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## FOREWORD

I am pleased to have been invited to write this foreword for the first issue of the Journal of the New Zealand Hydrological Society.

The Society is still in a formative stage and some time must elapse before the full value of a group organisation can be developed but credit is due to those members who have taken the initiative in making a determined start.

It is a small group for the time being but the enthusiasm and hard work of the present members is bound to result in the awakening everywhere of a wider interest in the subject.

The voluntary association of technical men in a group, held together by mutual interest in their work, is certain to help raise the standards of work in this country and I look forward to the time when there can be a closer association with organisations overseas with similar interests. In this we can all benefit by a closer link with the best in modern developments.

There is no doubt that New Zealand stands in great need of up-to-date and accurate hydrological data. The lack of such information in the past has been a serious handicap to the proper understanding of many problems concerned with the development of water resources and the prevention of damage by flood and erosion. If the proper information had been available it could have been the means of saving considerable sums of money and accordingly all those who are aware of this problem will welcome the promise of better knowledge in the future; a prospect which is brought much nearer by the formation of the New Zealand Hydrological Society.

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