his own individualistic path to New Zealand. He explored in Westland because he was curious about what lay beyond the coastal plains and he enjoyed exploring. Indeed sometimes the book is redolent of Kipling's poem The Explorer and its quests 'beyond the ranges'. He was really less concerned about tourist routes or deposits of valuable minerals although, following instructions conscientiously, he looked for the former and collected many geological specimens related to the latter. In fact he did some geological mapping for the Department. He was shy with strangers, especially women, but he was not a loner. He knew people the length of southern Westland and had a small circle of close friends. He was well-mannered and responded politely to women who charmed him, usually the wives of his friends. From time to time he embarked on drinking binges when he got back to civilisation, though these were of short duration.

Charlie Douglas was one of this country's most famous back-country characters and we owe a debt to Graham Langton for enhancing his story. The book is a great read.

Reference:

Proceedings of a symposium on sustainable management

The Symposium on Sustainable Management of Indigenous Forests was held in January 2000 as part of the Third Meeting of the Southern Connection Congress that aims to bring together people interested in biological and earth sciences from Southern Hemisphere countries.

The cost of the proceedings is $NZ30.00 (incl. postage) for overseas residents and $NZ25.00 (incl. postage) in New Zealand. For further information, Dr Glenn Stewart (phone (03) 325-2811, fax (03) 325 3844, email stewart@lincoln.ac.nz.

Editorial Contributions

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