

consisting of the President, Secretary, Treasurer, four committee members and three vice-presidents. It was pointed out that the committee always had power to co-opt additional members if at any time it felt it necessary. After a short discussion Dr. Millener's resolutions were passed, and the committee was reduced to what many of us feel to be much more workable proportions.

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The highlight of the evening was a very charming little ceremony which concerned our retiring secretary, Mrs. P. Hynes. For fourteen years Mrs. Hynes has carried on her capable shoulders the major responsibility for conducting our affairs. And of recent years that weight has become increasingly heavy, involving much more than attendance at meetings, sending out notices and keeping records. Incidentally, in all her years of office I cannot recollect that Mrs. Hynes has ever missed an ordinary or a committee meeting. In addition to these duties there has also fallen to her lot the often frustrating task of arranging transport for excursions. Of late years our local transport system has become increasingly complex, which has often meant the hiring of private buses, making arrangements for members bookings and dealing with cancellation when necessary. Gone, alas, are the old spacious days of "Train Leaves Auckland at 9 a.m. returning from Swanson at 5 p.m." Moreover, out-of-town excursions have had to be organised to places as far afield as Te Aroha, Mt. Egmont and Arthur's Pass.

The Society endeavoured to indicate its appreciation of Mrs. Hynes' labours by means of a presentation. Its exact nature constituted something of a problem, but after various secret top-level talks with Mervyn Hynes, a selection was eventually made. At the appropriate moment there emerged from beneath its black velvet cover, a small mahogany table surmounted by five books held in position by hand carved Indian book-ends. Accompanying the gift was a particularly lovely bunch of roses brought in by Mrs. Holt. A pleasant touch was the reading by the president of a long telegram from Lady Gunson expressing her regret at absence from the meeting and appreciating in the warmest terms Mrs. Hynes' many services to the Society.

Mrs. Hynes acknowledged her gifts in a brief but most appropriate little speech.

We hope she will continue to enjoy them in her own home where they will be a lasting witness to the regard and gratitude of our members.

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We take this opportunity of welcoming Dr. H. Nelson to the position of President. Dr. Nelson has been for many years an enthusiastic member though his medical duties have not always permitted him to attend our meetings as he would have liked. We hope very much that he will enjoy his period as President with us and can assure him of the loyalty of all our members.

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## Our New Secretary.

Prior to the Annual Meeting, our retiring President, Dr. Millener, spent a considerable time on the depressing task of ringing up various members in the hope that they might be induced to take on the onerous duty of secretary. After repeated refusals it was the more gratifying to find that so suitable a person as Mrs. Arthur Coyle (known as Ruth Coyle in local art circles) was prepared to accept the position, which she did with diffident cheerfulness. Mrs. Coyle is a lady of parts. Those who attended the last "Cheeseemsn" will remember a charming piece of fabric printing by her as well as some intriguing lino-cuts. Works by her in both oil and water colour have been exhibited in our local art exhibitions. She has also turned her hand to modelling. Incidentally, we think it very sporting of Mrs. Coyle to take on the secretaryship when she is working hard preparing for a "one man show" opening in the Society of Arts Show Room on September, 24th.

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We are glad that Mr. Butler consented to be re-elected treasurer, and we all appreciate the conscientious and unassuming way in which he has carried out this work for us for a number of years.

We welcome to the committee two new members, Mr. Coyle and Mr. Holt. Some of Mr. Coyle's beautiful coloured slides have already been exhibited to the Society, and Mr. Holt is an old friend of ours, though this is the first time he has held office.

Following the business, the Society enjoyed a show of coloured slides taken by Mr. Coyle, Mr. Beatson, Dr. Millener and Dr. Rattenbury. After these, we repaired to supper.

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## Wanted - Recipes.

Just now our new Secretary's interest in plants has taken a nutritional turn, and she is at work preparing a small book dealing with the use to be made of wild plants (or occasional garden plants) native or introduced, as desirable additions to our menus. She is at present extremely recipe-conscious along these lines. Some of our members may be able to help her here. She has to hand, of course, such readily accessible books as Ransome's British Herbs (Pelican Books) and Dr. Buck's relevant writings. But it sometimes happens that either by accident, observation, experiment or tradition, people acquire unusual or unexpected recipes. For instance, the other day someone told me that the Mexicans have an excellent dish in which the Yucca figures prominently. Of course, it may be that Mexican insides are tougher than ours, or maybe it is one of those dishes to be served when people-one-would-rather-not-see-too-often suddenly arrive to tea. Anyway our members have great scope for providing Mrs. Coyle with suitable material and I am sure they will be eager to co-operate. The book is to be illustrated with the author's own line drawings and this should add much to its usefulness and charm.