



NEW ZEALAND
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
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NEW ZEALAND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



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 EDITORIAL NOTES

This number of the Newsletter introduces the Eleventh New Zealand Science Congress to be held in Auckland in February. A selection of the programme of interest to archaeologists has been prepared by Dr.R.C.Green and is printed in this number. It is our intention to publish at least some of the papers in full in the first number of Volume 8.

At this stage may we hope that the simple rules of presenting papers are followed by those chosen to lecture us. Dr. Glyn Daniel, Editor of "Antiquity" has stated these rules clearly :-

1. Audibility : whilst it is not necessary to shout, all the audience should be able to hear you, and your audibility should be checked by thinking about it after a third and two-thirds of the lecture.

2. Brevity : if you have been asked to speak for an hour, prepare a script for fifty minutes ; if you have been allotted a half an hour, prepare a paper of twenty minutes. (This, in terms of pages, means 4-5 single spaced typed quarto pages for a half hour lecture. It is not only a courtesy to your audience but also essential to the exposition of your theme to prepare your paper in the manner to be presented - and not as a series of notes with slides to follow. Those giving an illustrated talk should realise that 10 slides will fill ten minutes no matter how interesting those other 30 slides may be. It is an embarrassment to both chairman and audience to steal time from the succeeding speakers for the day.)

3. Economy : start your lecture with what you want to say, say it and then stop. There is no time for preludes and postludes. Cut, and cut again.

4. Control : never apologize to your audience. The lecturers who say 'I am sorry I did not have time to get a slide made of this ' or ' I'm afraid the drawing of this is very bad ', should be shot, and probably will be one day. (The same may be said for those who apologize for over-running their allotted time.)

5. Modesty : you are not being honoured by performing, you are lucky to be asked to give a talk, and if you don't feel this way and observe the rules you won't be asked again.

Dr Daniel says that his rules are "counsels of perfection, perhaps, but then we want in Congresses more people achieving these standards." May we add that it is unwise to protest that the time allotted you is far too brief and that you must overrun it in order to say all you want to say : your argument can be extended later for publication, if you feel that less than justice has been done.

Ezra Pound said, "Rome rose with the idiom of Caesar, Ovid and Tacitus ; she declined in a welter of rhetoric, the diplomat's language to conceal thought..."
 " Good writers are those who keep the language efficient. That is to say, keep it accurate, keep it clear."

Vacation Activities : The Auckland Society is to continue last season's excavations at Ongari Point, under Wilfred Shawcross. The Otago University is to investigate Paeroa Village in the Bay of Islands, under Les Groube and Ham Parker. Dr.R.C. Green leaves for Hawaii for six months.