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Photography by Doris Ryall

RANUNCULUS ANEMONEUS

**ALPINE WILDFLOWERS**

## Contents of this Issue

While this issue is devoted principally to the wildflowers of the alpine areas of the Kosciusko National Park (pages 384-389 describe some wildflowers of Tasmania), the plant communities will be similar to those in other Australian alpine areas. They are grouped in two sections as follows:

Page 352—THE SPECIALISED PLANT COMMUNITIES OF RESTRICTED DISTRIBUTION

Page 354—Windswept Feldmark. Confined to the most windswept saddles as shown in the sketch below. Wildflowers of this feldmark are shown on pages 352, *Veronica densitolia*—356, *Euphrasia glacialis* and 396, *Epacris serpyllifolia*.

Page 355—Cold Feldmark. See sketch below and picture page 353.

Page 355—Short Alpine Herbfield. *Ranunculus niphophilus* shown in colour on page 360 against the rock with one of the mosses is one of the plants that form the bright green area below the snow patch on page 353.

Page 358—Tall Alpine Herbfield.

Page 358—Fen. Pictured on page 357.

Page 359—THE WIDESPREAD PLANT COMMUNITIES OF THE KOSCIUSKO NATIONAL PARK

Bog. *Ranunculus anemoneus*, the cover plate may be found here.

Sod Tussock Grassland and Tall Alpine Herbfield.

The Heathlands—Short Heathland—page 365.

Tall Heathland—page 366.

Page 367—SOME NOTES ON LOCATIONS—providing a guide as where to walk.

Page 375—SUMMER FAIRYLAND—A series for the young in spirit.

Page 371—GROWING ALPINE PLANTS

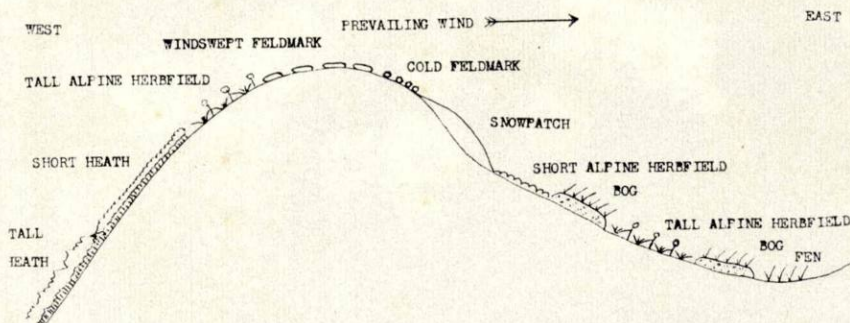
(a) A report on experience in the Cooma area.

Page 390—(b) A report from Victoria on the same plants.

Page 383—(c) An Alpine Rock Garden.

Page 380—(d) Native Daisies.

Page 388—(d) The Mat-forming Plants principally of Tasmania.



Shown diagrammatically above is a cross-section through the crest of the range, emphasising how prevailing winds, exposure, drainage and snow accumulation determine the position of many of the plant communities of the alpine area. Page 353 illustrates a typical scene on the east facing side of the Main Range near Mt. Kosciusko.

### COVER PLATE—*RANUNCULUS ANEMONEUS*

The Anemone Buttercup is a robust perennial herb with flowering stems 35 cm or more long and large deeply lobed thick leaves. Its flowers, which are borne singly or in twos or threes, are up to 6 cm across. It is confined to the Kosciusko area, usually amongst boulders on damp sheltered sites and is becoming increasingly common in the alpine and subalpine tracts of the Kosciusko National Park.





































































































