

A. D. Beddie

Mr. Beddie was one of the keenest foundation members of the Wellington Botanical Society in 1939, and he remained a familiar figure at meetings and outings almost until his death in February 1962. To us his love of native plants was as much a part of him as his Aberdeen accent, and it is surprising to know that he met the high country vegetation only after he had been many years in New Zealand. In an article published as a tribute to Dr. Cockayne he reveals a good deal about himself, and for this reason, as well as for its intrinsic botanical interest, his "Rambles on Mount Matthews" is reprinted here. For his work on the southern part of the Tararua mountain system and for his contributions to Otari Open Air Native Plant Museum he was awarded the Loder Cup in 1948.

As a young stonemason Mr. Beddie came to New Zealand via U.S.A. and built up a business in Petone. There his home was flanked on one side by his stoneyard, on the other by a little walled garden, literally crammed full of native plants—he listed 55 kinds flowering in November 1941. He had great skill in propagating from cuttings and collected twigs for growing wherever he went. The Hutt Valley and the Wairarapa he knew well, especially the immediate neighbourhood of cemeteries. He told me he had slept in most graveyards so that, characteristically, he could spend his time working instead of travelling to his home at nights. His means of transport when we knew him was his "waggon"—a small truck that was always on hand for the use of botanists, either visitors like George Simpson from Dunedin, or parties of Society members. Many of our earlier outings were possible only because of his help. He served as Council member for a total of six years and was an enthusiastic and generous contributor to the Bulletin.

Everyone who knew Andrew Beddie will remember him for his kindly and cheerful good nature, and for his devotion to the study of New Zealand plants. To him and others like him botany owes much.

L.B.M.

PAPERS BY A. D. BEDDIE

- 1935: *Plagianthus divaricatus* at a High Elevation. *Trans. Roy. Soc. N.Z.* 65, 9-10. [Later inspection of these plants with Mr. Beddie showed them to be *Pittosporum lineare*.]
1938: Rambles on Mt. Matthews. *J. N.Z. Inst. Hort.* 8, 44-46.
1938: An Outline of the Vegetation and Flora of the Tararua Mountains. Plant Formations; Distribution of Pteridophyta and Spermatophyta. (With V. D. Zotov and N. L. Elder.) *Trans. Roy. Soc. N.Z.* 68, 280-310.
1941: Natural Root Grafts in New Zealand Trees. *Ibid.* 71, 199-203.
1942: Species Flowering in Garden at Petone in November. *Bull. Wellington Bot. Soc.* 3, 6.
1944: North Cape Vegetation. *J. Roy. N.Z. Inst. Hort.* 14, 9-12.
1944: *Celmisias*. *Bull. Wellington Bot. Soc.* 8, 3-4.
1953: Root Behaviour in *Metrosideros*. *Ibid.* 26, 2-6.
1958: Precocious Fruiting of *Pennantia corymbosa*. *Ibid.* 30, 12-14.