



FOREST and BIRD



**LONG-TAILED
CUCKOO.**

KOEKOE

*(Urodynamis
taitensis.)*

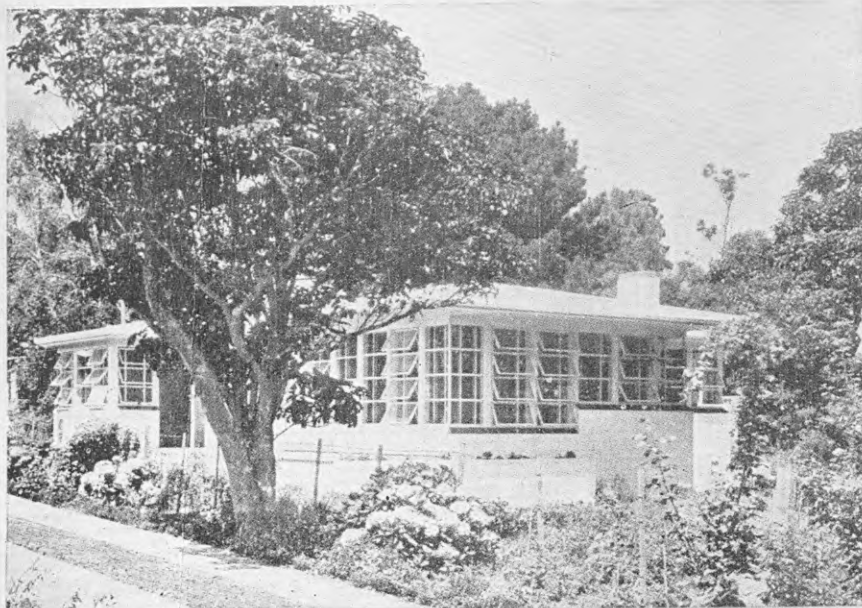
On flowering branch
of *Melicope ternata*,
Wharangi
(or koheriki).

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PROTECTION
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FOREST AND BIRD PROTECTION SOCIETY OF N.Z. INC.

An attractive notice produced by our Auckland Section for display in areas where sections are being cut out of the bush. At present displayed in stores and elsewhere in Titirangi and Mission Bay, on the Auckland ferries, and in an expanding township near Wellington.

Five colours are used in the notice.

FOREST AND BIRD PROTECTION SOCIETY

OF NEW ZEALAND (Inc.)

Head Office: "Evening Post" Buildings, Willis Street, Wellington, N.Z. P.O. Box 631.
Telegraphic Address: "Forestbird."

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OBJECTS OF THE SOCIETY.

To advocate and obtain efficient protection of our native forests and birds and the preservation of sanctuaries, and scenic and other reserves, in their native state, and to enlist the practical sympathy of both young and old in these objects.

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

The subscriptions are: Life Members £10. Endowment Members £1, Ordinary Members 7/6, Junior Members 3/- per annum. Endowment Members comprise those who desire to contribute in a more helpful manner towards the preservation of our birds and forests. This magazine is issued quarterly to all members without charge.

Convening and Secretarial Member of Nature Protection Council.

National Section of the International Committee for Bird Preservation.

Member of the International Union for the Protection of Nature (IUPN).

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EDITORIAL

A National Trust for New Zealand?

THE British National Trust for Places of Historic Interest or Natural Beauty, more generally known as the "National Trust" has had such an outstanding success during its 57 years of existence that the thought arises that it would be most advantageous to form a similar body in New Zealand to take over and look after the number of historic objects and beauty spots which are at present "nobody's business", or at best the business of a Government Department which has not sufficient staff to look after them.

From time to time suggestions have been made to this end and sometimes given considerable publicity, but so far neither the person nor the organisation has been forthcoming to carry the idea beyond the suggestion stage.

With the formation of the Nature Protection Council, as reported in the August, 1950, issue of "Forest and Bird", it is possible that an organisation has arisen which can carry the suggestion a step further, and the first meeting of this Council held towards the end of last year instructed its Standing Committee to approach potentially interested bodies and persons for their opinions.

Neither the Council as a whole, nor any one of its constituent members could of themselves be expected to take on the duties of a National Trust. Apart from the fact that they would not have the staff available to devote to such a work, its scope would extend beyond the functions of any one of them, as it would include any object of national or historic interest, be it scenic area, building, man-made earthwork, or anything else.

Far from taking on any such responsibility it is possible that members of the Council might even transfer to a National Trust, if formed, assets in their possession or trust. In fact, such provision is definitely made in the Deed of Trust transferring McPherson's Bush, Turakina, to this Society, a report of which appears on page 5 of this issue.

Owing to the difference of the conditions in the two countries the new body, if formed, could only be based very broadly on the British body. The British National Trust is a "private charitable body" not subsidised by the Government, although the Government gave it a pound per pound subsidy on the result of its Jubilee appeal. In 1950 it owned, or held in trust, no fewer than 1,111 properties in England, Wales, Northern Ireland, and the Isle of Man—Scotland has a separate National Trust. In this younger country it is probable that the field from which contributions could be drawn to administer such a big undertaking is not nearly large enough and some other means would have to be adopted.

That, however, is a bridge to be crossed at a later stage, and the subject in this somewhat vague form is brought up in the hope that members may have ideas in furtherance of this desirable object which this Society, as a member of the Nature Protection Council, and, in fact, its Convening and Secretarial member, may pass on to the proper quarters.

A CORRECTION.

"N.Z. FOREST SERVICE—A REVIEW"—Through an omission this heading appeared in our last number. As members will have realised it should have read, "N.Z. Forest Service—1951 Annual Report—A Review."

A. P. HARPER, C.B.E.

As our last issue was actually in print when the New Year Honours were announced, we were only able to insert a small announcement in the Quarterly Newsletter of that issue of the honour of appointment as Commander of the Order of the British Empire conferred on our President, Mr. A. P. Harper.

Mr. Harper received the honour for public services. Some of the most important of these, notably his exploration of the South Westland Glacial Scenic Reserves and his subsequent successful efforts towards their reservation were touched on in our report, in the February, 1951, issue, of the award to him of the Loder Cup for 1950.

He has been on the executive of the Society since 1946 and President since 1948. He was

responsible for the formation of the body known as Federated Mountain Clubs of New Zealand and was for some years its President.

He was co-founder, and for many years President, of the New Zealand Alpine Club, and has a world-wide reputation in alpine climbing circles, and his contribution to the science and practice of that activity has been considerable.

His experience in bush and mountain has been invaluable to the authorities in considering the Dominion's policy as regards National Parks, and he is a member of the Tongariro National Park Board. He is also a member of the New Zealand Geographic Board.

