

QUARTERLY NEWS LETTERAUCKLAND BOTANICAL SOCIETY

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The year 1951 has so far been an active one for the Auckland Botanical Society. We have already had two very pleasant excursions, one to the Mokoroa Falls, and another to those very interesting little islands the Noises, while during March a number of our members were very active in connection with the Cheeseman Flower Show. We are sorry for those members, who for any reason were unable to visit this delightful show, and hope that the description below will be of interest to them.

THE MUSEUM FLOWER SHOW

At the request of Dr. Archey, the Director of the Auckland Museum, the Botanical Society participated in a show of native berries and flowers held at the museum on the 10th to the 13th March. The Society was responsible for three bays in the main hall. Miss M. Crookes assembled a beautiful and comprehensive collection of ferns; the students of Auckland University College, organised by Mr. Turnbull, arranged a display of seaweeds to represent the plants that grow at the different tide levels; a third bay contained plants suitable to grow in the home garden. At Mr. Cooper's (the museum's botanist) request, the society also decorated the tables in the centre of the hall.

The show was opened by Mr. Kealy; he spoke on the need to conserve all remnants of our native forests. Among the plants on display were alpine species from the South Island, while special exhibits of sedges by Mr. V. Cook and of gumland plants by Mr. Bartlett were of special interest. A collection of Australian native plants were sent from New South Wales. The show was an interesting, as well as a colourful, one; the fruits of Karamu, Nikau, Corokia hybrids, and the native passion fruit were brilliant. The school exhibits, although fewer than at the Spring Shows, were of a very high standard.

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