

# BIRDS

ISSUED BY

**New Zealand Native Bird Protection Society (Inc.)**



**SEA GULL MONUMENT, SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH,**  
Erected out of gratitude because the gulls destroyed  
the insects which threatened to ruin the crops.

**Head Office**  
**Box 631, Wellington.**

**Otago Branch:**  
**Box 672, Dunedin.**

**Southland Branch:**  
**Box 400, Invercargill.**

**OBJECTS**—To advocate and obtain the efficient protection and preservation of our native birds, a bird day for our schools, unity of control of all wild life, and the preservation of sanctuaries, scenic reserves, etc., in their native state.

Affiliated with the International Committee for the Protection of Wild Birds.

The foundation of true conservation is in the setting aside of sanctuaries efficiently and rigidly controlled by men who know how.

#### **SUBSCRIPTIONS:**

Life Members - £5.

Endowment Members, £1 per annum. Ordinary Members, 5/- per annum  
Children - 1/- per annum.

(Membership open to all.)

***New Zealanders! Protect Your Native Birds!***



**MAYOR ISLAND  
SANCTUARY.**

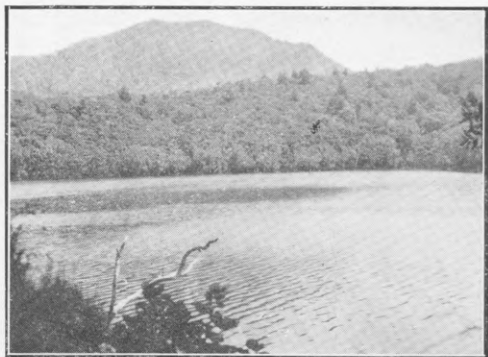
**The Anchorage, Opo Bay.**

*[Photo Bernard Sladden]*

**MAYOR ISLAND  
SANCTUARY.**

**The crater lake and wooded  
slopes where bell birds  
chant their chorus.**

*[Photo Bernard Sladden]*



**ALDERMAN ISLETS**

**which should be sanctuary.**

*[Photo Bernard Sladden]*



THE OTAGO HON. SECRETARY OF THE  
SOCIETY,  
With young black backed gull.

*I*N the past the white man has robbed the birds of their homeland, most of their homes, persecuted them and destroyed them in all manner of ways, laid waste the forests with fire, and imported plant-eating animals in a seemingly hopeless endeavour to attain prosperity. The Maori did not daily toil from eight to five and lived in health and strength in the same land for 800 years without laying the land waste. It has been aptly said that we should give the country back to the Maori and apologise for making such a mess of it. A ray of light is now, however, appearing on the distant horizon, and it may be that the white man will before long realise that he must work with Nature, not against her, lest he perish.

## THE URGE OF THE PAST.

(By J. PATTISON, R.A.O.U.)

Man and the domesticated animals of to-day retain many tendencies that belong to or are inherited from ancestors of the long, long ago. Domesticated animals have come from wild animals, and man himself was once a wild animal. Both demonstrate the survival of savage instincts and tendencies which were helpful in the dim and distant past.

When we see the domesticated dog turn round and round on the hearth rug preparatory to lying down, we see him reproducing a useless process, one which is without utility to-day, but which was useful to his primordial ancestors when they wished to make a comfortable bed among tall prairie grass or reeds. Similarly, the domesticated cow wears daggers on her head which are of no use whatever to her to-day, but rather a disability under her altered environment, but were useful to her wild ancestors in defending themselves and calves from the attacks of wolves, dogs, tigers and all the larger carnivora. Mankind also shows savage survivals which, no doubt, were helpful in the long ago, but to-day are regarded as useless, atavistic and immoral. Stealing, cheating, revenge, lying and the desire for war and the killing of every living thing were necessary in the eons behind us.

The primordial man was possessed of crude weapons, and had a continual struggle against nature in procuring his food. Hunting birds and animals became an instinct with him. This long continued practice survived down to very recent times; that being so, one can understand how difficult it is for man to cast it off. It is this urge of the past that causes men such as Zane Grey, Captain Mitchell, and many of the wealthy men of England and New Zealand, to take pleasure in the killing of Swordfish and Mako, and other sharks in the Northern waters. It is this savage survival which impels anglers to kill fish in our lakes and rivers, and gunmen to shoot both native and imported birds. No consideration is shown to the animals, fishes, or birds by those who desire to slay for pleasure.

