

NEW ZEALAND INSTITUTE OF FORESTERS INCORPORATED

OFFICERS 1946-48.

President: Owen Jones.

Vice-President: C. T. Sando.

Secretary: A. D. McKinnon.

Treasurer: A. C. Forbes.

Council (1947-48): E. A. Cooney, G. H. Hocking, J. F. Lysaght, A. P. Thomson.

Annual General Meeting.

The meeting was held on the 19th June, 1947. Contrary to past custom it was at the State Forest Service Training Centre, Rotorua, and the following two days were spent in field excursions. The arrangement proved an unqualified success with a record attendance of 36 Members and Associate Members. It was decided that the 1948 Annual General Meeting should again be held at Rotorua and that every effort should be made to hold the 1949 meeting somewhere in the South Island.

In presenting the annual accounts the Treasurer was able to report a satisfactory financial position.

Membership.—A motion appointing Professor H. G. Champion, Oxford, an Honorary Member of the Institute was carried unanimously.

The Secretary reported that 9 new Associate Members had been elected during the year and one Associate Member had been struck off the roll. One Member, Mr. R. G. Robinson, had died during the year.

After consideration of a notice of motion, it was decided that trainees in forestry attending the University of New Zealand on a part-time basis and Students attending full time with the *bona fide* intention of taking up a career in forestry should be admitted to Student Membership of the Institute under certain conditions—(see p. 353).

Subscriptions.—It was agreed to increase membership subscriptions 50%, bringing Members to 30/., Associate Members to 22/6 and Student Members to 7/6 per annum.

Forest Terminology Committee.—After reading the Convenor's report, the meeting discussed the difficulties facing the committee, but decided that it should continue its work, considering some curtailment of the scope of its activities necessary if any quick results were to be achieved. Accordingly it was resolved that the scope of the glossary should, meanwhile, be limited to terms either native to New Zealand or having a particular connotation in this country. An endeavour should be made to complete this limited glossary by the next Annual Meeting, at which subsequent expansion could be considered.

Public Relations Officer.—In considering Mr. A. P. Thomson's work in this capacity, it became evident that he had insufficient time at his disposal to undertake much publicity of a positive nature; indeed it had been difficult to keep abreast of the essentially negative aspect of the work. It was agreed that Mr. Thomson should co-opt members as correspondents in each of the main centres to assist in local publicity work.

Professional Forestry Education in New Zealand.—A committee was appointed to formulate the policy of the Institute in relation to post-graduate forestry training in New Zealand. Any statement prepared should be submitted to the Council who would in turn submit it to the University of New Zealand, if and when called for, or at any other time considered appropriate.

Presidential Address.—In his Presidential Address Mr. Owen Jones outlined the phases in the development of forestry, more particularly in the English-speaking countries. Almost every devilish contraption for the utilization and destruction of timber owed its existence to the ingenuity of the Anglo-Saxon mind, and, of all the great races, the British had displayed the greatest general apathy to forest progress.

In any new country much forest destruction was necessary and inevitable to clear land for settlement. New Zealand was no exception to this rule, and, as in other young countries, the forest resources had appeared at first to be inexhaustible, so that clearing went on without considering whether the land was suitable or not for permanent settlement. Sawmills had been installed to produce timber and more timber with little thought of the consequences.

As a country progressed in its development, the idea crept in that perhaps supplies were not inexhaustible as had been at first thought. It was decided that there were large areas capable of growing timber, and consequently a large amount of planting took place. This had happened in New Zealand. Still later, came the sentimental idea that forests were things to be protected and locked up as inviolate museum pieces for unborn generations.

That roughly was where New Zealand stood to-day. Much of the original bush had disappeared through destructive milling which had had no concern for the future as long as immediate needs were satisfied. Large areas had been planted with exotics, often without much consideration for the suitability of the species to their environment, their accessibility to markets, or their fitness for the probable timber demand. An agitation had also been started for the indefinite locking up of areas of native bush, with little understanding of the practical requirements, or of what would happen to the forests thus set aside and divorced from rational use.

Very briefly the tasks which confronted foresters in New Zealand at the present time were: Firstly, the fact had to be driven home that forests, properly managed, could be a continuous source of raw materials. Secondly, the means of regenerating the remaining native forests had to be found and these tracts run on a sustained yield basis. Thirdly, the very considerable areas of exotic plantations had to be utilized to the fullest and most profitable extent. Finally, we had to realize ourselves, and make the public realize, that forest conservation involved full, wise and non-wasteful use of our present resources, and not the indefinite withholding of them for generations yet unborn.

