

Mr. Hooper of Masterton visited the farm again and took several photographs but were unable to get close enough for a really good shot. However, this time they were able to confirm that the bird had a dark portion at the tip of its bill. The bird was last seen on the farm on about 13/6/64.

The writer believes that this is the first confirmed North Island record and the third for New Zealand; the first being on a farm at Belfast, North Canterbury, on 28/9/63 (*Notornis* 10: 316), and the second in the Irwell district, some 25 miles southwest of Christchurch on the western shore of Lake Ellesmere on 1/6/64 (*Notornis* 10: 383), [and a fourth in Westland — see P. Grant in this issue.—Ed.]

— B. W. BOESON



BLACK-FRONTED TERNS ON THE WEST COAST

Further to the note by H. R. McKenzie in *Notornis*, March, 1964, recording the Black-fronted Tern near Haast, I now have to report a sighting further south than this on the Westland coast, viz. at Awarua Point at the northern entrance to Big Bay (or Awarua Bay). On 13/5/64 three adults were seen about twenty yards distant, flying into a rain squall. It is not impossible that they breed in this area as there are suitable shingly stretches of beach at many points along the coast. These were the only birds of this species seen along this coast between the Hope River mouth and Big Bay, and none was seen on the beach of Big Bay itself. I recorded none along the coast from Big Bay to Martin's Bay during a trip in May, 1963. Thus Awarua Point remains the southernmost sighting of this species along the west coast so far.

— PETER CHILD



INFORMATION WANTED

Fairy Prion. Would any member who has unrecorded information, however slight, on this species please send it to Mr. P. Harper, 4 Barbara Grove, Moera, Lower Hutt, who is at present writing up a study of it.

Saddleback. Mr. P. Skegg, 32 Manawa Road, Remuera, Auckland, is collecting information on the decline of both North and South Island Saddlebacks. He would welcome any unpublished records or knowledge of out-of-the-way references which members may have.

Spur-winged Plover. With this species now spreading rapidly through the South Island, it is intended to summarise its status and habits in the near future. Would members please be sure to send in to the Nest Record and Recording Schemes anything they know about its numbers, breeding and general habits in this or previous seasons.—B.D.H.

Kingfisher. There is a general impression in some districts that there may be a strong seasonal movement of Kingfishers within New Zealand. Members whose work or daily journeys would enable them to keep regular notes of numbers seen in favoured places are invited to keep such notes and send in an annual summary of them to the Recording Scheme. Were this done in all districts and by many individuals, it should soon be apparent whether Kingfisher movements are national, local, or imaginary ones, and whether further investigation is warranted. — B.D.H.