The Society congratulates Mr. Harper on this well-deserved honour.

COVER PICTURE (From a Water-Colour by the late Miss L. A. Daff)

LONG-TAILED CUCKOO (Koekoea)

Urodynamis taitensis

OF the two species of the cuckoo family that annually visit New Zealand from regions nearer the Equator, the larger long-tailed cuckoo is perhaps less well known than its smaller relative, the shining cuckoo.

This cuckoo's appearance at once suggests the description "hawk-like," and it may be this resemblance to a common enemy that arouses the anger of small birds when a koekoea is seen. It has the colour of a hawk but not its beak and feet, and so must seek safety in retreat with the flock of feathered furies in pursuit. It gains revenge in sneaking fashion by visiting unguarded nests to steal and devour eggs and sometimes even nestlings, and as if in final settlement of its score, the cuckoo may then leave its own egg to be cared for by one of the deluded victims.

Bush canaries (the whiteheads of the North Island and the yellowheads of the South) are frequently the foster-parents thus victimised. Native robins are also reported as foster-parents and grey warblers have been seen feeding a young koekoea, but whether these tiny birds have previously fostered the large cuckoo's egg as they do that of the shining cuckoo is not definitely known.

After many years of doubt and conjecture as to the long-tailed cuckoo's egg, it has been finally established that it is creamy-white in ground colour with purplish brown markings.

During the nesting season the favourite haunts of these birds are mostly away from the haunts of man, but they may be seen even in the neighbourhood of large towns when on migration. In the fresh adult plumage the underparts are white streaked with brown, and the upperparts dark brown spotted and barred with chestnut. In autumn birds in immature plumage are more frequently seen. In these the throat and breast are buff instead of white, while the back is spangled with white spots. Also the tail is a little shorter than in the full-grown bird. They consume in their first season a prodigious number of insects and spiders.

New Zealand is the only known nesting country of the long-tailed cuckoo. In winter the species is found in various islands of the South Pacific from the Solomons in the west to Tahiti in the east. The ancient Maori explained its annual disappearance by saying that the bird shed its feathers in the autumn, turned into a lizard, and crawled into a hole in the ground and spent the winter there.

The Flora of the Whangarei Heads

By K. GIVEN

FOR the botanically minded one, exploring the North Auckland Peninsula in quest of plants, various and interesting, amidst a fascinating and rugged environment, I would recommend the Whangarei Heads.

Aside from the variable bush characteristic of the North, the Heads has its own local flora, but the enthusiast must needs climb the rocky crags of Mt. Manaia and Bream Head.

Nevertheless, on the grassy lower slopes *Hibiscus trionum* may still be found, this being one of the few localities where stock have not taken heavy, or complete toll of it.

A wander up Manaia during Christmas took me through typical mixed bush consisting of such as puriri, tawa, lancewood, houhere, various *Coprosmas*, kowhai, just to mention a few at random. Then suddenly from above, I was greeted with great festoons of *Dendrobium cunninghamii* (an epiphytic orchid) such as I had never seen previously.

At the next step appeared *Litsaea calicularis* (mangeao) with handsome glossy leaves of a rich bronze colour. *Olearia furfuracea* and *Pittosporum umbellatum* both appeared to be existing with more than customary exuberance.

Of the lilies, several were encountered, mainly *Arthropodium cirrhatum* and *Dianella intermedia*, and also *Libertia ixioides* of the iris family. *Corysanthes macrantha*, its fleshy leaves protruding from the mossy banks was the only terrestrial orchid noticed.

Parsonsia, the New Zealand jasmine, was much in evidence, particularly so the slender *P. capsularis* which normally is less abundant than *P. heterophylla*.

A penetrating mist and the appearance of *Angelica rosaefolia* (aniseed) indicated that the climb was near an end, but the presence of castle-like crags looming above, and of *Pomaderris rugosa* offered more ample proof. So local is this *Pomaderris* that Cheeseman pin-points the summit of Manaia as one of its few habitats.

If you could visualise a hybrid between *P. elliptica* and *P. phylicaeifolia*, then you should have a conception of the appearance of this plant, whose leaves are half-inch to one and a half inches long and much wrinkled.

Then finally, appearing from crevices in the rock wall as if to defy all attempts at capture, is *Celmisia adamsii* var. *rugulosa*. Here again, the summit of Manaia aside from a few scattered localities, harbours a species which it may claim as its own.

On Bream Head a wider variety of interesting specimens was found, probably on account of the greater facilities for exploring the bush. On Manaia, once beyond the lower slopes, it is advisable, in fact, necessary, to keep to the beaten track.

The obvious ridge by which to tackle Bream Head is long, gradual, and for the most part, bedecked with grass and gorse. However, the bush appears abruptly and in general is similar to that on Manaia.

Nevertheless, there are surprises here and there and one of the first is—kowhai growing in a manner so diminutive and distinct that one wonders if it should not bear a specific name of its own. Another is—the presence of *Beilschmiedia tawa* in a form not readily recognised as such. The leaves are at least one inch longer than normal and considerably broader; moreover, they are darker in colour, the under surface being brownish purple. *Corokia* is found in both species, *C. buddleoides* and *C. cotoneaster*. I think the foliage of the former particularly attractive.

Phebalium nudum (mairehau) is seen here and there. This aromatic plant is usually local, and I have encountered it in only a few Northland East Coastal districts. *Dracophyllum latifolium* is more common here than in most forests, its candelabrum-like appearance making it rather unusual. *Freycinetia banksii* (kiekie) is common and in fact most exasperating should one wander off the beaten track. Its long rather fleshy fruit would at times appear from amidst a whirl of sharp edged leaves. *Quintinia serrata* (tawheowheo), a New Zealand saxifrage, with its leaves, often reddish brown, lends colour to the mist enshrouded part of the bush about the summit of Bream Head. *Alseuosmia macrophylla* (kokotaika), the most handsome of the genus is common in this bush.

Continued opposite.

McPherson's Bush, Turakina Valley

HELD IN TRUST BY THE SOCIETY

IN 1949, Mr. Alexander McPherson, of Turakina Valley, in the Marton District, gave an area of bush to the Rangitikei Scenery Preservation and Tree Planting Society. The members of that Society, whose headquarters are in Marton, feeling that such an area should be held by a Dominion-wide, rather than a local body, has transferred the gift to the Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand, as Trustees, with the consent of the original donor. It has also capped this generous gesture by agreeing to be responsible for the maintenance of the area in the meantime.

