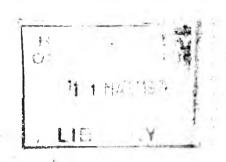


NEWSLETTER

Operational Research Society of New Zealand (Inc.)



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COUNCIL NOTES	4.	1
1		
BRANCH NOTES		2
SIMULATION OF CONTINUOUS SYSTEMS -		
A Seminar Report by A.M. Surti		4
	7	
CONFERENCE AND COURSES		6
NOTICES		8
O.R. PROGRAMS		9
NEWS OF MEMBERS		13

COUNCIL NOTES

From the Council Meeting of October 26 held immediately after the Annual General Meeting.

1. Dr Daellenbach (Canterbury Chairman) and Mr Rosser (Auckland Chairman) were co-opted to the Council.

2. The subcommittees are now as follows:-

<u>Constitutional</u> : Convener, Mr Cook,

Members: Dr Daellenbach, Professor Jackson, Mr Rosser

Professor Vignaux.

Education : Convener, Dr Barr,

Members: Mr Rosser, Dr Schroder, Mr Taylor,

Mr Walker.

International Affairs : Convener, Professor Vignaux,

Convener, Professor Vignaux, Members: Mr Cook, Dr Daellenbach,

Mr Foster, Professor Jackson,

Mr Purdie.

Membership Convener, Mr O'Brien,

Members: Mr Elder, Mr Lusk,

Mrs Fancy (nee Watson)

National Events : Convener, Mr Lusk (subject to his

acceptance),

Members: Mr Cook, Mr McKenzie,

Mr Nutsford.

<u>Public Issues & Awareness</u>: Convener, Mr Foster.

Members: Mr Jelicich, Mr McArthur,

Mr Slocombe.

Publications : Convener, Mr Scott, Editor NZOR

Dr Daellenbach, Editor Newsletter,

Mr Scott.

Members: Mr Elder, Dr Murtagh.

3. Mr Campbell was appointed as the Society's representative to the Royal Society of New Zealand.

4. As last year, provision is to be made in the Council budget for air trips to two Council meetings by each branch chairman (or nominee)

From the meeting of December 13.

- 1. The Council was told that the 1973 Annual Conference ran at a loss. Total expenditure was \$631 and the deficit is at least \$80 and may be \$120, depending on a disputed account.
- 2. Council adopted a 73-74 budget incorporating estimated expenditure of \$1672. Council has decided to seek corporate support to increase the Society's income.

- 3. The constitutional amendment passed at the S.M. held on October 26 has been registered by the Assistant Register of Incorporate Societies and has thus taken effect.
- 4. In England the President has had discussions with the President of IFORS, Professor Arne Jensen, about the possibility of an IFORS sponsored but otherwise self-supporting tour of New Zealand and Australia by Professor Jensen and another, perhaps Rivett.

BRANCH NOTES

AUCKLAND

A.meeting of the Auckland Branch was held on Tuesday 16th October. A panel from the Operational Research Department of New Zealand Forest Products spoke on "Operations Research Applications" in which they were involved. The emphasis being placed on Linear Programming. The three speakers were:-

Frank Coulter, Keith Reay, and Dereck Johansen.

Frank started the meeting with a description of the structure of the relevant Organisational Tree. As is now becoming noticeable with other New Zealand companies NZFP now has Operational Research under the general title of Management Services which also includes Work Study and EDP Applications. The O.R. section has its Manager, 5 Graduates and 1 Technical Assistant.

Linear Programming has been used for a number of years in:-

Logging Truck scheduling and Paper Trim Models. Later applications

include Saw Milling,

Wallboard Plant Planning and

Pulp and Paper.

Saw Milling Linear Programming was set up to determine the sizes of boards and quantities needed to be cut to satisfy sales. Difficulties arose in its operation because of the time lag involved in getting sufficient data in time to make reports useful. Other problems also arose with changes to wood grades and changes in the log size mix.

The Paper Trim Linear Programming was used for generating patterns for slitting but stopped short of Machine Sequencing. It was found that the constraints were too exacting and too many setups resulted. The system could be useful for several orders covering a few days work but falls short for several orders covering a couple of hours of work, i.e. a mix with a majority of short runs. The paper trim is now run on a System/7 on an hour to hour basis.

