

Under the provisions of its working plan, the Board commenced the thinning of the area this year. Fourteen acres were, however, set aside for the School of Forestry to thin in the next two or three years. The portion set aside includes both Corsican and pondosa pines. A start was made this winter by the students in silviculture, the pondosa pine being commenced with. Two methods of selection of trees for felling are to be applied to each species, the different grades of severity applied. Sample plots will be installed in each section to test quantitatively the success of each undertaking. The demarcation and initial measurement of the plots was commenced this spring by the students in mensuration, who will also be responsible for the measurement of the material removed.

The granting of the use of this area by the Board is warmly appreciated, especially as it will be a number of years yet before the College's Experimental Forest at Burnham will be large enough to provide material for practice. The hearty co-operation always extended by the Selwyn Plantation Board, and all other local forestry organizations, has been a most important factor in the successful development of the School of Forestry.

Forestry Club.

CHARLES CHILTON.

On October 25th, Charles Chilton, M.A., D.Sc., C.M., LL.D., F.L.S., C.M.Z.S., F.N.Z. Inst., formerly Rector of Canterbury College and Professor of Biology, died after a brief illness.

His life work, his rich scientific honours, his devotion to science and to civic life have been ably dealt with in other journals. In these pages it is intended to pay grateful tribute to a phase of his activities unmentioned elsewhere—to his full appreciation of forestry, of what forestry stands for, of its value to the nation, and to the need of a sound scheme of forestry education for the Dominion.

Dr. Chilton was ever a tree lover. The trees of the Christchurch parks, streets, and gardens were his friends. Constantly in his lectures on botany he culled examples from his rich and varied acquaintance with trees. He was an active member of the Christchurch Beautifying Association, of the of the Christchurch Domains Board, of the Canterbury Horticultural Society and of the New Zealand Horticultural Institute. As first editor of that inspiring journal "The City Beautiful," he put his ideas and ideals

into a form capable of reaching every class of reader.

Sometime President of the Canterbury Branch of the New Zealand Forestry League, he did much in the early post-war days to arouse interest in the pressing need for true Dominion forestry. As far back as 1912 he was a prime mover in the establishment of the Canterbury College Biological Station at Cass, where he was enthusiastic in the conservation of the large areas of mountain beech—Canterbury's valuable protection forest in the larger watersheds. To his foresight, too, Canterbury College owes the cottage and freehold at Arthur's Pass, where the mountain beech forest and alpine vegetation may be studied at its best.

Associated among tree lovers with Dr. Chilton was the late T. W. Adams, of Greendale, North Canterbury, a noted arboriculturist and practically the founder of Canterbury School of Forestry. The late Mr. Adams endowed Canterbury College with an estate and a legacy for the purpose of establishing a lectureship in forestry. Thus the School came into being and it is pleasing to reflect how gratifying to Dr. Chilton was the bequest of his old friend.

The School had many vicissitudes in its early days; but it had three pillars of support—Dr. Chilton's sympathy, the use of his well-equipped Department of Biology, and the free run of the tree-planted Canterbury Province, a veritable field laboratory for forestry where Dr. Chilton's name was everywhere known and respected. Here it cannot be over-stressed how great an advantage was the free use of the Department of Biology with its lecture room well equipped for lecturing in forest botany, dendrology, silviculture and wood technology, the botanical laboratories with their full outfit of apparatus, preserved plant material and herbarium specimens. A special room, too, was allocated for research in wood technology.

Active and energetic to the last, Dr. Chilton's final service was to conduct a radio-broadcasting campaign on behalf of the primary industries, and while giving freely in this work at Dunedin, he contracted the chill which led to his last illness.

After a long, useful and busy life, he now rests amid fitting surroundings in the peaceful cemetery of his boyhood's district, East Eyreton, North Canterbury. Here, surrounded by noble trees, typical of Canterbury's arboriculture, lulled by breezes through cypress, pine and fir, he sleeps his last sleep.

THE CLUB LOG.

The 1929 session has proved to be a very successful one for the Forestry Club. In spite of the obvious difficulty of arranging dates which would suit all our visitors, a very enjoyable and instructive series of meetings was held. One can hardly over-estimate the value of the Club in promoting discussion in all forestry topics and enabling the members to hear the opinions of outside authorities.

