

In these uncertain times

I accepted the Institute's Presidency knowing that my term would be one of great change in the sector. I have seen my role primarily as holding the Institute together during this period. With so much change it was obvious that members would be far more concerned with their own future than the future of the Institute. As the future becomes less unsettled we can redefine a future strategy for the Institute.

I received some criticism for not taking a more direct stand on some issues, especially privatisation. Privatisation is one issue on which I invited members' comments. As one might expect, these comments ranged from those who were strongly opposed to those who are strongly in favour. A consensus view was simply not possible. There was no stand that the Institute could take which reflected some generally agreed opinion. Even if there had been universal membership agreement, action may still not have been warranted. If the whole tide of political and public opinion is against your view, taking a strong stand could make the situation worse rather than better. There may be more effective ways of achieving change. This Government had made its mind up to sell New Zealand's plantation forests. That would have happened no matter what stand we took. The Institute's role now is to see that the privatised forests will be professionally managed for the benefit of New Zealanders.

The New Zealand public is largely unaware of the part forestry plays in their well-being. The Institute must take a more proactive role in raising public awareness of the importance of forestry in providing jobs, earning overseas exchange, protecting the soil and water and conserving the indigenous forests of both New Zealand and overseas, especially the tropical forest.

**Wink Sutton
President**

**CURT GLEASON
AWARD FUND
DONATION**

The Institute gratefully acknowledges the donation of \$1335.52 from the funds of the former NZFS Forest Officers Group, Nelson. At their request this money has been placed in the Curt Gleason Award Fund.

NZ Forest Service carving

This new award is to recognise outstanding work in practical forest management in the integrated management of the land, the forests and the people who work and recreate in it.

The award commemorates the contribution to forestry by the staff of the NZ Forest Service. The funds come from members of the two major occupational groups within the department.

The award consists of a large carved wall panel which will be held for nine months and a print of the panel which will be retained by the recipient.

It is open to any person in the broad field of forestry in New Zealand and nominations will be invited in February from either individuals or local sections.

The carving (see Page 26) is the work of Lyonel Grant. He describes the carving as follows:

"The principal elements portrayed in this carving are, Papa Tuanuku (The

Earth Mother), the children of Tane Mahuta (the forests both native and exotic), as well as an effort to capture their respective uses, using traditional design techniques in a contemporary form.

"The large domineering form which occupies the lower area of the work, represents the unchanging land which although used differently through the passage of time, remains relatively unchanged. This form, as it stretches skyward, also provides a division between past and present eras.

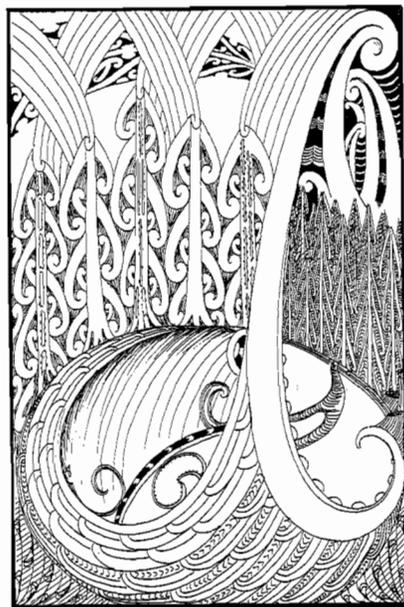
"The mighty native forests of old appear to the left of this division, in stark contrast to the more uniform exotic forests which occupy the area to the right.

"Adorning the area behind the native forests appears a Kowhaiwhai pattern which depicts past times. Interlaced among the bush, Taratara kae patterns



President Dr Wink Sutton receiving the carving from the artist at the general meeting in Rotorua.

can be seen. These refer to the dependence of people on the forest for food and shelter. Alternatively, among the exotic stands recreational pursuits co-exist with livelihoods. A lazy path twisting through a clearing; stumps sawn, to the right, reminds of commercial needs served by the modern forests.



Design of the NZ Forest Service award, carved by Lyonel Grant. The design depicts mankind's relation to the forests and land and stresses multiple use.

"This story etched in native wood has no end. Organisations such as NZIF hold the key to the future of our co-existence with our native and exotic forest 'Taonga'."

The Ordinary General Meeting

At the Ordinary General Meeting held in Rotorua on the evening of September 27, members accepted revised accounts for the 1987/88 financial year and accounts for 1988/89. The Treasurer reported that 40% of the principal invested with the IFC had been repaid, and that the receiver of the company believed that they will eventually be able to deliver a substantial proportion of the investment back to the Institute. The Treasurer also noted that net revenue for the year was \$9462, and that the amount owing to trust funds had been reduced from approximately \$12,000 to \$3500.

Sale of Forest Assets

The OGM also addressed the sale of the Crown's forest assets. A resolution was passed that the Institute write to the Minister for State Owned Enterprises advising that it wished to comment on the Crown forestry sales documents currently being prepared, but that it can not afford the \$5000 being charged for them. As New Zealand's professional forestry body, the Institute believes it should be accorded the right to comment on these documents and therefore seeks complimentary copies.

Carving Award

The OGM witnessed the handing over and explanation of the Forest Service Staff Carving, to be awarded to individuals making significant contributions to multiple-use forestry.

FROM THE COUNCIL MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 28

In accordance with the resolution passed at the OGM, Council initiated action in seeking copies of the Crown forestry sales documents from the Minister for State Owned Enterprises. An approach will also be made to the Minister of Forestry seeking further information on his proposals for a national forest policy.

A small group of members will be asked to prepare comments on the recently released discussion paper "A National Policy for Indigenous Forests".

1990 Conference

Planning for the 1990 joint conference with APPITA in Rotorua is well advanced and promotional material should be available in November. A draft programme has also been developed by the Organising Committee for the 1991 ANZIF conference in Christchurch. A field orientation is intended for this conference.

AGM Timing

Council is considering the need for a constitutional amendment to provide more flexibility in the timing of AGMs and conferences. Amongst other things, the setting of fees and budgeting would be considerably assisted by an August/September AGM.

Other important issues addressed at the meeting were the establishment of a Fellows committee, Institute awards and nominations for Council.

The Forest Service Rugby Club Sports Award

In 1971, the Director-General of Forests, Priestley Thomson, in an inspired moment, asked Bill Peterson and Bill Girling-Butcher to set up an annual Forest Service Rugby Tournament. The first tournament was held at Wellington College in October, 1972, and it was a brilliant occasion. The South Island defeated the North Island in a close-fought encounter, and the forestry representative team defeated the Wellington Public Service. The Hon. Duncan MacIntyre, then Minister of Forests, met the teams and Jack Griffiths, one-time All Black captain, was guest selector.

This set the pattern for future tournaments which became delightful sporting and social occasions in venues as diverse as Helensville, Ruatoria, Turangi, Blenheim, Hokitika and Invercargill. In 1977, Googie Pene of Russell Forest, an outstanding proponent and benefactor, introduced netball at his own expense, and it was enthusiastically included in subsequent tournaments. Alan FAMILTON in 1979 demanded that golf become a recognised part of the programme and John Ure unearthed his "cuach" as a trophy in 1982.

Restructuring of the Forest Service brought an end to these tournaments. To preserve these memories, the NZ Institute of Forestry has agreed to take over club funds and annually award a trophy, 'The Forest Service Rugby Club Sports Award', and a training grant to an outstanding young sportsperson currently studying at one of the two forestry schools. Nominations will be sought from the Heads of the Schools and judging will be undertaken by the Institute President and two co-opted members with sporting links.