

## HONORARY MEMBER

### L. W. McCaskill

Honorary Membership of the Institute is granted to persons who have given outstanding service to the Institute, or who have made a major contribution to forestry in New Zealand. At the 1970 Annual General Meeting, L. W. McCaskill was unanimously elected an Honorary Member.

Born in South Canterbury, Lance McCaskill graduated Bachelor of Agriculture at Lincoln College, and Master of Agricultural Science in Economics at Otago University. He taught agriculture and biology in secondary schools and at the Dunedin and Christchurch Teachers' Colleges, becoming more and more deeply concerned with the conservation of soil, vegetation and wildlife. From 1944 to 1960 he taught soil conservation and agricultural extension at Lincoln College, and in 1961 was appointed first Director of the Tussock Grasslands and Mountain Lands Institute, retiring in 1965. He was a member of the Arthur's Pass National Park Board from 1948 to 1967, and an inaugural member of the National Parks Authority in 1953, retiring from this body in 1968. In 1951 he was awarded the Loder Cup in recognition of his work for the preservation and cultivation of the New Zealand flora; and in 1969 he was awarded the C.B.E. for his outstanding contribution to soil conservation in New Zealand. Few people can match his knowledge of our native vegetation, or his appreciation of, and enthusiasm for, multiple use of our forests, reinforced by four visits to the U.S.A. during which he studied their National Forests from this point of view.

In 1969, when the Forestry Development Council was being formed, he was nominated by the Institute to represent conservation and recreation interests. As a member of this Council, he is in a position to influence the practice of forestry in New Zealand by bringing to it his life-long and intimate knowledge of our native forests and mountain lands. In this era of multiple-use forestry, the Institute is itself honoured by numbering among its Honorary Members such a staunch conservationist.