At the first meeting of the year, March 22nd, the following officers were elected:—President, D. Kennedy; Vice-President, F. J. Billings; Secretary-Treasurer, G. H. Hocking; additional Committee member, A. B. Wade; Editor of "Te Kura Ngahere," C. T. Sando.

The second meeting was held on April 5th. Mr Kennedy gave his presidential address, "The Kauri Gum Industry." After describing the history of the industry, he went on to deal with present and probable future trends. The address was illustrated by a series of lantern slides depicting methods of digging the fossil gum and tapping the living trees.

On April 26th Messrs. Foweraker and Hutchinson spoke on the Imperial Forestry Conference. They gave accounts of forestry in various parts of the Empire as described by the delegates. The views expressed by these eminent authorities on the various aspects of forestry in New Zealand were particularly interesting; all seemed favourably impressed with the possibilities of this country.

The next meeting, held on June 14th, was devoted to short accounts of the vacation work of some of the students during the past summer. Mr. Whitehead, who had been in the Southland region, described the types of bush in which he had worked. He discussed timber cruising, establishment of sample plots in beech bush, and plantation work at Longwood.

Mr. Kennedy spent most of the summer on the State Forest Service Experimental Station at Rimu. He gave an interesting description of the silvicultural work which was being done, such as seedling counts, establishment of forest nurseries and seed reception plots, and root competition studies.

Mr. Hocking gave a brief sketch of the various forest types met with in the vicinity of Mt. Dupper, Sounds-Nelson district. Within a comparatively small area there was a remarkable variety of conditions of site and distribution. Dealing with the same region, Mr. Skipworth spoke of the habits and effects of goats in the forest. His accounts of goat shooting were not only instructive but highly amusing. He also mentioned the construction of an access track, building a slab hut, timber cruising, and fire fighting.

The next address to the Club was by Mr. W. H. Winsor, Secretary of the Canterbury Builders' Association. His account of the properties and uses of the various building and joinery timbers in New Zealand proved very interesting. He also spoke of his experience in Tasmania. A wide personal experience in both countries greatly enhanced the value of his address.

On July 26th, Mr. C. M. Smith, Conservator of Forests, spoke to the Club on the "Ecology of a Forester." He made a very apt comparison between the environment of a forester and that of a plant community. It brought home very clearly that the qualifications of a successful forester included the ability to adapt oneself to play a part in harmony with the rest of the forestry unit concerned.

At the last ordinary meeting of the year, held on September 20th, Colonel Dawson gave a very instructive and entertaining address on "Life in the Tropics." Probably most of us hope for the opportunity, sooner or later, of going abroad to widen our experience in forestry. It was particularly interesting to learn of the conditions under which one would live in the tropics. Colonel Dawson spoke chiefly of India and West Africa, in both of which countries he had had considerable experience.

An Extraordinary Meeting was called on October 7th. The Secretary presented a Statement of Accounts which showed the Club to be in a very satisfactory financial position. It was decided not to elect all the officers for the next year as had been previously recommended, but only the President. Mr. Sando was elected to this position.

The concluding Club function was the Annual Dinner, held on October 12th. All members were present and a most enjoyable evening was spent. Mr. Foweraker proposed the toast of the Club. He described its development and the important functions it fulfilled in the School of Forestry. It was now in its fifth year and had made great strides in that time. He hoped it would continue to extend its good work and earn a leading position among the societies of Canterbury College.

Mr. Hocking replied on behalf of the Club. Mr. Hutchinson proposed "Those Leaving," stating that though it was gratifying to have students completing their studies and going out to take up positions elsewhere, the loss always came as a blow to the Club. This year we were fortunate in losing only one, but he was one who had done much for the Club during his time at the College. We all hoped that Mr. Kennedy would keep in close touch with the students. After Mr. Kennedy's reply the meeting joined in singing "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow." And so ended what has so far been the most successful year in the history of the Club.

CAMP NOTES.

The annual Spring Camp of the Forestry School was held this year on the State Forest Service Experiment Station on the West Coast. Messrs. Hutchinson and Kennedy, the advance party, left Christchurch in the "wee sma' hours" of Saturday morning, August 17th. The rest of the troops followed by train and, although the journey was a long one, we kept ourselves bright with such amusements as cards, light literature and sing songs. As the weather became worse our spirits rose, and by the time we reached camp we were ready for anything. After the meal which awaited us on arrival in the evening, unpacking and sorting gear took place, and we finally got things into order and turned in.

