

The North Queensland Naturalist

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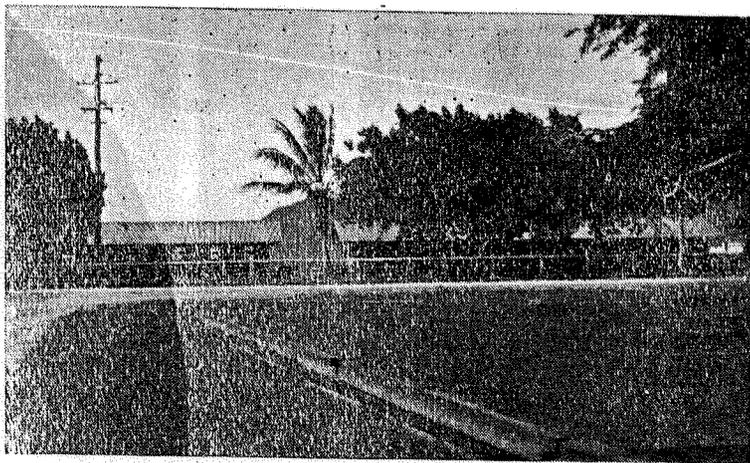


Photo by G. Atkinson.

HISTORY OF NORTH QUEENSLAND MUSEUM

By H. Flecker, F.R.G.S.A.

For some fifteen years past, the North Queensland Naturalists' Club has specially interested itself in an effort to secure the establishment of a museum in Cairns. As long ago as 5th July, 1935, the energetic Honorary Secretary of the Field Naturalists' Club of Victoria, Mr. S. F. Colliver in a private letter wrote:—

"We all hope over here that the efforts for the museum are successful; certainly an institution such as this is absolutely essential to make the Reef known. Just recently I went through the museum here, (Melbourne) looking at the odds and ends from the tropics, other than the insects which are well represented and the reptiles, we have very little indeed. And certainly a good museum would be very attractive, and think what a wonderful aquarium could be installed in Cairns! Really everything is at hand to make the place the premier attraction of Australia to both the scientist and to the general public. It is amazing how short-sighted local governments are; when restriction on expenditure is necessary it is always helped by decreasing grants to scientific societies, etc. One of these days

they may wake up!"

In fairness to the Cairns City Council, it should be stated that it is wholeheartedly behind the movement to establish a museum, for on November 15th of the same year is the note that the City Council is in earnest in its desire to endeavour to establish in Cairns a National Museum and Art Gallery, and is inquiring concerning the possibility of acquiring the property at present occupied as the Headquarters of the Cairns Shire Council (later the Mulgrave Shire Council) should it vacate these premises. Certainly a more suitable locality for such an institution could scarcely be conceived, being in a quiet part of the city, on the Esplanade, and exceedingly handy to the various hotels and shopping centres, not far from business establishments and in the most favorable position possible for tourists.

Unfortunately at a referendum of the citizens of the Shire, it was decided that the Council Chambers should remain in Cairns and not be removed to Gordonvale, fifteen miles away as was proposed; accordingly the building on the Esplanade could not be made available for museum purposes.

On September 11th, 1936 is the

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note: "It appears to be the impression that the museum proposed to be established in Cairns is intended solely for the benefit of its citizens and to the visitors to this city. However, the aim is much more than this for it is hoped to gather specimens for the most part from the whole of North Queensland, that is to say, a museum primarily for the particularly abundant and interesting North Queensland material. Nor is it intended to benefit only the residents of North Queensland, but also the remainder of Queensland, the whole of Australia and even the entire world. For it is of great interest to scientists of all countries to compare their own material with others from all parts, and the North Queensland material is best arranged in the centre of such district, and surely no city is more fitted to collect, store and arrange such a collection than Cairns. It is hoped that in due course the authorities will quite appreciate this fact, for if well arranged and cared for, such a museum will appeal especially to tourists and others from all parts of the world."

It is thus readily seen that the most interesting museum in Australia is possible, and it will add enormously to the attraction for tourists as well as from the educational point of view to residents in North Queensland.

