

catching tree (Pisonia brunoniana) and also the whau (Entelia arborescens) now so rarely seen on the mainland. A feature of Little Barrier bush is the very large leaves of some common plants, particularly Rhabdothamnus solandri (which has leaves over two inches long) kawa kawa, (Macropiper excelsum) and karaka (Corynocarpus laevigata). Naturally the ferns were of particular interest. Pteris comans grows freely in the coastal bush, Trichomanes strictum and Blechnum nigrum were encountered near the summit, Schizaea dichotoma was collected in the kauri forest and Lindsaea viridis was encountered on a creek bank. Last but not least - and this constituted the greatest find as far as the lecturer was concerned - a most peculiar form of Asplenium flaccidum bearing bulbils.

The talk was followed by a moving film of the bird life kindly lent by Mr. Turbot of the Museum. The meeting concluded with supper.

* * *

On Saturday, May 22nd, the Society held a very successful excursion to Titirangi. The weather was somewhat unsympathetic but our members are hardy perennials and it takes more than a little moisture to depress them. After lunch on Mr. T.A. Bishop's property, we visited a very attractive little reserve given by Mr. Bishop, in the midst of an estate he is now subdividing. In pursuance of the policy of the Society, a species list was compiled, members taking careful note of everything seen and the list being made by Miss Dingley, who, together with Miss Crookes, led the excursion. Two plants of particular interest are to be found in the vicinity. The Kaikomako (Pennantia corymbosa) famous in Maori legend because it was used in the production of fire, is rather local about Auckland, but we saw some fine specimens near the filters and were able to study both the mature and juvenile forms. In the early summer it produces an abundance of small white fragrant flowers. If members obtain a sharp pointed stick of Kaokamako and work it vigorously along a flat piece of mahoe or pate, they will obtain fire - eventually! Plants of the carmine rata (Meterosideros diffusa) are also to be found at the back of the filters.

Another treasure in our area - soon alas! to be lost to us - is the Adder's Tongue (Ophioglossum pedunculatum). A small patch of this fern grows on the property of Mr. Bishop. The Bird & Forest Protection Society however, who share with the Botanical Society a desire to preserve local plants of interest, learned

from Mr. Bishop that a Surveyors' track has gone right through the area. Mr. Bishop on being approached has, however, been kind enough to allow two of our members (Miss Crookes and Miss Dingley) to remove some clumps from the patch. These are now in the capable hands of Mr. Jollie and it is hoped that one of them may eventually be established in natural surroundings in the University Reserve at Swanson.

We would like to take this opportunity of expressing our thanks to Mr. Bishop for his co-operation in this matter and also for the helpful and kindly interest that botanists always know they can expect from him. Mr. T.A. Bishop is a son of the late Mr. John Bishop of Titirangi, who collected for Mr. Cheeseman and others in the old days and was well known as a most reliable and ardent field botanist.

Mr. T.A. Bishop inherits his father's love of the bush, and in his own kindly, unassuming way, has always been ready to show interest in students of botany. So for the gift of Ophioglossum, and for past kindnesses we offer him our very hearty thanks.

* * *

SEAWEEDS ONCE MORE

Tidal pools always have a fascination of their own, and Miss Ambler, who has investigated those at Narrow Neck to some purpose, now passes on some very helpful information about them for the benefit of members. We extend hearty thanks!

SEAWEEDS IN TIDE POOLS AT NARROW NECK

Tide pools are characteristic of a rocky shore and are to be found at all levels. Because of differences in level and situation the pools undergo periods of exposure and submergence and there may be very marked changes in such factors as temperatures and salinity during the time of emergence. The seaweed or algae found growing in tide pools are under very different conditions from species found growing exposed on the rocks or else permanently submerged, e.g. the desiccation factor, important for algae growing exposed, is negligible for the tide pool algae and while the ocean is marked by uniformity of conditions, tide pools show very great diversity.

Tide pools have generally been classified according to