

PROCEEDINGS  
OF  
THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND

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MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL,  
20th MAY, 1942.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the Council of the Royal Society of New Zealand was held in the Council Room, Victoria University College, Wellington, on Wednesday, 20th May, 1942, commencing at 10 a.m.

*Roll Call:* The following were present:—

President: Lieutenant-Colonel G. Archey.

Vice-President: Dr. H. H. Allan.

Government Representatives: Mr. B. C. Aston, Dr. W. R. B. Oliver.

Auckland Institute Representatives: Professor H. W. Segar, Mr. A. T. Pycroft.

Wellington Branch Representatives: Dr. H. H. Allan, Dr. L. I. Grange.

Canterbury Branch Representatives: Dr. F. W. Hilgendorf, Dr. R. A. Falla.

Otago Branch Representative: Dr. F. J. Turner.

Hawke's Bay Branch Representative: Mr. G. V. Hudson.

Manawatu Branch Representative: Mr. M. A. Elliott.

Nelson Institute Representative: Dr. D. Miller.

Southland Branch Representative: Professor W. P. Evans.

Co-opted Member: Dr. P. Marshall.

*Apologies for Absence* were received from His Excellency the Governor-General, the Hon. the Minister of Scientific and Industrial Research, Professor E. R. Hudson, and Dr. C. M. Focken.

*Council:* The President welcomed back to the Council Professor W. P. Evans, who had been asked to represent the Southland Branch on the Council, and Mr. A. T. Pycroft, representative of the Auckland Institute; he also welcomed a new member, Dr. Grange, one of the representatives of the Wellington Branch.

*Presidential Address:* Before commencing his Presidential Address, Lieutenant-Colonel Archey referred to the loss the Society had sustained by the death of two distinguished scientists whose names the Society was honoured to have on its roll of Honorary Members—Sir Arthur W. Hill, Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, and Sir William Bragg, Director of the Royal Institution of Great Britain and the Davy Faraday Research Laboratory.

Lieutenant-Colonel Archey then delivered his address, at the conclusion of which Dr. Allan moved that the President be cordially thanked for his inspiring address and that he be asked to allow it to be printed in the *Transactions*. This motion was carried by acclamation.

*Notices of Motion* were called for, to be considered later in the meeting.

*Hector Award*: The following report of the Hector Award Committee was read:—

The Committee appointed to consider the award of the Hector Medal and Prize for 1942, consisting of the following members: Professor H. B. Kirk, Dr. W. R. B. Oliver, and the Rev. Dr. J. E. Holloway, has unanimously decided to recommend that the award be made to Dr. H. H. Allan for his work in New Zealand Botany.

(Signed) JOHN E. HOLLOWAY,

May 3, 1942.

Convener of Committee.

The recommendation of the Hector Award Committee was unanimously adopted.

*Amount of Hector Prize*: On the motion of the Hon. Treasurer (Mr. M. A. Elliott), it was resolved that the amount of the prize be £50.

*Election of Fellows*: The President read the report of the Fellowship Selection Committee as follows:—

The Fellowship Selection Committee elected at the Annual Meeting held in May, 1941, after duly considering the votes recorded by existing Fellows, the scientific work of those nominated, and the distribution of Fellows between the various sciences, unanimously recommend the Council to elect Dr. L. H. Briggs and Dr. L. I. Grange, Fellows of the Society.

(Signed) W. P. EVANS,

April 20th, 1942.

Convener Fellowship Selection Committee.

On the motion of Professor Evans, seconded by Dr. Marshall, the recommendation of the Fellowship Selection Committee was adopted.

*Method of Selection of Fellows*: The President read a letter from the Convener of the Fellowship Selection Committee regarding the voting by Fellows. The letter pointed out that some Fellows continue to ignore the instructions given to indicate the full number of preferences, and this growing tendency to plumping or partial plumping could lead to an entirely unfair result in the voting. The wisdom of asking Fellows to indicate a greater number of preferences than the number of Fellows to be elected was also questioned.

After some discussion on these points, Professor Evans moved, Dr. Marshall seconded, and it was carried: "That in future Fellows be instructed to vote for the number of Fellows to be elected, and that in the instructions issued to Fellows it be indicated that failure to adhere to this instruction will render the vote informal."

The President thanked Professor Evans for bringing the matter before the Council.

*Honorary Membership*: The question of allowing a late nomination from a Member Body came before the Council and on the explanation of the representative of the Branch as to the reason of the delay in forwarding the nomination it was resolved on the motion of Mr. Pycroft to allow the nomination to be considered. The President read the qualifications accompanying the nomination.