

NINTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The ninth annual conference was held on Thursday and Friday, 25 and 26 August, 1960, in the Easterfield Building, Victoria University of Wellington. Eighty-eight members enrolled. The first morning was devoted to the following contributed papers on various topics (all but the third appear in this number):

- "Indigenous-induced vegetation and *Pinus radiata* plantations on volcanic ash soils" D. R. McQueen
 "Ecology of the birds of Kaingaroa Forest" J. A. Gibb
 "Interactions between alpine vegetation and patterned ground on the Old Man Range, Central Otago" W. R. Billings & A. F. Mark
 "The forest flora of Canterbury: ecological inferences" C. J. Burrows
- In the afternoon, a symposium on "Progress in Antarctic Ecology" was notable for the number of papers dealing with the microscopic organisms of the Antarctic of which so little is usually heard. The papers delivered were:
- "The bacterial flora and microfauna of some samples from Antarctica" J. D. Stout
 "Yeasts from Antarctica" M. di Menna
 "Observations on algae in some Antarctic soils" E. A. Flint
 "The breeding season of the Adellie penguin" R. H. Taylor

The whole of the second day was devoted to a symposium on "The Interaction of Native and Introduced Species in New Zealand". Eight formal papers, all published in this *Proceedings*, were delivered in the morning, and a lively free discussion of the topic fully occupied the afternoon.

Exhibits at the conference included a series of hydrology and bathymetry charts for New Zealand waters, shown by Dr. D. E. Hurley, Oceanographic Institute; and a set of multiple Berlese funnels for the extraction of invertebrates from undisturbed soil samples, by Dr. K. E. Lee, Soil Bureau. The Editor also displayed three new cover designs for the *Proceedings*, and invited members to cast 1/- votes for their choice, the proceeds going to the Publication Fund.

As an experiment, a social gathering with refreshments was held at the close of the formal session on Friday. It was highly successful, and the forty-nine members attending showed every sign of having an enjoyable time.

As at previous conferences an excursion was held on the Saturday. The route followed the Hutt and Akatarawa valleys to the Akatarawa saddle, where commentaries on the soil and its earthworm fauna and on the forest vegetation were given by Dr. K. E. Lee and I. A. E. Atkinson respectively. It then

descended the Waikanae valley to the coast, where N. L. Elder described changes in the area subsequent to settlement. The return route was via Paekakariki hill where G. L. Adkin explained the geological history of the coastal region, and the Horokiwi valley where K. R. Allen demonstrated the effects of agricultural development on the stream. Thirty-six members and friends attended.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Ninth Annual General Meeting was held in Room 620, Easterfield Building, Victoria University of Wellington, at 8 p.m. on Thursday, 25 August 1960. In the absence of the President through illness, the Vice-President, Dr. K. E. Lee, took the chair. Forty-six members were present.

A vote of sympathy was passed to Mr. C. M. Smith in his illness and in appreciation of his services as President.

The minutes of the previous annual general meeting were read and confirmed. The annual report and statement of accounts were then discussed and adopted.

Mr. Allen described the advantages of the Society becoming incorporated, and a motion that the Society apply for incorporation under the Incorporated Societies Act was put and carried; as also was a motion changing the name of the Society to the *New Zealand Ecological Society Incorporated*.

A series of motions were then put and carried creating the office of *Editor* and providing for his appointment annually by the Council.

Dr. Lee presented a report prepared by Mr. Allen, Dr. Gibb and himself and originally presented to Council, on the possibility of affiliation with the Royal Society of New Zealand. The main points were:

1. The Ecological Society would almost certainly be accepted as an affiliated body.
2. The Ecological Society would have to devote one-third of its annual subscription income to a public library or museum, or one-sixth to the Royal Society.
3. The Ecological Society would have to provide in its rules for a class of members to be subscribing members of the Royal Society. For each such member the Ecological Society would have to pay 5/- a year to the Royal Society, but this amount would be deductible from the one-third of its income to be paid to a library or museum, or from the one-sixth to the Royal Society.
4. The Ecological Society could nominate a member to the Council of the Royal Society of New Zealand.
5. Members of the Ecological Society could take the *Transactions of the Royal Society* at a cost of 10/- a year.
6. The Ecological Society along with other affiliated bodies would be charged approximately one-half the average travelling expenses of delegates

for each delegate attending Royal Society Council meetings.

Dr. Lee pointed out that Council did not feel that application for affiliation was appropriate at the present time because it would necessitate either a reduction of the *Proceedings* or an increase in the subscription rate. Dr. Lee then moved *pro forma* that the Ecological Society seek approval for becoming affiliated with the Royal Society of New Zealand. After discussion this motion was amended to read that the incoming Council be instructed to continue discussion with the Royal Society of New Zealand with a view to the Ecological Society becoming a member body of the Royal Society. This amendment was put and carried.

