

less a series of pools. Trout fishermen should therefore be active in forest preservation, lest their recreation be lost. The first essential in the conservation of game birds and our native birds is that their habitat should be in natural condition. Thus the forests are the homes and food supplies of our forest inhabiting native birds, and no native forests means no native forest inhabiting birds. Game birds, too, must have cover; indeed, the pheasant in this country, or what few remain, are becoming more and more prone to live and roost in the fringe and patches of forests, while quail always find the forest a safe sanctuary.

Surely, then, it is in the interests of all, except some few of the deer stalkers, who think more of their stalking than their country's welfare or anybody else's interests, that plant eating animals should be exterminated from our forests which the highest authorities in the world say, owing to their peculiar past existence, are totally unequipped to withstand the ravages of plant-eating animals. No forests means no fish, no game birds, no native birds and no future prosperity for New Zealand. We cannot afford to replant our forests if they are destroyed, and we cannot replace them with a forest so well designed for water conservation, the prevention of erosion and those beneficial, nay necessary conditions, brought about by forests to our national well being, nay, our very existence as a people. Every good citizen should, and must, insist on the elimination of plant-eating animals in our forests lest we strike that rock which has time and time again wrecked former peoples—forest depletion.

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### MAN'S GREATEST RIVAL.

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"The insects are man's rivals for possession of this planet," declares Dr. L. O. Howard, who was for thirty-three years chief of the U.S. Bureau of Entomology. "They are damaging us infinitely more to-day than at any time since civilisation began." These insect invaders want what we want. They eat what we live upon. They are destroying our crops, ruining our orchards, plundering our gardens, and ravaging our forests.

The most recent onslaught of the insect kingdom has been made by the Mediterranean fruit fly in the citrus groves of Florida. This pest, excluded from the United States until this year, was discovered by J. C. Goodwin, nursery inspector for the Florida State Plant Bureau. On the seventh of last April he found larvæ in grapefruit he was preparing for breakfast. Investigation in Washington, D. C., proved them to be the larvæ of the menacing Mediterranean fruit fly. Within a week hundreds of experts were at Orlando, the centre of the fight, attempting to curb the pest. Congress rushed an appropriation of 4,250,000 dollars to the stricken district. Quarantine rules