

In 1942 he was called on by the Ministry of Supply to organise and conduct a survey of Marine Biological Resources. In 1943 he was made Production Manager at a group of Ministry of Supply Factories using algal material. From 1944 he acted as consulting Botanist to the Scottish Research Association, while in 1945 he was called on to act as Botanist attached to Supreme Headquarters of the South East Asia Command.

During all these years Dr. Chapman has published much research dealing more particularly with maritime Botany. His book "An Introduction to the Study of Algae" is to be found in the College Library, and is already familiar to some of our members. He has also published a large number of papers dealing with the salt marshes and marine algae of Nova Scotia, New England, and Jamaica and the British Isles. His researches include considerable work on the mangrove, Avicennia Nitida (closely allied to our local mangrove Avicennia officinalis). He has also kept a watchful eye on sand dunes!

His interests in the sea shore have not been purely theoretical and he has a book on "The Economic Uses of Seaweeds" now awaiting publication.

Auckland and its vicinity will provide Dr. Chapman with many salt marshes, dunes, and algal communities and we feel sure that before long he will have worked up a flourishing school of Maritime-Botany among us.

We sincerely hope that Dr. Chapman will find his new work and its opportunities to his liking, and that he will be very happy among us, and we take this opportunity of extending to him a very hearty welcome, and wishing him every possible success.

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#### LECTURES AND EXCURSIONS

On Wednesday, October 3rd, the Society listened to an inspiring address by our new Superintendent of Parks, Mr. J.A. MacPherson, on "The National Aspect of Horticulture."

Mr. MacPherson emphasised the number of contacts existing

between horticulture and the life of the nation, and the contribution horticulture could make to national progress.

He discussed horticulture in regard to National Reserves - monuments, town-planning, roadside beautifying, health and education, and was able to show, in regard to all these matters, that horticulture could contribute greatly to the beauty and interest of life.

Mr. MacPherson also had a good deal to say on the scope and importance of Botanic Gardens. He pointed out how much could be done by enlisting the co-operation of public spirited citizens, and mentioned, in this connection that over 40000 bulbs had been privately contributed by enthusiastic Christchurch citizens for the beautification of the banks of the Avon.

The lecture was illustrated by some extremely interesting lantern slides.

The meeting concluded with a very hearty vote of thanks to the lecturer.

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Mr. MacPherson's account of what is involved in the setting up of a Botanic Garden is of particular interest in view of the fact that the Auckland City Council has recently acquired an area of 100 acres at Glendowie for the purpose of the establishment of a Botanic Garden. We are hoping that at a later date Mr. MacPherson will provide us with a Bulletin dealing with Botanic Gardens.

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On Saturday, February 16th, the Society held an excursion to Kauri Park, Birkdale. The excursion to Chelsea was cancelled since the leader and the Museum Botanist, on making a preliminary survey, found the paths completely impassable.

The chief items of interest at Kauri Park are the beech (Nothofagus truncata) and the toa toa (Phyllocladus glaucus). Both trees are extremely local in the vicinity of Auckland. Toa toa is one of our trees that apparently has the hybrid habit, and specimens intermediate between the toa toa and the tanekaka (Phyllocladus tricomanoides) have been reported by Misses. Moore

and Cranwell from the Waitakere Ranges. Perhaps members will be on the alert for further locations! The tawhero (Weinmannia sylvicola) was found in full flower, and members were able to note both mature and juvenile foliage.

Mr. Prickett (one of our members) has been instrumental in introducing several interesting trees into the outskirts of the reserve, notably a number of matai (Podocarpus spicatus) and a specimen of Melycytus linearis.

The weather was fine and members spent a very pleasant afternoon. The leader of the excursion was Miss Crookes.