

. . . . Finally, in course of time, a state of stability will be reached, and a new flora, composed partly of exotic plants and partly of those indigenous to the soil, will occupy the land, and *save in the national parks and scenic reserves, but only if these are kept strictly in their natural condition as to both plants and animals*, this new flora will build up a vegetation different from that of primeval New Zealand.

—Extract from "*The New Zealand Official Year-Book, 1930*, by Dr. L. Cockayne, C.M.G., Ph.D., F.R.S.

FOREST RANGERS.

Every public schoolboy in New South Wales is virtually a forest ranger, and within an area of two miles adjoining every public school in New South Wales is a sanctuary for native birds and animals.

Prompted by the Australasian Society of Patriots, the State Government recently declared an area of two miles adjacent every school in New South Wales a sanctuary for native birds and animals.

The declaration means that animals and birds, with the flora peculiar to Australia, must be protected within these areas.

STATE-WIDE SANCTUARY.

By declaring a two-mile sanctuary in the vicinity of every school, the Government, perhaps unwittingly, has made practically the whole of the populated portions of the State an area in which wild animals must be protected. In the coastal districts, particularly, where schools are encountered frequently, miles and miles of territory, without a break, automatically becomes a sanctuary.

The Australian Society of Patriots is hopeful that native bears, kangaroos, and other denizens of the Australian bush, will eventually come in closer to the schools in search of the food which the children are to be encouraged to provide. In this way first-hand natural history lessons will be obtained.

FRANCE TO PLANT TREES IN WAR AGAINST FLOODS

The Minister of Agriculture of France has sent instructions to local authorities for replanting forests with a view to preventing floods like the one in March last, which took a large toll of life and property in central and southern France. Reforestation is one of the features of the economic reconstruction plan announced by the Premier. It is believed that replanting of the stripped forests will aid in preventing a repetition of the disaster.