

OBITUARY**MISS MARY SUTHERLAND**

It is with profound regret that we record the death of Miss Mary Sutherland in Wellington on March 11, 1955. Miss Sutherland was one of the Charter Members of the Institute and a strong and faithful supporter since its formation in 1928. She became ill while on duty in Central Otago in March, 1954, and had been unable to carry on her work ever since. At the time of her death Miss Sutherland was farm forestry officer of the New Zealand Department of Agriculture.

Miss Sutherland was educated at the City of London School for Girls and the University College of North Wales, Bangor, where she took a B.Sc. degree in Forestry.

During the First World War she served in the Women's National Land Army in Britain. Later she was forewoman forester in estates in Renfrewshire and Inverness-shire. She also served as an assistant experimental officer with the British Forestry Commission.

Miss Sutherland was appointed to the New Zealand Forest Service in 1925. She served as a forest assistant in Wellington and Rotorua. From 1933 to 1936 she was a member of the staff of the Dominion Museum, but rejoined the Forest Service in 1937 as botanist. In 1946 she was seconded to the Department of Agriculture to fill the new position of farm forestry officer. In this capacity she was responsible for the layout of plantations at the Department's Winchmore Irrigation Research Station and Invermay Agricultural Research Station.

Miss Sutherland's special interest was the encouragement of farm tree planting. In the New Zealand Journal of Agriculture her many articles on farm forestry did much to promote this extension work. She was also the author of a bulletin "Homestead Shelter Planting."

Miss Sutherland was appointed a Fellow of the Society of Foresters of Great Britain in 1928.

During the Second World War Miss Sutherland was assistant superintendent of the hostel at Woburn which was managed by the Y.W.C.A. for the Government and catered for 300 girls.

RODERICK MACRAE

It is with deep regret that we record the death in Rotorua on February 12th, 1955, of Roderick Macrae, one of the early honorary members of this Institute. He was born in Scotland on the 1st January, 1873, and came to New Zealand in 1901, after training as a forester in Scotland. In New Zealand he joined the Forestry Branch of the Lands and Survey Department and was stationed initially at Conical Hills Forest in South Otago, transferring from there to the Rotorua District, at Waiotapu and subsequently at Kaingaroa Forest. He was appointed a Forest Ranger in 1920 and was eventually in charge of the whole of Kaingaroa Forest. Planting operations at

this forest commenced under his guidance on a small scale prior to World War I with the high standard of establishment practice indicative of his sound practical training. In the post-war planting boom of the twenties, Macrae supervised the planting of the greater part of the Kaingaroa Forest, some 200,000 acres. During that period roads were poor, transport limited, and labour indifferent. Thus the task of organizing and carrying out the gigantic planting programmes of those years was no mean one by any standard. Macrae retired in 1931 and was widely honoured on the occasion of his retirement. The *Evening Post*, Wellington, of December 8th, 1931, stated:

"A gathering yesterday afternoon did honour to Mr. Roderick Macrae, who has just retired from the New Zealand State Forest Service after putting up what is probably an Empire record—in afforestation. He has personally supervised the planting under the State Forest Service or the Lands Department, of over 200,000 acres of tree. The more it is analyzed the more convincing is the mere arithmetic of this planting feat. But its meaning goes far beyond figures. Anyone present at yesterday's tribute to Mr. Macrae would have realized that it was a demonstration not only of his ability but of his character. Measured by the ordinary marks of rank, Mr. Macrae does not stand high in academic forestry. He had no college training. He had no letters after his name. He has never been any sort of limelighter. To bring him into any sort of limelight you have to drag him there. But the whole of the State Forest Service, from the Director of Forestry downward, demanded that Mr. Macrae's exit from the Service be duly honoured, hence his modest presence yesterday."

"Old Mac," as he was known to his colleagues young and old, was a sterling character. I recall planting my first tree for the Forest Service in 1926 at Kaingaroa under his supervision, a supervision kindly yet critical.

Although it did not come to fruition until many years after his retirement, the gigantic industrial undertaking at Kawerau, drawing its wood requirements from the Kaingaroa Forest, constitutes a lasting memorial to Roderick Macrae.

—A. D. McKinnon.

OWEN JONES

It is with deep regret that we record the death of Owen Jones at Rotorua on the 7th February, 1955. His mark will be left on the Institute which he served as President in the years 1946-48; but, of more lasting importance, he will leave an indelible mark upon the infant perambulations of New Zealand forestry, since he stood steadfastly by professional ethics and so occupied the position of one of its elder and respected statesmen.

Born in 1888 at Farringdon, England, he received his forestry training at Coopers Hill, Oxford, under Sir William Schlich, and added to this a period of training on the Continent, more particularly in Germany. From 1911 to 1916 he was Assistant Conservator of