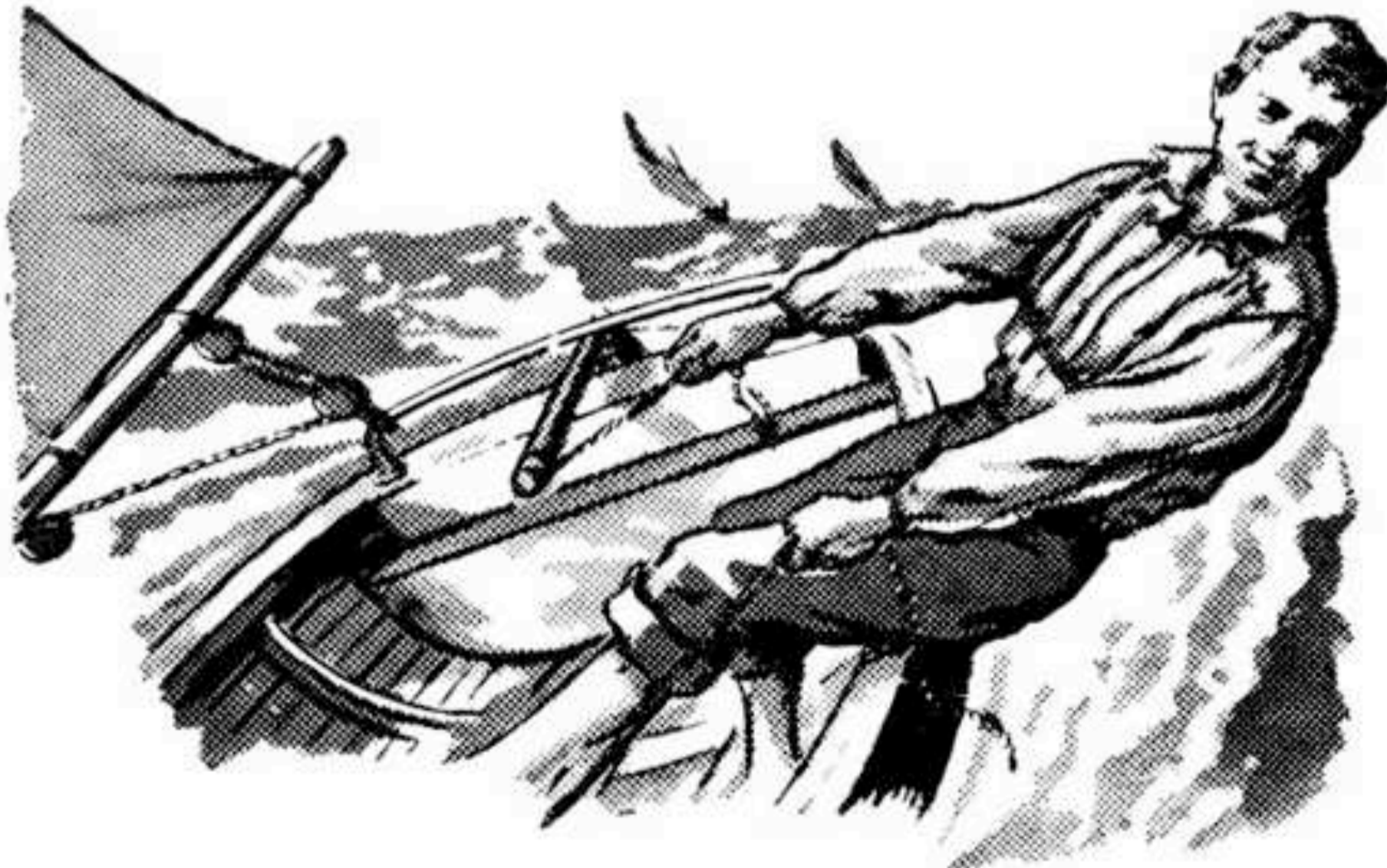
The incoming Council was recommended to consider having the next conference in Dunedin.

Dr. K. Wodzicki enquired about a register of

reserves that had been started several years ago. After considerable discussion, the Council was instructed to pursue a vigorous policy of keeping in touch with the Lands and Survey Department and National Parks Authority so that the Society would know of any proposed alterations to the boundaries of National Parks. A motion urging members to supply Council with lists of interesting areas threatened with destruction was also carried.

Two of the Society's members, Miss L. B. Moore and Mr. N. H. Taylor, who had received honours during the year, were congratulated by the members present.

As no Presidential Address could be delivered, the formal meeting was followed by the screening of two films, "Journey into Spring" and "Discovery in the Antarctic", after which members adjourned to supper.



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