cover the remaining functions of the Forest Service not absorbed by the Department of Conservation and the Forestry Corporation, is still being developed.

There are options such as a separate stand-alone agency or as a unit within another department.

"A starting date of January 1, 1987 is also probable for this agency."

Decisions yet to be made on the location of the forestry sector, agency and the nature of the Forestry Corporation are of considerable significance to New Zealand's forest industry as a whole and are awaited with great interest.

**FORESTRY COUNCIL NEWS**

Since its establishment under its own Act in 1983, the New Zealand Forestry Council has been closely concerned with all the crucial issues so strongly affecting the forestry sector at present. In particular, forestry taxation, the environmental administration reforms, the function of long-term market research, the support of a researcher in Japan, a mission to Chile, marketing and utilisation of special purpose species, and the enhancement of the National Exotic Forest Description, have been dominant and continuing issues.

The Forestry Council is funded by a levy on roundwood processed or exported, the total levy being exactly matched by the State. All ten Councillors, other than the Director-General of Forests, are appointed by the Minister on a corresponding basis of equality between the two components of the forestry sector. Each appointee is chosen not as a representative, but as an independent person of knowledge and experience. There is a small full-time Secretariat of three people.

An abiding theme of Council's work programme is the monitoring and reporting to the Minister on trends, prospects and issues in the forestry sector. Unlike a Government department, it has no role in administering any aspect of forestry policy. The special strength of the New Zealand Forestry Council lies in its ability to co-opt expertise from both State and private organisations, combining their abilities on its committees in the service of a particular objective in forestry research, administration, or practice.

L. A. J. Hunter, Executive Director, New Zealand Forestry Council.

**Permanent Head for Ministry for the Environment — Dr R. Blakeley**

The first permanent head of the newly created Ministry for the Environment is State Coal Mines General Manager Dr Roger Blakeley.

Dr Blakeley has a background in civil engineering. He was a dux of Rongotai College before attending Canterbury University, where he obtained his Ph.D. in engineering. He joined the Ministry of Works as an engineering cadet in 1964. In 1971 he was appointed assistant engineer in the Ministry's head office structural design section.

In 1980 he was awarded a Harkness Fellowship to study executive development at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. School of Management. He returned to the Ministry of Works where he was Wellington district civil engineer prior to his appointment to State Coal in August 1984.

Dr Blakeley will head a department of about 100 people, with a role of encouraging balanced development of New Zealand's resources taking into account environmental values.

He is quoted as saying that the development of environmental procedures by State Coal was an example for other developers. The procedures include the development of techniques to assess economic benefits balanced against environmental considerations, and incorporate public participation.

Dr Blakeley's father was also a top civil servant. He headed the then New Zealand Electricity Department, and was later Deputy Secretary of the Ministry of Energy, before retiring in 1978.

**SCHOOL OF FORESTRY NEWS**

**New Lecturer**

Dr E. M. (Ted) Bilek has been appointed lecturer at the School of Forestry to replace Mr Lachlan Hunter who resigned to become Executive Director of NZ Forestry Council. Dr Bilek has Bachelor's and Masters degrees in Business Administration from the University of Wisconsin, majoring in finance and marketing. His Ph.D., in forest economics and policy, is from the University of Minnesota. He is keen to develop an active research programme in close association with the sector, and can be expected to visit companies and conservancies in the near future.

L. A. J. Hunter, Executive Director, New Zealand Forestry Council.

**Visiting Fellows**

1986 NZ Forest Products Visiting Fellow at the School of Forestry is Mr R. J. Cooper, who is a Lecturer in Industrial Economics and Marketing in the Department of Forestry and Wood Science of the University College of North Wales. He has wide economic and marketing experience, including a short period (1969-71) of employment with NZ Forest Service. Mr Cooper has a heavy teaching load at the School until mid-May, but after that he expects to visit widely in the forestry sector for a month before returning to the UK.

1986 Tasman Visiting Fellow at the School is to be Mr W. F. (Bill) Fieber. He is regional logging engineer for the California Region of the US Forest Service where he provides technical support for the harvest planning of some 8 million cubic metres of roundwood a year. It is expected that he will arrive in mid-May at Rotorua. He will make an input into teaching at School of Forestry courses there, attend a LESA conference and meet Tasman foresters, before moving to Christchurch where he will spend the remainder of his visit.

Prof. G. B. Sweet, School of Forestry, University of Canterbury.

**Overseas travel award**

Du Pont (New Zealand) have announced a new travel award to enable foresters to study, in particular, forest establishment techniques and weed control. This annual award is worth $10,000.

Foresters will welcome this award. Weed control problems have increased in recent years and weed control technology is also changing rapidly. A feature of the award is a visit to Du Pont's research facilities in Wilmington, Delaware and field trips in the United States with their personnel.