

### TARARUA PLANTS.

Mr Robert's notes for the study circle on April 23rd. are too full to be copied in toto and too meaty to be condensed. They give a general account of the size and character of the Tararua mountains, with special emphasis on the southern portion. A fairly detailed account is given of the points of botanical interest to be observed on a trip from Otaki to Kaitoke, via Hector, Alpha, and Marchant, with lists of chief species in the different communities. This would be so directly useful to anyone making that crossing and wishing to recognise the characteristic plants that it has been decided to make a few carbon copies of these notes so that they may be made available on loan to any member particularly interested.

### DAMAGE BY WIND AND FROST.

The southerly winds of late May seem to have done more damage than usual to plants and some shrubs and trees that usually stand up to the strong southerlies were affected by browning and death of the exposed foliage. Those here mentioned as suffering wind damage were seen along the waterfront between Lowry Bay and Kuritai; since most of the observations were made during a bus ride the list does not pretend to be complete nor are suggestions made as to why the damage was so great.

Large areas of gorse were almost completely browned and several trees of a species of pine and some specimens of Cupressus macrocarpa had suffered slightly. Other exotic damaged were the brooms Cytisus scoparius and C. proliferus, also Albizzia lophantha, Eucalyptus sp., Lavatera arborea, Festuca catarrha, Glaucium flavum, Senecio sp. (either mikanoides or angulatus), a plant of bamboo, periwinkle, pampas grass, and boxthorn.

The young shoots of pohutukawa were killed although the older leaves were uninjured. Even the tips and edges of the leaves of cabbage-trees were brown and some plants of Cassinia leptophylla were slightly affected. Nearly every gale was badly browned on the exposed side. Other native plants affected were Coprosma robusta, C. lucida, C. propinqua, C. repens, Coriaria arborea, Solanum aviculare, Leptospermum coparium, Brachyglottis repanda, Nothopanax arboreum, Uhlenbeckia complexa, Hebe salicifolia, Halorrhagis erecta, kahoe, karaka, and kawakawa.