

Day Excursions for 1958.

IN addition to those reported in full in this and the previous issue, six day-excursions were held during the summer and autumn of 1958.

On May 17th the Society, by kind permission of Viscount Powerscourt, visited the famous Powerscourt gardens, where, under the leadership of Mr. A. M. S. Hanan, members saw and examined many rare species of exotic conifers and hardwoods.

A joint excursion with the Sligo Field Club to the Union Wood property of Collooney State forest, Co. Sligo, was held on June 29th. The leader was Mr. P. J. Collins. The main interest here was the problem of converting scrub-oak to conifer forest without undue interference with the amenity value of the woods.

The excursion on July 13th, led jointly by Messrs. A. M. S. Hanan and P. M. Joyce, was held in Togher Wood, Portlaoise State forest, and was devoted to the demonstration and discussion of methods of forest mensuration.

On August 10th Mr. J. O'Carroll led an excursion to Aughrim State forest where the visitors saw and discussed the performance of different species (Japanese larch, Douglas fir, and *Abies grandis*) on similar sites.

Two excursions were held on September 14th. In the Callowhill property of Delgany State forest one group of members, led by Messrs. O. V. Mooney and J. Doyle, saw crops of 26 year old pines (Scots pine, Corsican pine and inland and coastal varieties of *Pinus contorta*) and compared their behaviour on this exposed site. The subject of discussion at Killeagh State forest, Co. Cork, on the same day, was the conversion from old estate hardwoods to conifers. The leader was Mr. J. J. Maher.

All excursions to State forests were held by kind permission of the Minister for Lands.