

was commissioned to produce for the Lands and Survey Department during these years. Enormous effort was involved in carrying out these projects, quite apart from all else in hand.

In early October, 1906, he spent two weeks at Kapiti Island. After a couple of months more or less at home he was away early in the new year to the Longwood Range in Southland and Stewart Island, returning home to Christchurch about mid-February. (Mrs Cockayne went with him, and F. G. Gibbs, R. M. Laing and J. Crosbie Smith were included in the Stewart Island party.) By early May the Kapiti Report was out of his hands. In mid-August he had arrived in North Auckland to spend seven or eight weeks in the Waipoua kauri forest, coming home via New Plymouth in mid-October. Less than a month later he was on the *Hinemoa* bound for two crowded weeks at the Auckland Islands. December he had mostly at home (apart from delivering some Auckland Island birds to Kapiti), but early in January he was "on the warpath again" to begin his ten weeks' survey of Tongariro National Park. April and May must have been busy months, spent mostly in writing in Wellington, but there are records of a couple of public lectures and a few short trips north. Before the end of June he had prepared two reports, fully illustrated—one on Waipoua Forest from the previous spring's field work, and the other the Tongariro Survey, handed in only five and a-half months from when he first tackled the job. Mid-September to early October he spent again in Stewart Island, and the following year three big reports were completed, on the ecological botany of New Zealand's Subantarctic Islands, sand dunes, and Stewart Island, the last two both dated 1 June 1909. Thus in three years or less he had begun and completed six major, well-illustrated reports dealing with widely separated areas and very diverse vegetation types, and each report is a classic.

These were not his only publications during this period. And in the following year, 1910, his first book, "New Zealand Plants and their Story", appeared. It perhaps grew out of a talk on "The Story of New Zealand Plants" given in a free lecture series in the Wellington Town Hall (*Evening Post*, Nov. 20, 1906). A second, very much altered edition of this book appeared in 1919, edition three in 1927 and there is a plan in hand for a fourth edition.

"THE VEGETATION OF NEW ZEALAND"

In February of 1906 Cockayne was considering "my terrible book to tackle", but by June of the next year, in the midst of all his excursions, he could write "My 'Vegetation of New Zealand' is well in hand; rough draft hoped for by August, then special trips over much of New Zealand to correct and give freshness . . . I think the book will supply a definite need and make botanical research in New Zealand easier than at present".

Four years later (July, 1911) "I am making a great effort to have the MS of my book finished by November", and after a few months more, writing to a high country friend, "Would that I were with you in some camp far in the back. It is killing work to be all day long in a town in a stuffy house writing a book and every line of said book takes me into the mountains, the forest, or by the seashore. At present it is the mountains. I have just made a classification of the mountain scrubs for the whole of New Zealand."

Then at last in April, 1914, "'The Vegetation of New Zealand' was finished some time ago, and the greater part by now will be in the hands of the editor" (and all of it had been neatly handwritten). But in December, 1914, he could only write sadly of his "Vegetation" being interned at Leipzig, and there likely to find its burial place. "I have received proofs of the first hundred pages. This I expect will be the last I shall ever see of this ill-fated volume and, good or bad,