

by giant kahikatea, Podocarpus dacrydioides, at climax, wet and with reduced light. Here were Coprosma rotundifolia and very large Todea hymenophylloides and filmy ferns in abundance; also many beautiful and interesting fungi. We came to a stream where Carmichaelia flagelliformis was overhanging. On higher ground beech, Nothofagus fusca (leaves with domatia) formed the canopy, with large tawa. Large areas of the forest floor were covered in 3'-4' Polystichum vestitum, really magnificent ferns, and on the forest fringe was Corokia cotoneaster in fruit.

Incidentally, we stayed in the Forest and Bird Lodge at Partoka, 12 miles from Ball's Clearing and 20 miles from Napier. A comfortable, pleasant place, suitable for self supporting botanists and administered by the Napier branch. Non-members may apply.

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NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

At our May meeting we were given an enlightening and disturbing lecture on the proposals to mill the South Island beech forests by Mr Ross Petersen of the Beech Forest Action Committee. This Committee, modelled on the successful Save Manapouri Campaign, was formed solely for the purpose of seeing that, if utilization of the beech is to occur, it is not on as large a scale as is presently proposed. If you are interested in becoming a member of B.F.A.C. you should contact Mr Petersen at 107 Mangere Road, Otakuhu, or phone OH 67904. A national magazine has recently been started and copies are available from Mr Petersen at 10 cents each. The Committee also run a stall at the Downtown Mall every Friday.

Did you know that your Society publishes more than a Newsletter? At intervals over the years we have printed small, moderately priced bulletins covering subjects such as - "Auckland's Orchids"; "Local Species of Coprosma, Hymenophyllaceae, Astelia and Collospermum and the Wild Olives"; "A List of Native Plants of the Auckland District"; and several others. Their small size makes them handy for taking along on field trips for quick reference. They may be obtained at any time from the Secretary or Treasurer, who always has a supply available at meetings.

Seen outside an orchardist's shop in Glen Eden a sign advertising 'Colliflowers' for sale. Sounds like a new species to me!

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