

Young Moreporks

BIRDS

New Zealanders!

Protect your Native Birds!

ISSUED BY

N.Z. NATIVE BIRD PROTECTION SOCIETY

E. V. Sanderson, Hon. Sec., Box 631, Wellington

OBJECTS—To advocate and obtain the efficient protection and preservation of our native birds, a bird day for our schools, and unity of control of all wild life.

Affiliated with the International Committee for the Protection of Wild Birds.

The foundation of true conservation is in the setting aside of sanctuaries efficiently and rigidly controlled by men who know how.

Subscription, 5/-; Children 1/-

(Membership open to all)

Bulletin No. 11



North Island Thrush, or Pio Pio

THE New Zealand Native Bird Protection Society invites all those who have respect for our wonderful and unique native birds, all those who realise the great economic and aesthetic value of birds, all those who wish to preserve our unrivalled scenic beauties to band together with the Society in an earnest endeavour to fully awaken public interest and secure efficient preservation, conservation and intelligent utilisation of our great heritage.

With the co-operation, appreciation and assistance of the general public New Zealand can stand unrivalled. Without such our forests will be hopelessly marred and destroyed by fire, animals and wasteful exploitation—our birds a memory of the past.

Our subscription is merely 5/-, Children 1/-. A 10/- note will pay for two years— Besides this we ask for your co-operation in assisting to conserve your own heritage. Is it worth while?

We aim at issuing only accurate information, all of which is checked by leading authorities. No remuneration is asked by any of our officers. Your contribution goes solely towards better informing others.



Red Headed Parakeet, or Kakariki



Stitch Bird, or Hihi

Conservation of our Forests and Birds

EVERY New Zealand citizen is urged to look deeply into the matter of efficiently preserving our indigenous Forests and Birds. It will be found that the necessity is immediate and essential to our very prosperity, nay, even to our very existence as a people. Already the effects of their destruction is apparent to the observant, in the changing climate, decreasing fertility, erosion, &c., &c.

The remaining portion of our forests is sorely menaced. No one who has any interest whatever in this country, can afford to stand idly by. They are yours and your business.

Bulletin No. 11

A PEEP INTO THE FUTURE—THE APEX OF OUR PROSPERITY.

(By Capt. E. V. Sanderson, R.A.O.U.)

The timber value of our forests is not the most important side of the utility of our forests, important though it is, but the climatic effects of forests and prevention of erosion are the more important.

Taking New Zealand as a whole, it is a narrow strip of land rising tent-fashion about the centre, and no part is far removed from the sea. By far the greater part of our lands are steep and often very precipitous. Exceptions there are, of course, like the Canterbury Plains. The extent of our first-class land is very limited.

Now, the soil covering of such a country is extremely difficult to maintain in situ, owing to erosion, which is a steady run-down of the surface-covering, ever increasing in intensity, but at present so gradual that it passes unobserved by the majority. It is caused by the tramping of stock, wind, rain, fires, etc., loosening the most valuable top soil and causing it to be then carried always downward and finally away to sea. The discolouring of the sea after a heavy rain is caused by some of the best of our soil going out to sea. Denudation is easily seen on much of the older settled country, where the subsoil on spurs and hillside slopes is becoming more visible year by year. Lands subject to floods are in some cases benefited by this erosion to the extent of deposited silt inches in depth after flood. On the other hand, others of our better lands adjoining rivers are destroyed and replaced by shingle, the stones coming down the creeks when the hill forests are damaged or destroyed.

How best to check this erosion on our pasture lands economically is difficult to ascertain. Fertilising or planting and fencing all ridges, if economically possible, would certainly mitigate the evil. The final result of this erosive action through progressive deterioration is replacement of grass with noxious weeds, because as Nature abhors a void, the bare ground will invite growth which stock will not or cannot eat. Moreover, as the carrying capacity lessens, the capital is not available for eradication of noxious plants, with the result that gorse, blackberry, etc., will spread rapidly, certainly checking erosion to a degree, but further lessening the value of our lands. Much of the precipitous country would deteriorate down to bare rock.

