

ANNUAL REPORT

M.J. HARTLEY

The 29th Conference of the New Zealand Weed and Pest Control Society was held at the Hotel Russley, Christchurch from 3 to 5 August 1976.

The Conference was opened by Professor J.D. Stewart, principal of Lincoln College and was well attended. The first session, a comprehensive session on lucerne, created considerable interest with over 130 delegates. It was also particularly gratifying to see interest maintained throughout the conference with never less than 70 people at a session, except the A.G.M. Fifty-seven papers were presented with insects outnumbering weeds for the first time at 20 to 17. Fungal disease featured strongly with 13 papers and there were four on application techniques and three on herbicide residues. In all, 73 authors and co-authors contributed.

Only 60 members attended the Annual General Meeting which was a disappointing number considering the numbers at the conference. Frank Allen's 25 years service to the society was recognised by electing him a life member.

Membership has increased slightly during the year and now stands at 310.

By changing the method of printing of the Proceedings the committee have been able to maintain subscriptions at \$7.50 for this year.

The Hawkes Bay Local Branch has had an active year but unfortunately the same cannot be said of our other Local Branches which have shown no activity.

The revised edition of A.J. Healy's Identification of Weeds and Clovers has been published and is selling reasonably well.