The bush is held in trust for the perpetual use and enjoyment thereof by the public as a

scenic reserve and generally for the public benefit in such manner as the Society may deem proper.

The property contains about 22 acres and is composed of mixed bush, chiefly kahikatea, rimu, matai, tawa, titoki, and rewarewa.

After having lost most of its undergrowth by grazing, it was fenced by Mr. McPherson about ten years ago and is an outstanding illustration of how our forest will recover if browsing animals are kept out, and, apart from its beauty, will be a valuable example of natural regeneration.

We publish a photograph of this bush on this page.



It is related to the common garden honeysuckle and in season its colourful and fragrant flowers are in delightful contrast with the predominant green of the environment. *Drimys axillaris* (horopito), pepperwood, is seen, but only around the misty summit of the headland. On the seaward side of the main ridge a veronica, with pale lilac flowers and standing at times well over six feet in height is associated with

Pseudopanax, the predominant growth on the exposed side of the headland.

These notes are the results of a couple of days of random meanderings at the Whangarei Heads; but at the Heads you could spend weeks, each day encountering some unusual plant, or perhaps some common specimen growing in a form sufficiently variable to warrant special attention.

The Waitakere Ranges

AUCKLAND'S MOUNTAIN PLAYGROUND

By GEO. M. FOWLDS

THE advent of the last war prevented the carrying out of many schemes to mark New Zealand's first century in 1940, but Auckland is in a fair way of completing its original plan. This was to create a mountain park in the Waitakere Ranges, by expending £15,000 to secure as much forest land as could be had, and to date over 9,000 acres have been reserved. Under a special Act of Parliament, a Board was constituted consisting principally of representatives of the city and most of the suburban local bodies. Revenue is obtained from a levy on the supporting local bodies, and it is hoped to purchase a further 9,000 acres of land.

Behind the blue ridge of hills on the western horizon, lying twelve to sixteen miles from the city, Auckland has a remarkable region. "Magnificent", was the remark of Sir A. W. Hill, Director of Kew Gardens, London, when he stood on the top of Pukematekeo, at the northern end of the Ranges, overlooking the Cascade Kauri Forest. Altogether, here is an upland area roughly twenty miles long by six to ten miles wide, bounded by the Manukau Harbour and the West Coast, which is rapidly becoming a popular recreation reserve. Now that the main highways are metalled, thousands of motorists and others are venturing through the hills and coming to appreciate the varied wonders of this playground.

Rushing Waters

In this miniature mountain country, with ridges and peaks rising up to 1,500 feet high,

are undulating plateaux and deep gorges, forest and fern-clad, with plunging waterfalls and placid streams. The name Waitakere means "rushing waters" and all over the ranges are places bearing the expressive descriptions attached by the old-time Maoris. Scattered through the hills are dozens of waterfalls, precipitous ravines, placid pools, small lakes and lagoons, as well as five man-made dams. One of the most beautiful gems is Lake Rotokawau (the lake of the shag), at Te Henga (or Bethells), on the West Coast. Set in a crater-like basin, its bush-clad slopes delight the eye. From the ridge-tops on the eastern slopes or the rock-strewn cliffs on the west coast, are to be had marvellous views, which change in interest from hour to hour. Within an hour's drive of the metropolis one reaches the hill-crests, presenting comprehensive views of the surrounding suburbs and the outlying distant land and islands of the Gulf, sixty to seventy miles away. In less than two hours from the heart of Auckland, one can motor right down to the surf-lashed black iron sand beaches of the Tasman Sea.

Majestic Trees

While man has worked for nearly eighty years to cut out the bush, these hills are still the home of large timber trees and there are considerable areas of reserves, containing splendid specimens of the noble kauri. The late Dr. L. Cockayne, the eminent New Zealand botanist, said: "In the forest reserve in the Waitakeres you have the finest reserve of its kind in the country. It must be preserved

New Zealand Spinach

Owing to lack of space no editorial comment was made on Mrs. Gane's letter about New Zealand spinach in Switzerland, in the Along the Track Notes in our last issue. A scientist to whom the letter was referred informs us that New Zealand spinach, kokihi, *Tetragonia expansa*, is a much prized summer

vegetable in Europe. At Covent Garden market in London, New Zealand spinach is often to be seen in the summer when other spinach is scarce. Although New Zealand has given this to the world, it is not grown as often as it should be in its own country.

from fire and vandalism at all costs, so that it may be kept as a heritage for your children and your children's children". The fact that the City authorities went to these hills in search of a water supply, has meant the reservation of 10,000 acres. In addition the Auckland City Council itself (in conjunction with the Government) has acquired a further 10,000 to 12,000 acres of splendid bush. Over the years a number of public-spirited citizens have given over 4,000 acres containing large trees and varied forest. One property, the Cascade Kauri Park, containing 5,000,000 feet of kauri timber, now that the access is improved, will become a popular picnic spot for the people of the isthmus. A nine-hole golf course has just been laid out there in a forest-lined valley.

Wonderful Bird Life

Added to the beauty of the bush is the bird life, which appears to be increasing because of the extensive reserves and the prohibition of shooting and fires. Native pigeons, kakas, tuis, and now bellbirds are to be seen in increasing numbers. There may still be kiwis and wekas in the dense part of the bush, but their numbers have been sadly reduced by fires, and the entry of stoats, cats and rats, and other undesirable migrants in the way of goats, wild pigs, and opossums.

Magnificent Seascapes

To see the coast in a different mood one needs to visit it when a strong westerly gale is raging. Then the surf lashes the steep cliffs and throws columns of spray and spume hundreds of feet up. Near Piha is a unique blow-hole, a salt water geyser which can be seen in action at such a time. Further north at Muriwai, where the cliffs terminate, the famous motor-racing beach commences and runs for thirty miles to the South Kaipara Head. The beach is perhaps the only place near the city where the toheroa is found.

At a cost of over £80,000 a splendid tar-sealed driveway has been constructed along the eastern ridge from Titirangi to Swanson, enabling a splendid round trip to be made.

The day will come when the people of Auckland will still more appreciate the asset they possess in the Waitakere hills and enjoy it in ever-increasing numbers.

The Maligned Pukeko

By W. M. FRASER

ON the coast of Whangarei District I have a farm used for dairying, and having saved a number of stands of native bush, the area is regarded as a bird sanctuary. My wife and I, living in town, have a bach on the farm where our week-ends are sometimes spent. On my way to the shed for milk one morning, I crossed a field over which scattered titree had been cut down, and from under a fallen head of this scrub I saw a hen pheasant run out and fly, and there I found a nest with six pheasant eggs. The following week-end when passing the same place, I was surprised on seeing a handsome pukeko stalking away from the pheasant's nest, but the greater surprise was to find the pheasant eggs, seven by this time, quite intact and lying together with five lovely pukeko eggs beautifully patterned with dark reddish and grey splotches.

