

COMMITTEE FOR THE PREPARATION OF A NEW FLORA OF SURREY

Members of the Society resident in Surrey, and other botanists known to be interested in the county, were invited to a meeting held at the Linnean Society on Saturday, January 26, 1957. The purpose of the meeting was to consider arrangements for completing the collection of Surrey data for the Maps scheme and the organisation of work for a new *Flora*, and 38 botanists attended.

It was agreed that for 1957 the Maps Scheme work must be given absolute priority and, after review of the number of records contributed for each 10 km. Grid Square, arrangements were made for additional assistance in squares where it was most needed.

The latest *Flora of Surrey*, by C. E. Salmon, was published in 1931, but printing commenced ten years earlier and the last part of the work, dealing with Monocotyledons and ferns, which was hastily edited and abbreviated after the author's death, was inadequate when published. The meeting was in favour of an entirely new work, with a completely fresh method of presentation, using grid squares as a basis for recording, and giving much more ecological information. The following Committee was elected to organise the collection of records to finish off the Surrey work for the Maps Scheme and consider arrangements for a new *Flora*:—J. E. Lousley (Chairman), O. V. Polunin, E. C. Wallace, Mrs. B. Welch (Secretary) and Dr. D. P. Young.

The Committee held its first meeting on March 29. Field Meetings were arranged for May 12, Effingham Junction; August 11, Gomshall; and October 6, Farnham, to cover areas from which records were especially needed and to give supporters an opportunity of exchanging experience and views. Lists were circulated of those undertaking primary responsibility for 10 km. squares, or parts of squares.

The support during the first year has been extremely encouraging, and with the experience gained, and most of the Maps Scheme work completed, it is expected that useful progress should be made in collecting data for the new *Flora* in 1958. Further offers of assistance and records should be sent to Mrs. B. Welch, 203 Lichfield Court, Richmond, Surrey.

J. E. LOUSLEY.