

No. of trees per acre—1921	...	350
1927	...	350
		cub. ft.
Volume per acre—1921	...	4,579.0
1927	...	5,433.9
Increment during 6½ years	...	854.9
Periodic annual increment	...	131.5
Periodic annual growth%	...	2.87%

The current increment, total cubic feet, including bark, all podocarps, is thus raised from 83.4 cubic feet per acre per year to 144 cubic feet per acre per year, a figure much more comparable with the 268 cubic feet per acre per year for Plot H3, quoted by Mr. Hutchinson. Plot H3 certainly presents a case of abnormal increment, by comparison with other plots. Perry's Bush, on the other hand, seems abnormal, even on the basis of the corrected figures, but quite within the range of increment that may be expected.

The Origin of Te Kura Ngahere.

A number of inquiries, particularly from overseas, have been made as to the meaning of "Te Kura Ngahere," and the reasons for its selection as the title of this journal. The meaning most commonly ascribed in New Zealand is "The Forestry School." While this is certainly a permissible translation it makes use of the modern meaning of the term **Kura**, which is merely the phonetic Maori rendering of the English word "school." The older meaning of the term "**Kura**" is much deeper than this, however, and it is this older sense which is implied in the name of our journal. To quote from Stowell:—

"The term '**Kura**' is one of peculiar interest to the student. The Maori is a great lover of wisdom and philosophy, and it is to these subjects that the term '**Kura**' primarily applies and always in a sacred sense."

Kura then, is translated as: Precious treasure; sacred wisdom and philosophy; wisdom-culture; divine law and natural phenomena.

Various forms of **Kura** are to be found and many compounds of the word occur in connection with the various cults of wisdom. Thus we have:—

Kura-karakia, sacred ritualistic services and ceremonies.

Kura-Wananga, sacred recitals upon chronological historical and scientific systems.

Te Kura wawaahi-whenua, wawaahi-rangi; the sacred wisdom treating of the known laws of heaven and earth and of man's capacity to use such wisdom for the performance of semi-miraculous acts.

The **whare-kura**, now rendered in modern Maori as school-house, was in the old days the sacred college or hall in which the tohunga taught, practised, and expounded to youth the highest

forms of scientific and religious philosophy and history.

Te Kura Ngahere may be rendered, therefore, as the sacred scientific lore pertaining to the forest.

Creosoted Rimu Poles.

(H. G. Chapman.)

Some months ago when an officer of the Post and Telegraph Department was making enquiries as to the quantity of silver pine poles available in South Westland, the answer given to him was that supplies were comparatively small and totally inadequate for requirements, but it was suggested that rimu poles, properly treated, should be used, and it was pointed out that a practically inexhaustible supply could be obtained from the West Coast forests. In addition to the Post and Telegraph Department's requirements, electric power poles of any length and diameter could be supplied in large quantities.

Tens of thousands of soft-wood poles are creosoted annually in the United States of America, and the economic success of the process is fully assured. It is interesting to note that some of these American creosoted poles have been used for electric power lines in New Zealand, and so far as can be judged they are perfectly satisfactory.

There appears to be no good reason why rimu poles should not give at least equally good service when properly treated and, in order to test the matter, the State Forest Service is now preparing to creosote a number of poles of the usual dimensions which are being offered to them free of cost. These, when treated, will be erected by the Post and Telegraph Department in various localities.

A consignment of twenty-four poles, thirty feet long, has already been sent to the School of Engineering in Auckland to be tested for strength. Twelve of these were green and twelve fire-killed, the latter being practically in the condition of seasoned poles.

One hundred poles are now seasoning at Ross, and when dry will be impregnated under commercial conditions. Full records are to be made of rate of seasoning, quantity of creosote used, and cost of the treatment. The poles will be carefully watched when in place, and full data kept as to durability and strength under service conditions.

It is sincerely hoped that the experiments will prove a commercial success, as such success would find a use for a very large quantity of forest produce which is now wasted and would tend to keep a large sum of money annually in the Dominion which is at present sent out for hardwood and other poles. There is also the consideration that the New South Wales authorities may find it necessary in the near future to conserve their remaining supplies of poles for their own use, and New Zealand under present conditions would be in sore straits for poles.