As we had received the forests as a gift from those who had gone before, so we were obliged to hand them on, not merely unimpaired, but enhanced in value and productively, to those who would succeed us.

Papers Presented.—Mr. A. N. Sexton read a paper on "Geographical Distribution of *Pinus nigra*," which appears on p. 295. Mr. A. L. Poole gave his experiences as Silviculturalist to the British Army of Occupation in Germany.

Field Excursions.—The day following the Annual Meeting was fully occupied by field trips arranged by the Conservator of Forests, Rotorua. Members visited the State Mill and Box Factory and made a comprehensive tour of Whakarewarewa State Forest; in the evening a dinner was held at the Waipa Mill cafeteria, after which members attended a screening of films on various forestry topics.

The following day trips were organized to inspect indigenous forest regeneration in the Lake Rotoma district, or alternatively, to tour of the exotic forest areas in the Wairakei-Atiamuri-Putaruru region, including areas burnt in 1946 and now regenerating.

Science Congress: Royal Society of N.Z.

A Forestry Session, under the chairmanship of Mr. C. M. Smith, was organized in the Botanical Sciences Section of the above congress in January, 1947. The following papers were delivered:—

"Forest Administration down the Ages," by Mr. C. M. Smith.

"Nazi Influence on German Forest Administration," by Mr. A. L. Poole.

- "Parasites and Saprophytes of *Nothofagus menziesii*," by Mr. G. B. Rawlings.
 "Use and Interpretation of Aerial Photographs in New Zealand Forestry,"
 by Mr. A. P. Thomson.
 "Preliminary Observations on the Ecology of Silver Beech (*Nothofagus menziesii*)," by Mr. J. T. Holloway.

Rotorua Section.

This section of the Institute had another successful year with a good attendance at its meetings and excursions. At the Annual Meeting held on the 17th May, 1947, Mr. P. A. Reveirs was elected Chairman and Mr. J. R. Overington re-elected Secretary.

This year the Section acted as host to the Annual General Meeting of the Institute at Rotorua. The meeting, the well-planned excursions and the dinner were an unqualified success and reflect credit on those responsible for their organization.

Addresses given during the year were:—

"Some Impressions of my Islands Tour," by Mr. J. F. Lysaght.

"Vulcanology," by Mr. J. Healy of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research.

"Development of Water Power," by Mr. J. L. Harrison-Smith.

"The Utilization of *Pinus radiata*," by Mr. K. Goudie.

On the 20th September a field day was spent in an inspection of the exotic forests and milling operations of New Zealand Forest Products Ltd., and on the 1st November a social evening was organized for officers of the State Forest Service visiting Rotorua.

Wellington and Nelson Sections.

Neither of these sections have any activities to report during the year.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

Receipt of the following publications during 1947 is acknowledged by the New Zealand Institute of Foresters.

Institute members are reminded that forestry literature received by the Institute and listed in the Journal annually is available on application to Mr. A. P. Thomson, c/o State Forest Service, Private Bag, Whakarewarewa, Rotorua.

Australia, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, Division of Forest Products.

Reprint No. 94: Molecular Weight Distribution Curves for Various Holo-cellulose Fractions.

Reprint No. 95: The Preparation of a Wood Sample for Chemical Analysis.

Reprint: Furfural: A Pilot Plant Investigation of its Production from Australian Raw Materials.

Reprint: The Manna of *Myoporum plactycarpum* R. Br. as a Possible Commercial Source of Mannitol.

Reprint: Lignocellulose Residues as Fillers for Phenolic Plastics.

Reprint: The Yield of Furfural from Pentosans.

Australia, Forests Commission of Victoria.

Annual Report, 1945-46.

Empire Forests and the War. (Empire Forestry Conference, 1947).

The Place of Forestry in Land Utilization in Australia—A. V. Galbraith (Empire Forestry Conference, 1947).

Australian Forestry. Vol. X, 1946.

Australian Timber Journal. Vol. 12, Nos. 11 and 12; Vol. 13, Nos. 1—10.

Boas, I. H. The Commercial Timbers of Australia: Their Properties and Uses. 1947.

British Forestry Commission.

Booklet No. 1: Woodland Mosses.