Now here was something the complexity of which set one's mind wondering to which bird the privilege and pride of leading the chicks from the nest would fall and whether the young would survive if foster-mothered by the wrong parent.

Fate decreed, however, that the experiment would not be tried, as on the following week-end upon anxiously approaching this sequestered spot, I saw that the titree bush which had sheltered the nest had been moved some feet by wind or browsing stock and egg shells were scattered about, showing that the fresh eggs of both birds had been eaten, presumably by hawk or stoat.

Notwithstanding the tragedy that overtook this interesting partnership, here was some proof that this pukeko not only showed no inclination to eat other birds' eggs, but in this case actually shared in the protection of a strange nest to the extent of laying its own eggs therein.

Among the allegations that keep cropping up of the thieving and destructive habits of certain of our native birds, the usual case laid against the pukeko is the eating of other birds' eggs. In defence of the pukeko on this charge and as an occurrence of interest, I make this record.

The Friendly Pigeon

A STORY FROM THE WEST COAST OF
THE SOUTH ISLAND

(Contributed by Miss Watson).



ONE evening in 1940 we found a baby pigeon on the roof of the garage. We kept it throughout the winter, feeding it on brown bread and milk and sultanas.

Then it was taken to a farm near the bush and was released. For two weeks it disappeared, but then came back to the house to be fed. The following year it came back again bringing its mate and later its brood. Since then it has come back alone year after year, disappearing at intervals when the food is plentiful in the bush.

The farm has since changed hands, but the wife of the present farmer continues to feed it, as shown in the photograph below, and it will take food from the hand whilst perched on the side of a plate held in the other hand. The photographs were taken recently.



The Hinau Tree

By ALBERT KILMISTER

HINAU trees were fairly numerous in the hill country bush. They grow to about 25 feet tall and up to 4 feet in diameter with spreading branches. It was the medium-sized dead trees that produced most of the good, durable heart timber for posts, rails, and battens—they were a real boon to the pioneer farmers. The large trees are mostly decayed inside, while the medium-sized green trees are mostly sap wood that was of no value for the purpose. When felled, the crash as the branches hit the ground would be the last straw to a flock of kaka, who would fly around over the bush screeching as if very annoyed at the loss of their dear old hinau tree.

The tops and the few big limbs on the old hinau are hollow and were the nesting places of the kaka, parrakeets, and kingfisher. The white man brought bees to New Zealand; some soon went wild and made their hives in the birds' nesting places. Hinau flowers are like lily-of-the-valley, the berries are like small stony marbles in colour and size with a dry mealy coating on the outside. Not a showy berry on the tree—perhaps Nature intended them mainly for the ground birds in winter time. The berries dropped off in such quantities as to nearly cover the ground under the trees.

The truth is that Canada is not yet emerged from the twilight of destructive exploitation. We still have the social outlook of the bush-whacking pioneer. Scandinavia has left it behind and long since has reached the broad high plateau of national planning through engineering skills and decisive public opinion. . . . Our children grow up in the ancient zeals of exploitation. The Norwegians grow up in the zeals of stewardship and the needs of unborn generations. —Robson Black in "Forest and Outdoors" (Canada).

Thus writes a Canadian. What can one say of New Zealand?

Pohutukawa in the Scilly Isles

By R. B. GODWARD

IN the summer of 1951 I went to the Scilly Isles which are said to be subtropical, although geographically part of England. These islands are a four-hour voyage from the tip of Cornwall, and are traditionally known as "The Isles of the Blessed", because of their sunny climate. Bathed by the warm Gulf Stream, they enjoy a climate somewhat like Gisborne, or the coast of Hawke's Bay. In the terrible winter of 1947 they had only seven degrees of frost, and this was the first frost they had had for fourteen years.

In 1834 there were no trees on these islands, excepting a few stunted hollies about four feet high, and some broom. Indeed, it was doubted if trees would grow, for the islands are very low-lying, and the winds that swept across from the Atlantic often reached gale force. But Augustus Smith, who became Lord Proprietor in that year, believed that things could be changed, for he had come across medieval

manuscripts which mentioned that farmers digging in the islands had found "logs and stumps of oak and of elm, thirty inches in circumference". He thereupon chose a hollow in the island of Tresco, and made a windbreak around it in a horseshoe-shape by planting New Zealand flax backed up by closely-planted macrocarpas. In this hollow, around the ruins of an old Benedictine abbey, he planted subtropical palms and trees, many of them from New Zealand. The result is astonishing. Here today grow rata and pohutukawa, giant nikau palms and Phoenix palms, fern-trees, tobacco, huge cacti like those of Mexico, and hundreds of other plants and trees which will not grow in the rest of England. These gardens are of wonderful beauty, and instead of having sculpture of marble or of bronze, they are decorated by figureheads of the numerous sailing vessels which were wrecked nearby during the nineteenth century.

The annual rainfall is only 31.87 inches and droughts as long as four months have been experienced. The daily mean sunshine is 4.68 hours and the mean temperature is 52.2 degrees Fahrenheit.

In the fine Pohutukawa which grows in these gardens at Tresco, the aerial roots are particularly abundant, and many reach almost to the ground. One has, in fact, touched the ground, taken root, and is now a second trunk, eight inches to a foot in diameter, so that it not only gives extra nourishment to the tree during droughts, but also gives extra support during gales.



Left: The tree mentioned in the last paragraph. Note the "second trunk" and aerial roots (some cut to allow passage). It would be interesting to know whether members have seen comparable growths in New Zealand.



Bush Reserves on the Main Trunk

By J. L. MOORE

BETWEEN Marton and Taumarunui enough bush reserves are visible from the train to tell the traveller what originally covered this area. These treasured remnants make the journey a succession of delights and surprises.

There are some near Hunterville, and opposite the Kaikarangi Station is a park, mostly of white pine (*kahikatea*). Between the Makohine Viaduct (after Mangaonoho) and Mangaweka the bush and gorges of the Rangitikei River are seen on the right.

From here the railway follows up the valley of the Hautapu River. Taihape has kept a hillside of bush right in the town near the station, and a large domain down by the river. As the train winds and climbs up the valley one sees patches of kowhai and other small trees until, at Mataroa, the splendid Scenic Reserve of 240 acres of *kahikatea*, *matai*, *maire*, *kowhai*, and others comes into full view on the right. As the train nears Ngaurukehu, a signal box and passing-place for trains, the Hautapu becomes more of a mountain stream and on the left is a strip of heavier bush which is also a Scenic Reserve, with *rimu* as well as those just mentioned. This fine piece extends for several miles up to "The Horseshoe" at Turangarere.

