

Pittosporum ralphii	Melicytus ramiflorus
" dallii	Phedalium nudum
Macropiper excelsum	Alseuosmia macrophylla
Clematis indivisa	Beilschmiedia tawa
Pomaderris apetala	Hibiscus diversifolium
" elliptica	" trionum
" phyllicaefolia	Dysoxylon spectabile
Dodonaea viscosa	Hybrid manakua (in variety)
Pimilea prostrata	Phormium colensoi

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A FERN HUNTER AT LARGE

(The following consists of extracts from a letter to the Editor by Mrs. T. Wood)

We had two days at Waitomo and between looking at the caves I explored in the nearby bush. The ferns were lovely and I was so thrilled I nearly wrote to you there and then, especially when I discovered Athyrium australe growing quite commonly about. We went into quite a large patch of bush near the hostel and the ground was carpeted with this fern, also Leptopteris hymenophylloides and Ctenitis glabella. It was in this bush I found Sarcochilus adversus, an orchid I have been searching for for some time and now I have it growing quite nicely in a flower pot! Near the mouth of the glow-worm cave I found Asplenium hookerianum and at the roadsides Polystichum richardi was quite common, and I also found Asplenium trichomanes. The tree-ferns thereabouts looked like a species of Dicksonia, but which, I'm afraid I couldn't tell.

The fernery at Pukekura Park is a dream and if you haven't seen it you really must make a point of going there some day. I think they must have a wonderful collection and besides others I especially noticed Loxsoma, Todea barbara and L. superba.

There is another fernery at Parkers' gardens and I noticed there a healthy plant of Lindsaya viridis. Burgess Park contains some interesting native bush including a very ancient Puriri tree, and it was there I found a climbing fern which I think is Arthropteris tenella.

After leaving New Plymouth we spent three days at North Egmont, and it was certainly a botanist's paradise. Here I busied myself filling my screw topped jars with L. superba,

L. hymenophylloides, Mecodium rarum, Meringium multifidum, Sphaerocionium ferruginium, Polyphlebium venosum and Blechnum fluviatile. I also collected fronds of Polystichum cystostegia and Mecodium pulcherrimum but unfortunately no plants of the latter. It was all so confusing, such a wealth of filmy ferns but I had little time to examine them properly and I just collected them here and there. (I forgot to mention Ctenopteris grammatisidis and Grammitis sp)

At National Park I collected Blechnum penna-marina and B. vulcanicum.

At Wairakei geyser valley, Gleichenia dichotoma and a special of Hypolepis.

Waimangu valley at Rotorua was very interesting. We walked the $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles through the valley to Lake Rotomahana and beside the track I found Psilotum triquetrum. (Isn't that very rare outside of Rangitoto?) Cyclosorus gongylodes, Doodia media with pinnae more widely spaced than the local variety. Beside the hot stream I found Nephrolepis cordifolia and now have two plants in my Wardian case, although I'm a bit doubtful whether the damp atmosphere will suit that fern.

My Wardian case is full and the ferns are flourishing. Already two strange ferns have appeared from the moss and it will be interesting to see which variety they will be, but at present they have me baffled.

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NEWS OF MEMBERS

CONGRATULATIONS

We are happy to know that Sir Allan Johnstone K.C., has been honoured by the King. Sir Alan is one of our foundation members and vice-president and past president of our Society. He has always taken a keen interest in our activities and we are indebted to him for drawing up the rules and regulations under which our Society functions. We take this opportunity of offering him our heartiest congratulations on his recent knighthood.

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We note with satisfaction that Dr. G.H. Cunningham, C.B.E. has just been made a Fellow of the Royal Society. Dr. Cunningham is not only a mycologist of world-wide distinction, but also an authority on taxonomy, a subject in which really first class