

# PROCEEDINGS

## OF

### THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND

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#### MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL, 26th MAY, 1938.

The Annual Meeting of the Council of the Royal Society of New Zealand was held on Thursday, 26th May, 1938, at 10 a.m. in the Council Room, Victoria University College, Wellington.

*Present:* Professor W. P. Evans, President, in the chair.

Representing the Government: Mr. B. C. Aston, Professor E. R. Hudson, Dr E. Marsden;

Representing the Auckland Institute: Mr. G. Archey, Professor H. W. Segar;

Representing the Wellington Philosophical Society: Dr. H. H. Allan, Mr. F. R. Callaghan;

Representing the Canterbury Branch: Dr. F. W. Hilgendorf, Mr. E. F. Stead;

Representing the Otago Branch: Dr. F. J. Turner;

Representing the Hawke's Bay Branch: Mr. G. V. Hudson;

Representing the Manawatu Branch: Mr. M. A. Elliott;

Representing the Nelson Institute: Professor T. H. Easterfield;

Co-opted Member: Dr. P. Marshall.

*Apologies:* Apologies for absence were received from His Excellency the Governor-General, the Hon. the Minister for Scientific and Industrial Research, and Professor James Park (Otago Branch).

*Members of Council:* The President welcomed to the Council table Mr. G. Archey, Dr. H. H. Allan, Mr. F. R. Callaghan, and Dr. F. W. Hilgendorf, who took their seats for the first time, and thanked the retiring members—Professor Kirk, Professor Shelley, and Mr. C. M. Smith—for their services, making special reference to Professor Kirk, who had given valuable service to the Council over a period of twenty-three years,\* for two of which he had been President of the Society, and for the last four had been Honorary Librarian.

*Presidential Address:* The President then read his presidential address, first making reference to the deaths of Professor H. E. Armstrong, Sir D. Orme Masson, Mr. E. Meyrick, and Lord Rutherford, all Honorary Members of the Society, and to Sir Algernon Thomas and Bishop Williams, Fellows of the Society. The members rose in tribute to their memory.

The President congratulated Dr. F. J. Turner on obtaining a Sterling Fellowship at Yale College and Dr. P. Marshall on being elected a correspondent of the Académie des Sciences, Paris.

At the conclusion of his address the President was thanked and was asked to allow his address to be printed.

*Hector Award:* The recommendation of the Hector Award Committee was then read as follows:—

The Committee set up to make a recommendation on the award of the Hector Medal unanimously recommends the election of Bishop Herbert Williams, the last letter (that of Professor Elkin) reaching me an hour before I received news of Bishop Williams's death. In the circumstances I have to recommend a posthumous award, a course which has the assent of both Professor Elkin and Dr. Buck.

H. D. SKINNER,

Convener, Hector Award Committee.

On the motion of Professor Evans, seconded by Professor Easterfield, it was resolved that the recommendation of the Hector Award Committee be adopted.

It was decided to ask Mrs. Williams and her family how the medal should be presented.

On the motion of Dr. Marsden, seconded by Mr. Elliott, it was resolved that in the circumstances the medal be awarded without any prize.

*Hutton Award:* The recommendation of the Hutton Award Committee was read as follows:—

I beg to report that the Committee appointed to consider the award of the Hutton Medal has unanimously decided that the medal for 1938 should be awarded to Dr. David Miller.

P. MARSHALL,

Convener, Hutton Award Committee.

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

*Honorary Members:* Dr. Marshall briefly outlined the qualifications of Professor A. F. A. Lacroix and Dr. Allan those of Professor C. Skottsberg, the two gentlemen nominated by Member Bodies for the vacancy in the Honorary Membership. On a vote being taken, Professor Skottsberg was declared elected.

*Declaration of Vacancies:* The President announced four vacancies in the Honorary Members' List caused by the deaths of Lord Rutherford, Sir D. Orme Masson, Professor H. E. Armstrong, and Mr. E. Meyrick. It was decided to fill the four vacancies at the next Annual Meeting.