

opposed by Messrs. Barker, Hocking and Skipworth. After giving a comprehensive summing up, our host who acted as chairman, cast the vote in favour of the opposers. The President then read a letter of appreciation and farewell to Mr. H. Roche, who left the next day on transfer to Palmerston North.

The last meeting of the first term was held on May 11th, when Mr. Kennedy gave a brief outline of the work done by Canterbury College in the investigation of growth and yield in exotic conifer plantations of this province by means of the permanent sample plot system. He mentioned the great difference in altitude, climate and soil in the areas picked for these plots throughout Canterbury. The general low mortality throughout Canterbury was a surprising feature.

The first meeting of the second term was held on June 15th, when a very interesting address on "Vacation Work in Southland" was given by Mr. G. H. Hocking, who was employed by the State Forest Service in that region during the last long vacation. After describing his many occupations, cruising, clearing, nursery and office work, he gave a short discourse on the general conditions prevailing in that region.

Mr. Jas. Deans, of Homebush, addressed us at our next meeting on July 10th on "Some Aspects of European Forestry." He first told us of the general beauty of the woodlands in England, enlarging on the description of the New Forest, which is in all 60,000 acres, of which only 16,000 is actually planted in forest. The Forest of Dean was planted over 400 years ago for shipbuilding, the main tree being oak, with larch and Douglas fir intermixed. The Sherwood Forest, which was mature in the reign of Charles II., is now under protection as a scenic reserve. Illustrating his address with over a hundred photos, Mr. Deans then described forestry practice as he had observed it in actual progress, in his visits to the main forests of England, Scotland, France, Belgium, Germany and Switzerland.

On July 27th, Mr. C. S. Barker delivered an instructive paper on "Some Points in Wood Anatomy." With numerous microslides of his own preparing, Mr. Barker was able to point out some peculiarities in the structure of the timbers with which we are more commonly acquainted.

In the third term, but two meetings were arranged for. On 28th September, Mr. Hutchinson delivered a paper, which appears elsewhere in this journal, dealing with some theories in regard to the silvical nature of the Westland rimu bush, with an outline of

the programme being drawn up for investigation into the growth of these stands.

The final meeting, the annual general meeting of the year, has not yet taken place at time of Te Kura Ngahere going to press. It is planned to make this meeting social in nature, and it is probable that it will be combined with the annual dinner as the last Club function of the year. The officers for the 1929 session will be elected at this meeting.

FORESTRY STUDENTS' LOAN FUND.

In recognition of the value received by reason of their forestry training, and as a mark of appreciation of what the Canterbury College School of Forestry has done for them, the past students of the School have originated the idea of inaugurating a loan fund for forestry students, to enable those of limited means to complete their courses through the assistance of this fund. Such loan funds are, of course, no new thing, but are common at many Universities. The basic points in connection with this suggestion, however, are, first that the fund should be a private one, administered as the past students jointly shall decide, second that it should be available for all students in forestry at Canterbury College, including Ranger as well as Degree course students, and third, and most important of all, that the fund shall be raised and kept going by means of contributions from all past students of the School, in such amounts and at such times as may be possible. It is to be regarded, however, as an obligation binding upon all students, that some time after completion of their course, they shall take their share in helping the scheme forward, for the benefit of those who shall come after them.

The matter was laid before the Forestry Club at its meeting on 28th September, and the view point of the past students explained. The Club approved the suggestion, and on behalf of all present students accepted the challenge to do their share when the time arrives, and to pass on the obligation to all future students upon their joining the Club. The matter being thus definitely accepted in a manner satisfactory to the past students, the fund will be opened shortly, the conditions of its administration being now in process of settlement. In all probability it will be available next year should the necessity arise.

SPRING CAMP, 1928.

According to the now well-established custom, the School of Forestry, at the end of the second term adjourned to the field at Hanmer to put into practice the knowledge absorbed in the lecture rooms and to get experience in such applied forestry as could

nautical terms to let loose about playing games in such weather instead of working. However, on the arrival of the great moment we set sail from the pavilion, a multi-coloured craft, like an Arctic whaler rushing north after the thaw. We soon got up steam and began to plough straight through. I am sure success would have been ours had we not begun to drift, until, when the final blast blew, we found we were on the rocks. Our gratitude is extended to all those supporters who filled our sails with their wind. The final score was 14-3 against us. Ah! that score— Nevertheless, quite undismayed, the crew that evening attended the Fancy Dress Ball and, as they had been unsuccessful with the male population, they tried to win the women. To see whether they succeeded or not, our readers are referred to the Personal columns in some future issue.

Other work carried out during the following two weeks consisted of a dendrological tour round the plantation, creosoting larch fencing posts, making a yield table by the temporary sample plot method, re-measuring permanent sample plots of larch, seed extraction, and direct seeding, using instruments invented by New Zealand foresters, together with some more topography and thinning. Altogether it was a very extensive programme and gave us quite enough work each day to rouse in each man a tremendous appetite for the evening meal.

