



AN ARRESTING INSTANCE OF SOIL EROSION. NOTE MAN IN CENTRE.

### **S.O.S.**

#### **“SAVE OUR SOIL.”**

“Save the surface and you save the lot” was the slogan of a very successful advertising campaign of paint manufacturers in the United States of America. That country and many others (including New Zealand) have to be concerned with a much more important “save-the-surface” enterprise—the saving of the surface of farming lands, threatened by the ogre of erosion.

This ever-increasing evil of soil-scouring is rapidly telling its tale in New Zealand. From North Auckland to Southland one sees the denuding process taking place on the steeper lands with the consequent flooding and destruction of the lower lands.

Mr. H. D. Bennett, in “American Forests,” describes the same destruction as occurring in the Mississippi region in the following terms:—

“Estimates indicate that every year three billion tons of soil material are washed out of the fields and pastures of the nation. More than four hundred million tons of suspended solid matter and many more millions of tons of dissolved matter pass out of the mouth of the Mississippi River annually. This comes largely from the farm lands of the Mississippi Basin. The greater part of this water-transported material, picked up from plain, prairie, and mountain slope, consists of super-soil, enough