

# NEW ZEALAND INSTITUTE OF FORESTERS INCORPORATED

## OFFICERS 1948-50

**President:** E. A. Cooney

**Vice-President:** G. H. Hocking

**Secretary:** A. P. Thomson

**Treasurer:** A. C. Forbes

**Council (1949-50):** Owen Jones, A. D. McKinnon, R. B. Moorhouse, A. L. Poole

### Annual General Meeting

The 1949 meeting was held in Christchurch and, as in the previous two years, it extended over three days, 5th-7th June. The attendance of 37 members was a record. The morning of the first day was spent in a tour of the Christchurch City forest at Bottle Lake, the afternoon at Eyrewell and Ashley State Forests, and in the evening the annual dinner was held at Amberley. The second day was devoted to formal business and presentation of papers at Canterbury University College, while the last day was taken up in a tour of the Selwyn Plantation Board's nursery and forests in the Darfield and Hororata districts, with lunch in the well planted grounds of "Homebush." Here Mr. James Deans gave members an outline of his family's work in making this property an outstanding example of estate forestry.

**The late Professor H. B. Kirk**—The meeting paid tribute to the memory of Professor Kirk who, with the late Dr. Leonard Cockayne, was our first Honorary Member. From its earliest days Professor Kirk took a keen interest in the Institute and attended many of the annual meetings.

**Terminology Committee**—It was reported that Messrs. A. P. Thomson and J. A. Buchanan had completed a preliminary list of local and technical terms, and were awaiting information from the Dominion Federated Sawmiller's Association on terms in common use in the timber trade. It was decided that a list of terms so far assembled should be circulated to members for comment and suggestion.

**Seventh Pacific Science Congress**—The Acting Secretary gave a *resumé* of the work of Mr. C. M. Smith as Convenor of the Forestry Section. The Meeting expressed its thanks to Mr. Smith for his efforts in making the forestry activities of the Congress such a marked success.

**Charter**—The question of seeking a charter was again discussed and the conclusion reached that the time had not yet come for the Institute to become a chartered body. The advantages of a charter were largely outweighed by the limitations it would impose on the Institute's freedom of action, particularly in making those changes to its constitution which were bound to become necessary during years of growth and development.

**Amendment to the Constitution**—Arising from a notice of motion, an amendment to the Constitution was carried providing for the election of ordinary members of the Council biennially instead of annually.

**Venue of the Next Meeting**—It was decided that the next Annual General Meeting be held in Nelson in June, 1950, and extend over three days.

**Papers Presented**—In his presidential address, Mr. E. A. Cooney spoke on "The History of the Selwyn Plantation Board"; this served as an admirable

background to the tour of many of the Board's areas on the following day.

The only other paper read at the Meeting was "Concerning the Capacity for Intensive Management of *Nothofagus* Forests of Southland and Otago" by J. T. Holloway. As a counter to too easy an optimism regarding the management potentialities of the *Nothofagus* forests the present position in Otago and Southland was reviewed in some detail.

Each major forest area was assessed using the following criteria :

- (1) Is the forest within the optimum range of the required species in regard to growth rates, timber qualities and ease of securing regeneration ?
- (2) Is the forest sufficiently large for economic management ?
- (3) Is it accessible to actual or potential markets ?
- (4) Is it topographically suited to management ?
- (5) Is it under suitable ownership and a secure tenure ?
- (6) Is it free from over-riding demands of soil conservation, river control, scenic or recreational use ?

The review served to focus attention upon those forests lying immediately to the west of Tuatapere in Western Southland, an area which must, on all counts, be regarded as of major importance in any sustained yield programme for *Nothofagus menziesii*. For this region it was pointed out that the most difficult problems to be faced by management were not simple silvicultural problems but those of land ownership, of deer control and those posed by the time limit set by accelerating rates of exploitation.

For *Nothofagus fusca* it was shown that but one area could be considered as falling within the optimum range of the species and that this area was, and is likely always to be, relatively inaccessible with major demands for scenic and recreational use. Intensive management of *N. fusca* elsewhere in the south can only be on a small scale for the production of local requirements.

