

WINTER MEETINGS AT HALSTEAD, BISHOP'S STORTFORD, & COLCHESTER.

An evening meeting was held in St. Andrew's Hall, Halstead, on Wednesday, 21 January, 1925, when our member, Mr. A. W. Frost, of Colchester, gave a lecture, illustrated by beautiful lantern slides, on "The Sculptures of Chartres Cathedral." The Hon. Local Secretary, Lieut.-Col. C. W. Ravenshaw, presided. At the close, the Hon. Secretary, Rev. Montagu Benton, who spoke of the impression that the wonderful carvings made upon him when he first visited Chartres, proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Frost for his delightful discourse ; the vote was seconded by the Rev. T. H. Curling, R.D. Eight new members were afterwards elected.

An evening meeting was held in St. Michael's Parish Room, Bishop's Stortford, on Wednesday, 18 February, 1925, when the Rev. E. Biff Robson, B.D., of Felsted, gave an admirable lantern lecture on "Roman Gaul." The Rev. J. E. I. Procter, M.A., rector of Thorley, presided, and in introducing the subject referred to the far-reaching consequences that the Roman occupation of Gaul had had in the history of our own island. The lecturer dealt especially with the district of Aries and Nimes, and pointed out that it was not at Rome, but in those parts of the world that had been in Roman occupation that the best idea could be obtained of what the Romans were, what they had left behind them, and the life they had lived.

On the proposition of the Hon. Secretary, seconded by Dr. P. G. Laver, F.S.A., a unanimous vote of thanks was accorded to the lecturer, the Chairman, Mr. J. L. Glasscock, who kindly helped in making the necessary arrangements, and Mr. S. A. Milbank for operating the lantern.

Although the Society departed from its usual rule by going outside the county, this meeting was a distinct success. Eleven new members were elected.

An afternoon meeting was held at the Town Hall, Colchester, on Tuesday, 24 March, 1925, when Alderman W. Gurney Benham, F.S.A., gave a most interesting lecture, lightened by touches of humour, on "The History of Playing Cards." Over fifty beautiful coloured diagrams, the work of the lecturer, were shown in illustration. The President presided, and there was a good attendance.

On the motion of the Hon. Secretary, seconded by Mr. R. E. Thomas, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Alderman Benham ; and also to the Mayor, for the use of the Grand Jury Room. Eight new members were elected.