



NEW ZEALAND
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
ASSOCIATION

NEW ZEALAND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



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72. A. Taylor...House and Storage Pits in Auckland Province.
76. Correspondence...Re Clay Pipe Dating. A. Oswald.
77. V.F.Fisher. The Role of the Auckland Museum in the Community.

EDITORIAL.

We have become conscious of the way the NEWSLETTER is evolving, from its original, blotting paper and news of far-flung Archaeologists, form to what is virtually a Scientific Journal, which has been appearing during this last year or so. In our imaginations we are tempted to foresee future issues with gorgeous, life-size polychromes (a good archaeological word), and each site-report scented with its own characteristic aroma! But, on our return to Earth, we discover some problems which are worth mentioning and which will have to be overcome before anyone's plans for the NEWSLETTER are to be fulfilled.

Everyone knows that to produce the NEWSLETTER is expensive in money and time, but it is very difficult to estimate the quantities of these expenses. However, we may discount the time aspect, for, though it should not be taken for granted, if people who do spend their time did not think it well spent, there would be no Archaeology. On the other hand, the money aspect may appear on the surface to be simpler than it really is. The fact is that the Auckland issue, for example, depends upon a whole host of hidden subsidies, such as the use of the University Bindery and University employed draughtsmen and, for that matter, if we ourselves were as fully employed in giving lectures as some of our colleagues we would have no time for this work. But, fortunately, the University Authorities realize that their International reputation is being upheld through the support of the NEWSLETTER! The problem which we see is that we are now exploiting these resources about as thoroughly as is possible, and that they could not support any further expansions or developments without special arrangements being made and special funds set aside. This full exploitation of the available resources is probably true for the other issues of the NEWSLETTER and though the present centralized organization is, amongst other things, an economical one, it is hard to see how the NEWSLETTER will be ever able to entirely fulfil the need for a thorough published record of New Zealand Archaeology.

In conclusion, and turning to another topic, it may be noticed that there is no consistent editorial policy in this issue towards that vexed subject of expressing the long vowels of the Maori Language in writing. We have no wish to arouse such a controversy as the one which simmers in the Press, which would not only obscure linguistic issues but be irrelevant to archaeological reports. In our opinion there is little or no chance of ambiguity and these differences should be allowed to exist as a reflection of individual opinions.