

Arrived in Tasmania 1947.

University then had no housing for new arrivals.

Distinctly jaundiced first impression.

Came because determined to get out of England; Professor in Belfast was T.T.

Flynn - wouldn't have found out about the job but for Flynn telling him about it.

Flynn an excellent zoologist - drawings esp. good.

060 W.A. Haswell, influence of, on Flynn, Hickman - and Guiler himself.

V.V. Hickman was 'one man show' in department, which had just been split off from Botany. One tutor was Peter Crowcroft, now Director of Toronto Zoo.

Remained a 3 man department for far too long - swarms of C.R.T.S. students, V.V.H. no empire builder and we missed out. Department didn't expand until Clark came.

080 It was much more academic exercise then - less administration.

Diversification of classes into unit system has led to more teaching, less time for research. Also increased numbers.

Are students more demanding now?

Assignments used much more, which means students are asking more questions.

The graduate now is much better than the graduates of 30 years ago - more disciplines, better grounding -

140 Areas of excellence in the Zoology Department?

Professor Hickman's work on spiders internationally recognised.

T.T. Flynn's early work on reproduction of marsupials. Worked in marine freshwater - also marsupials will be very good.

Our research work:

intra-tidal ecology

Then marsupials - possums - potaroos - devils.

Animals and Birds Protection Board - chairman from 1958 to 1966. Brought wider range of interests - black swans - Cape Barren Island. (Flinders Island "the most beautiful place in the world")

230 Fauna Board - National Fauna Reserve - Coles Bay first suggested as site, then Maria Island - Eric Reece's role.

How Maria Island Fauna Reserve has worked and how it hasn't.

Tasmanian tigers. I still think there are a few but I think they're getting very few - round about the early sixties there were quite a lot of believably authoritative sightings.

Reports now are not so numerous, and more fanciful.

Grant from World Wild Life - very expensive equipment which can only be set up in remote places eg. south west where it will not be tampered with. It is "self-supporting for 10 days".

320 The work of the Fauna Board.

"we never carried a pick or anything ridiculous like that".

360 "Professionally I should have moved on when Clark got the chair and I didn't" - but too involved in projects and love of Tasmania by then.

the University - a bad period starting about '55 - there was money and people squabbling over it.

This replaced by formula - a better system.

The Uni. is now over administered.

Disapproves of new V.C. instituting annual leave entitlement.

The Professoriate is very weak - not prepared to discipline - do not accept their disciplinary responsibilities - eg people disappearing for 3 months over the summer vacation.

"The happiest years were up to 1955" or even 1952.

450 In early days part-time V.C., Registrar and Chancellor all smiling - led to problems.

Dominant professors at the time:

Lester, McAuley, Carey.

Royal Commission necessary but very unpleasant.

Anti-Orr. Wanted to smash his face in, but Orr was yellow and wouldn't fight.

550 The Karmel/T.C.A.E. period in the 70's did not affect Science industry. Roles of O'Flaherty and Professor Kevin Collis.

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Participation in FAUSSA.

"very minimal" - formation preliminary meeting.

030 The Zoology Department here has always been different from other Aust. universities until say 7 years ago always had more Hons. students, a very large 3rd year.

Pretty intensive post-graduate involvement.

Good results from department in terms of graduates getting jobs etc.

Standing of department very high and a happy department.