

TABLE 2

Author	Date	No. Bridges	Swallows Seen	Whole Nests	Broken Nests	Nests per Bridge
Skegg (1962)	24-26/1/62	43	11	4	4	0.19
Present survey	19-22/2/65	36	37	5	4	0.25

Nests which Skegg stated were on side roads have been omitted in this comparison, but the discrepancy in the number of bridges examined may indicate that some are still included, or that we missed a few on our survey.

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REFERENCES

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 MICHIE, R. H., 1959: Welcome Swallows nesting in Northland — a new breeding bird for New Zealand. *Notornis*, 8: 61-62.
 ROSS, M., 1962: Flocking of Welcome Swallows near Kaikohe. *Notornis*, 10: 90-91.
 SKEGG, P. D. G., 1962: A check on Welcome Swallows in northern Northland. *Notornis*, 10: 88-90.



SHORT NOTES

FLEDGING OF SILVEREYES

On 9/2/65, restlessness was observed in the two nestlings in the nest of Silvereyes (*Zosterops lateralis*) situated in the tip of the lowest pendent branch of a melaleuca tree, a few feet from the window of my home. Accordingly I watched the nest next morning, and at 6.55 a.m. one young bird was noted to be very active, and occasionally moving on to the rim of the nest. At 7 a.m. it moved 6 ins. from the nest, and began preening, scratching, and wing-stretching. Two minutes later the second followed on to a twig close by. Preening went on until 7.35 a.m., except for brief intervals when both fledglings sat close together and rested. During most of this time, one parent bird sat in the empty nest, or occasionally on the edge of it, watching the young birds; and the other parent brought food once and probably fed one of them, but I could not be sure. At 7.35 a.m. the first bird to leave the nest moved a few feet up the almost vertical branch, and flew without hesitation about 15 ft. into a nearby mahoe tree. Within 30 secs. it was followed by the other young bird. Close and sustained interest in the proceeding was seemingly taken by some House Sparrows, and also briefly by a Fantail.

— A. BLACKBURN