No demand exists for intensive management of *Nothofagus cliffortioides* but management of this species is likely to prove essential to supplement supplies of *N. menziesii*, to permit utilisation of mixed forests and for the compelling reason that over wide areas *N. cliffortioides* is so aggressive that it will dominate second growth forests despite the best efforts of the silviculturalist to halt its spread. The optimum areas for intensive management of this species lie adjacent to the optimum areas for intensive management of *N. menziesii*.

Finally the considerable extent of the whole forest estate consisting wholly of watershed protection forests was stressed. The problems of the maintenance of these forests in an efficient state may frequently prove more difficult than problems of intensive management in optimum timber producing areas.

The subjugation of wild forests to a domestic condition, working on relatively long rotations in comparison with exotic forestry, will never be a simple task, but the most pressing problems are those which call for policy decisions, not for silvicultural investigations. We know with reasonable certainty where and on what scale intensive management is possible for each species concerned. The silviculturalist must now await the clarification of land tenures, the rationalisation or development of markets and the training of staff. If such points cause too long a delay the optimum areas may be wrecked before the job can be started.

## Rotorua Section

This section of the Institute had another active and successful year with a marked increase in members from the Forest Service, forestry companies and among private foresters.

At its Annual Meeting, Mr. D. D. Dun, Conservator of Forests, Rotorua, was elected Chairman, Mr. P. W. Maplesden, Secretary, and Mr. A. C. Forbes, Librarian. Programme Committee:—Messrs. D. Kennedy, M. H. D. McKee and R. B. Moorhouse.

Subjects discussed at meetings during the year were:—

“The Treatment of *Pinus radiata* Regeneration”—A general discussion by members.

“Exotic Forestry in Australia,” by Mr. A. P. Thomson.

“Forestry in the Douglas Fir Region of U.S.A.” by Mr. Walter J. Ryan, of Tacoma, Washington.

### PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

Receipt of the following publications during 1949 is acknowledged by the New Zealand Institute of Foresters.

*Institute members are reminded that forestry literature received by the Institute and listed in the Journal annually is available on application to Mr. A. C. Forbes, Forest Research Institute, Private Bag, Whakarewarewa, Rotorua.*

Annals of the Missouri Botanical Garden. Vol. 35, Nos. 3 and 4, 1948.

Australia, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, Division of Forest Products.

Reprint No. 104: Siliceous Inclusions in Wood in Relation to Marine Borer Resistance.

Reprint No. 106: Notes on the Vascular Tissue in the Rays of *Banksia*.

Reprint No. 107: Mechanical Tests on Small Clear Specimens of Queensland Maple.

Reprint No. 108: The Wood Anatomy of the Proteaceae.

Reprint No. 109: The Anatomy of Timbers of the South-west Pacific Area, I Anacardiaceae.

Reprint No. 110: The Performance and Use of the Lampen Mill in Australia. Australia, Forests Commission of Victoria.

Annual Report, 1947-48.

Empire Forests and the War.

Australian Forestry, Vol. XII, No. 2, 1948.

Australian Forestry and Timber Bureau.

Annual Report, 1947.

Australian Pulp and Paper Industry Technical Association.

Proceedings, 1948.

Australian Timber Journal. Vol. 14, Nos. 11 and 12; Vol. 15, Nos. 1—10.

Barkas, W. W. The Swelling of Wood Under Stress, 1949.

British Forestry Commission.

Annual Report, 1947-48.

Britain's Forests: Culbin.

Britain's New Forests.

Forestry in Wales.

Leaflet No. 20 (revised 1949): Watermark Disease of the Cricket Bat Willow.

National Forest Park Guide: Glenmore.

National Forest Park Guide: Hardknott.

Record No. 1: Revised Yield Tables for Japanese Larch in Great Britain.

Record No. 2: The Raising of Aspen from Seed.

British Standards Institution. Provisional Supplement to British Standards 881 and 889: Nomenclature of Commercial Timbers.

Empire Forestry Conference, 1947. Proceedings.

Empire Forestry Review. Vol. 27, No. 2, 1948: Vol. 28, Nos. 1, 2 and 3, 1949.

F.A.O. Bulletin. Vol. III, No. 4, 1948: Vol. IV, Nos. 1 and 4, 1949.

Report of the 4th Session of the Conference, Washington, Nov., 1948.