ANNUAL REPORT

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The 26th Conference of the New Zealand Weed and Pest Control Society was held at Logan Park, Auckland, from 7th to 9th August, 1973 and attended by 183 people, 85 for the full conference and 98 for one or two days.

The conference was opened by the Mayor of Auckland, Sir Dove-Meyer Robinson and 44 papers were presented during the three days of the conference. Professor Wain, from the United Kingdom attended the annual dinner but was unable to address the members due to loss of voice.

The Annual General Meeting was held on the Wednesday afternoon of the conference, attended by 70 members, and followed by the Annual Dinner and social evening.

Membership of the Society has remained fairly constant at about 320 including some overseas members.

The financial position of the Society improved during the year and it was not found necessary to raise the subscription by the full \$4.00 agreed at the 26th AGM. The saving occurred through a reduction in printing costs, our major expense item, of 18% on a per page basis following the change of printers.

A successful symposium was held at Lincoln in conjunction with the N.Z. Microbiological Society on Powdery Mildew of Cereals. Comprehensive summaries of the papers presented have been published in booklet form and have proved quite popular.

Four field days were held during the year, two in Hawkes Bay, of limited interest, and one each at Levin and Ruakura Research Centres, which were reasonably well attended.

The executive committee have a number of projects in hand. Messrs Allen and Leonard have nearly completed the preparation of an Index of the first 27 Proceedings of the Society which has been a very substantial work.

Preparations are underway for the production of a booklet on pests and diseases of cereals and a monograph on barley grass.

Sets of slides depicting disease symptoms on barley are in the pipeline and with the assistance of Botany Division, D.S.I.R. the 27th Proceedings includes a colour illustration.