So much for our pasture lands, but when it comes to the gradual forest-denuding of our main backbone ranges and their foothills, the final result of this can be nothing less than appalling, as the freed stones would come down, destroying most of our best land. Our rainfall would be spasmodic and lessening, alternating between floods and droughts. New Zealand would be a wind-swept country with a bare rocky

range in the centre. Semi-desert conditions would prevail, and our island home be not worth while living in. The only thing not subject to erosion would be the interest on our national debt.

Thus, if the value of efficient conservation is not realised, New Zealand may even now, as has been asserted by visitors, have already reached the apex of its prosperity. The three main essentials to the preservation of our forests are: elimination of animals, abolition of the fire risk, and protection of our birds. The animal menace I place first, as much of our forest will not burn in its natural condition. Animals destroy the forest floor, which more effectually prevents erosion even than the tree roots, and is soil covering in formation. Fire, although extremely important, might take second place. And thirdly, no forests in the world rely so much on the activities of their bird life for their existence as ours, because our forests are largely dependent on native birds for the distribution of their seed, for pollination, and, above all, for the keeping of injurious insect life in check; therefore the birds must be preserved for economic reasons alone, apart from the fact that they are also unique and wonderful.

Now, are we doing anything worth while to conserve our indigenous forests and birds? But little interest in the matter appears to be shown by those in authority; nothing much is heard of the value of our forests other than their timber value. No attempt is made at encouraging the regeneration of the great kauri and other areas which, in many instances, merely require the exclusion of animals and fire, and they would replace themselves. Timber growing companies and the authorities alike appear bent on planting second and third-grade exotics, so well has the doctrine that our native trees are slow-growing been preached, regardless of the fact that little or no research has been made in the matter. Further, many of the exotics planted are of a soil-impoverishing nature, and of a very doubtful future timber or other value; in fact, it has been somewhat aptly said of this matter, anything is good enough for the New Zealander so long as it is not a New Zealander, even *Pinus Insignis*. Our own wonderful and essential forests are good enough as a dumping ground for all manner of hurtful wild animals.

Scenic reserves, sanctuaries, etc., are under the care of various Departments, whose Ministers are mostly advised by officers whose various duties leave little or no opportunity of studying the intricacies of conservation and of observing

actual field conditions, and they are therefore largely dependent on information obtained from sources, some of which is certainly tendered more for individual than national benefit. The policy of these Departments seems to be, while still retaining a controlling voice, to delegate the administration to other bodies, whose efforts at conservation are disunited and obtain very mediocre results. The whole business thus ends in medley, as there is no common policy, no unity of purpose, and therefore little efficiency.

So far as the protection of our native birds is concerned, the administration of the Act is nobody's business. Acclimatisation Societies give a little assistance with six or eight paid rangers, whose time is mostly occupied in looking after trout, opossums, deer, game birds, etc., from which sources they derive their revenue. The police also give their sympathy and helping hand occasionally, but their force is fully occupied amongst the populace and is, moreover, not trained or experienced in ranging. Such is the state of affairs on which the future well-being of New Zealand is hinged.

New Zealand's future most important primary produce may well become forests, owing to the effects of erosion producing conditions unsuitable for pastoral purposes. Why not, then, take time by the forelock and demonstrate that we are a really wise, statesmanlike, big-thinking people? Let us straightway decide which lands are immediately required for agricultural and pastoral purposes; borrow money as required to re-forest the balance with timber trees of good timber value; conserve with zealous care our indigenous forests, and regenerate them wherever likely to be profitable; make very sure by periodical expert stocktaking that we are on the right lines as recommended by Sir Frank Heath, and as every sound commercial organisation does; then surely with true economic, scientific forestry we shall find we have not already reached the apex of our prosperity, but that we are enabled, as these forests mature and with the probably greatly enhanced timber values, to repay the borrowed money with compound interest and net a huge profit to the State, besides employing many thousands in the most healthful, natural, and invigorating occupation possible, leaving behind us a great heritage in our forests and native birds, which our Creator left to our charge, and which we could then honestly say we did not fail to cherish and preserve, for which our children and our children's children would look back upon us as wise and great forefathers whose work and example should be revered and perpetuated.

PATRIOTISM.

(By Patriot.)

