

ubiquitous teatrees, manuka and kanuka. Both introduced and indigenous species occur, and some it seems are edible if not exactly palatable. The skin of the cap, which may be scaly or slimy, must first be removed - but Dr. McNab is gamier than I am in this matter, and I would have to be darned hungry to take them on. The slides were particularly good. Several of Mr. Lediard's were used, and in some others Dr. McNab had photographed 2 or 3 specimens against a white background with a twig of the host plant, which proved quite effective. E.D.H.

CASCADES PARK - - - 19 June 1965 E.M. DAVIS

This trip to the Cascades was a most successful one. The day was sunny and bright in complete contrast to the weather which had preceded it. We went by way of Titirangi and the Scenic Drive to Pukematekeo, where we spent some time admiring the view, as the landscape was at its best with the last of the morning's mist disappearing. We then followed the track on foot from Pukematekeo down to Cascade Park, noticing on the way many of the plants characteristic of the higher parts of the Waitakere Ranges. Plants identified included Melicytus macrophyllus, Pseudopanax edgerleyi, Coprosma robusta and lucida (conveniently growing beside each other so that the difference between them could be well studied), Litsea calicaris, Eugenia maire, Gymnelaea (Olea) cunninghamii and montana, Quintinia serrata, Ixerba brexioides and Carpodetus serratus.

At the Cascades we joined the bus again and had our lunch, before crossing the bridge and following Kauri Track to the higher parts of the reserve. Many plants were identified on the way. Amongst them were Nertera, Myrsine salicina, Persoonia toru, Corokia buddleoides, Griselinia lucida, Senecio kirkii, Astelia trinervia and several ground orchids including Pterostyllis trullifolia var rubella. Some very beautiful groups of tree ferns grow in the valleys below the track and magnificent stands of kauri dominate much of the bush. Our journey back to the stream gave several members of the party an opportunity to try their skill at the somewhat uncommon pastime of glissading rather than walking. Although the weather remained sunny and bright, the muddy tracks showed the effects of previous heavy rainfalls and one's foothold was precarious. However the downward slope was negotiated, not without its hazards, and not always gracefully, but at least successfully. Back to the bus for a welcome cup of tea and we were soon on our way back to the city. Our thanks are due to Miss Crookes who led the party and who pointed out much of the interesting plant growth along the way. E.M.D.