



BLUE HERON NESTLING,  
Bay of Plenty.

[Photo by B. Sladden.]

**I**NABILITY, on the part of many of those organisations who administer wild life matters, to view the matter nationally is the stumbling block to a better appreciation of the complexities connected therewith. Thus Departments in some cases place their interests before those of the community, and other organisations act similarly. The truth is that as our forests are damaged so native birds, game birds, fresh water fish and wild life in general must decrease. Temporary increases in some species may occur in localities, but as to the final results there can be no doubt. The results of past efforts to administer wild life matters verily speak for themselves and are a sore menace to the interests of the sportsman, fisherman, the nature lover, etc., but above all are already a serious handicap to the progress of the nation. Yet what has been, is good enough for those who are gainers by the present system. Never mind New Zealand. It is only by the welding together of all interests under a common leadership that progress instead of retrogression is possible in dealing with the conservation of desirable wild life and the elimination of the undesirable.