

New Zealand Bird Notes

Bulletin of the Ornithological Society of New Zealand.

Edited by R. H. D. STIDOLPH, 114 Cole Street, Masterton.

Annual Subscription, 5/-.

Life Membership, £5.

Price to non-members, 2/- per number.

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Vol. 3 No. 2 Published Quarterly. OCTOBER, 1948.

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POST-BREEDING FLIGHTS OF GANNETS.—Mr. Max Nicol informs me that every day during Easter, March 26 to 29, 1948, while he was fishing about a mile off Flat Point (south of Castlepoint), flocks of gannets (*Morus serrator*) continually flew south over his launch. Although there was scarcely a time when no birds were to be seen, more flocks were noted on the 26th than on the other days. The flocks flew mainly about 50 feet up, and were never diverted from direct and purposeful flight by crowds of other birds, terns and gulls, feeding on shoals of fish. Indeed, none was seen to fish at all during the period. Mr. Nicol states that each flock consisted of either adult or immature birds, the two never mixing, and they averaged about a dozen to twenty birds. He took particular note of these flocks and their composition of either adult or immature birds in response to my request for fuller details last year when he observed something similar. There is little published information about the time and method of dispersal of gannet-ries, but no doubt these flocks would be from the Cape Kidnappers colony.—J. M. Cunningham.

CLASSIFIED NOTES IN NEXT ISSUE.—Members are reminded that classified notes will be published in the January issue. Notes should be sent immediately to the district organisers so that they can be in the hands of the editor not later than October 16.