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The 30th Conference of the New Zealand Weed and Pest Control Society was held at the Burma Motor Inn, Johnsonville, from 8-10 August, 1977. This was the first visit of the Society to the capital and a departure from the normal Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday to allow delegates to attend the Energy Conservation Conference held at Massey University in the same week.

The Conference was opened by the Hon. Duncan MacIntyre, Minister of Agriculture; another first in the Society's history. The big draw of the Conference was undoubtedly the full morning session on blue-green lucerne aphid which attracted a number of delegates from Australia, the pest having just arrived there. The Conference also gained from proximity in time to the Massey Conference which attracted participants from as far away as North America and the United Kingdom. Fifty-two papers were presented, 23 each on weeds and insects with the balance on fungal diseases. Seventy-two authors and co-authors contributed.

Seventy-nine members attended a prolonged and heated Annual General Meeting. Argument arose over the executive committee's decision to save costs, as requested by members at the 1976 AGM, and produced a pre-printed proceeding which, unfortunately, was delayed in printing and not pre-circulated. In spite of vocal dissatisfaction from a few, an overwhelming vote of confidence was given for the change in printing procedure to be repeated this year.

Membership has again increased and now stands at 338. The membership was, however, artificially increased by conference delegates having to obtain a copy of the proceedings, rather than a pre-print and consequently becoming listed as members for the year.

The financial position of the Society remains satisfactory, helped by good sales of the 2nd edition of our publication, *Identification of Weeds and Clovers* by A.J. Healy.

We still, unfortunately, have only one functional local branch, the Hawkes Bay branch, but they have again had an active year, with a number of meetings and field days. The Society also had a stand at the 1978 Ruakura Field Day which attracted a reasonable amount of interest.