

LIBRARY

The rearrangement of the library on the new shelving was one of the main tasks involved in the change-over to the ground floor, and the librarian was assisted by other members of the staff. A commencement was made with binding, which was some ten years in arrears, and about 300 books were bound. Exchanges have been maintained and extended, and inter-library loan demands have been steady. The Librarian, Mrs. E. Ponton (then Miss Miller) attended the 1948 conference of the New Zealand Libraries Association in May.

SEVENTH PACIFIC SCIENCE CONGRESS

When the Royal Society of New Zealand decided to invite the Pacific Science Association to hold its Seventh Congress in New Zealand in February, 1949, it was necessary for most of the scientific institutions in the country to contribute to the organization of the Congress. The following members of the staff participated:—

The Director (Dr. R. A. Falla), who was President of the Congress.

Dr. J. T. Salmon, who was Organizing Secretary of the Division of Zoology, and leader of an inter-sessional tour, and presented a paper.

Mr. C. McCann, who was Organizer of the Symposium on Terrestrial Faunas, and presented a paper (Auckland session).

Mr. R. K. Dell (Auckland session).

NEW ZEALAND - AMERICAN FIORDLAND EXPEDITION

The Dominion Museum was nominated as the study headquarters for Dr. Olaus J. Murie, who directed the biological field-work of the expedition. Mr. C. J. Lindsay was his principal field assistant. Mr. Dell also participated, and Dr. W. R. B. Oliver made botanical collections for the Museum.

OTHER FIELD-WORK

(a) Winter survey of fur seals of Stewart Island and Foveaux Strait by the Director and Mr. Lindsay, by courtesy of the Marine Department.

(b) A short cruise for biological survey of the Marlborough Sounds was made by four members of the staff at the invitation of Mr. A. J. Black.

(c) On the invitation of the Minister of Internal Affairs, the Director accompanied Dr. G. B. Orbell and party to the area in which the takahe was rediscovered. Further important facts about these rare birds were obtained, and reports have been prepared for publication.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

As in the past, the work of the Museum has been helped by the co-operation of the Head Office staff of the Department of Internal Affairs and the Secretary of the Board of Trustees. This year the restoration of the building has been marked by good relations with the Ministry of Works and the ready co-operation of the contractor, Mr. E. R. Glass, and of the sub-contractors for painting and electrical work.

W. H. PRICE, Chairman.

R. A. FALLA, Director.

17th August, 1949.