When we read of those of high and low degree going out to shoot duck, quail, swans, pheasants, and other beautiful birds, just for the joy of destroying, we can certainly regard the advance of civilization as being very tardy, and that of altruism as exceedingly slow.

The gun clubs are at times given permits in our fair Dominion to shoot shags and hawks. I protest against this permission, seeing that both hawks and cormorants are part and parcel of the whole purpose of nature, and when man interferes for selfish and commercial reasons, the balance is destroyed and untold disasters follow. Birds of all kinds, whether of the water, wood, or waste, were more plentiful in New Zealand when hawks were numerous—that is fifty or sixty years ago.

Hawks are extremely useful; they kill rats, mice, and the young of introduced stoats, weasels and ferrets, thereby helping nature to achieve its equilibrium. Shags destroy weak and diseased fish; they also keep our streams free from fungus and eat crabs, crayfish, young eels and small trout. In most of the streams that have come under my observation, where cormorants are plentiful trout are also plentiful, and are moreover bigger and in better condition.

The instinct of sympathy in the higher peoples appears to be much weaker than many of the primeval instincts—for instance, the hunting and fighting instincts. Charles Darwin says: "Sympathy beyond the bonds of man, that is humanity, to the other animals seems to be the one of the latest acquisitions. The very idea of humanity to animals, one of the noblest with which man is endowed, seems to arise from our sympathies becoming more tender, and more widely diffused, until they are extended to all sentient beings. As soon as this virtue is practised and honoured by a few it spreads, through example and instruction, to the young, and eventually becomes incorporated in public opinion."

Surely there is something nobler in life than the wounding and killing of defenceless birds and beasts. Cannot these alleged "sportsmen," anglers and shooters achieve fame in some better and nobler way? Ethically, I have always understood that man's mission in life is to eradicate suffering and pain, both from the animal and human kingdoms. Imagine a man's sole objective in life being the purpose of seeing how many beautiful living things he can destroy or maim! Some of the men and women that are part of human society are very proud of this primordial urge to slay, so much so that they have themselves photographed along with the defenceless creatures that they have destroyed, and have the pictures appear in the illustrated papers and magazines, thus proclaiming to the world their vanity and their primordial lust to kill and destroy.

It has been said that civilization is a train. It drags along with it a great many things that rightfully belong to the past—

not only vestigial instincts, but also vestigial customs, beliefs and institutions. The gladiatorial contests of ancient Rome, the bear-baiting of four centuries ago, the cock-fighting of fifty years ago, have passed away on account of the growth of human sympathy. In America, and in many countries, pigeon and live bird trap shooting stands condemned, and Continental bull-fighting is decaying. Let us hope the shooting of birds and the taking of our big game fish, for the sole purpose of giving pleasure, will shortly give way to a public humanitarian spirit that will condemn any practice or sport that entails suffering to the lower animals. In the words of Howard Moore "It is of vast advantage to us to be able to recognise these vestigial features in order that we may more skilfully disentangle ourselves from them, and, at the same time definitely turn our backs on them in our efforts to advance to a better world."

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### **TRESPASS.**

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Section 4 (1), Stock Amendment Act, 1927, reads:—

"Every person commits an offence and is liable to a fine of five pounds who, without the authority of the occupier, goes upon any private land with dog or gun and disturbs any stock depastured thereon."

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### **LITTLE WILD SPARROW.**

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The thing I'd like best in the whole of the land  
Is to have a wild sparrow come sit on my hand,—  
A little wild sparrow, or robin, or linnet,  
Come sit on my hand and eat crumbs that are in it;  
And if, when it's done it would rather not stay,  
I'd love just to watch it fly freely away!

—Joyce L. Brisley.

