BOWES MUSEUM.

CHARGE AT MUSICAL PERFORMANCES. DRASTIC CUTTING DOWN OF

EXPENDITURE.
The half-yearly general meeting of the Trustees was held on Monday afternoon. Lord Gainford presided, and there were also present Lord Barnard and Messrs F. Thompson, M. J. Dixon, J. G. Hall, R. T. Richardson, C. J. Smith, R. Woodhams, E. Lingford and O. S. Scott (curator).

RE-ELECTION OF LORD GAINFORD. On the motion of Mr Dawson, seconded by Mr Dixon, Lord Gainford was unanimously re-elected chairman.—Lord Gainford: I am sorry I have been unable to attend committee sorry I have been unable to attend committee meetings, but I appreciate very much your renewed confidence. — Mr Dawson was reappointed vice-chairman; Mr Dent, treasurer; and Messrs Chipchase and Wood, auditors; and the committees were reappointed en bloc.

THE FINANCIAL OUTLOOK. The Trustees considered the report of the Finance and Park Committee, which set out that during the year 1919 twelve ordinary and three special meetings were held, all of which were well attended. "We present balance sheet for the past year, from which it will be seen that on December 31st, 1919, our current account at Barclay's Bank was overdrawn to the amount of £133 5s. 11d., and that there was £202 8s. 6d. in the hands of the Curator. In our report presented at the October meeting we gave details of our investments in War Bonds, and of our subsequent conversion of the same into 4 per cent. Funding Loan. No change having been made in these investments since the meeting, we do not consider it necessary to repeat the statement then made. The principal items of expenditure during the -year were:—Rates and taxes, £303 16s. 3d., insurance, £77 12s. 3d.; light and heat, £289 4s. 4d.; and music, £339 9s. 6d. Wages show an increase of £680 15s. 1d. over the preceding year. At the present time the trustees' current account is overdrawn to the amount of £162; the only outstanding liabilities are :- Messrs Henry Walker and Son, repairs to boilers, £237; and Messrs T. Wood and Son, cleaning and restoring pictures, £86. We also present our estimates for 1920, and beg to point out that these will entail most drastic reductions in our expenditure. The apparent deficit in the balance sheet of £952 12s. 10d. includes £398 5s. 3d. transferred to the contingent account."

"GLOOMY" OUTLOOK: LESSON IN ECONOMIC LAW.

Mr Dawson, in a speech of some duration, moved the formal adoption of the committee's report and balance sheet. While the income of the institution remained stationary, the expenditure, he said, had practically doubled on pre-war times, and there was a deficiency of £952 12s. 10d. on the year's working. The expenditure must be brought within the limits of the income, wages would have to be cut down by reducing the staffs, and the Finance Committee had already taken measures to lessen the outdoor workmen by four, and two of the attendants would have to be dismissed, and fuel cost must be cut down. Heavy expenditure was looming ahead in rates, payment for overseas' collection, and certain items in the exchange of chapel sites amounting in the whole, perhaps, to £700. -Mr Hall said the outlook was perhaps serious, but not gloomy. They had invested £500 in war loan out of income, and he suggested various ways in which the expenditure could be curtailed.—Mr Thompson thought three attendants in the Museum were too few.-The Chairman said the committee would deal with details, but it was essential in cutting down the expenditure that they had due regard to the proper safety of the articles in the Museum.-Mr Dawson retorted that in ordinary times there was only one attendant at the Carlisle Museum.

THE PARK: FINE ROSE PROSPECT. Preparations have been made for a good floral display this year, especially as regards roses, of which several new varieties have been ordered. The bowling green and grass tennis courts have received attention, and look well; the crushed brick courts are ready for play, as soon as weather permits. Arrangements have already been made for the Harton Colliery Band-winners of the last Belle Vue, Manchester, Contest, in 1919-to play on Whit Monday; the Scots Guards Band on Thursday, July 15th; and the Black Dyke Band on the August Bank Holiday. Other arrangements are in progress. The land set apart for a "pinetum" has been made ready by draining, etc., and walks have been laid out; nothing, however, has yet been done as

