

90 per cent of the membership that is not registered? Part of reconciling what professionalism means leads to the third point and how the NZIF reaches out to the wider community.

When professional status becomes economically important it will become relevant. While the NZIF might have a profile among consultants, it is certainly not obvious in the corporate sector, and it still has a low profile in the wider community. Worse still, judging by the membership patterns and trends, there are indications that the NZIF is losing some of its profile within parts of the forestry community. Becoming economically important means making professionalism work so well that it becomes widely recognised. Ultimately, this will generate a de facto requirement for organisations serving the forest sector to have NZIF registered professionals on staff, and for the wider community to seek out NZIF registered professionals.

Long term success as an institution is going to require a proactive strategy of promoting the NZIF, what it is and what it offers to members and non-members. Sorting out what professionalism is and how to make it happen would seem to me to be the most important tactical issue to achieve a strategic goal.

Other feature articles in this issue of the Journal look at the role of forestry professionals from the perspective of the past, the future and the current environment. The beginning of the new millennium seems to be a good time to reflect on past achievements and to consider the future.



Hugh Bigsby

letters

Sir

Thank you for including my "QA Indicator Plot" article in the February 2000 edition of the Journal. However, there were a few minor problems.

Due to a technical error, part of the second and third lines of the introductory paragraph is missing. The sentence should read:

"any product that is not of uniform quality soon loses its appeal in the market place. In forestry, uniform growth is essential for the production of evenly sized trees for high volume recovery of quality wood."

Would it be possible to also note that copies of the appendices mentioned under Establishment of QA Indicator Plot can be obtained from the author.

Robin Trewin

The Institute and the Private Sector

Tony Grayburn

The New Zealand Institute of Forestry was formed in 1927-28, incorporated in 1929 and its first news items were published in Te Kura Ngahere in 1927 and continued that way until 1934. The first New Zealand Journal of Forestry appeared in 1937. (Not published regularly until 1948.) The major support for the Institute until after 1950 has always come from staff in the State Sector and the old Canterbury School of Forestry. Those in the private sector who strongly supported the Institute over time mainly came from the State Sector or their training programmes, and more recently from the educational institutions. It is necessary to recognise this when acknowledging what the private sector has done for the Institute since its inception. Let us look at what that contribution has been in various time spans viz up to 1950, 1950-84 and 1984-2000.

Up to 1950

The Institute and its Journal struggled to survive during this period because of the depression, the closing of the Schools of forestry and the Second World War. Those outside the service who did everything they could to keep it alive were Owen Jones (Pres. 1946-48), Arthur Cooney (Pres. 1948-50), Arnold Hansson (Pres. 1929), Viv Fail, Barry Morehouse and Mary Sutherland. In addition, these




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