

HONORARY MEMBER

A. D. McKinnon

Alan Drummond McKinnon attended the Auckland School of Forestry from 1926 to 1930, but had to finish his B.Sc. (Forestry) at Canterbury owing to financial cuts. He then joined the Forest Service, attaining Leading Hand in 1932, and Forest Guard, Temporary Staff, in 1935. It was not until 1938 that he was appointed to the Permanent Staff as a Forest Ranger. The next year he transferred to the then minute Professional Division as Forest Assistant. Up to this point, like his contemporaries, he had come up the hard way. By 1947 he was Senior Forester, Auckland, and then Conservator at Invercargill in 1948. In 1951 he was appointed in charge of Management Division, Head Office, and was Director of Forest Management from 1965 until he retired in 1969.

In the stirring early days of the service, he seemed to be rarely out of the thicket of current problems. He was involved in the Waipoua controversy, and in acquiring kauri areas for management on the Coromandel, in North Auckland and on Great Barrier Island. In Invercargill he was responsible for the beginnings of beech management in western Southland, including the erection of the controversial deer fence around the Alton Valley. In Head Office he spearheaded A. R. Entrican's drive to conserve native timbers by reducing logging in State forests when demand was booming. He was also closely involved in the early development of leases for forest lands.

In his earlier days he wrote a popular and much-used book on forest mensuration, and later in his career was involved in the production of numerous booklets and papers.

He was for many years one of the most active members of the Institute of Foresters: Councillor (1944-6), Secretary (1946-8), Editor of the *Journal* (1952-4), Vice-President (1954-6), Councillor again (1956-8), President (1964-6), and once again on Council (1966-8). It was during his term as President that the most rugged debates of recent years took place — the registration of forest consultants and the specifications for the Canterbury School of Forestry.

These bald facts do not define the man. Alan McKinnon is a dedicated forester, painstaking, thorough, and eminently fair in his judgements. Many a young forester or ranger will recollect his kindly and helpful approach, and he himself looks back to his association with forestry training as his most rewarding task, as he helped young rangers and foresters to develop their talents.

C.G.R.C.