

## OBITUARY

### John Thorpe Holloway

Jack Holloway died on 10 June 1977, after a short illness, at the age of 62. He had a distinguished career:

Graduate of the University of Otago with double first-class honours in Chemistry and Botany.

Alpine explorer of the Barrier and Olivine Ranges when, during the jobless days of the depression, he traded maps for field rations.

Leader of the National Forest Survey in the South Island.

One of New Zealand's most notable plant ecologists.

Director of the Protection Forestry Branch of the Forest Research Institute.

Fellow of the Royal Society of New Zealand.

Doctor of Science.

Honorary Member of this Institute.



I had the good fortune to be with Jack Holloway on National Forest Survey work in the forests of western Southland, 30 years ago. He was always in the bush with his field parties, sharing the good and the bad. Without him the ecological data, collected along with the volumetric data, would have been regarded as no more than interesting by-products; because of him they were accorded as much importance as the timber figures, and justifiably so. Then he was developing his important theory of a recent climatic change having affected the natural pattern of the indigenous forests, a theory which is directly relevant to their management.

Later, National Forest Survey work took Jack Holloway and his field parties to the timber-lines of most mountain ranges in the South Island where often they found evidence of severe depletion of the vegetation and accelerated erosion. The situation looked critical, but further research was needed

and it was a job that could not be handled by foresters alone. So began what was to be his greatest work, the recruitment and direction of a team of foresters, hydrologists, grassland ecologists, animal ecologists and people of other disciplines to analyse the problems of the mountain watersheds and, where possible, to develop remedial techniques.

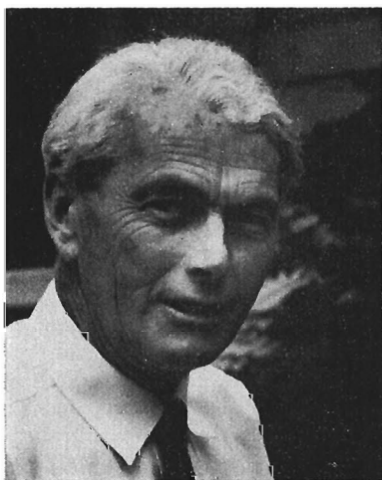
Many of us have vivid memories of his great intellectual capacity and good judgement. Examination of his many papers shows the attributes of a fine scholar: precise exposition and knowing when generalisation is justified and when it is not.

We have recollections, too, of a tough and effective fighter for what he thought was right, or to counter false representation and humbug.

And we are left with a strong impression of a modest, kindly man of quiet dignity.

P.J.McK.

### Eric Arthur Cooney, 1910-1977



A trip around the Selwyn Plantation Board's areas with Arthur Cooney, including a call at the Darfield homestead to sample the liberal hospitality of Margaret his wife and to meet, perhaps, some of the five children they raised there, followed by a finale at the Board's office, was always an invigorating experience. And this circuit for visitors and friends went on for forty years, for E.A. virtually spent his whole working career (1936-77), first as Forest Assistant, then as Superinten-

dent and later as Superintendent-Secretary to the Board. He followed R. G. Robinson, and these two officers between them saw the establishment and management of the plantations as a forestry and business concern.

A product of the two short-lived Forestry Schools of Auckland and Canterbury University Colleges, E.A. graduated B.(For.)Sc. from the latter in 1933. His schooling before that had all been in Rotorua, where he was known as a boy with definite personality and ideas.