

There are few recorded observations of the habits of *P. huttoni* at sea to indicate much marked difference from *P. gavia*. The large flocks of several hundreds already mentioned as seen by the writer between Paraparaumu Beach and Kapiti Island on 3rd February, 1957, were deployed on a calm surface in a light southerly wind. They were swimming with heads submerged, or plunging straight from flight into shoals of a small silvery post-larval fish.

### SYSTEMATIC STATUS

In distribution *P. huttoni* may be assumed to be sympatric in its breeding range with *P. gavia*. The evidence for its occurrence at the Snares has been questioned by Murphy (1952) and there is little doubt but that locality labels on the material acquired in New Zealand from commercial collectors were often unreliable. Murphy (*loc. cit.*) regards both *gavia* and *huttoni* as separate subspecies of *Puffinus puffinus*, assuming, however, a zonal separation in breeding range. If the altitudinal separation indicated by Mr. Harrow's discovery can be accepted as a valid criterion, this subspecific link may perhaps be sustained. For the purposes of this paper I have retreated to the neutral ground of binominal usage.

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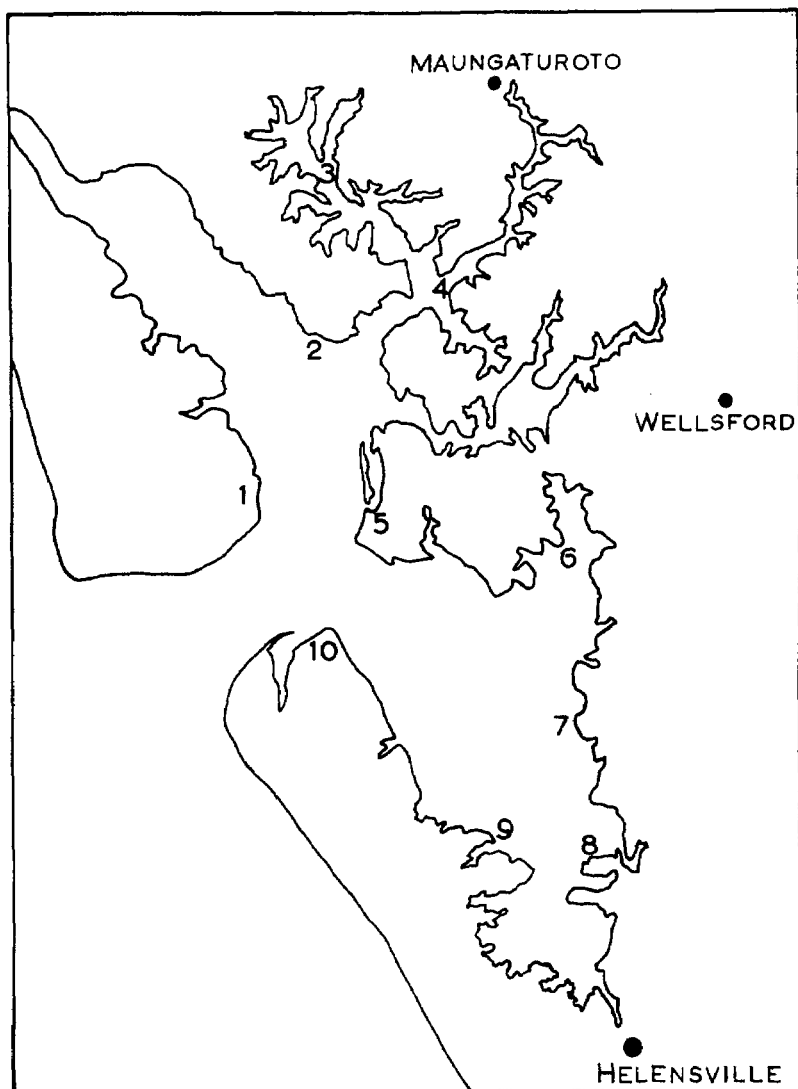
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## FIELD STUDY COURSE KAIPARA HARBOUR, JANUARY, 1965

By H. R. McKENZIE

For the survey of this vast harbour, reputed to have over two thousand miles of shoreline, a period of very high tides was chosen, so that the birds would be restricted to the minimum number of high tide resting places. Hundreds of miles of sinuous mangrove creeks and vast areas of mangrove-covered flats did not need to be patrolled. Twenty-seven Society members and six members of their families took part, divided into ten teams of from two to four Society members, each with one or more experienced leaders. A larger number of observers would have been an advantage. Previously briefed teams for the more northerly assignments went directly to their centres on Saturday, 16th. The southern teams met and camped at the base at Helensville and proceeded to stations early on Sunday, 17th. The plan was for each team to work part of its area over the full tide and then spend the later part of the day surveying the ground to be covered on the following day. This was to occupy the 17th, 18th and 19th, and on 20th, teams