On December 11th, 1936 is the following: "A great step forward has been made by the decision of the Cairns City Council to apply to have the block of land in a central position gazetted a reserve for the purpose of building a museum thereon, and a meeting will be convened shortly to establish a fund to provide means for a building. Meanwhile a temporary storeroom will be erected at Edge Hill for the accommodation, classification and labelling of specimens.

On February 26th, 1937 is the announcement that the Cairns City Council had agreed to the cost of the survey of the quarter acre allotment at the corner of Lake and Aplin Streets, Cairns. Doubtless when the survey is completed, the block will be formerly gazetted as a reserve for a museum. Meanwhile steps will be taken to inaugurate a fund to enable a building to be erected thereon."

The land referred to above forms at present part of the school grounds

of the Cairns Central State School, and the Education Department was quite agreeable to permit of such gazettal provided that access to the museum when functioning would always be available to school children.

On December 3rd, 1937, the North Queensland Naturalists' Club sent out a circular to its own members asking to what extent support might be expected from them, so that some example might be shown before making an organized appeal to all sections of the community by a committee especially elected for that purpose. Meanwhile a temporary storeroom erected by the Cairns City Council is being specially fitted up for the reception of the specimens. As a result of this appeal to its members, the sum of £38/2/6 was promised and it was left to the Committee to make an appeal to all sections of the community throughout North Queensland.

On February 18th, 1938 is the announcement that a Provisional North Queensland Committee had been formed to raise funds for the establishment of a museum, of which His Worship the (then) Mayor of Cairns, Alderman W. A. Collins was appointed Chairman, Mr. R. T. McManus, Vice-Chairman; Mr. J. Wyer, Hon. Secretary and Mr. A. Wilkinson as Treasurer. Plans had been drawn up by Mr. E. R. Orchard for an imposing edifice which was estimated to cost about £9,000 at that time.

Already on May 13th of the same year, an actual start had been made with the fund, and in addition to the money already collected and in hand, a number of bodies have promised to support the movement by further contributions. The land at the corner of Aplin and Lake Street was duly gazetted as a site for the Museum, and the store room at Edge Hill was being used for a Herbarium, and the accumulation of much other material. This storeroom was a substantial timber construction with a concrete floor, fitted with cupboards and furniture, the entire contents with fittings and furniture being erected and supplied by the Cairns City Council. It was located at the Cairns City Nursery, about three miles out of town, next to the residence of the City Curator the late Mr. Leslie Wright, in whose care the building was entrusted. A very substantial botanical collection

was formed, being the nucleus of the N. Q. Herbarium and much zoological, mineralogical, ethnological and other material was housed therein.

In September, 1939 war broke out, when about £140 in cash had been collected and the appeal had to be postponed. Shortly afterwards the store room had been commandeered as a depot for Red Cross Stores, thus further hampering operations for which the building had been erected.

Even while the war was still on, on 21st July, 1944, amongst the post-war proposals submitted by the Cairns City Council to the co-ordinator General of Public Works for consideration by the National Works Council were the development of a Botanical Reserve at Edge Hill at a cost of £10,000 and a museum to cost £5,000. By this time, the Herbarium collection had accumulated in over 200 boxes approximately 10,000 sheets, all mounted, labelled and classified, representing over 2,100 species native to North Queensland as well as 1,600 from elsewhere.

On a visit to North Queensland, on 17th October, 1944, the eminent naturalist and journalist, Mr. Charles Barrett, F.R.Z.S. expressed his views in no uncertain manner of the necessity for a museum in these parts. "Cairns as a tourist centre should have its own Natural History Museum." He said that he was wholly in accord regarding the necessity for the assembling of such a museum here regardless of cost. It is therefore hoped that when the appropriate time comes much more than the contemplated £4,500 will be made available to accommodate the collection, which will represent one of the most interesting of all fields of natural history.

