

species should be of particular interest. Ten species of orchids have been so far recorded, and Mr. Butler will doubtless add to this number. The writer, who is studying the ferns, finds them both intriguing and sometimes perplexing. But alas how greatly has the fern wealth been diminished by marauding cattle. Miss Barr is finding much of interest in the West Coast Kowhais and we hope to have reports from other members of the team later.

(I first found the Anawhata Thelymitra on the ridge overlooking the Lower Nihotupu Dam in 1946, and subsequently on the top of Ruatewhenua (1957) and on Donald McLeen (1962). Mr. Butler's discovery of it on the cliffs at White's Beach last summer extends it range over the whole of the Waitakeres, but so far only in high exposed places. I was not, in 1946, so well acquainted with our Thelymitras as I have since become, and erroneously included this actually quite distinct plant in Th. pulchella. It flowers in December more or less, and has a noticeably stiff erect leaf with much purple in it. (Has this something to do with exposure to salt winds ?) The flowers are a bright blue-purple, the perianth segments rather narrow with rolled margins. The secondary lobes of the column-wings bear sparse yellow fimbriae. Mr. Lediard has two slides of the flowers of this plant. E.D.H.) (see A - back and B - side below)

