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## TASMANIAN BIOLOGICAL SURVEY, 1937 – 1983

In the 1920's and 1930's scientists studying animals began to realise that little attention was being paid to how animals lived and how they reacted to their environment and each other. Thus a worldwide interest in their general ecology began.

In 1936 a Biological Survey of Australia was recommended with all states being represented.

The Tasmanian representative, Dr Joseph Pearson, director of the Tasmanian Museum, sought the help of the Biological Club and in May 1937, the Tasmanian Biological Survey was born. A committee was established consisting of Pearson (chair); Prof. V V Hickman (University – Spiders); Dr D Martin (CSIRO - Botany); J W Evans (Dept. of Agriculture – Entomology); D Colbrum Pearson (Museum – as secretary).

Later others joined : Dr H Gordon (University – Botany); Prof. H N barber (University – Botany); Mr L Miller (Dept. of Agriculture – Entomology) & Dr E Guiler (University – Mammals).

T 1/1

- (a) Objectives of the Survey.
- (b) Minutes of the Executive Committee 18 June 1937 – August 6 1953.

T 1/2 (a) Replies to circular letters, requesting contributions/help for the survey.

- (b) Booklet containing list of letters sent June 1937 – September 1952.

T 1/3 General File – letters inward and outward.

- (a) 1937 – 1940
- (b) 1940 – 1951

T 1/4 Grants 1936 – 1942

T 1/5 Collectors of specimens

- (a) Letters, 1938 – 1940
- (b) Record of equipment used and returned.

T 1/6 Reports (Survey reports, annual reports, newspaper articles).

T 1/7 Classifications

- (a) Reptilia
- (b) Entomology
- (c) Spiders
- (d) Diptera
- (e) Coleoptera
- (f) Hemiptera
- (g) Lepidoptera

T 1/8 Specimens sent away for identification

A5 hard bound ledger book.

T 1/9 Biological publications.

**T1/10 Stock**

- (a) Stock orders, 1937-1940 (for books, tubes, jars, etc.)
- (b) Stock book

**T 1/11 Scientific survey expedition to Lake St. Clair, February 1941.**

**T 1/12 Draft of article by Eric Guiler for the Tasmanian Historical Research Association, Papers and Proceedings, Vol. 43, no.3, Sept. 1996.**

**T 1/13 Finance - receipt book, bank books, petty cash book, accounts, receipts, etc.**

- (a) Receipt book local orders
- (b) Bank books
- (c) Petty cash book
- (d) Accounts book (record of inward and outward monies)
- (e) Accounts (receipts for payments for books, subscriptions, material etc.
- (f) Booklets for – general accounts, research projects, gear for collectors.