

## ELECTION OF LIFE MEMBERS

At the twenty-fifth annual conference, the Society elected to life membership five of its founder members — R. A. Candy, Dr W. M. Hamilton, Dr C. P. McMeekan, Sir Geoffrey Peren and A. H. Ward.

## R. A. CANDY, O.B.E.

R. A. Candy started his career as a farm worker and later was a share-milker for a period prior to purchasing his present property, "Somersby", at Ngarua in 1925.

His ability as a dairy farmer soon became apparent and over the years his farm has ranked as one of the most productive and efficiently run dairy farms in the country. Successive targets of 250, 300 and 350 lb of butterfat per acre have been achieved and there is little doubt that before very long a production of 400 lb butterfat per acre will be reached. This level of production would be a notable achievement on any farm but is particularly creditable on a large farm such as "Somersby".



For many years Mr Candy owned a pedigree Jersey stud which became one of the best known in the country. In more recent years he has had sheepfarming interests and he promises to become as well known for his achievements as a sheep farmer as he is as a dairy farmer.

However, Alan Candy has not only become well known for his ability as a farmer; he has become perhaps even better known for his wider interest in the fields of national productivity and the international marketing of New Zealand's dairy produce.

Early in his farming career he became interested in the developing herd testing movement and in 1929 was elected to the committee of management of the N.Z. Co-operative Herd Testing Association, now the Auckland Herd Improvement Association. In 1933, at the age of 30, he became Chairman of this organization, a position he still holds. When the N.Z. Dairy Board became responsible for the development of the herd improvement movement in 1936, he was a foundation member of its Herd Improvement Council. He has been chairman of this Council since 1937 and as such has played a major part in directing the policy of the Board's advisory, investigational and artificial breeding services.

At the same time, he has played a major role in the manufacturing and marketing spheres of the dairy industry. He has been a director of the New Zealand Co-operative Dairy Company since 1935 and was its Deputy Chairman from 1952 to 1957. He was a member of the Dairy Products Marketing Commission from its formation in 1947, and was elected chairman in 1957, a position he held until 1961 when, following the amalgamation of the Commission and the N.Z. Dairy Board to form the N.Z. Dairy Production and Marketing Board, he became Deputy Chairman of the new organization.

These are, however, only a selection of the many activities which he has somehow found time for. He was Chairman of the Waikato Council of Primary Production and a member of the National Council during World War 2. His efforts in this direction were recognized by the award of the O.B.E. in 1946. He was a member of the Massey Agricultural College Board of Governors for nine years and its Chairman for two of these years. He was a member of the management committee of the Dairy Research Institute for five years, a director of the Challenge Phosphate Company for eleven years, and he is a Past President of the Waikato Province of the dairy section of Federated Farmers.

Mr Candy is a foundation member of this Society. He took a prominent part in many of its earlier conferences, has presented several papers, and served for a period on the Management Committee. Although pressure of other duties has largely prevented his attendance at conferences in recent years, he has retained a keen interest in the affairs of the Society. His leadership and example have done much to further the cause of animal production in New Zealand.

W. M. HAMILTON, M.AGR.SC., D.SC., F.R.S.N.Z.

Dr W. M. Hamilton attended Auckland University in 1931 and Massey Agricultural College from 1932 to 1935. He graduated M.Agr.Sc. in 1936 with First Class Honours in Field Husbandry and Agricultural Economics and in that year joined the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research. In 1937 he was appointed Assistant Scientific Liaison Officer, London. Returning to New Zealand at the end of 1940, he worked for a short time on linen flax, undertook land utilization studies in Northland, and carried out a survey of the dairy industry in New Zealand for which he was awarded a Doctor of Science degree by the University of New Zealand in 1944. His profound knowledge of the dairy industry has been utilized through his membership of the Herd Improvement Council's advisory committee since its formation in 1947.



He was appointed Assistant Secretary to the D.S.I.R. in 1948, Secretary in 1953 and Director General when titles of departmental heads were later amended.

In 1955 and 1958, Dr Hamilton represented New Zealand at the International Congresses on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy held at Geneva. He also led the New Zealand delegation to the Commonwealth Agricultural Bureaux Review Conferences in 1955 and 1960, and in 1963 was appointed to a Special Committee to study the long-term problems of the Bureaux.

In 1960 and 1962, he was a representative to the meetings of the British Commonwealth Scientific Committee, and was appointed Chairman for the third meeting of this Committee held in New Zealand in November, 1964.