Whilst the war was still raging, not much could be done, and at the termination of hostilities, a very considerable delay was caused by a change in programme, when it was decided to seek the cooperation of the various services in establishing in Cairns a War Memorial to take the form of a Museum. At the outset, the R.S.S.A.I.L.A. was agreeable to promote the scheme and ultimately a meeting was called on 13th February, 1947 to establish a Provisional Committee comprising representatives of about a dozen or more of the leading influential bodies, particularly the Cairns City Council, the Cairns Harbour Board, the

Cairns Chamber of Commerce and the R.S.S.A.I.L.A., etc., etc. Mr Gordon Venables of the last mentioned body was appointed first Chairman.

An ambitious proposal for collecting funds with the aid of a paid organiser was made, and ultimately Mr. A. J. McMaster was appointed organiser.

The most useful of these proceedings was the handing over by the Cairns Harbour Board of two large buildings, one of which was to have been occupied by war exhibits, and the other as a general museum, herbarium and library established by the N. Q. Naturalists' Club. These two buildings were in an ideal situation on the Esplanade, facing Anzac Park and were erected by the Royal Australian Navy and together with a large collection of other buildings erected as barracks were given the name of "H.M.A.S. Kuranda." The whole is situated on a considerable area of the foreshore reclaimed by the Cairns Harbour Board immediately before hostilities commenced. Later on, these barracks were occupied as Headquarters of the 17th Line of Communications which served as a base of operations for all units in this area.

All the specimens which had been stored at Edge Hill, as well as the library of the North Queensland Naturalists' Club, which had been previously housed privately were transferred to the new quarters.

However, on the whole, the funds hoped for were not forthcoming and it became evident that the movement was not gaining ground. By 2nd March, 1949 the final meeting lapsed for want of a quorum so that the whole scheme of a War Memorial had to be abandoned. The sum of £145 collected by the Provisional Museum Committee before the war was handed over to this body.

On 22nd September, 1949, at a public meeting of citizens, the North Queensland Museum Committee was duly established, when a committee of nine was elected. This new body was thus authorised to take charge of zoological, mineralogical and ethnological activities hitherto carried out by the members of the N. Q. Naturalists' Club, and thus took over the building, which was formerly part of the "Kuranda Barracks." The N. Q. Herbarium as well as the Library remained in the care of the Naturalists' Club, and these now occupy two rooms at the northern end

of the buildings. It has been arranged however, that all material collected by the club shall remain the property of the club, and be regarded as being on loan and labelled accordingly. They will at all times be available for any special purpose such as lectures, etc. The sum of £145 noted above has now been handed over to the new Committee.

To assist in the operations of the Museum, the Naturalists' Club has appointed the following honorary specialists:

Ethnologist: Mr. V. D. Behrendorff.
Geologist: Mr. George Atkinson.
Astronomer and Archnologist: Mr. H. R. Barkus.
Lepidopterist: Mr. Gordon McLoughlin.
Coleopterist: Mr. George Brooks.
F.R.Ent. S.
Carcinologist: Mr. A. J. Read.
Conchologist: Mr. J. Courtney.
Ichthyologist: Mr. V. Vlasoff.
Herpetologist: Mr. S. E. Stephens.
Ornithologist: Mrs. S. E. Stephens.
Mammalogist: Mr. G. B. Stephens.
The above team is at present actively engaged in not only arrang-

ing the displays, but also in securing and erecting fittings and show cases.

To the Cairns Harbour Board much credit must be given for the success so far achieved. For many years, its Secretary, the late Mr. T. R. Hall looked after a collection of various specimens, duly shown to visitors as "Publicity Exhibits." This originated at the School of Arts, which body transferred the exhibits to the Harbour Board. Mr. Hall's successor, Mr. J. Wyer has been Honorary Secretary of the N.Q. Naturalists' Club from its inception in 1932, as well as of the two earlier museum committees and nobody has been more zealous in promoting the welfare of this movement. The Chairman, Mr. R. T. McManus and also the Vice-Chairman have also taken a prominent part in the earlier museum committees, whilst the Harbour Board itself has made it possible to occupy the large buildings, now available, free of rent and other charges, such as light, etc., a truly liberal and generous action.

Annual Report North Queensland Naturalists' Club 1948-49

To the Members of the North Queensland Naturalists' Club.
13th September, 1949.

