

ELECTION OF LIFE MEMBERS

AT THE twenty-first annual conference, the Society elected to life membership two of its founder members—Sir E. Bruce Levy and Dr J. F. Filmer.

SIR E. BRUCE LEVY, O.B.E., D.SC.

In Bruce Levy, the Society has honoured a very well-known and admired stalwart of animal production. Already honoured by the Queen with a Knighthood, by the University of New Zealand with an Honorary Doctorate of Science, and by the Grassland Association with life membership, Sir Bruce has earned and received very high honours for his grassland work. These honours have largely been granted for his contributions directly to pasture and turf culture.



In electing Sir Bruce Levy to life membership, the Animal Production Society acknowledges more his direct contributions to animal thrift and production. These have been many, quite apart from the obvious increase in animal production resultant from better pasture strains, better pasture establishment, and better pasture and crop husbandry, to all of which Sir Bruce has made large contributions.

On the direct animal side, mention may be made of Sir Bruce's early work on "bush sickness" under Aston, field trials on pulpy kidney disease in collaboration with Gill, and later his leadership in investigations into the cause of feed flavours in cream. This latter work ranged from field surveys to correlations between pasture composition and feed flavours, and detailed stall feeding and paddock trials in collaboration with Riddet and others. Also in this investigation, Sir Bruce's studies of cow feeding and resting behaviour made its own direct contribution and prefaced John Hancock's later more detailed work along the same valuable lines. Likewise with Sir Bruce's field studies of facial eczema, in which he and his team picked up and developed the system of restricted grazing for field control or prevention of the malady. Later work included the detailed field trials run in collaboration with Massey College of the effects on sheep thrift and fertility of high production pasture.

It would indeed be fair to say that, although Sir Bruce Levy has had a large share of the responsibility for introducing high

production pasture species and strains into New Zealand agriculture, he has likewise made a parallel, generous contribution to the definition of associated animal thrift problems, and to their solution.

It is for this balanced approach that the Society is proud to honour Sir Bruce Levy with life membership. With this goes the sincere wish that, although now retired from active research, he will continue to contribute his effective support and interest in the animal production problems of New Zealand grassland.

JOHN FRANCIS FILMER, I.S.O., D.V.SC., F.R.S.N.Z., A.R.C.V.S.



The election of John Filmer to life membership is a recognition of his outstanding contributions to animal production, and it is fitting that he should also have been one of a small group of enthusiasts who founded the Society, of which he is a past president (1944-45). He has served on the governing bodies of other learned societies, being a past president of the New Zealand Veterinary Association (1945-46; 1952-53), and of the New Zealand

Grassland Association (1955). He has also acted as a member of many official committees and has represented New Zealand at several overseas conferences. He was elected an honorary Associate of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons in 1954, and a Fellow of the Royal Society of New Zealand in May, 1961.

J. F. Filmer was born in Victoria, Australia, in September, 1895. Much of his earlier life was spent in Western Australia where his father was a veterinary surgeon. A Government Exhibition Scholarship took him to Melbourne University from which he graduated B.V.Sc. in 1916. In World War I he served with the Royal Army Veterinary Corps in Greece and Salonika.

On his return to Australia he married, and engaged in private practice in Western Australia until 1925 when he joined the Department of Agriculture there. In 1936 he went to Victoria as Veterinary Research Officer to the Western District Research Association. New Zealand became the land of his adoption when he joined the then Wallaceville Veterinary Laboratory in February, 1938. Soon afterwards Melbourne University conferred on him the degree of D.V.Sc. for a thesis on his work on cobalt deficiency. In March, 1938, Dr Filmer became Director