




7. THE GLORY OF WAIPOUA

Waipoua Kauri Forest in Northland, including the well known big tree Tanemahuta, estimated at 1,200 years old, is one of the unique forests in the world. Over twenty two thousand acres have been set aside as a forest sanctuary for the preservation of flora and fauna in the natural state for all time—a wonderful scientific and scenic heritage for the people of New Zealand. Since 1920 the New Zealand Forest Service has had the responsibility for the protection of Waipoua against trespass, animal damage and fire. Fire has always been an enemy, with the first recorded fire of modern times in 1897 followed with a serious outbreak in 1919. During the 1949-50 fire season six fires were fought on a pre-planned strategy, any one of which may have brought total destruction to Waipoua. The men of the Forest look to every New Zealander to help them preserve their great national assets and ensure the ideal of planned forestry.

Forestry is forever

*Inserted in the interests of forest protection by the New Zealand Forest Service
... Soil Conservation Council.*



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SHEPHERD'S CALENDAR

Sheep May Temporarily Graze

by "SUNDOWNER"

I SUPPOSE it does researchers good to flap their wings occasionally and crow. In any case it does me good to listen to them. Even when I neither understand nor believe them I feel the mental titillation it must be their aim to produce when they look about, above, and below them and give one confident shout of coming triumphs. It is Goldsmith's, schoolmaster grown up (or part of the way up):

While words of learned length, and thund'ring sound
Amazed the gazing rustics rang'd around.
I am one of the rustics and the schoolmaster has dropped languages for physics and chemistry.

But I think the rustics of Auburn must sometimes have wondered when they got home if the scholar's big words meant anything; if that "one small head" had not grown a little hot; if carrying all it knew had not upset its balance a fraction; and if their familiar world was not a better place—more comfortable and more enduring—than his wordy world of wonders.

So I am beginning to think already that my sheep, with their costly conversion of grass into meat, will outlive the chemists who threaten to destroy them. It troubled me for an hour or two when Dr Truscoe, a biochemist at Victoria University, said last week

that such "frightfully wasteful producers" as sheep might some day be dropped from our economy. Then I noticed that the day was "not anything like in sight yet." Then my heart started beating again and I knew, as my chemistry returned to normal, that Dr Truscoe had merely stretched himself and yawned. It is a habit men of science have, and the biochemical reasons for it are no doubt as plain to them as my cat's whiskers are to me. But I suspect sometimes that the purpose of it is to push ignorance back a little and keep science in front.

IT is not often nowadays that consigning a man to hell alarms the man if he is alive or disturbs his relatives and friends if he is dead. But that can apparently still happen even in high places. The editor of the *New Statesman* the other day, after reading a book about Sir Roger Casement (hanged for treason in the First World

War) went to sleep. A little later, he tells us, he woke up suddenly, turned on the light, and scribbled these two sentences on the pad that he seems to keep in his bed:

Those who do not believe in hell may regret that they cannot believe that Birkenhead is in it. Those who do believe in hell will regret that the ethics of their religion

(continued on next page)

NEW KING-SIZE QUIZ CONTEST

KING OF QUIZ—one of the most popular of the straight quiz shows for adults—is a type of programme which has been missing from the New Zealand radio for some years now. However, the gap will be filled again on Tuesday, August 13, when a new *King of Quiz* series starts from the ZBs, 1XH and 4ZA. And, of course, since *King of Quiz* is now invariably linked with the name of Lyell Boyes, he will again be asking the questions that test the rival claimants to the throne.

"This is not a revival of the old show," he told us, "but a new programme on a national scale, with an element of inter-city rivalry. The first programme is from Auckland, where an Auckland King (or Queen) of Quiz is selected. The next programme is set in Hamilton, where three local challengers in the studio will compete with the reigning monarch—who will be linked by telephone. And it will be the same in the next city, as we search for the best quiz contestants in the Dominion."

Each session is to have six rounds of questions, with each round carrying a different number of points, the king being chosen on the highest aggregate. It is a straight quiz, covering every possible field of knowledge, but without any trick questions or ones involving mathematics.

"I set all the questions myself," Lyell Boyes said. "I wouldn't like it any other way, because in a show of this kind I must be absolutely certain in my answers. If I know the background to a question I can tell whether a contestant is working towards the correct answer and so needs a little more time, or whether he is on the wrong track. I myself like to give a fairly full answer so that people can learn from it."

In the last 15 years Lyell Boyes has become quite "quiz-minded." "In my reading I find all sorts of questions suggested," he says, "and I jot them all down immediately on any handy scraps of paper and stuff them in my pockets. Then once a week I empty my pockets and see what I have."

What the pockets have held will soon be revealed to listeners as the candidates in this newest quiz show, like the lion and the unicorn, are again in close contest for the crown.



LYELL BOYES

N.Z. LISTENER, AUGUST 9, 1957.