Dear Members,

In presenting the Presidential Report for the year 1948-49, I desire to point out that although the Committee of your Club has had a very busy year and has done much for the welfare of the Club and its Members, the entire ramifications of the Club were not as successful as they might have been.

One factor which was responsible to a degree was our inability to fulfil every Office of the Club, and without a full team of officers, no Club can operate successfully.

The Council was unable to fill the Offices of Assistant Secretary Correspondence, and Assistant Secretary Organising although nominations were called for at almost every general meeting throughout the year.

The lack of an Assistant Secretary Organising of the Club has meant that the field days and other social functions were indeed very limited.

The lack of an Assistant Secretary Correspondence was not so

seriously felt, as Dr. Flecker was able to undertake a great part of the work. The amount of correspondence, both inward and outward is voluminous, and Dr. Flecker is highly commended for the great amount of time and exertion in this direction.

18 new members were admitted to the Club during the year, and although several are country members and are unable to attend our General Meetings, I am happy to say that they are most active.

Early in 1949 the Constitution and Rules of the Club were printed and circulated among the Members.

It is with regret I record the illness of our Treasurer, Mrs. Legge. She has been away from Cairns for approximately 6 months and during that time her duties have devolved upon Mr. Wyer.

Our financial position is not as healthy as it was this time last year. Heavy expenditure in publication of Booklets by the Club has reduced our Bank Balance considerably.

Much valuable work has been done throughout the year for the Museum. Several members are de-

serving of high praise for their efforts, but the amount of time expended and work done by Dr. Flecker in the interest of Natural History of North Queensland is astounding and deserves special mention. Special praise also goes to Mr. Read and the two junior members, the McLoughlin boys.

Several Lecturers were present during the year and these included Capt. Frank Hurley, Mr. Krauss, Dr. Selling, Dr. Womersley, Mrs. Morley, Mr. Mackay, Mr. Holloway.

In conclusion, I desire to extend thanks to those members who as-

sisted throughout the year by their attendance at Meetings and offers of help when called upon. I regret that many offers of co-operation and assistance promised me upon my election as President were not forthcoming, but I do sincerely trust that my successor will be afforded a more wholehearted measure of support, and so make his term of office much more happier than mine has been.

JAMES GRAY,
President.

September, 1949.

Further Notes On The Ooyurka Of North Queensland

By Keith Kennedy, Curator, Museum of Music, Townsville.

Since writing "Two Stone Implements of North Queensland," published in the N.Q. Naturalist, June, 1949, I have recently received further information from Mr. C. Freeman of Townsville, regarding the implement described as No. 1.

He said that while camped at Culpa Creek in the Culpa land at the back of Tully Falls in 1932, he saw an aborigine named Harry, who had returned to his home country at Culpa after escaping from Palm Island, fitting a wooden handle to an iron axe-head, and using a similar implement to those described and illustrated in the North Queensland Naturalist, to smooth the handle.

On re-examining No. 1, I find that there is a slight but definite concavity from point to point in the base.

This concavity measures two mm. at the centre, and increases in depth if the implement is held at an angle, as it would be when used for rubbing some object. One end of the base has a "nose" chipped on it as if intended for gouging.

No. II is slightly convex in the centre of the base, therefore the ends are raised, but when the implement is held at an angle this convexity disappears and there is a slight concavity.

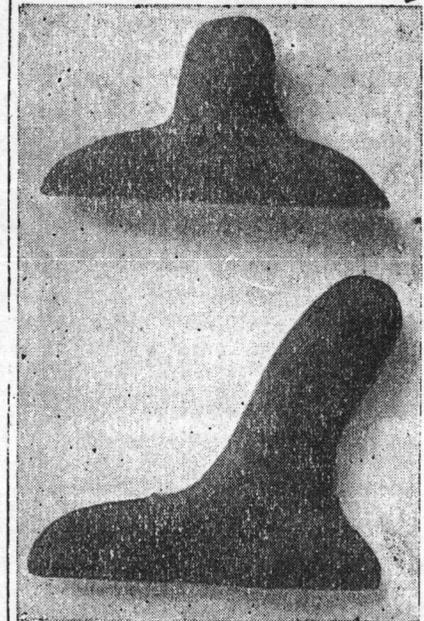
Mr. Fowler, the finder of the implement has given additional information as to where he found it.

