

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

Mistletoes - We have had a request from Brian Molloy of Botany Division, D.S.I.R. Christchurch, for any information our members might have regarding recent records and hosts of New Zealand mistletoes. He would particularly like to know if anyone has seen Elytranthe adamsii recently. He has sighted specimens from the Thames, Hunua, Waipoua Forest districts, all very old records, and some collected from Onetangi, Waiheke Island, by Mrs. B. Hall and Miss Sexton in the early 1940's. Some of the original habitats have been destroyed, but the species may still be around (distribution is given in Allan as Great Barrier Island, Cape Colville Peninsula and Hunua). Quoting from Mr. Molloy's letter:-

"According to herbarium specimens, E. adamsii should be flowering from September to October, and its reported hosts are Coprosma arborea, Melicope and Myrsine. If it follows other mistletoes, it should be distributed around forest margins and among second growth. It has large, somewhat reddish green leaves with injured margins and typical, attractive Elytranthe flowers. You should have no trouble distinguishing it from Tupelia or Loranthus, whose flowers are small and greenish yellow. There could be some confusion between E. adamsii and E. tetrapetala. However, E. tetrapetala can be separated from all other New Zealand mistletoes by the large, raised blisters or 'galls' on its leaves (see page 127 in Poole and Adams' book on New Zealand trees and shrubs)."

If any member is fortunate enough to find E. adamsii could they please take a token voucher specimen, record the locality and host accurately and let Mr. Warren know.

The Horticultural Council's new building appeal has now been launched. They are hoping to be able to raise \$40,000 by 31st. March 1974. Some of our members are already helping by selling raffle tickets and these should now be returned to the Secretary as soon as possible. As many of you probably know the new building will be built on the same site as the present one at 57 Symonds St and should provide all Societies using it with far better facilities than those we have now. These will include a large hall for shows, meeting rooms, committee rooms, offices and a library.

Mrs. A. Moor. - Members will be very sorry to learn of the recent death of Mrs. A.Moor who was one of our most longstanding and popular members. She supported all our outings almost up to the time of her death. She will be sadly missed.