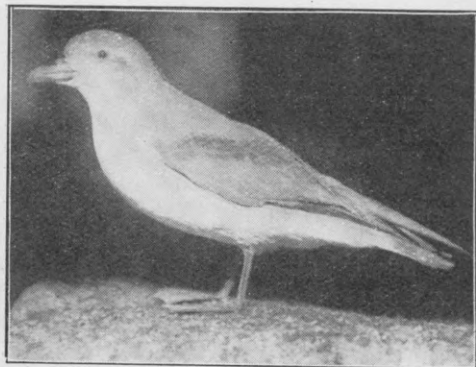
Patriotism means a love and regard for one's country. Here in New Zealand the characteristics of our country are our lakes, mountains, forests, birds, etc; in fact, they are New Zealand, and no one who does not show due respect for these national characteristics can claim to be patriotic.

During the war our soldiers were in many lands and in conditions, varying from the mud and grime of France to the heated desert sands—those man-made deserts, the results of forest destruction by former civilisations, where it was at times necessary to travel animals for forty-eight hours and more without water, and where the oven-like heat was scarcely bearable. Naturally our thoughts at such and other times often turned to our fair land far away. On one occasion the writer witnessed a mortally wounded Australian soldier gazing intently at a sprig of wattle hanging on the hospital wall, impressed between a piece of plush and a sheet of glass. One can realise how this emblem, the last the dying soldier was to see of his sunny land, called up visions of earlier and happy days. Doubtless he could see his home and parents as he knew them in his beloved land of the waratah.

Yes, midst all the dangers and hardships it was but natural we should long to return to our own peaceful lands, and we almost saw the cool rushing stream midst the gently wafted tree ferns, we almost heard the tui perched on the high rata tree, we almost heard the whu-whu of the lazy pigeon as he flew from limb to limb, and we learned to love our homeland. But, alas, there are, in far-off lands, other forests—forests of little crosses—which mark the graves of those brave ones who really won the war. No little fantail flits there from tree to tree, but how pleasant it is to think that their brave spirits have long since returned and now dwell in those mossy mountain glades, where the last of the huias may still remain, where the chorus song of the bell-bird can still be heard, and where the little confiding robin finds a home almost free from the vandal white man and his imported enemy pests.

Again it is incumbent on all to raise the banner and fight for our native land, and as the sword, a fitting tool, is no longer permissible, it has perforce to be supplanted by the humble pen. Let us then once more stand shoulder to

shoulder. There are Huns within as well as without. Let us say to the wanton destroyer of our forests and birds, to the blatant politician, who in his cushioned chair ignorantly signs away our heritage, to the self-seeker who seeks to utilise our national life-blood for his own paltry ends, to those who wish to exploit our heritage before ensuring its conservation; let us say, in no uncertain voice, "Thou shalt not! Thou shalt stay thy hand!" And let us fight on until some great and wise statesman shall arise, with visions far beyond the next election, who will see and teach that our forests and our birds are indeed our very life-blood, and that our beloved land without them will be converted into one more man-made desert of rock, shingle, and useless weeds, and that the Lord of all Nature will then say to us, "You have failed to cherish that heritage which was so bounteously bestowed. You have but grasped at the shadow, the reality is now no more, and with it you and your race must die."



Whiroa, or Whale Bird

CONSERVATION OF RESERVES AND SANCTUARIES.

With reference to this matter, it is presumably unnecessary to state how our reserves and sanctuaries are controlled, and the many departments with ever-changing Ministers and bodies which participate in this control, a system which can only lead in the end to nowhere, and, what is worse, to great confusion.

Departments are often placed in unenviable positions owing to this diversified control; one body will frequently be working in opposition to others, needless expense is incurred, any expert knowledge available is diffused and wasted, and Ministers are pestered with the representations of various interests, each seeking to use these reserves for their own ends instead of nationally.