## THROUGH NATURALISTS' EYES.

H. W. Tamperley, writer of "English Scenes and Birds," writes in reviewing "Wild Exmoor through the Year," by E. W. Hendry: 1930:—

"At their best the great nature-writers have never been content with natural history alone; they have not been satisfied with anything short of exact observation carried as far as each could carry it, but they have been compelled by something within themselves to go beyond the cold facts of observation. The facts are warm with life and are not strange to beauty when they have been seen and expressed through the imagination of a Jeffries, a Hudson, an Edward Thomas, or a Masingham. It is through them that we learn how real nature is, through them that we learn how to release our senses so that we, too, may enjoy her in our own ways. By discovering one bird, one flower, or one landscape through their eyes, we find ourselves discovering many through our own; and, more wonderful still, we begin to discover much that is new in ourselves."

He quotes this paragraph from the book: "Beauty in birds—and, indeed, in all nature, allures us; but it is not for this alone that we seek them. Rather, their charm is a pane, dimmed in part, but yet spangled with brightness, through which shines the vision of that perfect beauty for which finer spirits have ever sought, and not entirely in vain."

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### GOOD LITTLE BAD BIRDS.

There's a little bit of good in every bad little bird, even the sparrow and the starling. During a great many weeks I have been closely observing the feathered folk in my garden and can speak with authority. A wren was seen to feed its young 36 times in an hour, and the food she brought them consisted of aphides which had been sucking the juice out of my rose and citrus trees, and caterpillars which had been masticating the young shoots of a highly-prized wattle. Two starlings paid 30 and 32 visits to their respective nests in 59 minutes, with the larvae of click-beetles, rose-chafers and other beetles that do immense damage to plants. A record was established by a sparrow which made 254 trips to its nest in 3 hours 2 minutes with pests ranging from the mites which attack strawberries to the caterpillars of the privet-hedge moth. Without birds the greater part of vegetation would be immediately destroyed and successful agriculture would be an impossibility.

—"Tee Essbie," in *"Smith's Weekly."*



## THE GREY DUCK.

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A noted Maori observer, Mr. J. Webber, of Kapiti Island, who has unique opportunities for watching the breeding of the grey duck, estimates that probably as great a percentage as 90 ducklings never reach maturity. As the remains of many young ducks have been unearthed in water rats' holes it is presumed that this rodent is the destroyer. Weasels, etc., are not present on the island. The ducklings stray considerable distances from the mother duck hunting for flies, etc., during the daytime, thus becoming an easy prey. The harrier hawk is one of the principal enemies of the rat, and it is therefore reasonable to suppose that the war waged on the hawk may have a bearing on the question of rodent increases. With the concentration of nearly all shooting on waterfowl, owing to the rapid depletion of upland game birds, the draining and molestation of the breeding grounds of the duck, the practice of some so-called sportsmen of baiting the birds with wheat to attract them to the mouth of the gun, the decrease of this valuable bird must continue. The remedy appears to be close seasons, shorter open seasons, decreased bag limits and the feeding of ducks on sanctuaries prior to an open season as a set-off against feeding them to attract them to their doom. The circumstances surrounding the decrease of ducks are certainly disquieting, as it is well known that when a species is reduced below a certain number of individuals it cannot recover and disappears *in toto*. Birds cannot survive against modern guns, combined with quick transport. The day has surely arrived for every good sportsman to put his gun away, as shooting nowadays is too one-sided.

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## SPOTLIGHT HUNTERS TO SERVE 45 DAYS.

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Thomas Newell and Luigi Zarrelli, spotlight deer hunters, were sentenced to forty-five days each in gaol by Judge Lampman in County Court, Victoria (British Columbia), when the attorney-general, represented by Gordon A. Cameron, appealed the verdict in the Victoria Police Court where Magistrate Jay had turned them free.



## A TREE AND A BIRD.

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What is a tree?  
A thing of wood  
That seems to be  
Of little good?  
Ah, no! it seems  
That mystic dreams  
Live in a tree.  
Nor is this odd  
It seems to me,  
For every tree  
Holds some of God.  
What is a bird?  
A thing that flies?  
Or in a word  
That lives and dies?  
But how absurd!  
A bird to me  
Breathes mystery,  
And when it sings  
From shrub or tree.  
The welkin rings  
With mystic glee.  
For God is heard  
Whene'er a bird  
Sings in a tree.

