

has been made. It is not intended to ring all birds haphazardly, but to concentrate on such species as white-fronted tern, banded dotterel, ducks, gannets, etc. Details of administration and the method of keeping the records have been approved, and once the scheme is well under way it is planned that the Dominion Museum will handle the records. It is also proposed to publish a summary of ringing work to date, and all members who have ringed birds of any species are requested to inform the secretary at their earliest convenience. A synopsis of numbers ringed, with localities, dates (not necessarily of individual birds), is required to make this as complete as possible, together with records of retraps or outside records.

Mr. C. A. Fleming, in nominating Dr. Robert Cushman Murphy as an honorary member of the society, spoke of the valuable stimulus he had given to New Zealand ornithology during his recent visit to the country. Dr. Murphy was declared elected.

Following on a statement by the honorary editor that considerable material for publication was on hand, a discussion took place on possible methods of financing the publication of larger issues of "Bird Notes," as the present expenditure absorbed the whole current revenue. It was pointed out that the present high standard of "Bird Notes" was dependent to some extent on donations, and Mr. Fleming asked that greater publicity be given to the existence of the Publications and Illustration funds. Authority was given to make the next two numbers each of 36 pages, and the incoming committee was instructed to explore methods of increasing the annual revenue. It was suggested that members be asked, by means of a circular, for an expression of opinion regarding an increased subscription.

Dr. K. A. Wodzicki suggested that the practice of overseas societies be followed in the reading of ornithological papers at future annual general meetings.

Dr. Falla, leader of a recent expedition to the Snares Islands, gave an address on the expedition, illustrated by slides and films taken by members of the party.

Supper was served at the conclusion of the meeting.

The following day a field trip for members was held at the eastern bays of Wellington. After a walk along the coast, tea was provided by Mrs. Bird. The party then walked through the bush in Muritai Park, reassembling at Dr. Falla's residence, Day's Bay, for afternoon tea. Some interesting birds were observed and members had good views of riflemen and whiteheads.

The committee held a meeting during the day and it was decided to take steps to increase the current revenue. Members were reluctant to increase the subscription above 5s., but it was thought that the provision of an endowment membership class with a subscription of 10s might meet the position. This would give members the opportunity of showing in a practical form their appreciation of larger issues of "Bird Notes." As it would take some time to put into effect an endowment membership class, members were invited meantime to make donations to cover the increased cost of larger issues of "Bird Notes." A circular explaining this is enclosed in this issue.

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VISITATION OF FANTAILS.—We had an extraordinary visitation of fantails (*Rhipidura fuliginosa*) on February 26, 1947, when some 40 or 50 of them spent the day in a clump of gum trees near our stable. The number given is fairly correct as two of my sons counted them twice over. There has been a great increase in fantails during the last two or three years.—E. C. Studholme, Waimate.