Now, how can all this be obviated? Might not a board of gentlemen, with a New Zealand national spirit, be set up under a Department, but elected mainly by scenery and bird preservation organisations, to supervise the care of all reserves, etc.? To give good results this Board would have to be a small one of not more than five members (large Boards are expensive and cumbersome). The members of this Board would consist of gentlemen skilled in forest and bird life, in conservation, and certainly of one member at least expert in organisation and business methods. (Scientists invariably fail in this matter, as they are not trained in business.) Now, the first essential is to get the public on the right side, and this can be done by issuing interesting literature on forest and bird life and such like. Tell them it is theirs to care for and cherish, also that these truly wonderful possessions of the people are unique, and detail after detail of intense interest could be given. For this purpose we might adopt the method of having just a small combined publicity and research Department under the Board of Control. The research man or men settle the knotty questions in a scientific manner as to whether any plant, bird, or animal should be transferred, introduced, or exterminated, and thus save thousands or maybe millions of pounds loss to the country, as witness the rabbit and many other pests introduced into the Dominion. Next, two field inspectors would be required, one for the North and one for the South Island; under these, curators on reserves worth the expense. Small reserves could be left to the honorary care of some local enthusiasts with rangers' powers. Gaudy enamelled plates should be placed at all likely places of access on all reserves.

Under this system, if the Board was carefully chosen, we could carry out conservation at a minimum of expense, also command the respect of visitors, which we do not at present, and maybe, as we have unsurpassed material to work upon, lead the world in our scenic attractions and reap a rich harvest.

The present idea of inviting tourists to come and see our treasures appears rather like exposing jewels to strangers without ensuring their protection, for at present there is really little attempt at conserving our reserves and sanctuaries, and little skill shown in the attempt.

The criticism, suggestions, and co-operation of all kindred bodies is solicited in devising improved and modern methods in this matter.

E. V. SANDERSON,

Hon. Secretary, N.Z. Native Bird Protection Society.

CHILDREN'S PAGE.

PIWAKA, TIWAKA, AND WAIWAKA.

(By R. A. Falla.)

It was late in October before Mr. and Mrs. Fantail built a nest for their first family. They chose a slender kawakawa tree growing close to a stream and beside a sunlight opening in the bush. At the end of one branch was a fork of three short prongs, each capped with sheltering leaves. The foundation blocks were short chips of soft wood, pressed tightly into the fork, and bound on with cobwebs. Then strands of thin wiry grass were used to begin the walls, and as these began to rise all the spaces were filled with moss. Both the birds were busy on this work for two days. They did not stop for regular meals, but at odd times snapped up insects which they found while gathering building material. Sometimes, after placing a thick lump of moss, Mr. Fantail would stop to admire the effect, cocking his head on one side, squeaking, and spreading his tail. But Mrs. Fantail pretended not to

notice, giving a detached chirp as if to say, "Yes, it's very nice, but standing and looking at it won't finish the job." So he obediently stopped singing and went off to look for some horsehair for the lining. This was put in just before the rim was rounded off, and, after each piece was set round, the birds pushed it into place by sitting in the nest and working themselves round in a circle. The top rim was made strong and thick, and added firmness was given by the plastering of a sticky cement in weak places.

Although many fantails have four eggs in a nest, in this one only three were laid, and both birds took turns at sitting. When Mrs. Fantail had settled down, with her beak touching one side of the rim and her long tail sticking out over the other, her mate went off to find food for himself and have some exercise. He obtained both at once, hawking about for tiny flies in the shafts of sunlight near the tree. In about ten minutes he could be heard announcing his return with rapid squeaks, "Time's up! Time's up!" Mrs. Fantail began to raise herself slightly, and the moment he appeared on a twig above the nest she glided off for her meal and exercise, leaving him to take his place on the nest.

In due time there appeared three nestlings, Piwaka, Tiwaka, and Waiwaka. The old fantails were busier than ever, obtaining supplies of food for five instead of two. Mr. Fantail, with a beak-full of insects, would arrive at the nest and pop a few into each open mouth, Mrs. Fantail arriving a moment afterwards to do the same. It was not long before the little wings and tails of the growing family were spreading over the sides of the nest, and their bodies were packed uncomfortably close. But still they opened their mouths and waited for food. One morning—they were always hungry in the morning—Mrs. Fantail brought a small grub and held it out of reach. The fledglings stretched and squeaked, but still she held it there, and Mr. Fantail stood by with more insects. At last Piwaka and Tiwaka struggled up, actually stood on the rim of the nest, and were rewarded with grubs. Waiwaka, finding suddenly that there was plenty of room, snuggled comfortably in the bottom of the nest and forgot for the moment that he was hungry.

