

### DISTRIBUTION MAPS SCHEME

#### FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT TO 31st DECEMBER 1957

Recording in 1957 has been up to expectation, and the response was good to a circular letter sent out on 2nd September asking for all outstanding records to be sent in by the 30th of that month. The position at the 30th November may be summarised as follows:—

No. of 10-kilometre squares in:—	<i>Species recorded</i>			
	>250	>150	>50	<50
England and Wales	1110	305	116	33
Scotland	361	282	183	123
Ireland	159	282	227	262

12% of squares still have under 50 records; these are mainly in Scotland and Ireland. 52% of squares still have under 250 records. (As many of these are in Scotland and Ireland, the 'minimum figure' should probably be 150, which about 27% of squares do not yet reach.)

A minimum estimate of field records so far received is 834,000, of which about 600,000 have been punched and put into the system. In addition, about 66,000 individual record cards have so far accumulated, mainly for rare or critical species.

163 rare species have been completed—about half the original list—and the remainder are being done at the rate of three per week.

Recording meetings in 1957 did much valuable work, particularly in East Cornwall and Devon, Dumfries, Lincolnshire and the Fort William area.

Plans are being made for a special recording 'drive' on the remaining areas of the British Isles during 1958. Offers of help already received should cover all the outstanding blank areas in Great Britain, but a special effort will have to be made in Ireland.

In October, a revised plan for a continuation of the Maps Scheme for an additional three years was submitted to the Nature Conservancy and in November the Conservancy announced its acceptance of the plan involving financial support. Details of the future organisation will be given when negotiations are complete.

An Editorial Sub-Committee was set up in March to consider printing and publication of the Atlas. No final decisions on these questions have yet been taken.

In May the Scheme was successfully demonstrated at the Convergence of the Royal Society, and scientists in many other fields of enquiry showed interest in the mapping method. Publicity for the Scheme has also been given by articles in *The Times Science Review* and *Penguin "New Biology"*; a selection of finished maps appeared in these articles and also in Professor Webb's article in the *Handbook of the British Association meeting in Dublin in September*.

In October, Mrs. Fincham (punched-card operator) indicated her wish to change from full-time to part-time work. This change has

been arranged, and Miss J. Daltry has been engaged to do part-time work with the card-index.

At their October meeting, the Council asked the Secretary to convey the special thanks of the Society to Dr. Perring, Miss Matthews and Mrs. Fincham for their outstandingly efficient work for the Scheme which has contributed so much to its success so far. Our thanks are also due as in previous years to the many contributors to the Scheme, on whose enthusiasm and ability the whole project depends. Though much yet remains to be done, we can confidently look forward to the completion of this great work within the planned time.

S. M. WALTERS.

DISTRIBUTION ATLAS ACCOUNT.

1956			1956	
£556	To Balance from 1956 :—		£76	By Furniture and Office
	Current account £305 15 7			Equipment ... .. £86 18
	Deposit account 800 0 0			„ Mechanisation Equip-
				ment :—
		£1105 15 7		Machine Pur-
2150	„ Grant from Nuffield			chase ... £703 7 4
	Foundation ... .. 2050 0 0			Stationery .. 120 4 2
1960	„ Grant from Nature Con-			Rental Charges 535 10 0
	servancy ... .. 2207 8 2		1035	1359 1
50	„ Grant from B.S.B.I. (1956/		103	„ Postages and Telephones 117 15
	57) ... .. 100 0 0		231	„ Printing and Stationery 100 14
6	„ Interest on 4½% Defence		29	„ Rents, Rates and Room
	Bonds ... .. 22 10 0			Hire ... .. 57 13
—	„ British Broadcasting Cor-		1603	„ Salaries and Wages (15
	poration fee ... .. 2 2 0			months) ... .. 2802 15
—	„ Professional fees ... .. 15 15 0			„ Travelling Expenses :—
11	„ Sale of Record Cards,			Staff ... £155 3 2
	etc. ... .. 9 10 11			Others ... .. 70 9 3
34	„ Interest on Deposit Ac-		169	225 12
	count ... .. 28 10 10		6	„ Insurance ... .. 5 11
55	„ Cheques issued but not		101	„ Clerical Assistance ... 124 12
	presented for payment ... .. —		83	„ Heating and Lighting ... 81 18
16	„ Interest on 3½% Defence		282	„ Repairs and Improve-
	Bonds ... .. —			ments ... .. 17 11
			14	„ Other Expenses ... .. 3 14
			—	„ Cheques issued in 1956
				and paid in 1957 ... .. 55 5
				„ Balance :—
				Current Ac-
				count ... £202 9 9
				Deposit Ac-
				count ... 300 0 0
			1106	502 9
£4838		£5541 12 6	£4838	£5541 12

NOTE.—The total funds in hand on this account are as follows :—

Cash as above ... ..	£502 9 9
4½% Defence Bonds ... ..	500 0 0
	<u>£1002 9 9</u>

Examined and found correct,  
27th January 1958.

J. H. G. PETERKEN, Hon. Auditor.  
E. L. SWANN, Hon. Treasurer.