The Wall Board system is still in development. One interesting factor which Dereck mentioned was the progress he had made in bringing together the people involved from the various disciplines, i.e. O.R., Accounts, Sales, Production and Marketing to give a "total plant activity."

A general opinion of Linear Programming applications was that they are not very practical in short term production methods, and that at the other extreme very valuable in assessing year to year sales and in Marketing over a similar period.

CANTERBURY

1. Joint Meeting with Christchurch Transport Group - 6/6/73

W.A. Harding, Director of Management Services, Railways Department. Wellington, gave an adress on "O.R. in the Railways Department" to an audience in excess of 100 people. 0.R. in the Railways is in some sense still in its infancy. However, this is not due to a lack of O.R. or similar activities on the part of the Management Services which is in charge of such applications, but rather on account of the enormous complexity of railroad operations. A natural application for O.R. is the scheduling and redistribution of the various types of railroad cars, so as to To undertake a project of this maximize their utilization. nature requires a data base that is not available at the present time and detailed knowledge about movement and location of individual cars which requires a continuous monitoring system. It is here where efforts are presently underway. To acquire experience, a simulation model covering a small portion of the network is run in view of predicting car status and location into the future, based on manually transmitted real data. The meeting was followed by cocktails and supper.

2. Lincoln College Meeting on O.R. in Agriculture - 27/7/73

This was without doubt one of the highlights of this year's local programme. Professor W.O. McCarthy talked about "Plant Size and Location Studies" drawing from his research and modelling efforts for wool processing both in Australia and N.Z., where the potential benefit of implementation could run into the tens of millions of dellars. Due to the political as well as economic implications of such recommendations he stressed the need to provide policy makers not only with the optimal solution but also with a range of close to optimal or suboptimal solutions and the corresponding loss in benefits.

Mr A.T.G. McArthur, reader at Lincoln College, followed with a neat application of dynamic programming to dairy cattle culling in view of maximizing the return on a herd. As an interesting side point he could show that the rules of culling he had developed from empirical analysis some 20 years ago and which are widely followed in practice are close to optimal. Both talks stimulated a lively question and answer session. The meeting closed with cocktails and supper.

3. AGM Canterbury Branch - 26/9/73

The business part of the meeting was kept to a welcome minimum with a brief report by the Branch chairman on the status of the constitutional review, the changes proposed for the special AGM during this year's conference in Wellington and a brief outline of this year's conference. The treasurer's report followed with receipts and expenditure for the year balancing out. R.A. Clements, H.G. Daellenbach, D.G. Elms, M.L. Gimpl, T.A. Lusk, J.L. Rodgers were elected unopposed to the new committee which will decide at its first meeting on a chairman and secretary-treasurer.

The business meeting was followed by short presentations from three economics students on projects undertaken for a Masters seminar in O.R. Mr. F. Stewart talked about an inventory control model for Kiosks (housing for transformers). The particular feature of the problem was the fact that local suppliers due to shortages of raw materials and production capacity tend to lag behind the contractual supply rates. A Markov process model with two control parameters, the monthly supply target rate and an upper control limit to reduce supply rate, was presented.

Mrs S. Cook presented a forecasting model for food products subject to seasonal variations in demand where promotions play an important part of marketing strategy. Exponential smoothing with trend and seasonal adjustment was used. Tests indicate that the model performs well.

Mr. R. Proctor analyzed a highly complex model to optimize the number of cavities in dies for plastic molding so as to minimize the total production costs.

Each presentation stimulated considerable discussion and the three students should be commended both for the tremendous effort put into their projects as well as for their excellent presentations.

SIMULATION OF CONTINUOUS SYSTEMS

Seminar Report - By Mr A.M. Surti

A seminar on the topic of the simulation of continuous systems was organised by the Applied Mathematics Division of DSIR and held at AMD on 16 October 1973. The attendance was about 40 and included representatives from Auckland and Christchurch. The seminar was introduced by Professor G.A. Vignaux (Information Science, Victoria University) who outlined the background and the importance of modelling and simulation methods to the study of continuous systems. He discussed the fundamental aspects of simulation and described the wide variety of problems which can be tackled using simulation methods.

