The final ordinary meeting for the year was that held on 26th September, when Mr. R. M. Laing addressed us on the vegetation of the sub-Antarctic islands of New Zealand. Mr. Laing was a member of the expedition sent out some years ago by the Canterbury Philosophical Institute, and gave a most interesting account of the visit to the Snares, Auckland and Campbell Islands, dealing principally with the characteristic vegetation, but also with the bird and animal life of each. The most interesting of the many side-lightson the history of these islands was that dealing with their discovery of a band of shipwrecked sailors, who had successfully maintained themselves for six months on these desolate and barren islands. The coracle which these men built of canvas over a frame of Olearia scrub, and in which they successfully crossed to the main Auckland Island was a monument to the inventiveness that is the child of necessity. It now rests in the Canterbury Museum.

The annual business meeting was held on 2nd October, when the balance sheet was presented, and the officers for the ensuing year elected. They were as follows: President, P. S. Whitehead; Vice-President, H. Z. Collier; Secretary, H. C. Wickett. Additional officers to be chosen at the beginning of next year.

The Club dinner was held on 20th September, members assembling as before at the Royal Hotel. The function proved a most enjoyable one, fully up to all expectations set by past years. Toasts were given with musical honours. The President led with that of "The King." Mr. Wickett then proposed the health of "The Staff," in a bright and spirited vein. Mr. Fowler, in reply, spoke of the great pleasure it gave him to be on the staff of the Canterbury College School of Forestry, and stated that the staff would always be willing to help all members even after they had severed their tie with the College itself. Mr. Hutchinson then proposed the health of the School, expressing his pleasure in the contacts formed with the students as they passed through the College, and later as they entered fully into the ranks of the profession. Mr. Collier, in proposing the toast of "Those Leaving," stated the indebtedness of the Club to them for their loyal support, and expressed the hope that they would continue in touch with it in the future. Mr. Hocking replied, saying that those leaving this year would always remember the Club, and give it all the support possible. The dinner over, adjournment was made in part to the Athletic Club dance, and for the remainder to the skating rink, where the evening was fittingly concluded.

---

**Camp Notes**

The annual spring camp was held this year in the exotic forests of Canterbury, being located at Homebush, through the kindness of Mr. Jas. Deans. Homebush proved itself an ideal place for the practical work of the camp, having within easy reach not only the extensive plantations of the estate, but also many areas of the Selwyn Plantation Board. The homestead blocks contain fine examples of practically all species of exotics generally grown in Canterbury, together with many others not commonly seen, which furnished great scope for the dendrologists. Surveying, mensuration, forest engineering and utilisation crews found plenty to occupy their time. It was in the silviculture, however, that the lion's share of the time was spent, and it was here that the true bushmen of the party were revealed. After sagely cogitating matters of site, stocking, and survival, the order was given to get at it. So we got. There was thinning to be done—tough English oak, sixty years old, to be felled and cut into posts; springy, gummy young pines on our Hororata thinning block to be cut up for cordwood. Many the blunted blade, the broken helve, and the blistered palm. Liberation cuttings and reproduction cuttings in the older mixed stands provided much food for hot argument. Which way to throw her, lodging, hanging, swinging, wedging, swedg-
ing, swearing—these and many other technical terms were freely bandied back and forth. But the trees came down, even if not exactly to order—they had to when Wickett worked from the top down while a full crew chopped and sawed below.

Our quarters were in the brick shearers’ cottage beside the woolshed. We had for our exclusive use a kitchen, dining-room, bedroom and bathroom. (The remaining room was reserved for the “commercials,” and sometimes had some real samples in it.) Consequently we were excellently accommodated, and though there were sixteen of us, we managed well with two-man relays at the cooking. With Homebush coal, firewood from the nearest plantation, whole sheep provided regularly from the flocks, and sacks of vegetables, also from the estate, we lived like kings at a most reasonable cost.

Of relaxation this year we had a greater share than usual, due to our larger numbers and civilised surroundings. There was first the important task of keeping Wade, the hope of his side, in good trim for his football fixtures. Morning and evening practice in scrumming, passing, and kicking was provided by willing hands who escorted him solicitously to the bus each Saturday morning, and riotously welcomed him home again victorious to a late tea on the Monday. Photography and exploration found at least one earnest devotee, whose bicycle covered many a mile of the Malvern roads.

Evening life was never dull. All looked forward to their evening at the homestead in the kind hospitality of Mr. and Mrs. Deans, while those remaining behind in their envy bent their energies to the setting of booby traps wherewith to harass the fortunate ones on their return. Through slow evolution there developed an efficient type of trap whereby the victim received one more wash in cold water than he had planned for the day. The first crude attempt was the time-honoured bowl propped above the door. This was too simple, and was replaced by two bowls suspended from the ceiling, and tripped by a complicated mouse trap affair which those encountering it found highly effective. Everyone was discreetly in bed at the time of this unfortunate accident, but it is understood that letters patent have been applied for and granted to a syndicate of three. A ping-pong tournament was hotly fought out, while Robbie’s gramophone received constant hard work, nor did it weary until the very last day, when it decided it could work no more without an overhaul.

Special mention must be made of our sports, since this was the first year in which such a fixture has been held. It proved most successful, only the pessimists who had predicted dire misfortune to the entrants in the standing chop being disappointed. The results were:

Standing Chop.—Roberts 1st, Hocking 2nd.
Underhand Chop.—Burns 1st, Collier 2nd.
Sawing.—Burns and Field.
Long Jump.—Field 1st, Sando 2nd.
75 Yards Sprint.—Field 1st, Roberts 2nd.
Pillow Fight.—Field won from Skipworth in final.
Tug of War.—First Year Team (Roberts, Burns, Field and Wickett).

Afternoon tea was dispensed to our numerous visitors at the conclusion of the events.

No times are given, as the axes and saws had had a severe thrashing in the thinning immediately previous. The flat has gone forth that for future years contestants must provide and sharpen their own weapons.

On the last evening of the camp we were all the guests of Mr. Deans at the homestead where he gave us a most interesting illustrated account of European forestry as he saw it in practice on his recent trip Home. This concluded a most enjoyable as well as a most useful camp. The Club records its deep appreciation of the many kindnesses of Mr. and Mrs. Deans, and also of the hospitality of Messrs. John Deans of Kirkstyle and Douglas Deans of Rowallan, to whose estates visits were made.