

cause by the Press, our various representatives, and many of our members throughout the Dominion.

For the Committee,

E. V. SANDERSON,

Hon. Secretary.

Wellington, 1st August, 1927.

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF BIRD PROTECTION.

The object of this organisation is the association of all the bird protection societies and similar leagues in order to unify and strengthen the effort, now growing so freely, to secure protection for useful birds. A great number of societies from many countries, including Britain, the United States, Canada, France, Germany, Sweden, Japan, Austria, Hungary, Switzerland, Norway, Australia, New Zealand, etc., have already joined the movement, which was inaugurated by Dr. Gilbert T. Pearson, president of the National Association of Audubon Societies of America. It is proposed to hold an international conference in Switzerland this year or early in the coming year.

GROWTH OF NEW ZEALAND TIMBER-TREES.

(By SIR DAVID HUTCHINS.)

Forestry in New Zealand has been misjudged by the entirely erroneous idea that the New Zealand native timber-trees grow more slowly than the ordinary timber-trees of other countries. Statements to that effect are common, but they will not bear critical examination. I find that most of the timber-trees of New Zealand grow faster than the timber-trees of Europe and America—rimu and kauri, the two chief timbers, decidedly faster. As already mentioned, according to the last published returns, the New Zealand timber-trees grow some 50 per cent. faster than two of the chief native timber-trees of South Africa. It is the same story if we compare the growth of New Zealand trees with those of North America, as may be seen by reference to pages 363 to 367 of a recent work on American forestry by Professors Moon and Brown. Nearly all the American timbers grow rather slower than kauri and rimu, some much slower.

The mistake regarding the growth of New Zealand trees has arisen from two causes—(1) Comparing trees such as kauri, rimu, and totara, trees of the dense evergreen forest, which generally grow badly when taken out of the forest, with certain quick-growing exotic trees—*Insignis* pine, eucalypts, and wattles—trees of the open forest, which grow well when planted in the open, and which have been picked for their rapid growth in