



Message from

THE HON. SIR LÉON GÖTZ,
K.C.V.O.

Minister of Internal Affairs

Amidst the variety of organisations concerned with wildlife administration, the Wildlife Branch of the Department of Internal Affairs, although small and highly specialised, plays an important role in the struggle to preserve native fauna and stocks of game birds and fish.

Most New Zealanders now live in urban areas, and as living conditions become more restricted, the greater is the desire for recreation in natural surroundings. While large and distant reserves are important, so, too, is the preservation of wildlife nearer at hand, whether it be on a lagoon, along the shore line, or in that small clump of remnant forest.

As an early member of your Society, I am pleased to see its growth and maturity as a leader in the conservation movement. Any Government agency benefits from the constructive criticism and cooperation which a society such as yours is well placed to give.

I therefore appreciate the opportunity which has been given to the Wildlife Branch to describe something of its work.

Léon Götz