REPORT OF THE COUNCIL
FOR 1971-72

The Council has pleasure in reporting that, during the past year, the Society has successfully continued its activities and wishes to thank all those officers and members who have helped to further the aims of the Society.

The President's Eightieth Birthday. A telegram of congratulation on behalf of the Council and members of the Society was sent to Mr. Norman Knight on his eightieth birthday. Subsequently a luncheon in honour of the Founder-President was held at Schmidt's which was attended by 39 members and two guests.

Membership. The total membership at the end of the financial year was 363 compared with 333 in the previous year. New members elected during the year totalled 57.

The Council calls attention to the rule that if members' subscriptions are not paid by September their membership is liable to lapse automatically. Subscriptions should be sent to Miss P. M. Trew, 15 Maple Drive, Chelmsford CM2 9HP.

Register of Indexers. The number of Registered Indexers is now 98. During the year 76 authors or publishers asked the Society to recommend indexers for specific works and 291 recommendations were made. The majority of requests have continued to be for indexers specialising in scientific works, and although every effort is made to spread these requests evenly over members on the Register, it is inevitable from this that registered indexers specialising in the arts could not be put forward so frequently as those specialising in scientific subjects.

The Register records have been brought up-to-date and a determined attempt is being made to publicise the existence of the Register among publishers, authors, etc. Members are reminded that Mrs. Elizabeth Wallis maintains the Register of Indexers and deals with enquiries from publishers. Her address is: 25 Leyborne Park, Kew, Surrey. Telephone: 01-940 4771.

Meetings. Four general meetings have been held during the year in addition to the Annual General Meeting at which Mr. L. M. Harrod gave a most informative talk on his work as Hon. Editor of The Indexer.

In October 1971 Michael Belton, Librarian, Safety in Mines Research Establishment, Sheffield, presented a very topical paper on 'Computer-aided Indexing'. This was followed in December by a talk on 'Training for Indexing' given by Mr. Harrod, wearing his other hat as Director of the Society's training courses. In March 1972 Dr. Hunnissett addressed members on 'The Indexing of Record Publications' and, the following month, Dr. J. E. Holmstrom presented a paper on 'The Indexing of Multi-Author, Multi-Volume and Periodical Publications'. Our sincere thanks are due to all these speakers and to Miss Sinclair and Mrs. Edwards who have so kindly looked after the tea arrangements.

Finance. The Statement of Accounts reflects the Society's continuing viability. The Council expresses its sincere thanks to the Auditor, Mr. William Davies.

Hon. Treasurer. It was announced at the last Annual General Meeting that Mrs. Anderson wished to retire from the office of Hon. Treasurer and Membership Secretary this year. We know that all members will wish to join with the Council in expressing their heartfelt gratitude to Mrs. Anderson for her sterling work on behalf of the Society. It is no exaggeration to say that the Society's financial stability over the past years has been due in no small measure to her excellent stewardship.

Mr. H. Baxter has agreed to offer himself for nomination as Hon. Treasurer at the Annual General Meeting.
Training Courses. Two courses were held at the Willesden College of Technology in 1971, an advanced one from 21 to 24 June and an introductory one from 28 June to 1 July. Twelve students attended the Advanced Course and the Introductory Course was over-subscribed, admission being closed at 32. Both courses concluded with a lively Question and Answer session and our thanks are due to Mr. Harrod for his work as Director of the Courses.

The Council is pleased to announce that arrangements are being conducted to inaugurate a correspondence course in indexing. Full details will be published in The Indexer as soon as possible.

In view of this development it has been agreed that no short courses will be held this year.

The Indexer. At the end of the year the Council is pleased to report that the Society's journal has maintained its circulation and continues to play a most valuable part in promoting the Society's aims. Special thanks are due to Mr. L. M. Harrod for his work as Editor and to Mrs. Wallis the Assistant Editor. Contributions and letters to the journal are welcomed.

Library. Members are reminded that the library is housed in the basement of the Library Association premises. The Council has authorised regular purchases to be made each year up to £10 p.a. to make the library more representative of its subjects.

International Book Year 1972. The Council has agreed that copies of the April 1972 issue of The Indexer should be sent free to delegates to the FLA Conference to be held in Budapest in September. An approach has also been made to the National Book Committee, which is responsible for co-ordinating national activities, to ensure that such an essential part of all serious books as the index is suitably promoted in the International Book Year activities.

American Society of Indexers. The terms of affiliation were formally approved by members at the Special General Meeting held on 19th October, 1971.

Society Representations on other Organisations. The Society is represented on the relevant Committees of the British Standards Institution by Mr. R. Bancroft, Mr. L. M. Harrod and Miss Piggott. Dr. J. E. Holmstrom, Mr. M. Wace and Mrs. E. Wallis represent the Society on the Wheatley Medal Sub-Committee.

Council. The Council has met five times during the year.

Under Rule 7(b) Mr. J. M. Shaftesley and Mr. M. Wace are due to retire and the Council nominates these members for re-election.

R. Bancroft, Chairman.
P. Trew, Secretary.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the SOCIETY OF INDEXERS

The 15th Annual General Meeting of the Society was held at ASLIB on Tuesday, 16th May, 1972. Twenty-six members attended the meeting and a number of apologies had been received from members unable to attend.

The Report of the Council for the year ended 31st March, 1972, was received. The Chairman brought members up to date on events since the end of the year and reported that he had been interviewed by the BBC and BBC representatives had been invited to the AGM and the Reception.

The following officers were elected for the year 1972/3:

Chairman: Mr. Richard F. L. Bancroft, M.A.
Vice-Chairman: Mr. F. H. C. Tatham, B.A.