CONCLUSION

Several maps of Otago published in the 1860s and 1870s (Thomson and Garvie, 1860, ————, 1861, ————, 1871) give a generalized picture of the distribution of vegetation, as do many of the N.Z. Cadastral Map-County Series sheets. Their accuracy, checked against the record presented here, would be sufficient for small-scale, say New Zealand-wide, maps of vegetation distribution.

It is not suggested that the sources listed here form a complete inventory of available maps. It is known, for example, that most of the Survey District block plans were lithographed during the 1860s and 1870s. A few of these are held in the Hocken Library, Dunedin, though they add nothing to the originals. In addition, several matters require elucidation. References in Tuckett's diary and Monro's journal (Hocken, 1898), and in early newspaper reports, make no more than generalized comment on the composition of the vegetation, in any case insufficient either in detail or extent to be of use here. Secondly, there is nothing in the map evidence to allow any distinction between stands of true bush, and tall manuka. It is possible, too, that scrub was rather more widespread. Perhaps botanists, working from the one inch to one mile maps held in the depository, and from present-day remnants, may be able to fill in some of these gaps.

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JAMES FORREST, Department of Geography, University of Otago.