

The lighthouse ship *Hinemoa* had a botanist-master, Captain Bollons, and Cockayne was one of several naturalists to travel by this comparatively comfortable means to places that are now perhaps less accessible. He made "excursions" by railway too, often for some weeks at a stretch. But we must remember that for him a good coach road seemed quite adequate.

Several letters mention "the bike" and he wrote (1926: 362): "During the investigations I examined sand-dunes in almost all the localities where they occur, and, in some parts, followed them continuously for many miles, making long detours into their mazes. As a mode of progression along the shore and on the roads behind the dunes, I used a bicycle. Generally, I was alone." His actual botanising was done on foot, of course. He was a keen and successful photographer and preferred a half-plate stand camera, but found it "rather too heavy when one is single-handed", especially if it were added to the other impedimenta he habitually carried.

THE MAN AND HIS PERSONAL INFLUENCE

A New Zealander returned about 1923 from a sojourn in England where he had been a neighbour of George Bernard Shaw. On meeting Leonard Cockayne he was struck by some similarity between the two men—perhaps this was because Cockayne was provocative, iconoclastic, taking some pride in being a picturesque national figure, sternly self-critical in his professional work, always intolerant of pretence.

To many Cockayne seemed something of a pied piper, and people in diverse walks of life heard the sweet tones of his pipe or caught a glimpse of his brightly coloured coat. In truth

He led us, he said, to a joyous land
Joining the town and just at hand,
Where waters gushed and fruit trees grew
And flowers put forth a fairer hue
And everything was strange and new.

Like Hooker before him (1853: xiii) he realised that "the local botanist looks closer, perceives sooner, and often appreciates better, inconspicuous organs and characters, which are overlooked or too hastily dismissed" by the botanist working at a distance. Cockayne firmly believed that "there are few greater mistakes than for the scientific man to ignore the opinions and experience of the practical man; on the contrary, the practical man should be listened to with respectful attention". He gladly accepted help wherever it might be found, and never missed an opportunity to enlist a new recruit. A few examples can be given. Lex Mowat, a young shepherd whom he had met in the back-country of Molesworth Station early in 1912, collected Marlborough shingle plants for him. Two Dunedin businessmen, J. Scott Thomson a manufacturer and George Simpson a master builder, known botanically as "the firm", specialised in Otago problems and developed great skill in photographing and in growing mountain plants. H. H. Allan, later to be one of New Zealand's most famous botanists, was an English master at Waitaki Boys' High School when he first came under Cockayne's spell. Arnold Wall, Professor of English at Canterbury University College and a good mountaineer, brought down reports of high alpine plants. Andrew Beddie, an Aberdeen stonemason with a one-man business in Petone, undertook a detailed botanical exploration of Mount Matthews, the highest peak in the Rimutaka Range, at Cockayne's instigation. F. G. Gibbs, teacher and leader in all scientific matters in Nelson, helped so generously that Cockayne wrote "Virtually all I know regarding the plants of Nelson and their distribution can be traced to your work". Michael Gudex, who was in the field with Cockayne in 1909, was another teacher who fostered the study of native plants all his life; in his later days in Hamilton he helped to bring about