Dr. R. Allen (Fisheries Research, Marine Department) discussed the increasing use of simulation models as a guide for fisheries management. One of the most successful approaches has been the use of differential equations which simply treat the fish population as a homogeneous aggregate of biomass. The estimation of parameters and problems involved with the use of such models were discussed with particular reference to the yellow fin tuna fishery in the Eastern Tropical Pacific.

The use of Analog and Hybrid Computers as a tool for simulation was dealt with by A. Surti (A.M.D, D.S.I.R.). He then described a model study of a digital motor on a Hybrid Computer. The results and advantages of this approach were discussed. There then followed an animated discussion in which a question was raised about automatic patching. Surti said that today it is practical. There are hybrid computers incorporating automatic patching units in USA and UK, but in New Zealand it will be hard to justify the cost of incorporating such system, although cost wasn't a factor that held up the development in digital computer systems.

Dr R. Wooding (A.M.D., D.S.I.R.) reviewed a simple mathematical theory of a Hele-Shaw Cell which demonstrates a slow flow of a viscous liquid under the influence of pressure field and of gravity. Its application as a physical analogue to problems of potential theory, problems in water-oil interaction associated with oil production, and flow in porous media, including models of possible geothermal flow configuration were described.

In order to achieve complex engineering objectives in controlling modern electric (Hydro or Thermal) power stations a detailed study using computer modelling and simulation methods, will be necessary. Such objectives and possible methods were described, by C. Axford and B. Durdle (NZED).

Several contributions to the seminar dealt with simulation model studies using the finite element method. A detailed investigation of a suspension insulator with a view to design improvement was reported by Dr M. Fama (A.M.D., D.S.I.R.) A mathematical model, using the finite element method, is used to predict high tensile stresses and strains in the ceramic and hypothesize the probable fracture area.

Today in an environment conscious society, careful studies for management control of the use of natural resources are called for. Dr. S.M. Thompson (MOW) illustrated a simulated study of Lake Manapouri and discussed a method for comparison of hydro-electric operating rules for management of water storage.

Future advances in the field of weather prediction lie in the application of physical laws and theories to forecast the evolution of an initial observed state. A study of numerical weather prediction was described by Dr K. Trenberth of N.Z. Meteorological Services. A hierarchy of atmospheric simulation models of increasing complexity is being developed for use in the New Zealand area. However, inadequate initial data, because of the vast open oceans in this area, pose problems for numerical analysis of data and predictions.

Simulation of models used for forecasting are quite often criticised, specially in areas such as World Dynamics, Industrial Dynamics, Economic Dynamics, and Political Dynamics. Dr G. King (P.E.L., D.S.I.R.) described some of the drawbacks and limitations of Forrester's methods of forecasting world problems and a caution as to use and abuse of World Models for predicting world future. Dr King also described an effective forecasting method which is achieved by a panel of experts interacting anonymously through an executive panel.

Dr R. Deane (Reserve Bank) dealt with objectives and the results of the Reserve Bank econometric model, the nature of the model structure, and the problems involved in solving the system of 90 equations. One point made in the discussion was flexibility of models to enable incorporation of changes in policy variables which is important in forecasting.

Dr. R. Heath (D.S.I.R., Oceanographic Institute) described a computer model simulating the response of the ocean by employing a numerical method, using a space and time finite difference scheme. The results of the model, applied to both the New Zealand tide and the tides in Cook Strait, were discussed.

Finally, the seminar concluded with a general view that the wide variety of simulation studies, as required for New Zealand environment, justifies a need to form a special interest group, devoted to all aspects of simulation, under the auspices of an appropriate institute or learned society. In addition, the seminar also showed a need to hold a national seminar in the near future.

CONFERENCES AND COURSES

1. Second International Discussion Conference - 1974 Edinburgh, Scotland 8 July to 12 July

In 1971, the Universities of Lancaster, Pennsylvania and Sussex sponsored the First International Discussion Conference on Operational Research, held at Oxford. The motivation behind this venture was the realisation that people attending conferences often come away wishing there had been more time for informal meetings and discussion. Furthermore, the long lead time that is usually required of authors who write papers for conferences can be such that the work described is already superseded by the time the paper is read and published. The 1971 venture was an experiment in an entirely different way of running conferences. Its unique feature was that there were no formal papers. about 24 eminent persons in the O.R. and contiguous spheres were each invited to lead a discussion on a subject of particular current interest to himself. The experiment was a great success and the three Universities are now sponsoring the second such conference to be held in the summer of 1974, the administration this time being from Lancaster.

