Pukatea (Laurelia novae-zelandiae) was extremely common and I was impressed by the veritable nurseries of its seedlings. Tawa and Kohekohe were trees of great size and beauty.

The coming of rain slightly shortened our all too short day, but the few hours spent were most rewarding, although the thought of those ferny gullies was a little tantalising. Still perhaps "some other time...."

M. Crookes.

Vertical banks by the roadside often provide an intriguing weed population but one does not expect to collect much in the way of ferns from them. Recently in a built-up area in Mt. Eden I noted on such a bank three species of young tree-ferns, Dicksonia squarrosa, Cyathea dealbata and C. medullaris. Adiantum sp. (probably affine, but it was out of reach) Doodia media, Pteridium esculentum, Blechnum procerum and Paesia scaberula. The ferns would not survive very long I imagine. Obviously the tree-ferns would not be able to develop much and most of the others would soon be submerged by large and aggressive weeds though I imagine the bracken may hold its own. It will be interesting to see what happens.

We welcome a most interesting communication from Clevedon. Our thanks are due both to Mr. N. Potts for his information and to Mr. McKenzie for forwarding it.

Dear Miss Crookes,

Re "The Distributional Overlap of Weinmannia sylvicola and Weinmannis racemosa", Quarterly News Letter, Vol.15, No.3, Aug.1958

Mr. Norman Potts of Opotiki has replied as follows:

"Here we have only Weinmannia racemosa. I have made sorties into the Urewera and do not know it well, being more familiar with the volcanic plateau and am intimately acquainted with the vegetation between Ohiwa and Te Kaha and our hinterland here (for miles south). I have never met with Weinmannia sylvicola and do not think it is here. Weinmannia racemosa is not plentiful at low elevations but is abundant on high cold gloomy ridges, old trig stations and miserable places of the sort. mA friend (part Maori) tells me (the name) "Kamahi" is not used in this district, only "Tawhero". I have not investigated this point but have always heard of it as "Tawhero". "

It is good to have this part of the query so thoroughly cleared up by such an authority as Mr. Potts. East of the area he mentions there is country suitable for W. sylvicola just inland from Cape Runaway which would be worth checking. This, however, would be a long way from the base of the Coromandel Peninsula. We still need to know of the Coromandel Peninsula, the western Bay of Plenty and whether W. racemosa occurs north of Auckland.

Ross McKenzie.

P.S. The matter of the name being "Tawhero" down there is not surprising. Many names are different, for birds, fish and plants. In Southland and Stewart Is. it is called Kamai or "Ka-mye".
