

# THE FINAL CURTAIN

Alan Familton, formerly Acting Director-General of Forests, has given 'New Zealand Forestry' permission to reproduce the last communication from the office of the Director-General to all Forest Service staff. It appears below.



DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF FORESTS  
NEW ZEALAND FOREST SERVICE  
WELLINGTON, N.Z.

But there's a tree, of many, one  
A single field which I have looked upon,  
Both of them speak of something that is gone ...  
... Whither is fled the visionary gleam?  
Where is it now, the glory and the dream?

William Wordsworth



Dear Staff Member

This is the last official communication that will ever be written by a Director-General of the New Zealand Forest Service.

I consider it fitting and appropriate that it be received by every member of the Forest Service.

It is not my intention to analyse nor pass judgement on the events that have led to the demise of the New Zealand Forest Service. Rather I believe we should all recognise that the Forest Service is passing into history and not oblivion.

What past and present employees have achieved is truly remarkable and will be recorded as such in the annals of world forestry. I strongly doubt that our achievements will ever be duplicated here or elsewhere.

We have created a first class resource of commercial plantations that will endure as a renewable natural resource providing employment, revenue and the basis of regional development and industrial expansion for generations to come.

We have established a system of State Forest Parks for recreation, conservation and multiple use management of natural forest.

We have developed a magnificent Forest Research Institute which has achieved world renown in a remarkably short time.

Our reputation for natural resource management from the gamut of protection to production is second to none.

We all now go our own ways but I trust that like myself, you each do so proud of the legacy we now bequeath to our successors.

So farewell with grateful thanks to all of you.

*Alan Familton*

Alan Familton

27 March 1987