—D.L.P.

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## NO BENZINE REQUIRED.

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It is little more than 100 years since the first reliable records were obtained in America by bird-banding; but recently a wonder flight has been recorded in this way. An individual Arctic tern observed in Labrador, was found at Natal, Africa (9,000 miles distant), just 100 days later—having made a straight progressive flight of 90 miles a day, as well as zigzagging here and there in search of food. Compared with the birds, men are still amateurs at this touring business.

## WHEN JOHNNY GOT HIS GUN.

(BUSH TRAGEDY.)

The forest ways were peaceful  
Till Johnny got his gun,  
For Johnny, from the city,  
Thought killing birds was fun.  
He knew not tit from tui,  
Nor kereru from game—  
To simple, city Johnny  
All wild birds looked the same.

The little wrens were happy  
Till Johnny came along,  
They flirted round the bushmen  
And sang them all a song;  
The bell-birds never worried  
From early dawn till dark—  
The saddle-backs called gaily,  
The swamplands loved the lark.

'Twas in the morning's glory  
That Johnny started in  
To make the bush-ways gory  
And brand his soul with sin.  
The kakas saw him coming,  
For wary birds are they;  
The wild hawks saw in Johnny  
A kindred bird of prey.

He shot a shining cuckoo  
Which came from overseas;  
He killed a bush-canary  
That wooed him from the trees,  
And Johnny's heart was joyful,  
And Johnny's soul was glad.  
He loved the pretty, trustful,  
And friendly ways they had.

It made the shooting easy—  
He never had to try  
To stalk them or be clever,  
He simply made them die.  
Gay kingfishers and robins,  
Bright parrakeets and quail;  
The wekas were dead easy,  
He never knew them fail.

At last the bush got angry,  
And Tane heard it pray  
To him that silly Johnny  
Be spirited away.  
Then Tane shook the mountains  
And made the tempest blow  
To waken up Old Moa  
Who died so long ago.

When Johnny met Old Moa,  
Old Moa saw him first,  
And of the short encounter  
Poor Johnny got the worst. . .  
Perhaps he's shooting devils  
Or something just as brave  
To-day; but all the bush birds  
Sing gladly o'er his grave.

—*Will Lawson.*

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## A BIRD MONTH.

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August is the hardest month of the three hard months, July, August, and September; yet it is the first month of Spring, the sign being the start of growth in vegetation—we see the first signs of the crocus, narcissus, daphne — all these show that growth has begun. The singing of the birds, too, begins—especially the singing of the vigorous thrush; and this declares that the blood is mounting and the sap rising.

All the same, August is the coldest month of the year, which makes some people think it is the last month of the winter. No—it may be the tail end of the winter—and that is where the sting is. It is the coldest month, when the food of the birds is scarcest, therefore let us make it THE BIRD MONTH. The Autumn berries are largely gone, and there is little else to take their place; few nectarous flowers, and the insects have not yet awakened from their metamorphosing winter dream. The birds, therefore, find it particularly hard to procure food, and when the birds are cold as well as hungry, their semi-starvation too often proves fatal. Moreover, weak birds fall an easy prey to enemies. There is, therefore, great mortality among

the birds, the weaker old ones as well as the weaker young ones making way for those more vigorous.

According to the food supply, the birds can never exceed a certain number, and all the country is already fully winter-stocked with birds, so out of all those reared every season not 25 per cent. can possibly survive. Their only chance of survival is in being provided with food; if left altogether to Nature the mortality will be very heavy.

More food trees planted, more food given, more shelter provided, means more birds; and more birds means more assistance against the huge invisible army of insect pests, which assistance is their reward to us for our assistance to them; besides that, we have their beauty and their song.

Remember, then, that in August, when we move about well fed in our furs and warm coats, when we smell the daphne and welcome the first narcissus, the birds, our friends, are hungry and starving.

—*Johannes C. Anderson.*

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### HANDY BIRD FOODS.

