mr. C.B. Peet.

CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS,
PERTH.

JARRAH FOREST LITTER ACCUMULATION.

In previous reports (Hatch, 1964), it was shown that litter accumulation in the well stocked jarrah stands (crown cover 70%) could be expressed by an equation of the

$$y = 3.161\ x^{0.524}$$

or $\log y = 3.500 + 0.524 \log x$

where y = amt. of litter - lb (acre x 10^3

and x = number of years.

The oldest protected stand available for study was Amphion 6, in the Dwellingup Division, which has been protected since 1932; and in 1962 this area had accumulated 18.75×10^3 lb. of litter per acre of forest floor.

This area was resampled in 1970, when the age of the forest floor was 38 years.

The amount of litter accumulated was 22.82×10^3 lb/acre.

From the previous equation the theoretical amount of litter should be 21.27×10^3 lb/acre.

This figure is in very good agreement with the observed figure, and it is apparent that the jarrah forest will slowly accumulate litter even up to 38 years, and equilibrium still has not been attained on this forest floor.

ABH:EM.
Como Research,
25/9/70.

A.B. HATCH,
SENIOR RESEARCH OFFICER.