

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/-; Endowment Membership, 10/-; Life Membership, £5.

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

OFFICERS, 1949-1950

President—MR. E. G. TURBOTT (Museum, Auckland).

South Island Vice-President—Professor B. J. MARPLES (Museum, Dunedin).

North Island Vice-President—MR. C. A. FLEMING, 42 Wadestown Rd., Wellington

Secretary-Treasurer—MR. J. M. CUNNINGHAM, 39 Renall St., Masterton.

Recorder—Mr. H. R. MCKENZIE, Clevedon.

Regional Organisers.—Auckland, MR. R. B. SIBSON (King's College); Hawke's Bay, REV. F. H. ROBERTSON (Havelock North); Wellington, DR. R. A.

FALLA (Dominion Museum); Christchurch, MR. G. GUY (Training College);

Dunedin, MR. L. GURR (University of Otago).

Vol. 3 No. 8 Published Quarterly. JANUARY, 1950

CONTENTS.	Page
Chukor Investigation	197
Nest of House Sparrow, by W. A. Williamson	198
Hudsonian Godwit in Manukau, by R. B. Sibson	199
Photographic Studies of Birds in New Zealand	200
Classified Summarised Notes	201
Bird Observations in Tory Channel, by Elliot Dawson	221
Notices to Members	224
ILLUSTRATIONS—	Facing Page
Plate IX.—Nest of Sparrow	198
Plate X.—White-fronted Tern in Flight	200
Plate XI.—White-fronted Tern on Nest	200
NOTES.—Silvereyes' Habits, 197; Albatross Astray, 198; Rosellas Eating Gooseberries, 199; Birds at Sumner-Heathcote Estuary, 1948-49, 200; South Island Record of Allied Shearwater, 200.	

CHUKOR INVESTIGATION.

The chukor (*Alectoris chukor*) a red-legged partridge, was introduced into this country from India some twenty years ago as a sporting bird.

It was introduced at a number of places, and in course of time, especially during the last ten years, has spread widely. It seems important that the details of this spread shall be recorded while they are still easily remembered and that the present distribution shall be determined as precisely as possible. The bird is primarily an inhabitant of high country and suggestions are already being made that it may play some part in erosion. As it spreads and increases in numbers it may change its habits and colonise different districts. There seems to be still time to record the early part of its history in this country, where it is probably the last bird to be introduced and where it may be the last one which ever will be introduced. Members who have any knowledge of the chukor are asked to communicate with the Department of Zoology, The Museum, Dunedin, as soon as possible, when details of the investigation and questionnaires, will be sent to them.—B. J. Marples, L. Gurr.

SILVEREYES' HABITS.—For the past four or five years when the gooseberries are fully in flower, flocks of silvereyes (*Zosterops lateralis*) visit the garden. They hang upside down on the bushes and insert their bills into the flowers for a second or so. They do not damage the flowers and the fruit comes on normally.—W. H. Davidson, D.N.F.C.