

# Forest chief gets the sack

**VICTORIA'S** leading forester, Dr Ron Grose, has been dismissed from his position because he failed to tolerate extreme conservationists.

As a result morale in the forests service is at an all-time low and the timber industry has expressed grave concern.

The official reason for replacing Dr Grose as the \$70,000-a-year Director of the State Forests and Lands Service was that he was "too blinkered" in his approach.

It is understood the new Minister for Forests, Conservation and Lands, Ms Joan Kirner takes the line that conservationists deserve a stronger hearing in forestry policy making.

The Minister said last week that while people in the department had a great respect for Dr Grose, Victoria was entering a new era in forests management and needed a "forward looking approach".

Director-General of the Department of Conservationists, Forests and Lands, Professor P.A. Eddison, told Dr Grose last week he was being "relocated".

He said Dr Grose had the view that "soon enough conservationists will run away".

A highly-skilled and respected forester, his intolerance of fringe "greenies" put him on a collision course with the Government.

Prof. Eddison confirmed that Dr Grose's dismissal had upset a lot of people in the department, "but he's not served the needs of the industry by being too blinkered in his approach".

"What the state forests and lands service needs

is a really good manager who's going to represent all views," Prof. Eddison said.

Chairman of the Orbost section of the Victorian Sawmillers' Association, Bob Humphries, said Dr Grose was one department head who could really communicate and the service may lack that now.

## \$100,000 compo for hurt bull

SYDNEY (AAP)—

An insurance company has paid out \$100,000 after an accident to a bull.

This is believed to be the highest compensation ever paid for a bull in Australia.

The 1984 Grand Champion winner, Devon Court Shakespeare, fetched \$100,000 at last year's Royal Easter Show, which was a record price then for a Hereford.

In December last year, Shakespeare had an accident, which as Elders Pastoral Insurance Services put it, "rendered him incapable of performing his natural services".

Hence, the payout to the owner, Peter Allen, of Ballina Hereford Stud in West Wyalong, about 450 kilometres west of Sydney.