He picked it up near a heap of shells at Dungeness at the mouth of the Herbert River in 1929.

FIGURES DESCRIBE

By the courtesy of the National Museum of Victoria, Melbourne, I have received a copy of the Museum Memoirs, No. IX, 1936, in which is described an implement of this kind in the Museum collection and

on page 90, D. A. Casey figures and describes four of these interesting artifacts, two of the examples be-



obtained from Mena Creek, North Queensland, one in the Australian Museum, Sydney from Cairns, and one in the Queensland Museum, Brisbane from Innisfail.

That in the Queensland Museum (according to Casey) is labelled Whetstone, native name Ooyurka, used by the Settlement Creek blacks to sharpen tomahawks, etc., and to strip netted fibre of vervain. Pre-

sent to the Museum by Mr. H. Tryon in 1897.

McCarthy Bramell and Noone in Memoir IX, 1946, of the Australian Museum, Sydney, described and illustrated some of these implements, and apply the term Mena to them after Mena Creek, North Queensland.

This name, however, is unwarrantable, as the aboriginal name Ooyurka has priority.

It is also totally unsuitable for Mr. L. B. Williams, Secretary of the North Queensland Development League has kindly passed on to me a letter from Mr. H. A. Noone of Mena, who, in it tells of how the name Mena came into being.

In the old days, the name was Stewart's Creek, and, as there was another Stewart's Creek near Townsville, confusion arose, especially when a letter addressed to a settler

was sent to Stewart's Creek Gaol by mistake and was returned marked "unknown here."

Through the efforts of Mr. Noone, the name was therefore changed to Mena Creek after the camp where Australian troops were stationed during World War I.

Mena in Egypa derives its name from a kind of chess played by the ancient Egyptians, so the word is already occupied in archaeological terminology.

Even if it were not, it is unsuitable to name an Australian artifact after a place name in Egypt.

The Director of the Queensland Museum, Brisbane has informed me that there are now three of these uncommon artifacts in the Museum collection, and it has been decided to describe all three in the next issue of the Memoirs of that institution.

ing that further specimens might be found. I ventured a guess that it might prove to be an unknown *Thrixspermum*, as the capitate inflorescence somewhat resembled the bud stage of that of *T. album*. For nine years, however, the Zarda specimen remained the only one

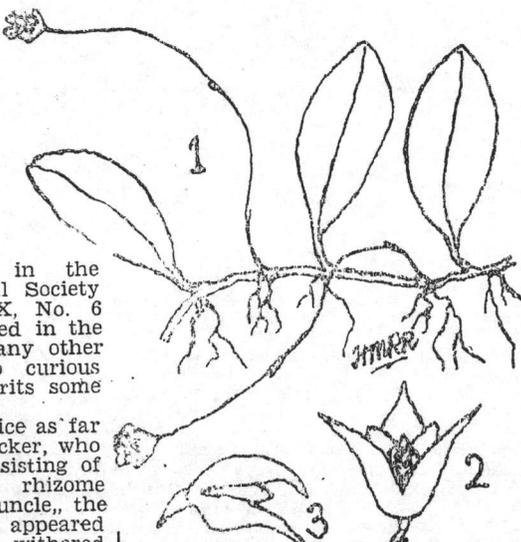
Bulbophyllum Evasum

An Interesting North Queensland Species.

Note by the Rev. H. M. R. Rupp

This appears as a new species in "A Review of the Genus *Bulbophyllum* in Australia," by the

- +++++
 + Hunt and Rupp
 + 1. Part of the plant,
 + natural size.
 + 2. Flowers from the
 + front, enlarged.
 + 3. Flowers from the
 + side, enlarged.
 +++++



above authors, published in the "Transactions of the Royal Society of Queensland," Vol. LX, No. 6 (1949). It is fully described in the text; but it is so unlike any other Australian species, and so curious in appearance, that it merits some additional remarks:

