

AUSTRALIAN PLANTS.

Dr. Newman has supplied the following notes on plants collected on a visit to the Adelaide Congress of the Australian and New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science and displayed at the December meeting.

Several plants were shown of interest on account of their comparison or contrast with New Zealand plants. A striking difference between "juvenile" and "adult" foliage was shown in the specimens taken from one tree of Eucalyptus elaeophora (Mt. Lofty Range, Adelaide, S.A.), the juvenile leaves from adventitious branches being opposite, orbicular, strongly glaucous and transversely expanded, whereas the adult leaves were alternate, long and pointed, dull green and pendulous. A mountain plant, Dracophyllum secundum, collected from sandstone cliffs at 3000 feet at Leura, N.S.W. was shown in comparison with two species (D. townsoni and D. longifolium) collected by Mrs. Newman at Mt. Cook, N.Z. New Zealand Spinach, Tetragonia expansa, gave a feeling of home away from home on the dusty aerodrome at Renmark, S.A. It appears to be native in some of the arid parts of Australia and yet is there called New Zealand Spinach. Two relatives of the Ngalo, Myoporum laetum were of interest. Myoporum insulare with minutely serrated leaves, native to coastal N.S.W., and M. montanum, native to north-western N.S.W., were both seen in the regeneration plantation of the Zinc Corporation at Broken Hill, N.S.W., and were both obviously "Ngalos". The most beautiful plant seen on the visit was a relative of the Kaka Beak (Cilanthus puniceus). The Australian plant is Cilanthus speciosus (C. dampieri), the Sturt Desert Pea. The specimen showed the trailing stem and the leaves completely covered with silvery hairs, and the presence of the numerous erect racemes of large scarlet and black flowers. This plant is a great sand binder, and when it is in flower, patches of the desert many acres in extent are transformed, appearing to be littered with great scarlet carpets.

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BULLETIN RESERVE FUND.

We would like to thank all those members who have contributed to this Fund since it was opened. During the past two years donations have been received from - Dr. H.H. Allan, Mr. A.D. Beattie, Dr. Greta Conc, Mr. S. Duncan, Mr. C. Finlayson, Mr. R. Hair, Mrs. W. Jamieson, Miss M.M. Johnson, Mr. M.G. Maxwell, Mr. and Mrs. I.D. Parsons, and the Levin Flora Club.

We trust that members who have invested in seeds will reap their own reward. £50 is the objective and £20. 4.10 has been raised up to date.

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ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION TO THE SOCIETY: In Wellington, 7s. 6d. reduced to 5s. 0d.,
if paid before November 30th.
Outside Wellington, 2s. 6d.

N.B. The Editor regrets and takes the blame for the lateness of this Number!