a cable leading along, or within, the foregoer (forerunner) harpoon rope to the harpoon itself. The circuit is completed through the whale and the sea water to the catcher.

Several hundred whales have been killed by electrocution by Norwegian, German and British enterprises, but the system is as yet by no means widely supported. The technical problems of current strength and duration, type of cable and so on seem to be near final solution. Advantages claimed for the system, in addition to the humanitarian, are smaller losses of whales by sinking before inflation can be performed; great saving of hunting time; improved keeping qualities of the meat, and considerable saving of cordage. So far, standard harpoon gear has been modified for electrical use, but once the system is perfected it is clear that much less cumbrous gear would be adequate, and then would come an immediate increase in accuracy of fire and probably in killing range.

GINO WATKINS MEMORIAL FUND, 1949

[The administration of the income of this Fund has been transferred by the Trustees to the Scott Polar Research Institute, as announced in the Twenty-first Annual Report of the Committee of Management.]

The 'Watkins Award' for 1949 of £50 has been made to W. B. Harland, Lecturer in Geology at Cambridge University and leader of the Cambridge Spitsbergen Expedition, 1949.

In addition, a grant of £20 has been made to J. M. Hartog of Christ Church, Oxford, leader of the Oxford University Expedition to Nordauslandet (North East Land), 1949.