From here the line passes through tussock country, and such flowers as *Celmisia*, *Wahlenbergia*, and *Euphrasia* can be distinguished as the train climbs to Waiouru, the highest station on the line (2670 ft.), and affording the first full view of Ruapehu.

At Tangiwai, the next station, State Forest plantations begin and continue till Karioi. Then we come to native bush again, now with much beech, but often with the larger trees taken out. There is a reserve before Rangataua, and at Ohakune a hillside of heavy mixed bush near the station, but the finest sight of all is the Scenic Reserve on the left between Ohakune and Horopito. After crossing the long curved Hapuawhenua viaduct, from which there is a

fine view down a bush gully, there is a short tunnel and then, for the bush-lover, the most exciting two or three miles on the whole Main Trunk. As the train slowly climbs up the incline the *rata* and *rimu* giants are looked at from ever-increasing heights. At first you are level with the boles of the trees, then you see them half-way up, and at last you look out at their tops and at vistas down gullies of real "old man" trees, some of the *rata* still strangling the trees they will eventually kill, and you see glimpses of the blue flat-topped Otiranui hill beyond.

The train now turns abruptly away from this climax, crosses the other curved viaduct, the Taonui, and continues to Horopito. Between here and Erua there are State Forestry Reserves, and I was assured at Ohakune that the present policy was to keep them intact. In this area, just past Pokaka, is the great Makatote viaduct, with first a breath-taking view down the gorge to Mt. Egmont, which I once saw by moonlight from the night express, and then a glimpse to the right up to Ruapehu.

At Erua the railway touches the boundary of the Tongariro National Park bush on the slopes of the smaller mountain Hauhungatahi, and just before National Park station sub-alpine-looking bush appears on the left with a few *kaikawaka* (cedar) distinguishable, a foretaste of the groves of them near the spiral, like branched candlesticks with little umbrellas of foliage on their upturned branches. This bush is partly Scenic and partly State Forest Reserve.

Near Raurimu, Oio, Owhango, and Kakahi there are Scenic and State Forest Reserves and then, on the right, views of the bush-clad banks of the Upper Wanganui, and a small reserve, also on the right, known as the Manunui Domain, just before crossing the river into Taumarunui.

Any traveller wishing to see these reserves is recommended to take a daylight train.

"Besides Divine guidance which is the eternal fountain of the light of the spirit of man, love of the beautiful in nature as in the things of the mind, still remains one of the principal sources of civilising influences as well as of hope for a happier and nobler humanity".—Dr. Naji Al Asil, Director-General of Antiquities, Iraq, in *Illustrated London News*.

Along the Track

TARANAKI.—Some time ago as I passed through my small orchard, with rain falling, I noticed a thrush sitting on its nest in an apple tree; its wings were spread out and reaching over the sides of the nest. I approached a little closer and it flew off, and to my astonishment there was another thrush underneath; so to get to the bottom of the matter I went a little closer, when it, too, flew off, and there in the nest were four little ones newly hatched. No doubt father was shielding mother from the rain, who in turn was protecting the little ones.—*H. C. Belcher.*

WELLINGTON.—**GREY WARBLERS.** I enjoyed reading the article in your August issue on the charming little riroriro. While these birds are not quite as tame and trustful as the fantail, they can be induced sometimes to come close to humans. I recently coaxed one to where I was standing in a small patch of native bush by whistling softly. In fact, I could almost have touched him—until I moved, when he immediately flew away; only to return again when I resumed whistling, but not so near as before.—*W. R. von Keisenberg.*

ENGLAND.—**THE CHANGING TIMES.** Here in England, there are many signs that the public attitude to birds is undergoing a profound change for the better. In recent years a British film company found it worthwhile to make a full-length film in which the hero, heroine, and entire plot revolved around the protection of a single rare bird, the Tawny Pipit. Books on bird-watching, and on how to photograph birdlife, are now a familiar sight in the bookshops, and many city councils have given orders that the trees throughout their parks and squares should be given bird houses.

Such consideration leads one to believe that the love which the English have for their birds is now deep and widespread. The head man of the Sports Department of a large store recently remarked that he did not know a single collector (meaning a man who shoots birds to have them stuffed and mounted) under the age of sixty.—*R. B. Godward.*

COROMANDEL.—Just as a party of us were packing up after a picnic at a little spring in unfrequented scrub country on the Coromandel Peninsula, we were surprised to hear a single repeated note coming from a low dense

bush about ten feet away. At first we thought it must be some sort of cricket, but the type of locality and the monotonous note caused me to suspect a fern bird, although I had never previously seen or heard one. On our cautious approach a small bird with a speckled breast appeared at the top of the bush, only showing its head and breast, and sat there for a minute or two, obviously talking to us with a continually repeated double note—the “U-tick,” on which its early name of U-tick was based—though, being unfamiliar with the fern bird, I still could not positively identify it until I had seen its tail. When it fluttered through the scrub to a line of manuka bushes with a gap at the end I sent one of the party around to the other side and we proceeded to work it along towards the gap. The bird seemed to enter thoroughly into the spirit of the game, repeatedly coming out to the edge of the bushes on our side and “talking” to us, this time answering our single whistles with a single note, so that between us we produced a chorus of “U-ticks”, but always it exasperatingly kept its head and breast towards us and its tail hidden in the shadows beyond. Eventually we manoeuvred it to the end of the bushes and it flew across the gap, at last exposing its long feathery tail and leaving me in no doubt as to its identity. It soon re-crossed the gap and continued to “talk” to us until we left and climbed up the bank on our way home. Looking back I saw it fly up as if to follow us and go into a bush just below us, but though I whistled to it, this time it stayed quiet and would not disclose its position, and there we left it.

The unmistakable fact that it “talked” to us, coming quite close to do so, coupled with the fact that it did not disclose its presence until we were in the act of departure and later flew up closer to us as we left, makes me as sure as I can be that it had no fear of us and actually enjoyed our presence.—*R. H. Carter.*

A bird in the bush is worth
two in the hand.

Loder Cup, 1951 Award

FOR the second year in succession the Loder Cup has been awarded to a prominent member of our Society, this time Professor L. W. McCaskill, M. Agr. Sc., of Canterbury Agricultural College, Lincoln.

Professor McCaskill is an original member of our Society.

His work for the Society has been considerable. He has formed and been the moving spirit of sections of the Society, both at Dunedin and Christchurch, the latter a still very flourishing body under his chairmanship.