The Conference will be for five days. Some sessions will go on in parallel, but each speaker will have two sessions so that there should be a good chance that every participant will be able to attend at least one session of every speaker that interests him. Discussion leaders will be encouraged to prepare advance notes of the points they wish to raise in their sessions.

The following are expected to take part as discussion leaders: Ackoff, Balinski, Charnes, Cooper, Churchman, Collcutt, Emery, Emshoff, von Falkenhausen, Feeney, Gupta, Hertz, Krarup, Lindberg, Mercer, Moore, Muller-Merbach, Niehaus, Ozbekhan, Pau, Rapoport, Rivett, Roberts, Rosenhead, Sachs, Simpson, Thrall, Tomlinson, Williams.

The Conference is recognised by the International Federation of Operational Research Societies.

A brochure giving full details can be obtained by completing the slip below and forwarding to:

International Conference Secretary,
Dept. of Operational Research,
Cartmel College,
University of Lancaster,
Bailrigg,
LANCASTER, LA1 4YL,
ENGLAND

I have two copies of the Conference Booklet.

- Ed (J.L. Scott, C/- NAC, P.O. Box 96, Wellington)
- 2. The University of Lancaster, Department of Operational Research has three Postgraduate Courses in O.R.
 - 2.1 M.A., a one-year degree aiming to provide students with a basic training in O.R. The syllabus content is presented in three sections.
 - i. Mathematical and Statistical topics.
 - ii. O.R. Methodology and Associated Disciplines.
 - iii. Optional Courses for Application to particular problem areas and Advanced Techniques.

The lecture courses cover some 25 weeks between October and May followed by project work.

- 2.2 M.Sc., a research degree minimum of 12 months.
- 2.3 Ph.D., a research degree minimum period: 2 years (full time) 3 years (part time)

Admission is conditional on a student either:

- i. Possessing a recognised postgraduate degree or diploma in O.R. or equivalent qualifications, or
- ii. Performing satisfactorily in nominated papers of the M.A. examination.

For more detailed information on these courses I have an information booklet.

- Ed. (J.L. Scott, C/- NAC, P.O. Box %, Wellington)

3. 9th New Zealand Mathematics Colloquium -

The 9th New Zealand Mathematics Colloquium will be held on Tuesday to Thursday 14 - 16 May 1974 at the University of Auckland.

Contributed papers from all fields of pure mathematics, applied mathematics, statistics, computing, operational research, mathematical physics and the teaching of mathematics are called for. Also of interest are papers with a substantial mathematical content from other disciplines, e.g. economics, social sciences, theoretical physics. In addition there will be some invited speakers.

Accommodation - Rooms have been reserved in modern University Halls of Residence within a short distance of the Campus. These include a number of double rooms suitable for married couples. Families may also be accommodated. The tariff per day, for bed and three meals, will be about \$7.00 per person. Motel and hotel accommodation at higher rates can be arranged.

Preliminary Registration - To help the organizing committee with their preparations those who might attend are asked to complete a pre-enrolment form (which is not a commitment) obtainable from the Colloquium Secretary.

D.P. Alcorn,
Department of Mathematics,
University of Auckland,
Private Bag,
Auckland,
NEW ZEALAND

to whom general enquiries should also be addressed.

4. New Zealand Computer Society Inc. -

4th National Computer Conference to be held 21-23 August 1974 at the University of Canterbury, Christchurch.

The theme of the conference will be "Practical Computing" and the conference committee has been successful in recruiting eminent overseas speakers.

Registration forms will be circulated in March 1974, and registrations will close on 31 May 1974.

Accommodation will be arranged by the committee at Hotel or Motel and at the University Halls of Residence. A varied and interesting ladies programme will be organised.

Further information from -

The Chairman,
Fourth National Computer Conference,
P.O. Box 2557,
CHRISTCHURCH

5. If ORS 7th Triennial Conference. Japan 1975 July 17-24: Charter Flights -

IFORS is trying to arrange charter flights through JAL to the IFORS Meeting in Tokyo and Kyoto in 1975. At the moment these charter flights are from Europe and the USA but we may be able to arrange one in conjunction with Australia.

