

in plantation establishment and silviculture at levels comparable with Forest Service's 1986 programmes.

The Forestry Corporation is now almost up and running, and the transfer of assets scheduled to occur by the end of March is seen as the next significant milestone. "We are looking forward to taking the Corporation to a publicly listed company next year in line with Government policies. This will provide a further stimulus to our efficiency by exposing us to external financial monitoring, and ensure we make the most of this major New Zealand resource," concludes Alan Gibbs.

J.C.H.

Family forest company sold

Carter Holt Harvey Limited have agreed to purchase, for an undisclosed cash amount, a 50 per cent interest in Baigent Forest Industries Limited.

Although current conditions for the forest-based manufacturing and exporting industries are depressed, Baigent Forest Industries Limited, with its major manufacturing unit in Nelson, is seen as being in a strategically strong position for any upturn in either the domestic or export marketplaces in the future.

Carter Holt Harvey's 50 per cent involvement in Baigent Forest Industries will form a joint venture relationship with Shell Forestry New Zealand Limited (40 per cent) and Todd Forestry Limited (10 per cent).

Baigent Forest Industries, with its head office in Nelson, currently owns and manages approximately 20,000 hectares of exotic forest resource which is used to service the new sawmill at Eves Valley which was commissioned in 1985. The Eves Valley industrial complex also includes a number of important remanufacturing activities. The products of the Eves Valley site service the New Zealand domestic market and exports to Australia.

A number of retailing outlets are operated by Baigent Forest Industries in the Nelson district at Stoke, Nelson City, Takaka, Motueka and Wakefield; in Wellington there is a majority owned Northern Timber and Hardware Ltd at Johnsonville and Ngaio, and in Christchurch there is a 100 per cent owned outlet called Baigent Timber Canterbury. In addition, in Australia there is the wholly owned Trans Tasman Timber Pty Limited situated at Home Bush Bay, Sydney, and the 50 per cent owned Kembla Timber and Industrial Services Pty Limited at Wollongong in New South Wales. Baigent Forest Industries also has a 50 per cent holding in Southpine (Nelson) Limited.

H. Levack

CAPTION COMPETITION

Thanks to those of you who submitted suggestions to the Caption Competition contained in our last issue. The candid pic snapped at last year's conference features Andy Kirkland and Guy Salmon during the panel discussion on multiple-use forestry.

Priestley Thomson judged entries and favoured short pithy offerings – a few were rather long. The winning entry was:

"Your Move Andy"

The prize, a copy of Lindsay Poole's new book 'Southern Beeches', goes to Malcolm Conway.

We hasten to point out that we are not running a cosy ex-Director-Generals' club!

Other meritorious entries were:

"It's all a great big yarn" – Eric Purnell

"Andy doesn't think my idea of underplanting Kaingaroa with rimu is true multiple-use forestry" – Phil Shattock

"I hope he thinks I've got toothache" – Jack Barber.



YOUR MOVE ANDY
(Malcolm Conway)

NATIVE FORESTS ON PRIVATE LAND

A recent decision by the Planning Tribunal concerning the Waimea County Scheme has raised some interesting issues over placing controls on native forests on private land.

In an interim decision the Tribunal upheld the NFAC amendment to the scheme which made the logging or clearing of any areas of native forest a conditional use. (A conditional use is a use or development which is generally appropriate but special conditions may apply; hence approval must be sought). Nelson Pine Forests Ltd sought to have the original predominant use ordinances reinstated and has lodged an appeal with the High Court in an attempt to overturn the Tribunal decision.

The controversy surrounds whether conditional use procedures are an appropriate method for controlling logging or clearance of native forest. Previously

the Tribunal has disallowed conditional use procedures being used for the objective of conservation or preservation (Clutha county vs Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society). However, in this case the objective is not conservation, but rather controlling development with a slight bias towards resource management. In particular, this allows controls to encourage sustained yield management. While the objective is laudable, the method is open to criticism.

The case is not yet finalized and will be tested in other district schemes (e.g. the Opotiki Scheme). Whatever the outcome, it appears that owners of native forests on private land will increasingly be subject to pressure to ensure wise land management.

Sarah Wilson