It was brought to my notice as far back as 1936 by Dr. H. Flecker, who sent a small specimen, consisting of a very short portion of rhizome with one leaf and one peduncle, the latter terminated by what appeared to be a little "head" of withered flowers. This specimen, which was dry when received, came from Zarda—Root's Creek track, Mt. Spurgeon. As it was the only material available, I did not care to risk injuring it by any critical examination, hop-

known to me. (Actually, there was one from Bellenden Ker in the Brisbane Herbarium, collected in 1889 by a collector whose name was not recorded; but this I did not know). In 1945 I received a few

specimens without flowers from Mr. W. W. Abell, then living at Gadgarra on the Atherton Tableland. Being confident that these were identical with the Zarda plant, I now ventured to examine the latter more critically. A flower was successfully softened out, and my hypothesis of a *Thrixspermum* vanished. The details fitted *Bulbophyllum* better than anything else; but the absence of pseudobulbs was puzzling. In the following year, specimens were received by Mr. Hunt from Cardwell (Mrs. W. Kirkwood), Bellenden Ker Range (J. H. Wilkie), Chilverton (S. E. Stephens), and Hambleton (A. E. Johnson). These included flowering plants, and some were sent on to me. Meantime I had learnt that some Indian and Malayan species of *Bulbophyllum* were devoid of pseudobulbs. We were now in a position to work out the character of this elusive little orchid, which had evaded identification for well over half a century—in view of which fact we decided to name it *B. evasum*. The Zarda specimen has been retained as the Type, the floral details having been first revealed from it. It is preserved in the National Herbarium of N.S.W. at Sydney.

Anything less like the popular conception of an Orchid than this curious little *Bulbophyllum* can scarcely be imagined, except perhaps the still more curious "subterranean," *Rhizanthella* and *Cryptanthemis*. It is the only known Australian *Bulbophyllum* with a capitate inflorescence.

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**Archaeological Sites—
 Somerset**

Through the courtesy of the Department of the Co-ordinator-General of Public Works the following report is made available; and is dated 13th March, 1950, W. Wynne Williams,

BORA GROUNDS on Portions 15 and 12V, Parish of Bowman, in the District of Hazeldean, about 6 miles South of Kilcoy.

The following data is supplied by Mr. James Walker of Hazeldean, Kilcoy, who came to reside about a mile distant from the BORA GROUNDS when he was 11 years old. Mr. Walker is now 83—which places his first acquaintance with the BORA GROUND as during 1878.

The larger of the two BORA GROUNDS situated in the woodland country near the Stanley River on Portion 15, Parish of Bowman remains in a good state of preservation being a circular structure with raised banks of a diameter of about 66 feet. During the rainy season it has the appearance of a small lagoon, and could be mistaken for such. Its original depth is stated to have been 3 feet 6 inches. A smaller BORA GROUND, about half the size, now obliterated, was situated about half a mile distant within the rain forest of Portion 12V. A track about 4 feet wide, still partly visible, connected the two grounds.

About every three or four years the blacks congregated in the BORA GROUNDS for a space of about two weeks for corroboree—arriving from all directions as far as Bundaberg and Gayndah to the North—until the total muster reached as high as 400. The region was well provided with food in the shape of kangaroos, wallabies, brush turkeys, echidnas, snakes, etc. The Stanley River provided a plentiful supply of fish particularly cod, which was caught with a hand net. The marsupials were mainly fed to the dogs.

The purpose of the BORA GROUNDS, as related by a Station blackfellow, was for marriage ceremonies and initiations to manhood. The intending bridegroom engaged in a race from the small BORA GROUND to the larger one where the eligible ladies were held, the brides being chosen by seniority of place in the race.

During 1898, an Aboriginal Reserve was opened near Woodford on the Durundur Station, and the blacks removed thereto, which ended the corroborees of the Hazeldean grounds.