The Cup was awarded to him for his outstanding advocacy in favour of native plants and trees throughout his lecturing career, an advocacy backed by concrete achievements in the planting of gardens of such plants, the preservation of a rare species in its habitat and even in sending New Zealand material to botanic gardens overseas.

As the Cup is awarded annually for notable work in encouraging the preservation and cultivation of New Zealand flora, Professor McCaskill is a worthy recipient.

Abnormal Brood of Ducklings

HAVING seen the report and picture of an abnormal brood of ducklings in a recent issue, Mr. E. Dear wrote: "I have often seen ducks with large broods of young, especially after the first few days of hatching. In fact, I have a duck on the farm at the present time with 25 young but one duck did not hatch all of these.

"What happens is that two or more ducks hatch out about the same time and then a fight ensues between two or more mothers and the victor takes the lot. In my case this year, two ducks, grey and mallard cross, did actually hatch out at the same time and the duck that lost her young is at present hatching out another batch of young which will be out in December next. I put out curds from the skimmed milk barrels near the creek where the ducks are and every morning 25 young and one mother put in an appearance for their share and next month I expect another young batch to do likewise."

Riccarton Bush, Christchurch

APPEAL FOR SEEDLINGS

RICCARTON BUSH, in the heart of Christchurch, is the last remaining example of Canterbury swamp forest, described by our late President, Dr. L. Cockayne, as "The last tree-association of the kind in the whole world, a natural object to delight in and revere." Recently the bush was enlarged by the purchase of some

five acres of similar, but badly damaged bush. Exotic growths have now been removed, the local Section of the Forest and Bird Protection Society rendering considerable assistance. It is proposed to replant with those species present in the primeval community and a nursery has been established in which to propagate the trees and shrubs required. Difficulty is being experienced in obtaining a supply of seedling trees and the assistance of our members is requested in obtaining seed or seedlings of pokaka, white pine (kahikatea), black pine (matai), and totara. If any members think they can help in this way would they be good enough to communicate with Professor L. W. McCaskill, 50 Clifford Avenue, Christchurch, N.W.1, who will give them full particulars of what is required?

Three Juniors, a Museum, and a Donation

BEHIND an unexpected and welcome donation brought into the office of the Society one day lies the story of the enterprise of three juniors, Gretel, Marie, and Gerda Buchler, of Lower Hutt.

In their garden is an old Army hut, formerly their playroom, the toys in which were gradually squeezed out by a new activity, the collection of specimens for a biological museum. This activity has resulted in the conversion of the playroom into an interesting museum, now containing at least one specimen of every biological class. It has been visited by many people, not only their own young friends, but also grown-ups, including some well-known scientists.

During the Christmas holidays they hit on the idea of having a collection at the entrance and giving the proceeds to this Society. The exhibition, we understand, was well advertised in the immediate neighbourhood, and the result of £1 5s. 6d. is a welcome gift.

Sanderson Sanctuary

	£	s.	d.
Received to date	283	10	1
P.O.S.B. Interest Accrued ..	6	16	1
A. B. Gordon		2	6
W. Cobeldick	1	1	0
Mrs. F. E. H. Martin		15	0
Anon.		12	6
Mrs. J. T. Jack		5	0
	£293	2	2

Quarterly Newsletter

Dates.—The news in this Newsletter is that received in the office up to 31st March, 1952.

Alexander's Bush—Ngahere Tuku.—Mr. Alexander does not wish his name used in the title of the bush he has presented to the Society. The Auckland Section informs us that this is to be known as Ngahere Tuku, meaning "A Gift of Mixed Bush". Arrangements are in hand for the erection of a large signboard bearing the name of the bush and the donor and three smaller fire notices on the roadside at the edge of the bush. A report of this gift appeared in our last issue.

Overseas Correspondents.—The world-wide interest now taken in nature preservation is shown by the many inquiries we have been receiving from abroad recently. "Forest and Bird" now goes overseas to Australia, Batavia, Belgium, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Fiji, Gold Coast Colony, India, Samoa, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Switzerland, and U.S.A. Some of these go to members in these countries, others to institutions in exchange for their publications.

Members Serving Overseas.—The Society's practice of not charging subscriptions to members serving with overseas forces in a theatre of war continues.

Auckland Section.—Members of the Section formed two parties on Saturday, 24th November, to visit Le Roy's Bush, Birkenhead and Kauri Glen, Northcote, under the leadership of Mr. V. Fisher and Mr. Kilham. The report of this reached us too late for inclusion in last Newsletter. For lunch the two parties met at the Northcote College, where Mr. and Mrs. Prickett and Mr. Atkinson had the kettle boiling for tea. After lunch members divided up again to visit whichever bush they had not yet seen. At Le Roy's Bush Mr. Fisher gathered the parties together at the lily pond for a short talk on American Nature Trails.

About 70 members of the Section, in two buses, held a field day on Saturday, 1st March, at the Firth of Thames. At Miranda and elsewhere great numbers of wading birds were observed, including godwits, oystercatchers, stints, stilts, banded dotterel, and a whimbrel. Messrs. H. R. McKenzie and R. B. Sibson acted as leaders. The party lunched at Miranda, and on the beach at Wharekawa, the beautiful home of Colonel and Mrs. Noel Adams, enjoyed an afternoon tea prepared by Messrs. Atkinson and Prickett.

It had been hoped to inspect the Ngaheretuku Bush on the way home, but the breakdown of a bus prevented this, Mr. McKenzie rising to the occasion with an informal talk on native trees during the enforced wait.

Christchurch Section.—On Saturday, December 8th, 1951, about seventy-five members inspected some of the reserves on the Port Hills, later going on to Lake Ellesmere, where various species of bird life were studied. The meeting decided to press the City Council to fence off areas of bush on the hills owing to the harm being done to the undergrowth by stock. Professor McCaskill led

the party and Mr. J. W. Jamieson, President of the Summit Road Scenic Society, accompanied it.

The visit of the Junior Group from Redcliffs School to Dean's Bush on 1st December, 1951, briefly mentioned in last Newsletter, was very successful. Only one of the party had been to the Bush before. They all now listen to Professor McCaskill's talks from 3YA.

At a meeting on 7th March it was urged that Kennedy's Bush should be fenced and surrounded by a firebreak.