The parents took no notice of him. They began to dash about in the air in front of Piwaka and Tiwaka, sometimes stopping to hold out a tiny moth, then swallowing it themselves, and flitting backwards and forwards again. At last the

two youngsters began to become excited too. They stretched their wings, leaned forward, and half tumbled, half flew, on to a branch beneath, where the delighted parents fed them again and again.

Waiwaka was getting tired of the empty nest. He could see nothing of what was happening below, and at last climbed up to the rim and began to cry. Mrs. Fantail flew up to scold him, and Mr. Fantail could be seen leading Piwaka and Tiwaka from branch to branch, feeding them all the time. Grubs were offered to Waiwaka and then given to the others, but still he did not move. At last Mrs. Fantail flew towards him. Surely his breakfast was coming this time. No. She hit him fair and square, and he had to spread his lazy little wings as he tumbled down through the branches to the ground, where Mrs. Fantail was waiting. Then Waiwaka got his breakfast.

REMORSE.

When the celebrated Russian novelist, Turgenieff, was a boy of ten, his father took him out bird-shooting one day. As they tramped across the brown stubble, a golden pheasant rose with a low whirr from the ground at his feet, and with the joy of a sportsman he raised his gun and fired, wild with excitement, when the creature fell fluttering at his side. Life was ebbing fast, but the instinct of the mother was stronger than death itself, and with a feeble flutter of her wings the mother bird reached the nest where her young brood were huddled, unconscious of danger.

Then, with such a look of pleading and reproach that his heart stood still at the ruin he had wrought (and never to his dying day did he forget the feeling of guilt that came to him at that moment), the little brown head toppled over and only the dead body of the mother shielded her nestlings. "Father, father!" he cried, "what have I done?" as he turned his horror-stricken face to his father.

But not to his father's eye had this little tragedy been enacted, and he said, "Well done, my son; that was well done for your first shot. You will soon be a fine sportsman." "Never, father; never again will I destroy any living creature. If that is sport, I will have none of it. Life is more beautiful to me than death, and since I cannot give life I will not take it." "Stead's Review."



Shining Cuckoo, or Pipiwaharaua

WHITE ISLAND.

White Island, situated in the Bay of Plenty, is known throughout New Zealand on account of the various thermal wonders with which it is endowed. It is not so well known, however, that it is one of the homes of that splendid sea-bird, the Gannet. Common enough in the North Island, but decreasing in numbers as we go southward, the gannet is familiar to most travellers on our coastal steamers. In calm weather its aerial evolutions and spectacular diving help to provide entertainment of an unusual kind, thereby adding much to the pleasure of a sea voyage.

Despite the arid appearance and poisonous atmosphere of White Island, it has been the nesting place of gannets for countless generations. As is well known, the island contains large deposits of sulphur, which have considerable commercial value. At the present time a company is engaged in exploiting these deposits, and in view of the fact that the presence of man on the island might interfere with the nesting habits of the birds, the Native Bird Protection Society wrote to the Internal Affairs Department with regard to the actual position.

The Department's reply was most gratifying, and it will please our readers to know that great interest in the welfare

of the birds is being shown, both by the Department, who went to much trouble in making enquiries, and by the company concerned, who have issued instructions that the bird life on the island is not to be interfered with in any way. In past years mutton birds and gannets' eggs have been taken in large numbers at the island by Maoris, but, thanks to the company, this practice has now been forbidden.

Let us hope that this is the dawn of a better day for our native birds, and that such kindly interest will be shown for them elsewhere in New Zealand.

The story of the Peruvian guano deposits is a truly interesting one, demonstrating the judgment required when exploiting such deposits. Originally estimated to last 1,500 years, they were leased to American companies, which quickly removed the guano, almost destroyed the rookeries and the millions of birds. Even Peru was left with insufficient fertiliser for her agricultural needs. Drastic steps were taken to conserve the remnant of the birds, and the rookeries were strictly tapued during the nesting season, with the result that the deposits are being re-formed. Each bird is estimated to be worth 15 dollars to the Peruvian Government, so great is the wealth produced.