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Many species of birds take fat freely, especially beef suet. Many also like potato, especially baked potato, or porridge, not excepting Tuis and Bellbirds, which can also be fed on sugar syrup (three parts water to one of sugar by measure). Even pumpkin is appreciated by some in the winter. Don't however, forget about the cat and keep your feeders high and out of the reach of this ever-present enemy.

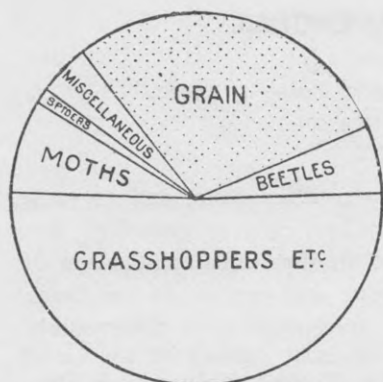
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### MOORHEN TEACHES MEN.

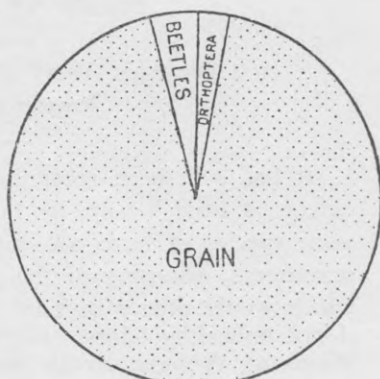
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A notice board requesting visitors not to spoil the scenery by scattering rubbish about hangs from a tree at Bonchurch Pond, in the Isle of Wight. It reads:—"On an island in this pond each year a moorhen makes her nest, exhibiting to all an example of industry, patience, and mother love most worthy of imitation. Also, she never throws rubbish into the pond, thus adding to her many virtues the crown of neatness."

—*"Christian Science Monitor."*



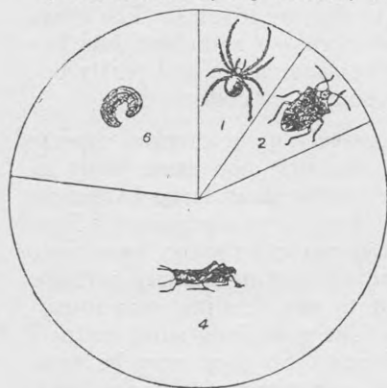
NESTLING LESS THAN ONE WEEK OLD



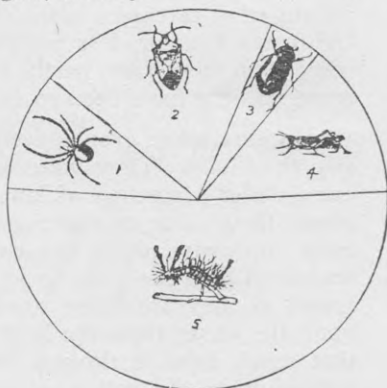
ADULT

Diagram showing the Nature of Food of the **HOUSE SPARROW** when Immature and Aged.

This comparison is an early summer one when seed food (including weeds such as wireweed, fat-hen, thistle, etc.) is predominant. This shows that even the house sparrow, generally considered our most harmful bird-importation, has a good deal to be said for him; for it must be remembered that there are seeds only during a few weeks in the year, and as seeds decrease his insect food increases. (Diagram from *Journal of Department of Agriculture, Washington, U.S.A.*)



A



B

Fig. A.—Food of the young of an ordinary insect-eating bird during spring.

Fig. B.—Food of the adult of the same bird during summer.

1. Spider.      2. Fruit-bug.      3. Chafer-beetle.      4. Grasshopper.
5. Destructive Caterpillar.      6. Caterpillar of Cut-Worm Moth.

The diagrams are from the "Year-Book of the Agricultural Department," Washington, U.S.A., and specially refer to the common Cuckoo.

The diagrams show the extreme usefulness of insect-eating birds.

## BIRDS AS SCAVENGERS.

(*Extracted from "Practical Value of Birds,"*

JUNIUS HENDERSON.)

