

The Editorship

ONE item from the Secretary's report at the last Annual Meeting is worthy of wider notice, and we reproduce here the relevant extract.

“ Members will be interested to know that this year's Annual is the 25th to be produced by the Rev. David A. Hodges, who became Convener of the Editorial Committee in 1942, and shortly thereafter, sole Editor of the Annual.

May I add this reference which I have gleaned from the records, because although many know that the Society suffered a period of decline for nearly two decades after the first world war, few realise how much is owed to David Hodges, who was the instigator of the revival of the Society thirty years ago.

In 1937, with membership dwindling to 190, an extension committee was appointed, consisting of David Hodges (Convener), Ninian Hill, Nevile Davidson and Roy Sanderson. Within a year a manifesto had been prepared and widely circulated throughout the Church. This resulted in 210 new applications for membership, bringing the total to 400.

The minute of 31st May, 1938, reads : ‘ Mr Hodges, to whose exertions this gratifying increase was largely due, was warmly thanked by the Council.’

In 1943 Mr Hodges was elected Secretary of the Society, which office he held along with the Editorship, relinquishing it only in 1952 on his appointment as Vice-President. He became President in 1954.

Throughout his Editorship he has consistently maintained and advanced the excellence of the *Annual*, which is always beautifully produced, and with meticulous care.

We thus pay honour where it is due, and express to David Hodges, on the issue of his 25th Annual, the appreciation and thanks of the Society for his faithful service over so many years.”

At the June, 1966, meeting, the Council accepted with regret Mr Hodges' demission of office as Editor after the publication of the 1967 *Annual*. It is expected that the Council's appointment of a successor will be announced at the forthcoming Annual Meeting.

W. J. Ross