The twenty-seventh Annual Meeting was held in Hokitika on May 1st, 1954, and was followed by field excursions on the next two days. The meeting was opened at 10 a.m. by the Mayor of Hokitika, Mr. Heenan, who was introduced by the Conservator of Forests, Mr. D. Kennedy. There was an attendance of 34 members and 5 visitors, the latter including Mr. N. H. Taylor, Director, Soil Bureau, D.S.I.R.; Mr. A. Davidson from Hokitika Conservancy Office; and Messrs. P. J. Hambleton, D. Hardie, and G. Jack of the West Coast Sawmillers Association. The President, Mr. G. H. Hocking, was in the chair.

Death of Mr. W. S. Anderson:

The President announced with regret the recent death of a former Associate member of the Institute, Mr. W. S. Anderson and called on Mr. Harrison-Smith of Whakatane Board Mills to say a few words. The meeting paid respect to Mr. Anderson's memory by standing in silence.

Formal Business:

The principal matters dealt with were:

**Soil Conservation Committee**

The President reported that he had received Mr. F. W. Foster's statement on "The Relation of Forestry to Soil and Water Conservation." Following discussion it was resolved that the statement be cyclostyled and circulated to all members.

**Terminology Committee**

Mr. Thomson reported that the Committee had met recently and were studying the draft of Parts 2 and 3 of the Empire Terminology. It was resolved that the Committee continue in operation and that when the remainder of the Empire Glossary is printed the complete glossary can be examined. Any omissions of particular interest to New Zealand might then be defined and published by the Institute as a supplement to the N.Z. Journal of Forestry.

**Venue of Annual Meeting in 1955:**

It was resolved that the meeting be held in Auckland Conservancy on April 30th, May 1st and 2nd, 1955, and that the subject of the symposium be "American Southern Pines in New Zealand."

**Venue of Annual Meeting in 1956:**

It was recommended to the incoming council that the 1956 Annual Meeting be held at Hanmer Springs at a time to be arranged and that the subject of the symposium be "High Country Problems in Forestry."

**Amendment to the Constitution:**

Arising from a notice of motion, an amendment to the Constitution was carried providing for an increase in membership fees:

Section VIII.—"Finance" to read:

25. The annual fee for Members shall be forty-five shillings.
26. The annual fee for Associate Members shall be thirty two shillings and sixpence.
27. The annual fee for Student Members shall be ten shillings.
Considerable discussion on the reasons for the increase and the manner in which the extra income was to be used preceded the passage of the motion. The ultimate goal is to have a paid Editor-Secretary, to publish the Journal twice annually, and to build up limited reserves.

Symposium — "Silviculture in Westland":

The symposium was opened by Mr. A. L. Poole, Assistant Director of Forestry, with a short introduction on the problems confronting foresters in Westland. He gave some figures on the labour force in the various industries, coal mining heading the list, followed by farming, forestry and sawmilling. Mr. N. H. Taylor, Director, Soil Bureau, D.S.I.R., followed with a graphic account of the soils of Westland which enabled members to better understand papers that followed. Mr. J. T. Holloway's paper dealt with the development of forest types in the podocarp region of Westland, advancing the theory of a climatic change about the 13th century. Mr. J. S. Reid gave a short talk on the chemistry of the podocarps dealing with the essential oils which have a place in the manufacture of perfumes. Mr. C. G. Chavasse followed with his paper on "The Potentialities for Indigenous and Exotic Forestry in Westland." The meeting was adjourned for dinner at 5.35 p.m. and resumed at 8 p.m. Mr. E. E. Ensor's paper was "Management of the Beech Forests of Nelson-Westland." At this stage, the end of papers in the symposium proper, vigorous discussion followed, previous speakers being bombarded with questions. Following the conclusion of the symposium proper papers were read by Mr. D. Blithe on "Forestry and Soil Conservation in the Wairarapa," and by Mr. R. J. Cameron on "The Mosaic Nature of Certain North Island Podocarp Forests." After discussion of these the meeting closed at 10.30 p.m. following a hearty vote of thanks to the Conservator and staff of Westland Conservancy for the efficient organization of the meeting.

Field Excursions:

The second day of the meeting was fully occupied by an all-day excursion to Harihari, South Westland, where members had an opportunity of seeing various soil types, land and land use, various stages of farm development (including the regression of farmed land); the effect of felling and burning prime rimu forest; and the present stands and types of rimu forest at Ianthe Forest. A film evening in the Lounge of the Hotel Westland, the main feature being "Beech Foresters," closed the day's proceedings.

The third and final day of the meeting was again spent in the field. The trip in the morning was to Waimea Forest, in the Goldsborough district, where members had an opportunity of seeing young rimu stands, apparently healthy and normal, resulting from natural regeneration over a period of some 80 years. The route was of some interest as it led over lands worked for gold and then abandoned. The final trip in the afternoon was to Mahinapua Forest (originally termed the Westland Plantation and later Rimu Forest, established as an experimental area in 1923). Various species of exotics had been planted in the worked over indigenous forest. These included Pinus ponderosa, P. laricio, P. radiata, Crypt. japonica, Thuja plicata, Ps. taxifolia, and Cup. lawsoniana.

The Institute dinner held in the Hotel Westland concluded what all members voted one of the most successful Annual Meetings yet held. The efforts of the Conservator and his staff contributed in large measure to this success.