# Extinction Threatens...



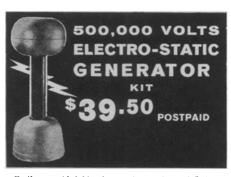
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... Platypus and ...



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. . . Kangaroo rat



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## MORRIS and LEE

Dept. SN 12A66 1685 Elmwood Ave., Buffalo, N.Y. 14207 Australian conservationists are fighting to protect the kookaburra—and the wombat and the platypus—and a host of other animals that have come to be identified with the island continent. They fear that many of them—already becoming rare—face extinction unless drastic action is taken soon by the state government of New South Wales, Australia, to protect them.

The conservationists are officials of the New South Wales Institute of Freshwater Fishermen. They claimed:

- That many rare and protected animals and fish were being illegally caught, and sometimes slaughtered because of inadequate control of wildlife regulations.
- That New South Wales is 30 years behind the United States and some other Australian states in fauna protection and control.

A spokesman for the institute said that species already rare or, perhaps already extinct, included:

The western native cat, the numbat, the eastern barred bandicoot, the hairy-nosed wombat, the brush-tailed kangaroo rat, the brown-haired wallaby and the paradise parrot.

He said there is hardly a koala outside sanctuaries. Pheasant, snipe and quail are being slaughtered in and out of season. Platypus are being shot for, pelt, and the echidna, or spiny anteater is in danger in many areas.

The state government could collect at least one million dollars a year if every hunter and fisherman was licensed.

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