Gannets, like other birds, have good reasons for nesting in particular places, and no doubt White Island is chosen because large numbers of small fish are present when food is specially required.

In reference to this, Major Mercer, the owner of the island, makes some very interesting observations. He states: "It may be of interest to the Society to know that for a period of about a month this summer the sea between Tauranga and White Island had a churned-up appearance, and a vast amount of floating kelp had been thrown up from the bottom. This submarine disturbance caused a great scarcity of fish for fully three weeks, and during this period it was noticed that the gannets, instead of fishing, as is their wont, a few hundred yards from the island and returning every two or three hours with food for their young, disappeared in the early morning and returned late in the afternoon, often with no food. Every female gannet arriving at the rookery would be surrounded by a horde of starving youngsters, many of which would fight each other until one or the other was seriously injured. There is no doubt that a great loss in young birds took place during this month. This was a great pity, because most of them had reached the stage when they were nearly fit to fly.

KAPITI SANCTUARY.

(Report by Hon. Secretary.)

This sanctuary was visited on the 24th, 25th, and 26th September. Evidence was apparent that good work had been done in recent months. Many seedlings have been planted out, and, above all, no goats were seen, and it is probable that only a few odd ones are left—a very commendable result, which was considered by some to be almost impossible of achievement, owing to the great cliffs on the western side affording an almost safe retreat.

The limited forest was carrying a good quota of bird life so far as its present condition permits. The sanctuary can, however, be so improved in time as to enable ten times the number of birds to exist there. Robins appear to have increased last breeding season.

Signs of considerable forest regeneration are to be found in many parts.

Indications pointed to opossums having increased during the year. Only one trapper is employed.

As anticipated, the attempt to quit the many wild sheep by mustering has signally failed, as the western cliffs provide a too good get-away.

Much better results still would accrue if operations were supervised by frequent visits to the island of one of the gentlemen composing the Advisory Board, some at least of whom are particularly skilled in matters appertaining to our flora. Such direction is certainly essential, together with closer co-operation between the Advisory Board and the Curator.

FEEDING NATIVE BIRDS.

Native birds can be attracted around our homes by artificial feeding, as well as by planting suitable berry-bearing plants. Thus three tuis were successfully supplied with food in the Oamaru district for many weeks by placing a bottle up a tree, and filled with thin honey, in the mouth of which a wick of red worsted was inserted. A better mixture would be four parts of water to one of sugar by measure, as this is akin to nectar, upon which tuis feed, not honey.

The silver eye can be made a regular visitor by feeding with beef suet, and the aphids on one's roses kept exterminated by the birds at the same time.

All artificial feeding is doubly effective during winter months. Great care should be taken to see no feed is able to

fall on the ground; otherwise one is only feeding cats or birds, and therefore all food should be placed in a suitable receptacle well up a tree or thin pole.

NATIONAL RESERVES AND PARKS.

The following extracts from letters received from Mr. Barrington-Moore, the noted American scientist, define the functions of National Parks, Scenic Reserves, etc.:—

“The point of view of those who would introduce exotic plants and animals, and derive revenue from cutting the forest, is readily understandable. We have had the same conflict in this country, and it is only comparatively recently that it has been decided definitely in favour of keeping our National Parks inviolate as areas on which the natural flora and fauna can be found undisturbed by outside agencies. This is unquestionably the most important purpose of National Parks. There are plenty of places where fishing and shooting can be fostered without destroying the few remaining remnants of virgin wilderness. Areas on which natural conditions have been preserved are of such value for scientific study of the relation between plants and animals and their environment that the destruction of such areas is like destroying a library of original manuscripts or a museum with collections not duplicated elsewhere. In Switzerland the National Parks are preserved primarily for scientific purposes, and used for recreation only very sparingly or not at all. In this country our scientists have long realised the scientific and educational value of the National Parks. Several years ago the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the largest group of scientists in the country, passed a strong set of resolutions vigorously opposing the introduction of non-native plants and animals into the National Parks. Fortunately, our National Parks are large, and have as yet been little disturbed. We have always protected the parks from commercial encroachments, sometimes against strong pressure. The principal interest of the Government, however, has until recently been recreation. Last fall the Secretary of Interior, charged with the administration of the National Parks, recognised the outdoor museum feature as the **primary purpose of these parks.**

