

In order that members may get the best advantage of the Pukekawa trip, it has been thought desirable to give an indication of some of the more interesting plants to be found. Miss Minnie Barr has been good enough to write a note on the area, so that members can if desired look up their reference books and "Be prepared."

NOTES ON PUKEKAWA TRIP.

Durris, Mr. G.L. Martin's property at Pukekawa to which we are paying a visit in October is about ten miles south from Tuakau across the Waikato river. On the way we plan to call at the Alexandra Redoubt, now a pleasant reserve with commanding views of the river, and bush of some botanical interest. Only its well preserved trenches and memorial to the fallen in the Maori wars remind us of grimmer days.

Below on the river bank near the bridge our fern enthusiasts will find Athyrium australe and A. japonicum growing abundantly. On leaving the river the road winds up and around Pukekawa Hill and if time permits energetic members can enjoy a stroll to the top for the splendid view of the surrounding country.

Mr. Martin's farm is on a high ridge, approximately triangular in shape with a deep gorge running down its centre, falling away to the Opoutea river, its back boundary. Behind the homestead there is an area of from one and a half to two acres in native bush, the predominant trees being Kohe Kohe, Dysoxylum spectabile, Taraire, Beilschiedia taraire, Pukatea, Laurelia novae-zealandiae, and Puriri, Vitex lucens, with one or two Kauri, Agathis australis, Titoki, Alectryon excelsum, and Tanekaha, Phyllocladus trichomanoides. Years ago the property was milled and a considerable amount of kauri removed.

The part of special interest is at the back of the farm below the gorge where there is a remnant of forest near the swamp containing some young matai, Podocarpus spicatus. Many trees of Manatu, Plagianthus betulinus, the deciduous ribbonwood, several Kaikomako, Pennantia corymbosa as well as the usual totara and Kahikatea. Here also is Paratrophis microphylla, milk tree, Melicope simplex, Nothopanax anomalum, Coprosma tenuicaulis and C. rotundifolia and other interesting divaricating shrubs. Many of the trees are festooned with calystegia, N.Z. convolvulus, Muhlenbeckia australis, and Parsonsia heterophylla, N.Z. Jasmine. Among the ferns are Pteris macilentata, Ctenitis decomposita, Leptoteris hymenophylloides and several adiantums and blechnums but these have all suffered somewhat from the depredations of the wild goats which roam at will there. Nevertheless we feel there is sufficient in this spot to interest our members and give them an enjoyable outing.

CHEESEMAN FLOWER SHOW.

The Cheeseman Flower Show is imminent. Apart from special exhibits we advise members that there will be a large display of characteristic local plants which it is hoped will be decorative as well as informative. Anyone noticing any particularly attractive specimens, common or rare, is requested to try and secure them for this collection. Abundant material is necessary to make it a success.