OBITUARY

George Boris Rawlings, 1906-1978

Joe, as he was known to everyone, passed away as he had lived, quietly and without fuss or bother, on April 28 at his home at Tokerau Beach, Northland.

I first met him at Riverhead Forest in April 1928. He was an undergraduate at Auckland University College and I was a technical trainee filling in a Sunday afternoon fishing for native trout in a creek by the camp. I have never forgotten the lecture he gave me on the iniquity of using a *Peripatus* for bait when he was collecting them for sale to the zoology department of the university. From that time on our paths crossed many times, and for several years of war service they ran together.

Joe was of Huguenot descent. Born near Bath, he spent the early part of his life in the Somerset countryside where he gained the wide understanding of nature which influenced his thinking throughout his whole life. He also became adept at tickling a trout or snaring a pheasant, a skill which he practised with great success on the Duke of Norfolk's estates during World War 2. He came to New Zealand in 1926, enrolled at the Auckland School of Forestry, and graduated B.For.Sc. from Canterbury College in 1933.

In many ways he was a loner who did not fit easily into army life or into an institution where work programmes were closely organised. Many people know him only as a forest pathologist who had very considerable success in his specialized field of work. Joe was much more than this; he was a scientist in the widest sense of the word. He was an outstanding observer who saw much, spoke little, and in his own time arrived at sound solutions to problems which were often far beyond his special field. When he resigned in 1962 he turned to botany and quickly built up an enviable reputation at a national level.
I believe that his greatest and most lasting success lies in another field, that of kindness and help to others. No matter whether they were young soldiers in a strange land, assistants in his work, or young children, he was always ready to listen; to make his knowledge freely available and to criticise, always constructively, never destructively. This, his greatest success, is measured by the number of friends he has left in every walk of life, and in many countries around the world.

A.N.S.

HONORARY MEMBER

Jack E. Henry

Jack Henry commenced work during the 1930s depression without a secondary school education. He spent some time with McWhannell's nursery at Ohaupo, before moving to Australia where he spent two years on experimental nursery work and botanical studies. His early interest in eucalypts has never waned. He returned to New Zealand in 1938 and joined the Forest Service, working in Rotorua Conservancy on timber cruising and nursery and silviculture operations. After a 3-year period of war service in the Pacific he returned to the Forest Service in late 1945 and was involved in the National Forest Survey. He obtained a science degree at Otago University between 1946 and 1948, spending his vacations as a party leader with the National Forest Survey in the Southland region. He was selected as a Forest Service representative on the New Zealand-American Scientific Expedition to Fiordland in 1949.

Jack joined N.Z. Forest Products Ltd in late 1949 as Assistant Forestry Administrator. As part of his duties he was responsible for measuring and analysing data from the intensive system of sample plots established by the late Owen Jones.

His ecological experience and keen powers of perception enabled him to tackle the problems of radiata pine re-establishment on the central pumice lands. Under his guidance and leadership, a sound silviculture regime was established for second-crop forests, and without doubt he led the private forestry sector in New Zealand in persuading boards of directors to spend money on silviculture. He was also able to show the company that thinning of the unmanaged first crop