MODERN ENGLISH PICTURES FROM

THE TATE GALLERY. Mr Thompson commented upon the report of the Art Committee :—" The pictures entrusted to Messrs T. Wood and Sons to be cleaned and varnished have now been returned and replaced in the picture gallery. The work has been very satisfactorily carried out, and the pictures, some of which were in a bad condition, have been very greatly improved, especially Nos. 126 and 538. The remainder of the pictures, and the collections generally, are in good order. The Museum has recently been visited by the Keeper of the National Gallery, London, who displayed great interest in the collections, especially in the Spanish and early Italian pictures. On this occasion he mooted to the Curator the question of an exchange of pictures, and on his return to London he wrote asking if the Trustees would lend to the National Gallery, for a period of five years, two Spanish pictures, by El Greco and Goya respectively, and two Italian works, by Sassetta and Tiepolo respectively, offering in return an equal number of modern English pictures from the Tate Gallery, which, if so desired, may be exchanged for others at the end of two years. We strongly approve of this course being adopted, since not only will the Museum obtain a loan of modern pictures, of which it stands badly in need, but the pictures which are lent to London being labelled 'Lent by the Trustees of the Bowes Museum, Barnard Castle, the Museum will become more generally known. We suggest that the exhibition of War mementos should be broken up at the end of the sammer, and the various interesting contributions returned to their owners with the sincere thanks of the Trustees. The Museum has received from the War

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ROBERT ORD, Barnard Castle.

desirable thing to secure the loan of modern English pictures.-The Chairman: Do you know at all what the modern pictures are?— The Curator said there were some by Orchardson, a Welsh subject by Leader, and at least three by Millais.—The Trustees adopted the views of the Art Committee. - The Chair man: It has occurred to me that it is a little too previous to return the war relics .- The Curator said he had returned several exhibits by request, and he thought the interest was just abating.—Mr Dawson questioned whether this was the right time to break up the show. -With regard to the collection of curios from the South Seas, the Curator said it had been agreed to purchase the Dr. Brown collection for £1,250, including packing, freight and insurance, and the committee had declined to sanction a draft in advance. No reply to the letter containing conditions had been received. MUSEUM WOODWORK NEEDS

PAINTING. The Curator submitted his report in the following terms :- The attendance during the winter months has been as usual, small, and we have greatly missed the soldiers who during the War were quartered in the town, and were such constant visitors to the Museum. The fabric of the Museum is in good condition, but the woodwork stands in need of painting, and estimates have been asked for. Defects having become apparent in one of the heating boilers, the contractors (Messrs Walker and Son, Newcastle-on-Tyne), made an inspection, and found that a section of one boiler was leaking. They were requested to carry out the necessary repairs, and did so, but shortly afterwards other hitherto unsuspected defects showed themselves, with the result that the work of repair had to be done over again. Since then, leaks have developed in the other boiler, and a question for consideration will be whether the present boilers shall be repaired, or replaced by new ones. In either case the cost will be considerable. The present boilers were put in in 1906. The fire appliances are all in good order. The collections in my charge are in good order. Since my last report the following gifts have been received and duly acknowledged:—From Mr R. Loynes: an anti-tank gun cartridge; Mr W. Allison: two six-inch Boer shells; the War Department:

RAISING THE WIND. Mr Hall moved that a sum not exceeding £300 be appropriated for the purpose of providing music in the park during the coming summer, but an amendment by Mr Dawson that the sum be £250 was carried.-Mr Dawson moved that the Finance Committee be empowered to make a charge for admission to the park on the occasion of any musical performance.—The Curator, in answer to Mr Woodhams, said the scheme explicitely sanctioned such a proceeding, and the motion was carried.—Mr Dawson then moved that the Finance Committee be authorised to increase the charges for games played in the park to a reasonable amount.—Mr Hall boldly challenged the motion, and an interesting little duel followed, Mr Hall stating that £106 5s. 5d. was made on last year's charges, and the courts were crowded from early morn till the close of the long summer day.—Mr Richardson seconded Mr Dawson, and Mr Hall's amendment that the charges remain as at present was not seconded. The motion was carried.—The painting of the woodwork at the Museum is postponed, and one boiler has to suffice. The printing of a guide to the Museum has been deferred indefinitely.

German 77 m.m. field gun and carriage.'

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Department a German field gun, a machinegun, an anti-tank gun, and various articles of equipment."—Mr Thompsen moved the adoption of the report, and said it was a most Manchester.

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STARTFORTH RURAL COUNCIL.

SALE OF WAR STOCK AND STEAM ROAD ROLLER.

A monthly meeting was held on Wednesd Mr Peacock (chairman) - presiding, other present being Messrs Garth, J. Walton, Allis Raine (Holwick), Metcalfe, Tarn, Allinson, E. Coulthard, Richmond, Waller, Langsta W. Coulthard, Preston, Errington, Collin Dent, Thompson, Harris, Furnass, J. G. Walt Birkett, Scrafton, Oliver, Bayles, Alden Raine (Mickieton), Watson (clerk), Ste (assistant clerk), Plews (surveyor), and Port (inspector).—The bank balance amounted £882 10s., and 1,805 yards of road surface) been crushed.