- 1 Pouto Peninsula (East Side)
- 2 Tinopai — Ruawai
- 3 Arapaoa River (Pahi Area)
- 4 Otamatea River and Ngamotu
- 5 Taporā
- 6 Tauhora River
- 7 Glorit (Hotoe River and Makarau River)
- 8 Jordan's, Kaukapakapa
- 9 Mid. South Head Peninsula
- 10 Upper South Head Peninsula

were to finish assignments or visit other interesting places and return to base at the Oddfellows' Hall at Helensville. It was of course impossible to undertake a one-tide census of such a great area. A north-east gale raged for the Sunday, Monday and Tuesday, often with heavy driving rain and in some parts long torrential downpours. This prevented most of the projected boat work until the Wednesday morning, when local residents took parties out to special places. M. G. Dill and J. Lambert took their boats out in the Tauhoa River area, including Moturimu Island. John Robinson took the writer to a special shag nesting colony in Helena Bay, South Head coast. On the 19th, during the storm, Reg. Hart ferried the Tabora team to and from an island; and member M. K. Jones, with three Senior Scouts, brought his boat from Riverhead to Tauhoa but owing to the storm could only use it in the Hoteo River.

It was no trouble to organise shelter for the far-flung teams. Houses and up-to-date shearers' quarters were freely offered and the greatest kindness extended everywhere. All property owners gave access readily. The participants and the Society are grateful indeed. Typical of the helpful spirit shown was the action of member M. A. Waller, who, on holiday with his family at Bay of Islands, came down alone especially to his property at the tip of the South Head Peninsula, spent a day showing the team around, lent them his Land-rover and gave them the use of his house. Vital to success was information from Mr. C. Butterworth, Headmaster, Clevedon School, and Mr. G. K. McKenzie, farmer, Clevedon, as to whom to approach for advice and help and for general knowledge of the district beyond that already known to the organiser. Mr. G. J. H. Moon did great work in finding boats when all seemed lost in that direction. It was fortunate that, as a Veterinary Surgeon in his part of the country, he knew to whom to go. Admiration of the women of the teams is readily accorded. In braving the fury of the elements and in efficiency in their tasks they were no whit behind the men.

On the Wednesday evening most of the party made camp at the hall in Helensville, others nearby. Leaders gave quite full reports of the work of their teams. The 21st and 22nd had been set aside for visits to some of the best places for the study of birds. This was also to be some compensation for those who had seen little in their allotted areas but had nevertheless worked cheerfully, realising that in a census the poorer parts must be covered, being no less important than the rich parts. In this Kaipara scheme all showed the right spirit. On the 21st, a fruitful and enjoyable visit was made to No. 5 area, Mr. Graham Jordan's, near Kaukapakapa, where an impressive variety of birds was seen. That evening Brian D. Bell, using a blackboard, gave a most interesting account of the making of a survey of the sections of the Waitaki River and nearby country which are or will be affected by hydro-electric schemes, giving particular attention to the effect on the Black Stilt population. Members D. V. Merton and D. E. Crockett then showed coloured slides of the eruption on Raoul Island, of the Island generally and the embarkation and return to New Zealand. D.V.M. also gave an account and pictures of his going to the Island as "Advance party," with stores, on the "Holmburn." Those present felt that they were privileged indeed to receive such a first-hand presentation of this unlucky expedition. On the 22nd it was decided to have a picnic at a most desirable and restful spot on the farm

of Mrs. J. Robinson, who was another of our beneficent friends throughout the Course. However, the change of wind had brought more birds to this very special area and picnicking was largely forgotten when a Black Stilt and three part-black ones arrived with a flock of the pied species, making an excellent study. In the evening G. J. H. Moon was unable to come to give a talk so B. D. Bell again made use of the blackboard and gave a racy and soundly informative talk on the adventures of D. V. Merton, himself and others who moved Saddlebacks and Stead's Bush Wren from Big South Cape Island, off Stewart Island, to other islands which were free from the destructive European rats. The best traditions of the Navy came to light when putting the party ashore and taking it off at various islands in atrocious weather. D.V.M. showed some slides of the birds. Even though the account was given in light vein the audience could not help but realise how these devoted officers of the Wildlife Branch of the Internal Affairs Dept. lived and toiled in the foulest of weather and grim conditions, even risking their lives at times, to save our rare birds. B.D.B. also gave an account of the bird life in the islands in Cook Strait, a big subject in itself.

The Hon. Secretary, A. T. Edgar, came from Kerikeri, Bay of Islands, to visit the Course and discuss business. Member M. K. Jones, of Riverhead, attended the evening meetings. It was pleasing to have visits from friends in the district, nor did they come empty-handed. At the end of the final meeting the President, A. Blackburn, expressed appreciation of the work done and stressed its value. The Editor, R. B. Sibson, spoke of the possibilities of the Kaipara and the organiser, H. R. McKenzie, thanked all who had helped and worked in this ambitious scheme.