At this meeting which was so well attended that people were standing, a new committee was formed, consisting of Mr. H. G. Bailey (later elected chairman), Mrs. W. S. MacGibbon, Misses M. Jennings and M. McLachlan, Dr. D. E. Currie, and Messrs. W. Fisher, G. H. Gray, and R. Wilson. Miss Ann Anderson is the new hon. secretary and treasurer. Though Miss Jennings is no longer hon. secretary she is now a member of the committee and will be acting as organiser, so we do not lose her services. Professor McCaskill, though now holding no office in the Section, will continue to be closely associated with it as the Society's Canterbury Representative.

No Restriction on Killing of Wapiti.—As stated in the Press recently, the Minister of Lands, Hon. Mr. Corbett, and the Minister of Internal Affairs, Hon. Mr. Bodkin, in a joint statement have announced that there will be unrestricted killing of deer-wapiti hybrids and wapiti by those shooters who are permitted in the Fiordland National Park this year. Recent surveys in the park had shown that deer, deer-wapiti hybrids, and wapiti had increased and there was a marked deterioration in the vegetation of a number of areas. To preserve the natural beauties of the area it was essential that the partial protection of wapiti be lifted. Those successful in the ballot for blocks would have priority in entering their blocks, but the area would later be opened to those who had been unsuccessful in the ballot, though they would still have to obtain permits. It was likely that operations would also have to be undertaken in the area by the Departments concerned.

"Sea and Shore Birds".—A member wishes to purchase a second-hand copy of the Society's publication "Sea and Shore Birds", now out of print. If any other member has a copy to spare please communicate with the Secretary.

THE STAFF ASKS

"Will you please pay your subscription when you receive the first request note?"

"If you do not we have to make out another to send with your next Journal and when these run into hundreds it makes a lot of extra work for us."

Miriam Ballard Memorial Essay Competition

PRIZE-WINNERS, 1952

First Prize: JUDITH L. CHAPMAN, age 13, 159 Princes St., Invercargill. Southland Girls' High School.

Second Prize: JUDITH H. KNIGHT, age 14, 11 King George Ave., Epsom, Auckland. Epsom Girls' Grammar School.

The First Prize Essay is printed below.

NEW ZEALAND'S SMALLEST NATIVE BIRD

IT was a hot, sunny day, and as I walked slowly up the steep bush-covered hill, despondently wondering what to do, there came to me the sound of an unknown bird-call. It was a faint "zee zee". I stood for a moment wondering whether to follow it up or to go for a walk over the hills. It may be as well to add that I was in hilly, manuka country in South Otago.

After a few moments' hesitation, curiosity, or perhaps laziness overcame all my desire for a walk, so making as little noise as possible I crept over to the matagouri trees from whence the noise came. There, fluttering about from branch to branch, were a mother and father rifleman. They were very tiny with only a tuft of feathers for a tail. One of the birds was coloured olive yellow down the back and on the rump, and white on the under parts. I later discovered that this was the male bird. The male also had a patch of dull green on the upper part of his body. The female was distinguished from the male by olive green upper parts and buffy white under parts. Both birds had dark brown bills, pale brown legs, and streaks of yellow on their sides.

I lay there watching them for an hour until a

call from the house reminded me that it was tea time. As I lay there I noticed that as the birds uttered their faint cry of "zee zee" their wings quivered very slightly. Their flight was very feeble but their movements were quite sprightly, and they were incessantly on the move.

They flew from branch to branch, ascended the tree spirally, and then descended it in one swift downward flight. Every fifteen minutes or so they would fly on to the next tree and repeat this performance. Although the slope was mainly covered in manuka trees the birds always chose one of the matagouri trees which were dotted here and there among the manuka. During the hour in which I lay watching them the birds did not eat a thing, nor did they appear to be searching for food.

For the next three days I went up the hill at the same time and lay watching the birds. They were always on the same section of the hillside and they always acted in the same manner. On the fourth day when I went up the birds were nowhere to be seen, and although I searched the hillside thoroughly during the next three days I did not see those birds again.—JUDITH L. CHAPMAN.

Extract from Judith Knight's Second Prize-winning Essay, "Weka Town".

"You will be pleased to know there is one place where the Wekas are protected", said my friend. The Weka population frequented the local hospital, and they had become quite tame. All scraps were given to them. The hospital authorities even discharged a patient who killed a Weka!"

[Wekas are protected by law everywhere.—Ed.]

NATURE QUESTION TIME BROADCASTS.

These have been extended, and now are from 5.20 (approx.) to 5.45 p.m. on Wednesdays, from 2YA.

Juniors are invited to send nature questions to "Weka", c/o P.O. Box 631, Wellington, and have them answered over the air.



Left: Red-billed gulls round camp fire, Coromandel Peninsula. They were actually seen to pull out of the fire bacon rind which had been thrown in to burn.

Photo: R. H. Carter.

The Wonderful Wanderings of Wiremu Double-you Weka By E. H. C.

Chapter 8.

THE TERRIBLE INVADER



IT was quiet now that all the birds had gone; the chattering and chirping of a few minutes before had ceased completely, and the bush was silent and still as night. In fact, it might have been night had not the dappled green sunlight filtering through the trees told Wiremu otherwise. He

gazed about him; how empty the trees looked after the great council that had filled them; now all were gone. But wait! Not all gone—there was one bird left. Surely tomtit, too, must have felt the night-like stillness and been deceived by it. Never before had Wiremu seen Miro-miro, the fidgety tomtit, sit so still except at night. Perhaps it was moonlight shining through the tree-tops thought Wiremu blinking upwards, but the light was too bright even for a full moon; besides another look at Miro-miro showed that it was not sleep that kept the tiny bird so still; his eyes were wide open gazing in fixed fascination at something out of Wiremu's sight in the ferns. His weka curiosity aroused, Wiremu moved closer, following with his own eyes Miro-miro's fixed gaze. And then he saw it! For a moment he, too, felt the cold fear that held Miro-miro rooted, before he realised how silly it was to be frightened of something half his own size.

What was this little brown and fawn creature, with its sharp nose, beady eyes, long thin body and bushy tail? Like the rat and opossum it had no right in the bush. Why could not these animals stay in their own homes instead of coming here to disturb and menace the true bush dwellers? It was dangerous here. Miro-miro was at its mercy. Who could tell how many other birds would fall under the spell of those terrifying eyes? Something must be done!

With these thoughts in his mind, Wiremu started to stalk through the ferns; slowly and silently, inch by inch, he crept until he was close behind the intruder. Then, judging the distance with quick and skilful eye, he struck!—straight and true. One blow of that powerful beak and the lids closed over those dangerous eyes, shutting off their dreadful power for ever.

The stoat, for such was the intruder, was dead: Miro-miro was released from the spell that bound him. Wiremu Weka was once more victorious.



(Another adventure next time.)

