

ELEVENTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The eleventh annual conference was held from Saturday, 20 October, to Monday, 22 October, 1962, in the Municipal Concert Chamber, Rotorua. Sixty people enrolled. The first morning was devoted to the following contributed papers:

- "Limnological conditions and growth of trout in three lakes near Rotorua" G. R. Fish
 "The influence of pre-European fires in the Tiritea catchment, northern Tararuas" A. E. Esler
 "Origins of the New Zealand alpine flora" J. W. Dawson
 "Age of the New Zealand biota" C. A. Fleming

The afternoon was taken up with a symposium on "Vulcanicity and Vegetation in the Rotorua District" as well as a further contributed paper:

- "Vulcanicity and vegetation: Geology" J. Healy
 "Vulcanicity and vegetation: Soils" W. A. Pullar
 "Vulcanicity and vegetation: Vegetation" J. L. Nicholls
 "Effects of land development on birds and mammals in Western Taupo" P. C. Bull

The whole of Monday was taken up with the symposium: "Evidence for ecologically significant changes in climate during the post-glacial period in New Zealand", all contributions to which are published in this Proceedings. Dr. C. A. Fleming chaired the symposium and delivered the summing-up address following which there was active discussion for the remainder of the session.

A successful social gathering attended by 34 members was held at 5 p.m. following the formal session on Saturday.

On Sunday, 21 October, in perfect weather, a party of some 40 members and friends travelled to the Pouakani State Forest about 15 miles north-east of Lake Taupo. Dr. Fish demonstrated some of his lake sampling equipment at Lake Whakamaru. After lunch at Pouakani, the party was able to see silvicultural work being carried out by Mr. A. Beveridge of Forest Research Institute and to inspect permanent vegetation transects. On the return trip some excitement occurred when the

first of the two buses all but failed to cross a rather narrow log bridge. The party worked hard with spades and bare hands before the second bus was able to cross.

The excursion was a great success and we are much indebted to Mr. J. L. Nicholls and his helpers for making all the necessary arrangements.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Tenth Annual General Meeting was held in the Municipal Concert Chamber, Rotorua, at 7.30 p.m. on Saturday, 20 October, 1962. The President, Mr. A. L. Poole, took the chair and there were approximately 35 members present.

The minutes of the previous annual general meeting were read and confirmed. The annual report was adopted and likewise the statement of accounts which was introduced by Mr. H. J. F. McAllum in a most entertaining manner. The officers elected were: President, Dr. K. E. Lee; Vice-President, Dr. J. A. Gibb; Hon. Secretary, R. H. Taylor; Hon. Treasurer, H. J. F. McAllum. Mr. Taylor and Mr. McAllum subsequently resigned their positions on leaving Wellington, and were replaced by Miss J. M. Fulton and C. L. Hopkins respectively.

Mr. Atkinson reported on the Society's scheme for collecting information on native communities worthy of preservation but at present not protected in any way. From the original list of 36 communities, 7 had been deleted since it was found that they were either not unique or were already preserved. A further 8 communities had had to be added. Forms requesting detailed information such as ownership were being sent to interested people for each of the communities involved. Without this information no sound case for preservation could be made.

Suggestions of topics for the next annual conference were made and included the effects of vegetation on water-yield, marine ecology, and antarctic biology.

The formal meeting was followed by the Presidential Address given by Mr. Poole and entitled "Ecology and the Administrator," after which members adjourned to supper.