SALE OF WAR STOCK. Mr J. Walton said when they invested the money he was one of the supporters, as his object was that when the rates we up it would be a relief to the ratepayers. It day he found that they wanted this money, at the paybill for the month amounted to £83 the moved that they sell a moiety of m stock—just as much as the Clerk thous would relieve the pressure—and he would as the Surveyor to keep his next estimate normal as possible.—The Surveyor: All included in the present estimate.—Mr Walton move that we sell £500 worth, and leave t remainder.—Mr Storey: We have two paments, to-day, of £600 each.—The Surveye We shall have to meet our liabilities.—The Chairman: I will second Mr Walton's metical I think we must keep a little bit in hand for back watch.-Carried unanimously. FINANCIAL REVIEW BY THE CLER

The Surveyor said the money available the Minister of Transport for awards in remaintenance would not be large. Roads with most traffic would be accepted in priority, as he named those which would pass to a County Council, and intimated that a cens of traffic was impending.—The Clerk said estimated the expenditure at £2,240, and eightpenny rate would about make them squa The Council could not launch out .- Mr Sto The rate was fivepence all the time of the and ninepence-halfpenny in 1914.—Mr Walter I think it is going to be a close shave. I mon that these figures be accepted, but I shoulke everybody here to bear in mind that he very distressing to think that after we have made a calculation for so much money, a someone asks for £100 or £200 for somethin or other after the estimate is actually made for goodness sake don't let us run our new into the street of the stre into a trap. I don't like the rates going a and the ratepayers like to keep them down The Clerk: If we can keep within the figures we shall be right. This next year we be the most critical twelvemonth that we have had for many years, and the more we desaye and the better it will be.—The financial calculation was accepted.

THE ROAD TENDERS. The Chairman: I hope that if Mr Plet knows of any man in these tenders who is one to any objection he will tell us. Another point is about this manual work and tenders who have the control of the point of the control of the point of the control of the point of the control of labour. I suggest that 9s. be paid for manu and 14s. a day for team labour, and I no that.—Mr Walton: Make them all alike-Carried.—Mr Furnass: How do these was compare with those of our neighbours?—It Chairman: They compare satisfactorily with those of the Barnard Castle Rural Council-The Surveyor: They are exactly the sam
—Mr Furnass: It is all right provided me
work as they ought to do. There are seven
complaints all round the district that they It is difficult to get a man to work w won't work. Every man employed should given to understand that he must do the be work .- Mr Walton : There is a minute to effect that if a man does not do his duty if Surveyor has full power to dismiss him.—D Clerk said the auditor had pointed out that contracts for scavenging ought to be in nature of written agreements, and he accordingly ordered the prescribed forms the Local Government Board publishers.

DANGER TO WYCLIFFE SCHOOL CHILDREN. Mr Garth called attention to a damparising to school children at Wycliffe by moter and cycles passing the school gates, and moved that a danger signal be erected.—The Surveyor : I don't think there will be difficulty if I apply to the Automobile Associ tion.—Mr Harris seconded the proposition which was adopted.

SALE OF THE LARGER STEAM ROA

ROLLER. The Surveyor said he had had an applied tion from the County Council to purchase the heavy steam road roller. It was in good order and going well, and had never been off wood They had a scarifier complete. The Count Council had asked for the reports of the Vulcan Insurance Company. There we roads in the district through which the light roller only could pass, and he thought roller sufficient.—Mr Scrafton: I move the it be sold if the Surveyor thinks he can be without it.—Mr Walten: We are losing think miles of road which the County Council of taking, and I think it would be better if Plews had a small committee to assist him Mr Allison seconded Mr Scrafton's motion and Messrs Allison, Walton and Peacock well appointed on the committee.—Mr Tarn: A old shaft has fallen in at West Pasture. It very dangerous. Will you kindly give it you attention?—The Surveyor: I shall be there! OTHER MATTERS.

Nine births and six deaths had been registered.—A new water wheel and possible shaft for Bowes waterworks had been ordere by telegraph, from Kendal, the water-suppl to the village being jeopardised.—The authorities had approved of the Council housing scheme.—Mr Peter Walker is to be registered as a dairyman.—The Clerk though they might be able to work Romaldkirk and Barningham in a Northallerton midwifes scheme, but not Egglestone.

As the paragraph in a recent edition of the journal seems to have caused some misunder standing, we should state that Belmool Cottage, Cotherstone ("Ye Tea House"), we purchased by Miss Watson's nephew, and the business will go on as usual under the same management.

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