WAIPIPI - - - 20 May 1967 - - - L.W.Butler

When we left Auckland the weather seemed a bit doubtful, but improved steadily as we progressed. On our way we stopped for a short period at Kirks Bush, Papakura, which we had not visited for a number of years. This is typical taraire - pukatea forest with little undergrowth, rather attractive and unusual. We crossed the road to the erstwhile Botanical Block and noted with pleasure the growth of the trees planted there by the Society in previous years. We then journeyed on via Kingseat, Waiuku and Waipipi, to a patch of bush, just a few acres, on a private farm. This area, in which puriri seems to be dominant, contained the best part of 100 species, of which I shall mention only a few - titoki, taraire and tawa, kohekohe, rewarewa, pukatea, karaka, mangeao, kahikatea, miro, totara and kohuhu. The smaller plants included Rhabdothamnus solandri, Schefflera digitata, Tetrapathaea tetrandra, Melicope ternata, Olearia rani, Olea lanceolata, Pseudopanax crassifolium x lessonii and Peperomia urvilleana growing on a puriri. There were aso a goodly number of ferns - Adiantum fulvum, 4 Aspleniums, and many smaller ferns. At the bottom of the gully grew an attractive group of king ferns (Marratia salicina), and Miss Crookes found several kingfern prothalli. We saw only 2 orchids, Acianthus fornicatus sinclairii and Earina mucronata. The forest regeneration was excellent, especially the number of young miro all over the place. We had our lunch in the bush in full view of an oppossum in the tree above us. After lunch we rejoined the bus and went to Kariotahi Beach, where we spent a pleasant hour or so in the sunshine. Mrs. Hynes found Cotula minor and Miss Crookes found a specimen of the Green Bay form of Blechnum capense. Also noted were Coprosma acerosa, Muhlenbeckia complexa, and Adiantum cunninghamii amongst the flax. We left for home just after 3pm after spending a most enjoyable day.

TAWAPOU ON WAIHEKE --- B.& M. Hall

We first discovered tawapou on Waiheke in 1932, an occasion we shall always remember. We came upon a tree in full fruit, with colours ranging from green, through yellow and orange to black. It must have been a good season for it was a glorious sight. This was on a cliff facing east, on a promontory called Thompsons Point, between Palm Beach and Onetangi. There were quite a few trees there, but not all fruiting so profusely. On the top of the headland were three or four really old trees, 40ft or more in height and well branched.

There are a few in a small patch of bush behind Palm Beach, several more at Careys Bay, east of Onetangi, one lone one on the left of the Ostend-Onetangi Road and another adjacent to the Forest and Bird reserve at Onetangi. With the exception of this last, they are all on country where sheep and cattle are running, so naturally no seedlings survive. The tree however that interests us most is just off the little used road at the head of