Junior Along the Track

(3/- will be paid for each item published in "Junior Along the Track". We would like you to give your ages when you write.)

Auckland.—I am always entertained by the various devices employed by our neighbours to keep birds from feeding on their young lettuce and other plants. We never have any trouble; our plants grow unmolested. Every morning Mum throws out a handful of soaked bread and my feathered friends are on the spot with a rush. We receive no song of thanksgiving, but they repay us by keeping our garden free of pests.

—*Michael Porter, 16 years.*

Plimmerton.—I watched a wax-eye on Tuesday. He was eating some food. When a starling came along and took the food away the wax-eye chased the starling.—*David Atkinson, 12 years.*

Winton.—One dark winter's night the people in our cottage thought someone had shot a gun at them. They were sitting by the fire. It was a mallard duck that went crashing through the window pane and fell on the floor. It was badly hurt so they killed it.

The other day I was on my pony and I saw a skylark's nest in the grass on the roadside. It had tiny little skylarks in it; they were brownish and fluffy.—*Joanna Dunlop, 8 years.*

Auckland.—On a nature trail to Le Roy's Bush and Kauri Glen Park I saw something which I thought other readers might like to hear. We were looking among the trees at a certain tree when one of the group noticed a nest. It was a fantail's nest containing about three small birds and standing on the edge of the nest was the mother feeding the younger ones insects. Although it was only 10 to 12 feet away the bird did not move and all the rest of the people with us were talking and it still did not move.

—*Shelagh Dyson, 15 years.*

New Plymouth.—Every night for three weeks I have had some animal visitors outside my window. On a chestnut tree a morepork sits and calls out to another morepork across the road, and they exchange their daily news in gruff and squeaky tones for several hours through the night. Sometimes they are serenaded by the snuffling of a hedgehog. The other night I failed to hear any of them and I felt as if I was quite missing something.—*Cathryn Silson, 13 years.*

Motueka.—Last year I saw a bittern down in a swamp. I saw him about three times every week. During November I did not see him at all, and we think he must have been nesting because he is back again now. I also saw a black shag; he had just eaten a trout out of our creek; he could not fly for nearly an hour while he was digesting it. He just sat opening and shutting his mouth all the time.—*Roger Glynn, 10 years.*

NEW LIFE MEMBERS ENROLLED SINCE LAST ISSUE.

Macmorran, Miss A., *Auckland.* Perkins, N. L., *Christchurch.*

NEW ENDOWMENT MEMBERS ENROLLED SINCE LAST ISSUE.

Ballance, Mrs. F. A., <i>Wellington.</i>	McCracken, A. E., <i>Hamilton.</i>
Brett, W. F., <i>Nelson.</i>	Maxwell, Mrs. H., <i>Geraldine.</i>
Canny, Mrs. L. A., <i>Nelson.</i>	Parker, S. B., <i>Te Mata.</i>
Chittenden, Miss D., <i>Palmerston North.</i>	Queenswood School, <i>Hastings.</i>
Cooper, B., <i>Auckland.</i>	Reid, A. F., <i>Lowry Bay.</i>
Gerhard, F., <i>Christchurch.</i>	Reid, J. G. S., <i>Auckland.</i>
Gage, J. H., <i>Te Mata.</i>	Taylor, Mrs. G. I., <i>Auckland.</i>
Hayes, Miss G., <i>Cheviot.</i>	Theomin, Miss E. G., <i>Dunedin.</i>
Hasketh, Mrs. R. H., <i>Auckland.</i>	Wachner, Mrs. A., <i>Invercargill.</i>
Hunter-Brown, Miss L. M., <i>Nelson.</i>	Wilde, E. D., <i>Palmerston North.</i>
McCombs, M. E., <i>Auckland.</i>	Winstone, A. G., <i>Whangarei.</i>

Omitted from November List—Richards, A. J.

(Numbers now are: Life Members 376; Endowment Members 439).

A List of Life and Endowment Members is issued annually with the November Journal to adult members.

FOR SALE (Post Free unless otherwise stated)

	Price	Price
ALBUM DEPICTING 24 FOREST-INHABITING BIRDS, in colour. In dark brown or maroon cover—state preference. (Retail price £1.) Special price to members of Society - - -	15/-	2/6
"RICHARD BIRD IN THE BUSH," by M. M. Atkinson - - - - -	6/-	- - -
"RICHARD BIRD AT SEA," by M. M. Atkinson - - - - -	6/-	- - -
"THE WAIPOUA KAURI FOREST OF NORTHERN NEW ZEALAND," by W. R. McGregor - - -	5/-	- - -
		- PAMPHLETS -
"PODGY THE PENGUIN," by L. E. Richdale - - -		3/6
"THE TREES OF NEW ZEALAND," by L. Cockayne and E. Phillips Turner (Postage 5d.) - - -		12/6
		"THE CRIME AGAINST THE LAND," by Y. T. Shand - - - 6d. each; per doz. 3/6
		"DESTRUCTION OF AN AVIAN PARADISE," by Mrs. Perrine Moncrieff. 3d. each; per doz. 2/6

APPEAL FOR BEQUESTS AND SANCTUARIES

Is there any cause more worthy of bequests by public-spirited citizens than the objectives of the Forest and Bird Protection Society, which is working wholly and solely for the welfare of New Zealand, present and future? Here is a suggested form of bequest:—

"I give and bequeath the sum of to the Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand (Incorporated), and I declare that the receipt of the Treasurer for the time being of the said Society shall be a complete discharge to my executors for the legacy hereby given to such Society."

The work and record of the Society, the personnel of its membership and Executive are a good guarantee that the best possible use will be made of such bequests.

The Society would also welcome the responsibility of administering suitable sanctuaries for land or sea birds, provided that a small annuity is added for the payment of a caretaker. **Such sanctuaries could be named after the donor, and would thus be a perpetuation of his name as a saviour of New Zealand's forest and bird life.** It is suggested that such sanctuaries should be administered in a manner to ensure their return to their original and natural conditions as nearly as possible.

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"Te Waha o Rerekohu", big pohutukawa in the grounds of Te Ararua Maori District High School. It is regarded as *tapu* by the Maoris.

Photo: Mr. Kerr.



Pohutukawas clinging to cliff face. "Mare's Leg" and natural arch, near Hahei, Coromandel Peninsula.

Photo: R. H. Carter.



Bush Track, Copland Valley.

Photo: C. C. Couchman.



Light-mantled Sooty Albatross (*Phoebastria palpebrata*). Solitary unmated male calling.—Campbell Islands. A unique photograph by J. M. Moreland, Dominion Museum.