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attack by the natives. Not one of these is left to-day. They have vanished completely.

#### History and Pre-History

The steeple of the Pakaraka Church was blown down nearly two years ago. It smashed the railings around two graves, broke the gravestones, and turned one of them face downwards. Something may have been done by this time to restore these graves; but they lay for a long time in disorder. Two members of the Williams family are at rest in those graves. Nobody can be blamed for neglect when it is nobody's job to look after such things—or when the work is beyond the capacity of those who might be nominally in charge of it. But a National Trust would no doubt have the resources necessary to carry out such tasks.

The Marsden Cross at Oihi Bay, in the Far North, was completely overgrown with blackberries and other weeds not long ago. Here again, the work of constantly tending such a monument is probably beyond the powers of any organisation but a national one, with funds available for that specific purpose.

The many examples of Polynesian cave-drawings scattered throughout the South Island are worth going to a great deal of trouble to preserve. Their value, from both an anthropological and an aesthetic point of view, is only dimly appreciated by most New Zealanders. The Internal Affairs Department has done as much as it can (which is a good deal) to protect them from destruction; but once again the work, if it is to be done thoroughly, calls for organisation on a larger scale. In 50 years' time those who succeed us may be speaking sadly of the wonderful examples of Stone Age art that used to exist in such-and-such a valley.

The nub of this whole question is, of course, the need for looking ahead. It is easy to deplore the destruction of valuable monuments and works of art. There are always plenty of mourners to be found. But the only person who is really helpful is the one who can *anticipate* the value that will accrue with the passing of years. It is necessary to realise that something that has only a moderate value now may in future come to have a very great value. If the Bank of New Zealand building in Auckland is completely demolished, I am sure there will be historians in a century's time who speak with regret of the lack of foresight, the lack of the historical sense, of those who lived in the 1940's. The establishment of a National Trust with wide powers and a substantial grant of funds would, I am sure, do much to help us to realise that we have come of age.

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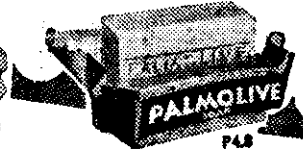
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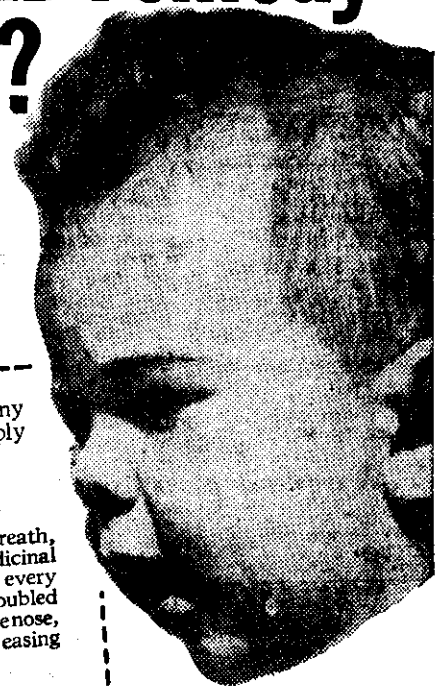
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