

NEW ZEALAND INSTITUTE OF FORESTERS INCORPORATED

OFFICERS 1946-48.

President: Owen Jones.

Vice-President: C. T. Sando.

Secretary: A. D. McKinnon.

Treasurer: A. C. Forbes.

Council (1946-47): J. F. Field, G. H. Hocking, J. F. Lysaght, R. B. Moorhouse.

Annual General Meeting.

The Secretary reported that seven Associate Members had advanced to full membership during the year ending 31st March, 1946. One Member and six Associate Members were elected during the same period. On the proposal of the President, on behalf of the Council, Mr. H. Roche was elected an Honorary Member in recognition of his services to the Institute and to the profession of forestry generally.

The Presidential Address "Forests and Erosion" is reported elsewhere in this Journal.

Qualification for Membership.—A report was received from the Standing Committee of the Institute on the definition of Clause 7 (c) of the Constitution providing for admission as Members of "Men who, though not graduates of a school or college of forestry as aforesaid, shall have been engaged in the practice or teaching of or research in some branch of forestry for at least five years, during two of which the candidate shall have been an Associate Member of the Institute and who shall have submitted to the Council in the form of a report on forestry work performed, or a thesis, or an article upon any aspect of forestry which has been published in any scientific journal, evidence of sufficient technical knowledge to warrant his recognition as a forest technician."

After considerable discussion, the following definition of the requirements of the thesis, report or article was adopted :

1. *Thesis* shall be a full account of the results secured from an original piece of research into any technical branch of forestry.
2. *Report* shall be an account of work upon a technical operation giving evidence of original methods employed; the results secured being a definite contribution to existing forestry knowledge. This definition therefore excludes purely descriptive narrative or accounts of routine forestry practice in current use.
3. *Article* shall be a published account (as distinct from a report or thesis) of original work or observations, to be of a sufficiently high standard to meet the requirements of the Council. The Council will judge the article or articles mainly from the viewpoint of their originality, depth and scope, and thus will not accept brief technical notes.
4. The standard required by the Council in all cases will be high. The thesis should approach University thesis standards while the report and article should be of unusual merit, properly presented, with sound conclusions drawn from the data submitted, and show a full knowledge of the relevant literature.

Qualifications for Student Membership were also discussed and recommendations made to amend Clauses 9 (a) and 9 (b) of the Constitution to enable trainees of the State Forest Service attending the University part time, and full time B.Sc. students who intend taking up forestry and have gained some field experience, to qualify as Student Members.

As this required an amendment of the Constitution, a motion was carried requiring the Standing Committee to prepare the necessary Notice of Motion for the next meeting.

It was also agreed that the Institute set an examination for Student Members. The State Forest Service agreed to accept this examination in the grading of its trainees.

Forest Terminology Committee.—A motion was carried providing for the setting up of a Forest Terminology Committee to compile a glossary of terms used in New Zealand forestry with a view to standardizing technical terms and listing and explaining local and vernacular ones; the glossary to be published by the Institute if it approves.

A committee consisting of Messrs. C. M. Smith, A. P. Thomson and J. S. Reid was set up. This committee has since set up a number of sub-committees to deal with different branches of forestry.

Publicity Officer.—The meeting decided that it had now become desirable to appoint a publicity officer who, acting under the direction of the Council of the Institute and guided by a policy to be laid down by it, should take all such steps as are possible to bring the work of the professional forester and the principles of sound forest practice before the general public of New Zealand.

Mr. A. P. Thomson was appointed to this position.

Institute Library.—It was decided that the library should be attached to the Rotorua Section of the Institute as this section had the largest membership and was the most active.

Standard Log Scale.—It was decided that a committee, consisting of Messrs. A. N. Perham, C. T. Sando and C. S. Barker, be set up to prepare a case for the adoption of a standard log scale, and that such a case, when approved by the Institute, be placed before the New Zealand Standards Institute.

Soil Erosion.—Following discussion of the Presidential Address a committee was set up to formulate a sound forest policy in relation to soil erosion, and to advise the Publicity Officer on the Institute policy in this connection.

Venue and Arrangement of Annual Meetings.—The meeting recommended to the Council that the Annual General Meeting be held in a different centre each year, commencing with the 1947 Meeting in Rotorua and the 1948 Meeting preferably in the South Island. Also, that the meetings extend over two or more days, commencing with a field excursion, the main business and presentation of papers taking place in the evening, followed by a field excursion and demonstration the next day, and closing with an annual dinner. The Director of Forestry agreed with the suggestions and was prepared to offer every opportunity for such meetings and demonstrations to be held in State Forests. It was decided that other Government departments, local bodies and owners of private forests who employ members of the Institute or may do so in the future, be asked for similar co-operation and facilities within areas and projects under their control.

Rotorua Section.

This section had another successful year with attendances of from 20 to 30 members and visitors at its meetings. At the Annual Meeting held on the 8th June, 1946, Mr. J. F. Lysaght was elected Chairman and Mr. J. R. Overington, Secretary.

Addresses given during the year were:—

“Sawmilling in Southern Italy,” by Mr. A. N. Sexton.

“Experiences in West Africa,” by Mr. R. G. Fenton.

“Town Planning,” by Mr. H. B. Goodman, Rotorua Borough Engineer.

Forestry films were also shown by Mr. E. V. Stewart.

On the 21st September a field day was spent in an inspection of the Whakatane Paper Mills and their forest operations at Matahina.

Wellington and Nelson Sections.

Unfortunately both sections remained in a state of suspended animation during the year, due to the difficulty in getting members together for meetings.