

sport, it is through fear that the few larger species that are yet spared us in fair numbers will follow those that have gone.

An assertion given much emphasis is that the non-killer does little or nothing to preserve our wild creatures. What greater protection can be given the bird than to spare its life? And, as examples, let us remember the gift of Marsh Island, Louisiana, by Mrs. Russell Sage; the Rainey Wild Life Sanctuary, in the same state, financed by Mrs. Grace Rainey Rogers; the earlier successful work of Abbott H. Thayer in behalf of the sea-bird colonies on our Atlantic Coast, and the recent act of Edward Bok in establishing his Florida preserves. What of the thousands of dollars contributed by the Audubon Societies and other disinterested organizations, and expended in sanctuaries, warden service, and winter feeding? Especially let us not forget that greater value, unmeasurable in terms of money, represented by the moral and educational influence of such efforts.

The school of thought that the Nature lover represents and that brings him criticism is largely the direct product of conditions that are continually becoming more evident. His forces are being recruited from the ranks of those whose repugnance to the slaughter that so often masquerades as sport has forced them to action, by landowners and farmers who resent the destruction of property caused by careless hunters, and who are determined to protect the wild creatures they raise, and by sportsmen who have come to realize that the benefits gained by life in the outdoors may be obtained without killing, and who are welcoming this new régime.

The "sentimentalist," contrary to the conception pictured by his critics, is by no means an isolated and visionary back-number, ignorant of his subject and spending his time deploring and supplicating. He is a student of the present, interpreting it by the lessons of the past, and working for a more abundant future. The fact that he is being recognized as a militant force is significant.

FORESTS AND WILD LIFE.

(By CAPTAIN E. V. SANDERSON.)

"It is axiomatic that wild life, including mammals, birds, and fish, depends primarily on the maintenance of the forests," says the December bulletin of the American Game Protective Association. Fish, because forests are the regulator of rivers and streams. In New Zealand it is mainly the floor covering, so peculiar to our forests, which is the main water controller. If this is damaged or destroyed then rivers and streams rush impetuously down in times of heavy rain scouring out fish-cover and fish-food, while in times of drought these water channels become more or