

the district by an early resident, Mrs. Hyams.

Taken as a whole most of the area in which I have made my collection would be described as second growth.

Milling of the Kauri on the Cornwallis - Huia area began in 1833 when Thomas Mitchell, a trader from Sydney, built a house for himself and his family at Cornwallis and commenced cutting the Kauri for timber for masts and spars. He was followed by the Manukau stream sawmills which commenced operations at Cornwallis in 1842. Slowly the milling spread along the shoreline until in the 1860's there were mills operating at Kakamatua and Huia. At the latter place three mills were operating and it was not until the turn of the century that milling ceased in this area, although trees were being brought out of the more inaccessible areas until 1905.

The bay must have presented a sorry spectacle after the logging operations and the succeeding Leptospermum scrub has in its turn been cut extensively for firewood. However Nature is doing her best to cover up the scars and regeneration is taking place in all undisturbed areas.

May I quote from E. Earle Vaile's "Waitakere National Park with a short history of the Ranges", published by the Waitakere Centennial Park Citizens' Assn. 1939:- 'In its primeval state Huia Bay must have presented a scene of remarkable beauty, with the high hills at the back (from which Mt. Egmont can be seen on a fine day, looking like an island rising out of the ocean), and the giant forest trees, Kauris, Puriris, Rata etc. etc. extending right down to the water's edge.'

Although now only a ghost of her former self, Huia is still rich in vegetation, and presents a quieter beauty, her high hills re-clad in second growth making a lovely contrast to the soft green of the farms nestling in her valleys."

- K. Wood.

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PLANT LISTS FOR THE FLORA OF AUCKLAND

Silverdale. (communicated by Mr. E.D. Hatch).

273 species of Pteridophytes, Gymnosperms and Angiosperms are recorded; indigenous as well as introduced plants are listed.

The majority of the plants were collected on the farm

of Mr. Bartlett. Hatch states that the Cyperaceae and the Juncaceae were named by Varner Cooke while the introduced species were checked by J. Healy.

Among the species listed are those typical of the gumland heath association and include Phylloglossum drummondii, Lycopodium laterale, Drosera binata, and Epacris pauciflora. These species were once common around Auckland but owing to closer population and most intensive cultivation are becoming rare. Nothofagus truncata, Libocedrus plumosa, Pomaderris rugosa and Wahlenbergia colensoi are also recorded.

Among the orchids Hatch considers the occurrence of the following species to be of special interest - Thelymitra ixioides, Prasophyllum colensoi, Caladenia carnea var. bartlettii, Pterostylis nana, P. barbata and Gastrodia sesamoides.

It is interesting to note Moenchia erecta a small introduced Caryophyllaceous herb first recorded by Healy in 1948 (Trans. of Royal Soc. N.Z. Vol. 77 p.176) in modified tussock grasslands in the South Island.

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PUBLICATIONS

Auckland's Orchids, by E.D. Hatch. Bulletin Number 5, Auckland Botanical Society. Price not over 1/3.

This Bulletin contains a key to the genera and species, and a very interesting section entitled Orchids Round the Year, which tells in detail the story of the orchids from month to month. We are sure this Bulletin will be of very real practical help to all our orchid hunters. It is obtainable from the secretary.

Tuatara. Vol. 4 July 1951. Price 2/-.

Copies of this number are obtainable from the secretary. It is of particular interest to our members because it contains a Check list of the New Zealand Orchids by E.D. Hatch. Mr. Hatch's article includes some helpful line drawings, notes on distribution, keys, glossary and bibliography.

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