Next day the morning was spent doing odd jobs such as collecting firewood, and in the afternoon we all went exploring the neighbourhood. On Monday the work began in earnest and throughout the week our progress was quite good as we were not hampered by wet weather. The programme included practical work in all subjects taken by the students during the year. In surveying we did topographic and type mapping and traverse surveys. Dendrologists were well supplied with material as the bush and plantation contained a great variety of trees and shrubs. All students did silvicultural studies and visited the mills and logging areas of several large operations in the vicinity.

The above all sounds very business-like and gives the impression that work, work, work, from morn till night was our watchword. But this was by no means the case. The evenings were not always given over to discussions on forestry topics, nor did we pursue forestry activities on Saturday afternoons or on Sundays. Gilby's gramophone was constantly in demand on most evenings. It was really this gramophone that was responsible for the suggestion of the likeness of our camp site to the "Big Rock Candy Mountains." Anyhow we found this musical masterpiece full of suggestive allusions.

As Dave used to sing—

"Where the jails are made of tin"; but we wondered if he would have thought so if the policeman had arrived five minutes sooner.

Other parts of the ditty say—

"Where we never change our socks"; and we often wondered if this were true or not when the troops removed their dirty boots.

"Where the little streams of alcohol come trickling down the rocks"; and for the life of us we could not understand why Skip. always wanted to go on geology tours.

"And the lemonade springs and cigarette trees." Did Prof. Percival look for these when he went away on his lonesome with some sort of excuse about bugs?

"Where the hens lay soft-boiled eggs." Was it the steak from one of these chickens Algy cooked for breakfast

Who was responsible for the version—

"Where the cows give condensed milk?"

And as the troops were leaving—

"I'll see you all this coming fall

In the Big Rock Candy Mountains."

Are they really bold enough to go back, or was it only bluff?

During the Camp, too, there were many outside entertainments which we all thoroughly enjoyed. An impromptu football match was played against the residents of Rimu, but owing to the great variety of jerseys, one side could not be distinguished from the other; at any rate, this is our excuse for losing. There was also a concert and dance in Rimu and this gave the sheiks a chance to shine, but Skip. was the only successful one. With his "nice oily hair" and short close-fitting trousers, he was admired by every girl in the hall.

We struck camp on Sept. 3rd and we wish to thank everyone who helped to make it such a great success, especially the officers of the Westland State Forest Service, who kindly permitted us to use their ranger station as headquarters.

PERSONAL.

Practical experience in forestry work is being secured during the coming vacation by all students. Skipworth and Hocking are at Hammer Springs on sample plot establishment in the newly planted blocks. Sando is with Kennedy on a reconnaissance party in the mid-Canterbury hill country, engaged on the national forest inventory. Whitehead is field and office assistant to Messrs. Foweraker and Hutchinson on the Westland rimu forest investigation. Collier, Shaw and Robinson are all with the Dunedin City Reserves Department.

Completion of studies is losing to the Club D. Kennedy, who finished his three-year Ranger course this year. Kennedy has joined the field staff of the Canterbury-Otago Region, State Forest Service, and is at present one of a party making a reconnaissance of the native forests of mid-Canterbury in connection with the national forest inventory now in hand. Kennedy was Secretary of the Club in 1928 and President in 1929, and will be greatly missed. He is the only member to leave this year, however.

S. C. Hamilton is in charge of another field party in the Canterbury Region, also in connection with the national forest inventory. He is working South Canterbury, with Timaru as his base.

H. Roche is now Officer in Charge of the Hammer Springs Plantation, North Canterbury.

W. S. Tannock, who has been carrying on further studies at the Royal Botanical Gardens at Kew for the past two years, has recently been fortunate enough to make a tour of the chief Central forests.

C. S. Barker, who for the past year has been doing advanced study in wood anatomy at Royal College, South Kensington, is returning to New Zealand in January next.

The Club extends its heartiest congratulations and felicitations in regard to—

The birth on March 7th of a son, to Mr. and Mrs. Foweraker.

The birth on July 11th of a son to Mr. and Mrs. Hutchinson.

The marriage of C. S. Barker to Miss Newton at Torquay, Devonshire, England.