and a grievous loss to the Society, which he joined as a Founder Member in 1957 and served as Hon. Secretary during 1959-60. Dr. Hughes was a scientist of note, particularly in the field of electronics; a tribute to some of his many activities is paid on page 133. A sheaf of flowers was sent on behalf of all the members of the Society for the cremation service at Golders Green on the 14th June and this was attended by the Vice-Chairman, the Treasurer, the General Secretary and the Editor of The Indexer.

It is somewhat disappointing to find that only two nominations were received for the Library Association’s award of a gold medal for “an outstanding index of the year” 1960, and also that both of those came from members of the Library Association, and none from those of the other nominating body, the Society of Indexers. Surely members of the Society should be apt judges of a really excellent index.

There are four ways in which members are asked to assist the smooth and efficient administration of the Society:

(1) By prompt payment of dues on or as soon as possible after April 1st. Those few members who have not yet paid their annual subscriptions for the current year are urged to send without delay their cheques to the Hon. Membership Secretary, 23 Hatherleigh Gardens, Potters Bar, Middlesex.

(2) By promptly notifying any change of address to the Hon. Membership Secretary.

(3) By keeping the Hon. General Secretary informed of any fresh indexes they have compiled, to enable the panel records to be kept up to date.

(4) By attending whenever possible the Society’s meetings

G. N. K.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR 1960-61

DEATH OF MR. TALBOT:

At the outset reference must be made to the very great loss the Society sustained during the year by reason of the death on the 20th October of the Hon. Membership Secretary, Mr. Alfred Talbot, who had also served as one of the Society’s Hon. Auditors since its inception. By his great kindliness and courtesy Alfred Talbot had endeared himself to very many members, who will wish to endorse wholeheartedly the tribute paid to him in the Spring issue of The Indexer. The office of Membership Secretary is an important one and to ensure continuity the Council appointed Mr. Terence Miller to succeed him in an acting capacity; they recommend his full election at the Annual General Meeting. Mr. William Davies, A.A.I.A., M.S.Ind., an International Accountant, was similarly appointed as acting Hon. Auditor and his election is also recommended.
MEMBERSHIP:

The Society continues to progress, although its membership has not increased. The number of members at the end of the financial year was 175, of whom 26 were Institutional Members. The number residing overseas was 37.

New members elected during the year numbered 37 and there were 44 resignations and two deaths, Mr. Talbot and Mr. Roy Hossell.

DISCUSSION MEETINGS:

During the autumn and winter a successful series of monthly discussion meetings was held at Chaucer House, Malet Place. The speakers, all of them specialists in their respective fields, comprised: Brigadier E. E. G. L. Searight on “Cumulative Indexing”; Mr. E. T. Bryant on “Indexing Gramophone Records”; Mr. D. W. L. Langridge on “The Use of Classification in Book Indexing”; Mr. J. H. Davies on “The Indexing of Music”; Mr. L. E. J. Helyar on “Technical Indexing”; Mr. J. Farradane on “Relational Indexing”; and Mr. Gordon V. Carey on “No Room at the Top”. All these meetings were well attended. The cordial thanks of the Council are due to all these speakers for their valuable papers, all of which have been or will be published in The Indexer.

ONE-DAY CONFERENCE:

A highly successful one-day conference on “Better Indexes for Technical Literature”, arranged jointly by ASLIB and the Society, was held at Connaught Rooms, Great Queen Street, W.C.2, on the 31st January.

A reprint of the proceedings has been sent to every member.

THE WHEATLEY AWARD:

As the outcome of a conference between the Society’s Chairman and Hon. Gen. Secretary on the one hand and officials of the Library Association on the other the Council are pleased to announce that the latter body has agreed to award annually a Wheatley Medal for an outstanding index of the preceding year. Recommendations for this award are invited from members of the Association and those of the Society (but not of their own efforts!) and the final adjudication will be made by a joint committee consisting of four members of the Society of Indexers and two members of the Library Association. Those making recommendations are asked to add a short citation showing the reason for their choice. The Council feel that the institution of the Wheatley Award will help to stimulate the production of better indexes.

TRAINING COURSE:

Thanks chiefly to the efforts of Mr. A. R. Hewitt (Vice-President and Vice-Chairman) the Society’s second training course has been arranged to be held weekly at the North-Western Polytechnic, Prince of Wales Road, N.W.5, from October to December. As the maximum number of places for the course is limited to 30, members who are interested are advised to apply soon.
BRITISH STANDARD OF INDEXING:
The Society's contribution to the task of drawing up a British Standard of Indexing continues in collaboration with the B.S.I. The Council hopes that the work may be brought to finality during the current year.

"THE INDEXER":
The Indexer has more than maintained its high standard and is now thriving, with an ever-increasing number of independent subscribers. The Council wish to express their very high appreciation of the devoted efforts of the Hon. Editor, Mr. J. L. Thornton.

THE PANELS:
During the year the Society has been asked by publishers to suggest names of suitable indexers for 26 books—archaeological, educational, philosophical, religious, historical, etc. In practically every instance it has been the practice to submit the names of three or four members to each publisher and the Council have no reason to believe that the publishers have been anything but satisfied with their choice. It is pointed out that it is difficult and possibly unethical to recommend the names of members with no previous experience and it is suggested that such members who are anxious to obtain work should themselves, in the first instance, offer their services to publishers. All members are particularly requested to keep the Hon. Gen. Secretary informed of any fresh indexes they have compiled.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT:
The Council wish to express their cordial appreciation of the unstinted work on behalf of the Society of its Hon. Treasurer, Mr. R. L. Collison, who has held that office from the start, and of the Hon. Auditors, Dr. R. Dickinson and Mr. William Davies. Dr. Dickinson has also served in this capacity since the society's inception.

HON. CORRESPONDENTS:
The following additional Hon. Correspondents have been appointed during the year: Mr. M. Zvi Barkay, M.A., for Israel; Mrs. Brenda Miller, for Australia; Mr. James Traue, M.A., for New Zealand; and Miss Antonia Doyle, for France. Miss A. C. Esmeyer of Utrecht kindly undertook to act as corresponding member for the Netherlands during the absence in the United States of Professor W. Heckscher. To them as well as those of older standing the Society is greatly indebted for their valued services.

LIBRARY:
During the year a start was made in forming the Society's Library under the supervision of Mr. Robert L. Collison, F.L.A.

On behalf of the Council:
James C. Thornton, Chairman.
G. Norman Knight, Hon. General Secretary.

May 28th, 1961.