If anybody is interested in going to Japan at that time, and/or attending the conference, could they please contact

G.A. Vignaux,
Convener, International Affairs Committee,
Department of Information Science,
Victoria University of Wellington,
Private Bag,
WELLINGTON

NOTICES

1. Experienced O.R. Scientist Seeks a Position in New Zealand

An Operations Research scientist with experience in the National Coal Board Operational Research Executive is seeking a suitable position in Operations Research with New Zealand. He has had experience in communications and control, nework analysis, linear programming, simulation and teaching.

For further information please contact Professor G.A. Vignaux, Department of Information Science, Victoria University of Wellington, Private Bag, Wellington, Telephone 46-040.

2. Developing Countries - Systems Engineering

During the International Federation of Automatic Control - International Federation of Operational Research Societies 1973 Conference on "Applications of Systems Engineering Methods to Developing Countries" it appeared necessary to promote future contact between politicans in charge of development and systems specialists. IFAC has set up a Developing Countries Group (DECOG) which initially wishes to establish a list of specialists working in the systems field who could contribute to such contact. DECOG also wants to define the problems of developing countries where automatic control and systems theory could help.

Memhers of ORSNZ interested in participating actively in DECOG work are invited to write to the Convener of our International Affairs subcommittee (Box 904, Wellington).

3. HAVE YOU ANYTHING THAT MAY BE SUITABLE FOR THE JOURNAL!

Full details on the procedure for submitting manuscripts were in the last Newsletter

O.R. PROGRAMS

(A pinch from the NLTR of our Australian Brothers)

Attached is an index of O.R. oriented programs for which information has been received. If any member would like further details of these programs please contact the Australian Company concerned.

1. Control Data Australia

The following programs and packages are available:

APEXI CSSL3 MAGEN 6000 MIMIC NETFLOW II OPHELIE II PDQ/LP PMCS PPS IV SAAM SIMI5	Incore lp system - no integers Simulation of continuous systems Matrix and report generator program Solution of ordinary differential equations Automated analysis of transportation networks Mathematical programming system Rapid Linear programming system Project management control system Project planning and scheduling program Model fitting from experiemntal data Advanced system simulation programming language
FEPLOT SACM PI-PLOT POLYGRID/ GRIDCON LOADFLOW	A finite element code plotting system Surface approximations and contour mapping Ahighly versatile x-y plotting system A system for producing contour maps from randomly distributed data Electrical power network analysis
SYSCAP	System of circuit analysis programs

ADLPIPE A computer program for pipe stress analysis

AUTOFLEX Automated design of modern pressure piping systems

EAC/EASE Elastic analysis for structural engineering
MARC-CDC Anonlinear finite element analysis program
MRI/STARDYNE A static/dynamic structural analysis system

NASTRAN NASA structural analysis program
PIPEFLEX Piping system flexibility analysis
PISCES Violent stress analysis program

CIVCO Civil engineering computation system DCO/TRANPLAN A system for transportation planning

ENPAL A system for petroleum mining and production analysis

MITAS Athermal analyzer system

X-RAY-70 Structural analysis of crystals from diffraction data

APT 6000 Automatically programmed tooling system
SYSTEM 2000 A system for efficient management of data

SPSS Statistical package for social sciences AID Tree analysis of market research data

BMD Statistical analysis programs

MATH SCIENCE A comprehensive library of mathematical

LIBRARY and statistical programs CDC/MACRAN Random data analysis system

MATSTAT Subroutines for matrix manipulation and

statistical analysis

Q-A-PAK Questionnaire analysis program

RISK ANALYSIS An automated financial analysis system

!. IBM

commercial

comparison

From IBM we received a most comprehensive KWIC index for 0.R., which unfortunately goes only to 1967. The index is divided into three sections:

communicati on

competing

A: lists titles ty topic in alphabetical order
B: lists keywords in title by alphabetical order

