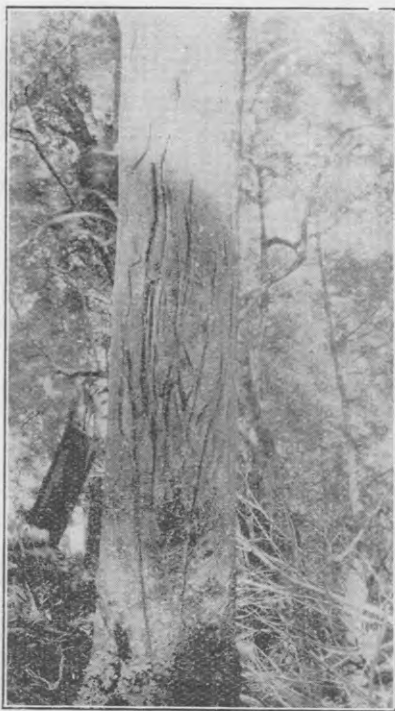


A good few thousands of the pests have been killed during the past three years in limited areas, but the tally of the slain would be far short of the natural increase, because those alien animals have no natural enemies in the forests. Sir Alexander Young (Minister of Internal Affairs), with a full knowledge of the havoc wrought by deer, has rightly declared a war of extermination against them, but he lacks the funds for the



Mountain beech of Otago laid waste by deer.



Adult hinau deeply scarred by antlers of deer in a Wellington forest.

necessary large-scale operations.

The time has come for the Government to recognise properly its responsibility to the present population of New Zealand and to posterity. An effective onset against deer—a great campaign to save the vitally necessary forests—is far more important to the Dominion than anything else that is visible in the Government's programme.

The photographs showing the guilt of deer as deadly enemies of New Zealand were taken by the State Forest Service.