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Notes and News

We congratulate two members of the Baptist Historical Society whose work on nonconformist history has led to academic success. Miss Bessie Sellwood has been awarded the M.A. degree of the University of Birmingham for her thesis on "Dissenting meeting houses in England before 1740", and David Bebbington has gained a University of Cambridge Ph.D. degree for his thesis on "The nonconformist conscience: a study in the political attitudes and activities of evangelical nonconformists 1886-1902". Dr. Bebbington has also contributed a most interesting paper on "Gladstone and the nonconformists: a study in religious affinity" to the latest volume of *Studies in Church History* (vol. 12, Oxford, 1975). More recently he has been unravelling the tangled story of the admission of nonconformists to the universities.

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The Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held on Monday, 26th April, and will be preceded by tea at 4.15 p.m. in the Institute Hall, Westminster Chapel. In this bicentenary year of the United States of America, we welcome as our speaker the American Mennonite historian, Alan F. Kreider, of Goshen College, Indiana. Dr. Kreider is at present acting as Warden of the London Mennonite Centre. His subject will be "Dissenting attitudes on both sides of the Atlantic to the American Revolution".

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The present opportunities for research, publication and the preservation of records lengthen the agenda and increase the responsibilities of the Society's committee. In addition to the President and officers of the Society, whose names appear inside the front cover of the *Quarterly*, the following members have been sharing the work of planning and decision-making for some years: the Revs. Roger Hayden, N. S. Moon, W. M. S. West and B. R. White, and Mr. J. H. Y. Briggs. This already strong team has now been reinforced by the addition of Dr. David Bebbington and the Rev. Peter Wortley. We are grateful for their willingness to serve the Society in this way.