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BOOK REVIEW

24. TROPICS AND TOPICS. By A. C. C. Lock, 285 pp. 23 photographic illustrations published by Invincible Press, Sydney, etc. Whatever merits this book undoubtedly has from a geographical point of view it is rarely disappointing with regard to Natural History. One notes repeated renderings throughout the book of such place names as MacKay (capital K), Stony Creek (Stoney Creek on Cairns-Kuranda Railway), Bellenden Kerr, Selheim, etc., whilst Thornton Park is referred to

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by the erroneous local name of Mt. Alexander, and Millstream as Mills' Stream. Mention is made of alligators (none are found in Australia), "termanalia," "loya vines," Kadagi also blue gum but it is not stated to which North Queensland tree this refers. The rain tree is referred to

as a species of Glochidion, whilst the "sunbird better known as tailor bird through its habit of sewing leaves together" shows confusion with an Indian bird. Lastly, as has been done by a well known commercial firm, the spelling ti tree for tea tree occurs throughout the book.

Townsville And District Naturalists' Club

Lectures and Field Days.

February Lecture: "Some Queensland Orchids" was the subject of a paper by Mr. C. Freeman which in his absence was read by Mrs. Freeman. *Dendrobium* is probably the largest genus of Orchidaceae and is distributed over a large area as far north as Japan through Southern Asia, the Esat Indies, Western Pacific Islands to New Zealand through Eastern Australia to Tasmania. The exact number of species is not known but is considered to be more than 1,000. The number so far recorded from Australia is 55 and amongst them are some of the world's best. The orchids then described were *D. undulatum*, *D. canaliculatum*, *D. bigibbum* var. *phalaenopsis*, *D. superbiens*, *D. fuscum*, *D. smilliae* and *D. tetragonum*.

February Field Day was to Kissing Point but owing to wet weather no observations could be made.

March Lecture. The President, Mr. K. Kennedy spoke on Palms, their morphology and distribution. He spoke first on the two different ways in which plants grow—exogenic (from the outside) and endogenic (from the inside). He mentioned that although a few palms grow in temperate regions they belong to the tropics and give to tropical forests a character which distinguished them from other climates. The speaker went on to show the position of palms in the vegetable kingdom. He then described the various parts commencing from the roots and ending with flowers and seeds and their economic value was gone into. To illustrate the distribution of these graceful trees a series of pictures taken by the lecturer was thrown on to the screen showing palms of the Pacific Islands, Malaya, India, Africa and Australia. Exhibits tabled consisted of articles from various countries made from palms.

March Field Day. Visit to Cape Pallarenda. By the kind permission of the Department of Health, a large party of members and a party of Scouts and Cubs who were guests of the Club, entered and crossed

the Quarantine Area and the day was spent in examining marine and botanical life of the Cape.

April Meeting: The April Meeting took the form of a Members' night. Mr. L. R. Black exhibited the skull of a small unidentified mammal which he had dug up in his gaeoen. Duncan Kennedy exhibited some very large mosquitoes of a kind strange to the district. Mr. Keith Kennedy exhibited a Nautilus shell picked up at Cape Pallarenda during the last field expedition. He gave a short talk on Cephalopods to which Class the Nautilus belongs, and told of their continuous existence from Ordovician period to the present day. A discussion then took place on cuttle fish, marsupial mice and other items of natural history interest.

The April Field Day was to the Town Common.

NORTH QUEENSLAND NATURALISTS' CLUB

Meets at School of Arts, Lake St., Cairns usually on second Tuesday in each month at 8 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, 13th June, 1950.

MEETINGS: 14th March, 1950. Demonstration and Exhibition of Mosses from the Netherlands, by W. Rijkers.

11th April, 1950. Address on Mosquitoes by Mr. T. Briggs.

9th May, 1950. Exhibition of some British fossils by Mr. A. Crawford.

Demonstration of Seismograph by Mr. Crawford.

Organisation of C.S.I.R.O., by Miss E. Archer.

NEW MEMBERS ELECTED. 9th May, 1950. Messrs. C. D. Andrew, Miallo; Noel Krauss, 2437 Parker Place, Honolulu 5, Hawaii; E. H. Toogood, Earlville; Alvis Muggler, 53 Sheridan Street, Cairns and (Junior Member) John Brophy, 52 Digger Street, Cairns.

EXCURSION: Sunday, 23rd April, Gordon Creek.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, June 13th. Address by D. A. O'Brien, Secretary of Royal Geographical Society of Australasia (Q. Branch).