until 1923 when the need was no longer felt to be urgent.

2. Federal Council of Pure and Applied Chemistry (Chemical Council). In 1915 the President of the Chemical Society invited our co-operation in organizing chemical science to assist the nation and asked for the nomination of six experts to advise the Council of the Chemical Society on all matters of a biochemical nature, and also of two members to form part of a general committee. The Federal Council was formed in 1918 and was composed of nominees of the corporate societies concerned with all aspects of pure and applied chemistry. Its purpose was to take such action as to ensure adequate appreciation of the due claims of chemical science, to consider all matters of its constituent bodies and to take appropriate action. Each society retained its individuality, but for many purposes the federation was desirable. This Association became the Chemical Council, which the Biochemical Society joined in 1947.

3. Biological Council. In 1944 the Biochemical Society initiated the formation of the Biological Council. This body included the Pathological Society, the Physiological Society, the Society of Experimental Biology, the Anatomical Society, the Linnean Society.

Library of the Chemical Society

It was never the intention of the Biochemical Society to have a permanent office and library. The extension of the facilities for the use of the library of the Chemical Society in 1919 (part of the Federal Council scheme) was therefore welcomed. Our members were allowed to use the library under almost the same conditions as Fellows of the Chemical Society.

Copies of the *Biochemical Journal* were presented to the Chemical Society and an annual donation was given. Before this happening the many requests for an exchange of our *Journal* with those of other societies was not feasible. An exchange now became possible, and with the consent of the library committee (one of our members served on this committee) exchanges were

made with those journals which would form a new addition to the library. A happy and fruitful system of co-operation gradually grew up.

Library of the Linnean Society

After the formation of the Biological Council the use of the library of the Linnean Society was extended to our members in 1947.

Delegates to conferences

We should note the growth of the Biochemical Society also by the invitations for representation at congresses:

- 1927 Conference of Royal Microscopical Society, W. Ramsden and I. Heilbron.
- 1927 Congress of the Institute of Public Health at Ghent, L. H. Lampitt.
- 1928 8^e Congrès de Chimie Industrielle at Strasbourg, F. H. Carr.
- 1928 Marcellin Berthelot centenary celebrations in Paris, Ida Smedley Maclean.
- 1928 Jubilee dinner of the Institute of Chemistry, Ida Smedley Maclean.
- 1928 Jubilee dinner of the Physiological Society, Ida Smedley Maclean.
- 1930 First International Congress of Microbiology in Paris, A. Chaston Chapman.
- 1931 Centenary meeting of the British Association, A. Harden.
- 1939 Jubilee meeting of the Société de Chimie Biologique, J. C. Drummond, Marjorie Stephenson, H. H. Green.