

He then presented her with an inscribed silver tray and six silver goblets from the members of the Society with their best wishes for her retirement.

Mrs Langford said it had been her pleasure to serve such fine people and spoke of the joys and disappointments she had known over the years. She said that after her experience she considered that the Society's constitution was in need of change, as the organisation was now much larger. She offered to discuss her suggested changes with Mr Ellis and Mr Underwood.

She thanked members for the presentation, adding that she treasured the many enduring friendships she had made and that she would continue to play her part as an ordinary member of the Society.

The president spoke of the retirement from the executive of Sir Charles Fleming. He stated that his contribution to conservation and to the Society could not be overemphasised and he paid tribute to Sir Charles's service.

Sale of property

Mr Underwood said that the property at Kent Terrace had

at last been sold and as a consequence those members who had kindly lent money had been repaid with the thanks of the Society.

Society fund raising

Mr Collingwood presented the fund-raising proposals he had prepared. As 1983 was the diamond jubilee year of the Society, he had used this as the focal point for a fund-raising effort to put the Society once and for all into a strong financial position. It would be necessary to fund more conservation projects in the future as more species and areas came under threat. The fund raising would be fourfold:

- A \$250,000 Jubilee Conservation Fund Appeal. This would be a public appeal running from the council meeting for 1 year at least. It would have nominated projects and would enable the public to support the Society in its work.
- A 16-page mail-order catalogue would be supplied to all members, with the August issue of *Forest and Bird*, listing Society goods, books, table goods, packs and tramping gear, calendars, posters, and cards.

- A quick lottery for conservation funds running for 1 month from the council meeting. A Christmas lottery and a large jubilee lottery in April next year were planned.
- A door-to-door envelope combined membership and donation drive to be tested in the Wellington region first and then extended to all branch areas thereafter.

After some discussion, with a few councillors doubting the lottery proposal and Mr Collingwood's further intention to start Forest and Bird gift shops as a later venture, the meeting approved the fund-raising proposals.

Maud Island

The following remit was adopted:

"That this Society, recalling its considerable involvement both on conservation grounds and financially in the acquisition of Maud Island as a sanctuary, expresses its deep concern at the recent appearance of a stoat there and offers to the Wildlife Service any assistance it can provide, including, if necessary, the recruitment of volunteer wardens to man the station during the predator-eradication programme.

"That this meeting instruct the executive to make a press release to express the Society's involvement and concern in the future of Maud Island."

Catlins Coastal Park

The unanimous support of the Society for the establishment of this coastal park was registered and the following remit was adopted:

"That the Society supports in principle the concept of the Catlins Coastal Park."

Other conservation matters and remits were dealt with and these gave evidence of the wide-ranging and increased activity of the Society.

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