

Editor's Introduction

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The multidisciplinary nature of the *Journal of New Zealand Studies* is particularly evident in this issue, with the first three articles on aspects of New Zealand history emanating from philosophy, architecture and German Studies.

In the first article James Kierstead revisits the seminal text *The Open Society and Its Enemies*, written by Karl Popper in the closing years of the Second World War. Kierstead first explains how this book, possibly 'the most influential book to come out of New Zealand', came to be written here and then revisits the storm of controversy that followed its publication. Moving to the field of architecture, Nigel Isaacs draws upon census data to investigate the evolution and continuing importance of timber in the construction of New Zealand housing throughout the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Finally, Roger Smith explores the widespread publication, impact and responses to an anti-English poem by Ernst Lissauer, "Haßgesang gegen England", during the First World War in New Zealand.

The next two articles, on two completely different historical topics, focus upon challenging the findings of previous research. Jon Henning critically reviews a comparative study of working hours, "The Times they are not Changin': Days and Hours of Work in Old and New Worlds, 1870–2000". He draws upon New Zealand evidence to challenge both the methodology and conclusions reached by the authors. Then Elsbeth Hardie revisits popular understandings about the life of Charlotte Badger. She argues that most of these stories, both as the first 'white' woman settler in New Zealand and Australia's first female 'pirate', belong to the realm of myth rather than reality. In the final article, Alexander Trapeznik traces the history of the New Zealand Crippled Children's Society from 1935 onwards, with a particular focus upon the Dunedin branch of the society, as it adapted to both changing government policies and wider public opinion.

2019 is the sixtieth anniversary of the novelist and scientist C.P. Snow's influential 1959 Rede Lecture "The Two Cultures", in which Snow identified a destructive schism in western intellectual life between the sciences and humanities. In the Reflections essay for this issue we asked Danyl McLauchlan, a computational biologist and the author of two books of stories about the Aro Valley in Wellington, to revisit Snow's essay from the perspective of the present.