It has long been recognised by ornithologists, and to some extent, at least locally, by farmers and citizens generally, that some species of birds are engaged in the useful occupation of scavengers, disposing of the garbage and carrion of the fields, which would otherwise taint the atmosphere with disagreeable, if not unhealthy odors. During the early history of the Great Plains of Western North America, Turkey Vultures, or Buzzards, as they are popularly called, could have been seen at almost any hour of the day circling over the prairies in search of food. When a bison or other animal died or was killed, these big black birds soon gathered about the carcass and began the task of disposing of its flesh. With the assistance of Crows, Magpies, coyotes and other birds and mammals, they kept the plains and mountains comparatively free from putrifying carrion. With the settlement of the region the Vultures have become rare over a great portion of their former range, owing chiefly to the poisoning of carcasses in the effort to destroy coyotes. The great California Condor, less prolific and never so abundant, has become even more rare, partly from the same cause and partly because its eggs have been so eagerly sought by collectors.

Various other groups feed extensively upon carrion, especially the Gulls. They were among the first non-game birds to come under protection of law, particularly about large harbours, where their value as scavengers has long been recognized. Few more impressive object lessons in economic ornithology have been witnessed than the large flocks of gulls following the city garbage scows as they are being towed out to sea, feeding voraciously upon the waste from the kitchens. The gulls long since learned that much food is thrown from boats. So they may be seen following in the wakes of vessels, sometimes far from land, watching for the morsels that drop into the water. So general is their presence that a painting of a ship hardly seems complete without gulls hovering near, though the artist may have no idea of the reason for their presence. In the harbours there is scarcely a chance for a bit of refuse to escape their sharp eyes. They patrol the beaches and dispose of the dead fishes and other marine life washed ashore by the waves or left stranded by the tides. Yet these beautiful and useful birds have been at times much persecuted and hundreds of thousands of their skins and wings

have gone to the market as ornaments for the hats of the gentler sex—the sex one would expect to be first in the demand for the protection of birds.

“Some birds, notably eagles, crows and buzzards, feed at times largely upon dead fish,” schools of which are sometimes thrown up on the beach by storms and create an almost unbearable stench unless birds gather in force to dispose of them.

Crows, ravens, magpies and other birds search the fields and pastures for food, and do not disdain a dead mouse or the carcass of a squirrel or rabbit struck down by storm or accident. Thus they prevent much carrion from tainting the atmosphere, providing breeding places for certain troublesome insects and otherwise creating unsanitary conditions to the discomfort and detriment of the human race.



**COOK'S PETREL.**

*[Photo Bernard Sladden]*



## "THE BALANCE OF NATURE."

(Extracted from "*Practical Value of Birds*,"

JUNIUS HENDERSON.)

The introduction of the English Sparrow into the United States, the consequent decrease in the number of insectivorous birds in some localities and the increase of certain insect pests, are too well known to need much discussion. Forbush says that this bird was introduced into America to fight the caterpillars of the snow-white *Eugonia* moths, which were defoliating shade trees, and that they did their work well, but they drove out other birds and thus caused an increase in the tussock moths, which for several years thereafter ravaged the trees. This Sparrow is an excellent example not only of the danger of importing a species into a new country, but also of the effect of the intervention of man through his inventive genius. It has been noticed that in some cities there has been a marked decrease in the number of English Sparrows since motor-driven vehicles have so largely displaced horse-driven waggons and carriages. Bergtold's explanation is probably correct. In the cities the Sparrows obtained most of their food from the waste grain of the street—the droppings of horses, and so on. This source of food has now practically disappeared from city streets as a result of the decreased use of horses and the surfacing of the streets of the cities with smooth pavements, which are kept clean. On the other hand, in many farming districts the Sparrows get their food from the grain stacks and fields and help themselves to grain thrown out for poultry, and are there still on the increase.

Huey tells us that years ago the importation of cats and mice to the Island of Guadalupe, in the Pacific Ocean, created great havoc by introducing a new element to an island that had no native mammals. Later, goats were introduced and completed the devastation. The goats, being without natural enemies and having at first abundant food, increased so rapidly that they soon almost denuded the island of its vegetation, and, having greatly over-populated the area and reduced their food supply, they themselves became dwarfed and the flesh became poorer in quality.

