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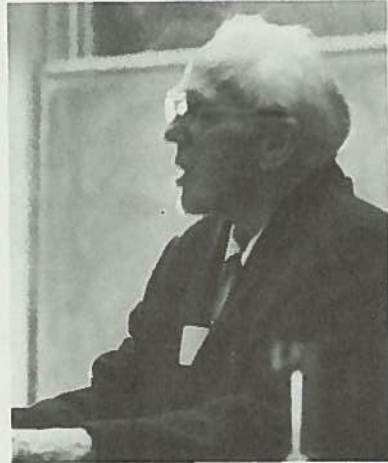
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I think I first met Jack Lewis in 1951 or 1952 when he was a senior officer of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.



I next met him at Harvard in January, 1953, when I was a very brief visitor there.

I think I met him again at the inauguration of Sir Barle Page as the first Chancellor of the newly established University of New England. On that occasion he was accompanied by the late Alf Maiden, a friend of both of us who had previously been a student at the New England University College before it became an autonomous degree-granting university in its own right. I have the very strong feeling that Jack Lewis was already looking at possible job prospects here since there was already talk at New England of establishing a faculty of agricultural economics. Indeed, such a faculty was established and Jack Lewis became the Foundation Professor of Agricultural Economics and Foundation Dean of the then Faculty of Agricultural Economics. He was highly qualified for those positions.

It was a sad day for me personally, and for the University of New England, when in 1970 Jack Lewis left New England for other pastures after pioneering agricultural economics here for thirteen years.

Under Jack Lewis' leadership and fostered by his ability, his enthusiasm, and his ideas, and greatly assisted by the

talented staff he was able to attract to New England, work in agricultural economics has brought the University of New England a fine national and international reputation.

Jack Lewis is to talk to you about the origins and early days of agricultural economics at New England. He is highly qualified to do that.

I cannot, however, resist the temptation to draw your attention to some of his other rather startling qualifications. Thus, the 1983 *Who's Who in Australia* lists his recreational interests as Indian cookery, sailing, Nordic skiing, and fun runs. You will agree with me that few other agricultural economists have had such qualifications.

Now it is my very great pleasure to formally introduce my old friend and colleague, Emeritus Professor J.N. Lewis, Doctor of Economics of the University of New England.