C: lists articles by journal in chronological order for each

The 345 topics covered in Section A are:

accounting accounts administration advertising agriculture air airline airlift allocation allocating application analog applying applied army assembly assignments automated automation balancing banks banking behavoural bayesian bibliography bidding bond boolean budget brand business budgets chance capital choosing choice combat coal

aerospace aircraft allocations analogue applications arms assignment automatic bank bargaining best bonds branch budgeting calculus chemical classification

command

communications

competition

adaptive

competitive computers conguestion control corporate correlation c pm cybernetics decomposition design dispatching distributions dvamic economics electricity expansion facilities feed firm flows forecasting fractional gaming government growth heuristic information insurance inventories investments lanchester learning loading locations logistics machine management manufacturing markets material media military mixed naval nonlinear operations optimizing organisation packaging pert plant prediction probalilistic process production project psycho quadratic queueing railroad railways

regression

computer computing construction controlling corporation cost credit decision defence development distributing econometric education engineering exploration facility feedback fleet food forecasts game gas gradient handling highway input integer inventory job layout line locating logic long machines manpower market markov material medical minimax monte navy oil optimal optimum organisational parametric planning police price probabilities procurement productivity projects psychological quality

queues railroads

real

reject

compute_rized conflict consumer convex correlated costs critical decisions dependability discriminant distribution duality economic electric equipment exponential federal financial flow forecast forest games geometric graphs health industrial inspection international investment lagrange layouts linear location logistic lot maintenance manufacturer marketing markovian maximum medicine missile national

network operational optimization

organisations personnel plans portfolio pricing probability product products psychiatric public queue queuing railway regional reliability

repair resource risks route sales sampling schedules selecting sequence server services shop simulations sociological statistical stochastic stocks strategy survey symbolic sys tems target telephone traffic transportation trucking underdeveloped urban

replacement resources road routes salesman savings scheduling ${ t selection}$ sequences servers servicing simulating ${ t smoothing}$ sociology statistics stock strategic submar ine survival symposium tactical targets terminal training travel trust universities utility walks warfare

risk roads routing sample schedule search sensitivity sequencing service shipping simulation social standards steel stockage strategies surveillance switching system tactics taxtextile transport trunk uncertainty university waiting war water work

research

3. Computer Sciences Australia

walk

weapon

warehouses

z-transforms

CSA publish an exhaustive list of all programs available on their INFONET system. This is a subset of that catalogue.

weapons

CONDXA	Construction cost estimating and scheduling
COST	Computerised management system which provides
	cost and profit estimates for new or modified
	processing facilities.
AREA	Evaluates areas in traverses
COGO	Surveying and engineering geometry program
HYNAL	Analyses flow in hydraulic networks
STORM	Computes variables for storm drains
SYMAP	Produces maps on a line printer which depict spatially variable data
ANSYS	General purpose engineering analysis program
GASP	General purpose structural analysis package
STRESS	Linear analysis of elastic, statically loaded structures
BMIS	Basic management information system
ECAP	Classical electronic drcuit analysis program
FILTER	Computes steady state and transients of filter functions
QCSTAT	55 programs to aid the quality control engineer in virtually all areas of statistical quality control and analysis.
RELAN	19 programs designed to perform systems and component reliability analysis

CSTRES	390 programs for stress-strain analysis
CAPVAL	Comprehensive tool for making advantageous decisions on capital planning and resource management
FIPLAN	Financial forecasting and planning system
CALNDR CPM SPREDX	Calendar moutine for CPM Critical path upto 350 activities A CPM and resource analysis system
PRISM	investigate models by simulation of past history
LINSYS LITUMP UMPIRE	Small linear and quadratic programming Incore UMPIRE - no integers Mathematical programming system
RISK	Risk analysis
GPSS	General purpose simulation system
CRIPS	A project network analysis tool using CPM
CSTS MATH-PACK 78	Mathematical subroutines plus many mathematical programs

CSTS STAT-PACK/Many statistical routines, particularly for handling

NEWS OF MEMBERS

UCLA BIOMEDICAL large amounts of data

PROGRAMS

W.P. Foster and T.W. Marks are now Registered Systems Engineers and we extend our congratulations.

LATE ADDITION

The 4th Internet Congress entitled Project Management in the Seventies will be held in Paris from Sept 30 to Oct 3, 1974. "The Congress objectives are to give the state of the art, to provide for exchange of knowledge and multinational experience in project management, to spread operations management concepts in Industry, Commerce and Government and to present up to date project management techniques."

The Programme Committee are calling for papers which focus on the areas of Top Level Management, Project Management, Project Management Tools, and Research and Advanced Techniques.

The Congress official lanaguage is English and copies of the Conference booklet are available from the Ed. (J.L. Scott, C/- NAC, P.O. Box 96, Wellington.