

## ETHNOLOGICAL SECTION

The bulkiness of much material in this section, along with antiques and objects illustrating history and technology, has necessitated considerable organization of cellar space and shelving. One result of emergency storage was found to be heavy infestation by borer, requiring extensive treatment.

The accessions have been notable for the quality and value of Maori collections from abroad. A purchase of tikis and greenstone (Armytage Collection) and gift of dried heads with moko from the Royal Museum, Canterbury, Kent, were made through the initiative of Mr. K. A. Webster, of London. Among other additions to the Maori section were fish-hooks presented by Messrs. Chambers and Gordon, and large carvings by the Tourist Department. Asiatic and African material also was acquired.

Further development of this important section of the Museum calls for additional professional staff, Mr. W. J. Phillipps having had to supervise it for many years with only irregular junior assistance.

Mr. Phillipps has continued his field study of carved houses with a short visit to Rotorua, Whakatane, and Ruatoki, and has published three papers; "A List of Maori Fish Names," *Journ. Polynesian Society*, Vol. 56, pp. 41-51; "The Rua Hoata Shelter, Waikato River," *Journ. Polynesian Society*, Vol. 56, pp. 336-339; "The Maori Method of taking Grey Duck and Black Teal near Taupo," *Journ. Polynesian Society*, Vol. 56, pp. 333-335.

## ENTOMOLOGICAL SECTION

Accessions for the year include a collection of Indian insects, showing mimicry, from Mr. C. McCann; a large collection made in Africa, Malaya, and India, by Dr. Z. Knoetgen; and the New Zealand material resulting from field-work described below.

In the reference collections, rearrangement of Lepidoptera has been completed, and Odonata, Perlaria, Ephemeroptera, Trichoptera, and Hymenoptera begun. The considerable task of dealing with Coleoptera is awaiting provision of a further 360-drawer cabinet. Phasmidae (stick insects), and other Orthoptera of which Dr. Salmon has been making a study, are now represented by good collections. Mr. R. R. Forster has classified the spirit collection of insects and arachnids and installed these in storage cabinets made in the Museum workshop. He has continued his study of the Opiliones and completed a paper on the genus *Rakaia*. Miss P. Wilton has completed the incorporation of Dr. Morris Watt's New Zealand Diptera and general collections from Campbell and Kermadec Islands. Samples of leaf mould from all parts of New Zealand have been received for treatment in the electrical extraction apparatus, and from these an extensive collection of soil-inhabiting animals is being built up.

During the late summer a party comprising Mr. Dell, Mr. Forster, and Dr. Salmon explored the Mount Arthur Tableland and made collections of insects, arachnids, and molluscs. A portable extracting apparatus designed by Dr. Salmon was used with success.

The following papers were read at the Sixth Science Congress of the Royal Society of New Zealand:—

"New Methods in Microscopy for the Preservation and Study of Small Insects and Arthropods," by Dr. J. T. Salmon.

"Taxonomic Research in New Zealand," by Dr. J. T. Salmon.

"Zoogeographical Relationships of the New Zealand Opiliones," by Mr. R. R. Forster.

Dr. Salmon also attended the Perth meeting of the Australian and New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science, where he read a paper on the "Zoogeographical Relationships of the Collembola." Following the meeting he spent two months travelling in Australia, visiting museums and research institutions throughout the Commonwealth.