

(1965), being created a Companion of the Order of St Michael and St George (1967), appointment as a Fellow of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists in London and being appointed as a member of the Pontifical Academy of Sciences by Pope Paul VI. In 1965 he was also named as one of New Zealand's three outstanding young men. Why such a world-acclaimed figure should choose to continue to remain in a small, isolated country like New Zealand was due primarily to his love of the land and the productive forests and farmland with which he was involved, but also, in his own words, "because much of the time he enjoyed being a doctor and all the time he enjoyed being a New Zealander".

Those Institute members who were lucky enough to have an association with Bill during his 35 years' involvement in forestry will wish to express condolences to his wife and six children, one of whom chose to take up the forestry profession, much to his father's delight and pride.

— J.G.G.

Harold Roy Orman (1920-1985)

The death occurred in Rotorua on 25 February of Roy Orman, who retired as Director of the Forest Products Division of FRI in 1980.

Roy had joined the New Zealand Forest Service in 1938 as a cadet, so that when he retired he had completed 42 years of service. This included periods of war service; first with Army Signals, then R.N.Z.A.F. Meteorological Branch, working on upper atmosphere physics, including experimentation on use of microwave radar to determine wind velocity.

After the war he completed B.Sc. and M.Sc. degrees at Victoria University College. He did this part-time and worked in Forest Products Laboratory in Head Office as a wood technologist.

In 1950 Roy came to Rotorua with a skeleton group from the old Forest Products Laboratory. They moved into the assembly of old Quonset huts and began the 30-year period in research where he was responsible for building up what is now a world-recognised forest products or wood technology research facility.

Starting in the early 1960s he was also responsible for planning to bring the dreams of a permanent expanded forest research

institute on the campus in Rotorua to reality. He travelled overseas to see appropriate designs and incorporate them into the early stages of the rebuilding programme.

Roy was the first Director of the Forest Products Division of FRI and held this position for 17 years until his retirement. He also made important personal research contributions in many areas of wood technology but especially in timber physics and timber engineering.

He had strong sporting interests in his youth, being a university blue in hockey. He retained this interest for a time in Rotorua and had a long association with the Rotorua Yacht Club, as member then Commodore. He was elected a life member for his services to the club.

The Institute extends its sympathy to his wife Margaret, son Richard, and daughter Ann.

— J.K.

Ronald Wensley Macdonald Williams

Ron Williams, who died in a motor car accident in 1984, was one of that small group of World War 2 servicemen who gained their forestry degrees overseas and rose to senior positions in the Forest Service. He began his Public Service career as Master Williams, Clerical Cadet, in the State Fire Insurance Department in 1937. Joining the Fleet Air Arm in 1941, he started by flying amphibians, served in East, South and West Africa and, as a squadron commander, ended his flying days as personal pilot to the Captain of the Home Fleet.

After graduating from Edinburgh University, he returned to New Zealand in 1948 and was posted to Otautau "to be broken in", to quote the frank Head Office phrase of the day. He came under the ecological influence of Jack Holloway during the Indigenous Forest Survey, but it was not long before he made a name for himself in the silviculture of Southland's silver beech forests. A transfer to Tuatapere in 1952 was followed by secondment in 1954 to Conical Hill to get utilisation experience. His flair for long-term management and planning was revealed in the regional working plan for the Southland Land District, prepared jointly with the late Charlie Brown who became Conservator, Palmerston North. This plan, involving the planting of exotic forests, sustained yield of silver beech and planned re-