members in plant pathology, weed science, entomology, agronomy etc. have an integral part to play in this drive. I believe we as a group are lying down and accepting the fact that we are being pushed back into a corner, when to achieve the objectives the country is aiming for, we should if anything be developing further. To do this we must get out and sell the contributions we can make. For example: Monsanto N.Z. Ltd has just sponsored a research project looking at the estimated costs of weeds to the Agricultural sector — surely a step in the right direction. A figure mentioned was a gross opportunity loss of as much as \$340 million at 1982/83 prices from weeds.

Our future careers, and the contributions we can make given the above figure in weeds alone, could be substantial. We shouldn't let people forget just how much we have to offer the economy and growers of New Zealand.

ANNUAL REPORT 1984-85

M.J. Hartley

The 37th Conference of the N.Z. Weed and Pest Control Society was held at the Russley Hotel, Christchurch, from 14-16 August 1984. The conference was opened by Dr Roy Nishimoto from the University of Hawaii who was on sabbatical at Ruakura. Dr Nishimoto gave his impressions of agricultural research in New Zealand in comparison to that in U.S.A.

The annual conference was again a popular forum for exchanging research information with 69 papers presented, 32 on insects, 29 on weeds and 8 on diseases.

The AGM held on 15 August 1984 was attended by 60 members. The executive had decided to take no further action on a name change for the Society and the AGM rejected the editor's call for a page charge on over long papers as a means of reducing the cost to the members of verbose authors.

Our new local branch, Waikato, has continued to be very active and organised, among other things, a seminar to avoid misuse of pesticides. Hawkes Bay and Canterbury are also still functioning satisfactorily but Manawatu and Dunedin have faded out.

The long awaited booklet on N.Z. Weeds in Colour, compiled by Alan Upritchard, has been printed and is selling well. Sales in the first four months have nearly cleared costs and most reports on the publication are very complimentary. I would like to thank Alan for all the work he has put into the production on the Society's behalf.

Finally, this will be my last annual report. After 14 years as Secretary of the Society I believe it is high time for a change. I have probably already held the office longer than is good for the Society. I have found the job most rewarding and hope that I have given satisfactory service. I believe the current high standing of the Society, as a publishing medium, may in part, be due to my efforts but I feel confident the Society will continue to flourish. I would like to thank all those people who have helped over the years and wish the Society continued prosperity.