The historic island of St. Helena was, at the time of its discovery, covered by a dense forest. More recently it has been described as a comparatively barren, rocky desert, because of its devastation by goats (introduced by the Portuguese) which, within 75 years increased to thousands. They browsed off the protective cover of vegetation, exposing the soil of the steep slopes to erosion, and soon bare rocks replaced the wooded hills.

Years ago Sable Island, Nova Scotia, was overrun by rats. Cats were imported, became plentiful and got the rats under control, then began on the rabbits. Foxes were introduced to fight the cats. After getting rid of the cats the foxes attacked birds and their eggs. Then an appeal was made to the government to exterminate the foxes. Thus any importation may lead to a long chain of unexpected consequences. The Minah, introduced into Fiji to destroy insects, has itself become a pest. The Starling, introduced into Australia, New Zealand, and Africa, has changed its habits and is accused of damaging grapes and other crops.

Lantana is an introduced plant in the Hawaiian Islands. The Chinese Turtle-dove and the Indian Mynah were also imported, the latter for the purpose of fighting the army worms that are so destructive to sugar cane, in which it has proved highly efficient. Both birds, however, feed upon lantana seeds and distribute them, and thus have caused its rapid spread, so insects have been introduced to fight the lantana. What will be introduced later to fight the insects that have been imported to fight the lantana?

"Thus the process of introduction goes pyramiding, with no man able to foretell the eventual results."

These and numerous other instances of similar nature illustrate the danger of unnecessarily disturbing Nature's adjustment, a danger not generally sufficiently realised.

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## SEED DISTRIBUTION.

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An interesting observation on this matter was conducted by Mr. L. W. McCaskill, of Dunedin, who last winter fed waxeyes in his garden from the middle of May until early in October. Beneath the food receptacle the soil was prepared as a seed-bed in a strip 6 feet long by 6 inches wide. On the 8th April, 1931, the following seedlings were removed from the strip and planted out:—

- 85 *Pittosporum tenuifolium* (Kohuhu) and *eugenioides* (Tarata).
- 18 *Coprosma lucida* (Karamu).
- 19 Small-leaved *Coprosma*.
- 10 *Carpodetus serratus* (Putaputaweta).
- 3 *Nothopanax Colensoi* (Orihau).
- 5 *Pseudopanax Crassifolium* (Lancewood Horoeke).
- 4 *Melicytus ramiflorus* (Mahoe).

## FOREST RANGERS.

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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 a sanctuary for native birds and animals.

Prompted by the Australasian Society of Patriots, the State Government recently declared an area of two miles adjoining 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.

—*Newcastle Sun.*

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## WHISTLING SWANS RETURN TO JACK MINER SANCTUARY.

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Two thousand white whistling swans, one of the rarest wild bird species in North America, have arrived at the Jack Miner bird sanctuary, Kingsville, Ontario.

The great white birds have been soaring in from the south and settling on the lake shore beach at the bird sanctuary.

In 1916 the white swan was practically extinct in North America, and only the efforts of Miner, aided by the Canadian Government, saved them from extermination.

Jack Miner, the "bird philosopher," his three sons and provincial and Dominion game wardens, patrolled the beach to prevent any molestation of the swans.

# N.Z. NATIVE BIRD PROTECTION SOCIETY (INC.).

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## CONTENTS.

Introduction .. .. .	1
The Urge of the Past .. .. .	2-4
Trespass .. .. .	4
Little Wild Sparrow .. .. .	4
Through Naturalists' Eyes .. .. .	5
Good Little Bad Birds .. .. .	5
The Grey Duck .. .. .	6
Spotlight Hunters to Serve 45 Days .. .. .	6
A Tree and a Bird .. .. .	7
No Benzine Required .. .. .	7
When Johnny Got His Gun .. .. .	8, 9
A Bird Month .. .. .	9
Handy Bird Foods .. .. .	10
Moorhen Teaches Men .. .. .	10
Diagram Showing Food of House Sparrow .. .. .	11
Birds as Scavengers .. .. .	12, 13
The Balance of Nature .. .. .	14, 15
Seed Distribution .. .. .	15
Forest Rangers .. .. .	16
Whistling Swans Return to Jack Miner Sanctuary .. .. .	16