“The Scenic Reserves which you mention are of the utmost importance in preserving representative types of plant growth distributed throughout different parts of the country. The fact that you have set aside these areas is in itself most en-

couraging. The lack of official interest and funds for their protection is to be expected, and is a temporary condition. We have the same situation with our National Monuments, which are also small areas, principally archaeological, but some also of geological or botanical interest. The latest one, created in Alaska, is exceptionally large, and its principal purpose is to preserve areas of unusual botanical interest. The movement was sponsored by the Ecological Society of America, which is mentioned in the President's Proclamation setting aside the area. From the point of view of official interest and fauna, our National Monuments are exactly in the same position as your Scenic Reserves, left to shift for themselves, without even the funds to employ custodians except in a few cases. We feel confident, however, that this situation will gradually be overcome, and I am sure it will be also in your case."

The Director, United States Department of Interior, National Park Service, Washington, writes as follows on the same subject:—

"I notice the particular question on which you request information is the problem of whether or not the parks should be kept inviolate as museums of the indigenous flora and fauna, or whether exotic species should be introduced. The primary purpose of our National Parks, as you will see from the organic Act creating the National Park Service quoted on page 163 of the attached 1924 Annual Report, is 'to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wild life therein, and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations. In accordance with this Act the National Park Service does not permit the introduction of exotic species of plants and animals, and maintains the scenery in its natural condition, permitting only such changes as must be made in providing the necessary accommodation for visitors.

"The policy governing the establishment of new national parks provides that these areas shall be the outstanding examples of their particular kind of scenery, and it is essential that the trees in these areas belong to virgin forests. Naturally, then, we would not consider permitting any cutting of trees in the parks already existing for the purpose of obtaining revenue. Our national forests, which are administered by the Forest Service of the Department of Agriculture, are developed for economic purposes, and in these the cutting of timber under certain regulations is permitted."

SANCTUARIES.

Sanctuaries, as they are called in England, or in America and Canada bird-refuges, are the foundation of bird protection, game or otherwise. Insufficient attention is paid in New Zealand to the establishment of game-bird sanctuaries, which should be inviolate.

Finding national laws insufficient to protect migratory birds, including ducks and the like, treaties have been signed between Great Britain, America, and Canada, with a view of international co-operation in protecting migratory birds. An Act is now before the American Congress, supported by many bird-protection societies and game commissions, to provide adequate funds for purchasing a chain of sanctuaries, including lakes, swamps, etc., along the routes of certain birds. The modern gun is so deadly that it is found even game birds, with all their cunning, become exterminated unless efficient sanctuaries are provided.

OUT-DOOR GOOD MANNERS.

When you are finished eating at home, do you throw the plates in the corner, brush what you have not eaten on the floor, and burn the tablecloth? If not, then why destroy the roadside beauties, tear down the tree ferns and stack your car with the debris, which will be thrown on the rubbish heap in a few days? It is bad out-door form. Why not leave the roadside beauties for others to enjoy as they pass by? Why leave your empty meat and fish tins around your camping ground? Put the waste stuff in the fire, including paper, and put the fire out before you leave. It is good out-door form.

FOREIGN COLLECTING.

The Honourable the Minister of Internal Affairs is to be congratulated on the stand he is now taking with reference to this matter. The Department's policy in future will be that permission to take native birds will not be granted to persons not resident within the Dominion, and that if at any time it is decided to supply specimens to persons or institutions outside the Dominion, such specimens will be taken only by Government officers. Consideration was also promised by the Minister that authority to kill certain protected birds will be declined.



Young Paradise Duck



White Headed Stilt



Gannets breeding at Cape Kidnappers

New Zealanders !

No Insect-eating Birds
means no crops.

Fire in our Forests
means sudden death to our forests.

Animals in our Forests
means slow but certain death to our
forests.

No Native Birds
means no native forests.

No Forests
means decreased production, desola-
tion and poverty.

***Will YOU help to
avoid these results ?***

Please pass this Booklet on to a friend if of no further use

Extra copies will be forwarded on request