

HONORARY MEMBER: J. F. LYSAGHT

After the arduous of twenty years as Honorary Secretary to the N.Z. Institute of Foresters, Jim Lysaght accepted his well-merited elevation to Honorary Member at the 1972 A.G.M. Jim was one of the old school of foresters who worked themselves up the hard way, and started his career at the age of 18 as a tram repairman and mill yard hand for the Tauranga Rimu Company. After a year he graduated to nursery work, site preparation and planting for Taranaki Forest Ltd., before being accepted, in May 1927, as a State Forest Service Trainee. As such, he continued with nursery work and labouring, with some surveying thrown in. In March 1931 he became a student at the Canterbury School of Forestry, graduating B.For.Sc. in 1934 at which time he was awarded the Schlich prize. Times were hard, and Jim continued labouring for the better part of the next two years at Dusky Forest, after which he was promoted to Leading Hand, serving first at Otautau and then at Riverton. Not until five years after graduating did he become an Assistant Forester. In 1942 he became Forester, Rotorua; then Senior Forester, Auckland. In 1951 he was appointed Assistant Conservator, Rotorua, serving in this capacity for five years before being promoted to Working Plans Officer, Wellington. He retired from the Forest Service in 1966.

He has been a member of the Institute since 1931; Councilor in 1946, and Secretary in 1952. Although this was certainly no sinecure, he continued to serve the Institute in this capacity until 1972; at the same time he was secretary of three other organizations, and these activities encroached seriously on the time he could devote to sailing, his principal hobby. The Institute owes him a debt of gratitude for his long years of service, undertaken with unflinching cheerfulness and with no small modicum of efficiency.