

Being Professor Emeritus of English of Canterbury College and also the writer of a number of papers dealing with New Zealand plants, the senior author is especially fitted to embark on such a botanico-literary undertaking; one can imagine that Dr. Allan, with his wide knowledge of botanists and classical botanical literature, thoroughly enjoyed his share of the task. Only by such a fortunate combination of interests, which may not occur again for a long time, could such a booklet be produced. It should be in the hands of everyone using Latin names of our plants, teacher or pupil, gardener or bushman, or just plain Bot. Soc. Member.

If or when there is a second edition, it is to be hoped that it will bear the date of publication, which is lacking on this, as on many of W. and T.'s products.

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III. AUCKLAND SALT MARSHES. AUCKLAND BOTANICAL SOCIETY BULLETIN NO. 3.

by Miss Betty Molesworth. (Received Autumn 1946.)

Some general discussion of maritime vegetation is given, and some of the more interesting morphological features of the salt marsh plants are described. Four zones of vegetation are distinguished, the lowest being dominated by *Zostera* (sea-wrack). The second zone is occupied by the mangrove community, which is represented in New Zealand only on the Auckland coasts. *Salicornia* is the most striking plant of the third zone, while in the fourth and highest, rushes and sedges predominate, with, in places *Stipa teretifolia*, a grass which is familiar to even non-botanical Aucklanders because of its needle-pointed leaves; it does not come as far south as Wellington. Forty-five species of salt marsh plants are listed, each with an indication of the zone in which it is most characteristically found; short notes are added to assist in field identification.

This brief Bulletin of nine small cyclostyled pages should admirably serve its purpose in interesting members of the Auckland Botanical Society in the extensive salt marshes near the city. For our Society members the nearest well-developed salt marshes are on Porirua Harbour, though most of the species mentioned, except those that are exclusively northern, occur in smaller pockets on the exposed coast.

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TO GOLLAN'S VALLEY FROM DAY'S BAY.

This trip on February 10th was thoroughly successful, with perfect weather. Under expert guidance there was no trouble about finding the route, and we felt we had seen all the most interesting features with a minimum of effort. The leader, Mr. Morris Jones, who knows this area very well, has promised an account of the trip for the next Bulletin.

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READ IT IF YOU CAN.

In "The World was my Garden" (Scribners, 1945) David Fairchild tells of his expeditions to all the corners of the earth to find useful and beautiful plants to introduce into the United States. Vividly described and shown in pictures, places, people, and plants crowd the pages and one follows with almost breathless interest the carefully planned wanderings that have so enriched gardens and orchards far beyond America.

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