At this camp the services of a cook were dispensed with and each man, both students and staff did something to help. We are especially indebted in this line to Mr. Foweraker who was unanimously voted an excellent cook after the last morsel of each meal that he had cooked had disappeared. Although there were several gastronomic wonders in camp all were quite satisfied with the food supplied at each meal.

Besides football, our recreations consisted of dancing and swimming in the town halls and baths respectively, hockey trial matches to pick the New Zealand rep. team and Cricket tests, Australia v. England, as well as many golfing tours when we roamed the countryside seeking lost balls. Altogether we spent a very enjoyable time and it was, indeed, a welcome break in the tiring period of swotting. The three weeks went far too quickly and when the day for departure came everyone of us was loth to go.

In closing this description of camp we would like to record our grateful acknowledgements to all the residents of Hanmer whose friendly assistance made our work and camp life so great a success, and especially to Mr. Montgomery and Mr. Mackay of the State Forest Service who so ably co-operated to help up.

PERSONAL.

Calls to higher spheres of work have lost the Forestry Club two of its oldest members during the past year.

Mr. H. Roche, formerly of the Canterbury-Otago Regional staff, State Forest Service, was transferred on promotion at the end of April to the Palmerston North office. At the present time, however, he is in Dunedin on official business in connection with the opossum-skin industry, and plans to spend some time in Christchurch on holiday, while returning to his new headquarters.

Mr. C. S. Barker, the first student in forestry at Canterbury College, who for the past two years has been engaged on research into wood anatomy for the State Forest Service, working at Canterbury College, left in September for England, where he hopes to continue his technological work in a broader field.

Mr. W. S. Tannock, ranger course student in 1926 and 1927, is now at the Royal Botanical Gardens at Kew, working under Dr. Hill, who recently visited New Zealand.

It is with pleasure that we are able to record the granting of the first forestry degree in New Zealand in the admission, *ad eundem* by the University of New Zealand to the degree of B.F.Sc., of Mr. Hutchinson, B.Sc.F. (hons.), Montana, U.S.A., a member of our staff. By this admission, Mr. Hutchinson becomes the first of what we hope will soon be a considerable number of New Zealanders to receive this recognition of technical training.

Four of our members, Messrs. Hocking, Kennedy, Skipworth, and McLaren, entered into an arrangement with a local Council whereby the first term vacation was spent in cutting suppressed and insect infested trees in one of the Domain reserves, and in planting up blank spaces with young trees. The trees removed were felled, split and stacked for fuelwood, and the brush piled and burned. For planting up, young stock from the School's nursery at Opawa was used.

The Club is most pleased to be able to extend its heartiest congratulations and felicitations in regard to the following most auspicious events:—

The birth, on 9th July, of a son to Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Hamilton, now of the State Forest Service, Ranfurly, Central Otago.

The marriage, on 7th August, of Mr. A. F. Clark, Forest Assistant in charge of Entomology, State Forest Service, Nelson, to Miss Phyllis Hammon, of Mohakaiti, Taranaki.



THE 1928 SPRING CAMP.
A novel setting experienced one morning.

Photo School of Forestry.

not be demonstrated in the laboratory. Long before the end of the term arrangements were all complete and when the great day of departure came all were eager to leave behind the halls of learning and seek the wide open spaces.

Messrs. Hutchinson and Kennedy left two days previously and when the rest of us arrived they were comfortably established with everything shipshape. It was a matter of moments to take our luggage off the State Forest Service lorry and transfer it to our sleeping quarters; and, being ravenously hungry, we set about preparing the evening meal. Full of enthusiasm, we retired early in preparation for a hard day's work on the morrow, and even went so far as to sleep on the hard floor.

Next morning dawned wet and miserable. However, with a good breakfast inside we ventured, undaunted, to the larch. Here we were to learn the principles of thinning a stand of timber to produce the most effective results. That morning we worked, firstly underscrubbing and later judiciously cutting out the suppressed and overcrowded trees leaving room for the dominant and codominant ones to expand their crowns. By mid-day we were wet through and thoroughly satisfied so we returned to camp. The afternoon was profitably spent by some in con-

structing couches which would allow them to sleep more peacefully than on the hard floor. After the sounds of hard toil had ceased an inspection was made by the lower down members of the community who preferred the floor, and they seemed convinced that these objects of derision could not be recommended for strength and durability.

We spent both the Saturday morning and Monday in continuing the thinning already begun in the larch.

An area just behind the camp was selected for us to do a topographical survey and the next few days were spent trying to obtain a map worthy of licensed surveyors. It was during these few days that we learnt the use of the proverbial slasher which was always seen in company with Mr. Hutchinson.

On Friday morning when we awoke, we were struck dumb by the sight of a white canopy covering the ground. Soon all was joy and snowballing was the order of the day. Even the Canterbury College surveyors who were holding a camp at Hanmer did not entirely escape from the effects of our snowballing crew. Our camp was not all work, and on this Saturday a team was chosen from the surveyors and our camp to play a Rugby match against the Springs Club team. Our experienced A.B., Algy, had many