### BIRDS ON THE HARBOUR AND ALONG ITS SHORES

This list has been compiled mainly according to the order and nomenclature of the "Checklist of New Zealand Birds," 1953. The accompanying map shows the number and name of each of the areas. In the list the common and the scientific names are given, then in parenthesis the number of the area and, in plain figures, the number of the species seen in that area, followed by the total of the species. For instance "Australian Gannet," *Sula bassana serrator*: (1) 2; (2) 1; 'Total 3' indicates that two were seen at Poutu and one at Tinopai. It is hoped that this method, used in conjunction with the map, will facilitate study of any place visited by members. Mrs. Helen Hall, Wildlife Branch, Internal Affairs Department, is heartily thanked for making this map and Miss A. J. Goodwin, Clevedon, for making large scale maps of each of the ten areas.

### SEABIRDS

SOOTY SHEARWATER (*Puffinus griseus*), (1) 1. (5) 1. Total 2.  
A desiccated specimen on the beach towards North Head and another at Tapora.

COOK'S PETREL (*Pterodroma c. cooki*). Calls generally recognised as of this petrel heard in late evenings from Helensville to Tinopai. Mrs. M. J. Barron reports that calls were heard at Poutu just before and just after the survey so that the species moves across the whole of the Kaipara Harbour (cf Fleming, N.Z.B.N. 1, 58-59).

AUSTRALIAN GANNET (*Sula bassana serrator*), (1) 2; (2) 1. Total 3.  
These would probably be from Oaia Islet, off Muriwai Beach.

## WATERFOWL AND SALT-MARSH BIRDS

**BLACK SHAG** (*Phalacrocorax carbo novaehollandiae*), (2), 3; (3) 5; (4) 6; (7) 1; (8) 2; (9) 16 plus 43. Total 76.

A reported shag nesting colony on Mr. Rolston's farm, south of Shelly Beach, was visited and found to be entirely of Black Shags, situated in huge green Cupressus macrocarpa trees on the edge of a large mangrove swamp. B. D. Bell was able to climb part way up and eight nests were counted, one containing at least one large young. Very few birds were about so Master John Rolston, a keen observer, was asked to tally the evening incoming which he knew would occur. He obtained the above count of 43 birds, so these trees were obviously used also as a roost. A few of the 43 birds may already have been counted elsewhere during the day. It was deemed a most unusual place for this species to breed and no other such colony was found in the Harbour.

**PIED SHAG** (*Phalacrocorax v. varius*), (1) 21; (2) 4; (3) 3; (4) 85; (5) 7; (6) 19 and two colonies too distant to count; (7) 43, including a colony; (8) 1; (9) 81; (10) 39. Total 303, plus the two further colonies not counted. The nesting colonies were small, all in mangrove. There would almost certainly be others in the vast mangrove areas, particularly in the south where boats could not be used owing to the storm. The Helena Bay colonies will be described below with White-throated.

**WHITE-THROATED SHAG (LITTLE SHAG)** (*Phalacrocorax melanoleucos brevirostris*)

White-throated phase, (4) 2; (5) 3; (7) 1; (9) 156. Total 162

Little Pied phase, not called *P. m. melanoleucos* in N.Z. Checklist, (6) 1; (7) 1; (9) 13. Total 15

Intermediate phase, smudgy, (9) 14. Total 14

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Grand Total 191

By far the most interesting colony was a mixed one of Pied and the three phases of White-throated in Helena Bay, south-east from Kaipara South Head. A small mixed colony in one creek had 10 Pied and 6 nests, 7 White-throated with 3 nests, 1 Small Pied and 1 smudgy bird. The nests were not occupied. The main colony was in another creek, so narrow that the mangroves at high tide were only far enough apart to allow the runabout to brush through, so that it was impossible to keep far enough away to count accurately. Large young were dropping into the water and diving and newly hatched chicks were left exposed to a hot sun so the boat had to be run past quickly and back again without stopping. Counts of flying, diving and sitting birds could only be approximate. A rough attempt was made to count the numerous young of all sizes up to flying stage. Some nests were so low that the contents could be seen. Most of these contained four eggs each so it was evidently a late fringe of the colony. One nest had been flooded by a previous tide. The tightly packed colony was all on the west side of the creek although the mangroves on the east side were exactly the same. Approximate counts were: Pied, 70 flying, 30 chicks,

mostly very large, and 40 nests. White-throated, 140 flying, 60 chicks of all stages, and 120 nests, about 20 of which had eggs. Small Pied, 12 flying. Smudgy, 12 flying.

BLUE HERON (REEF HERON) (*Egretta s. sacra*), (2) 8; (4) 2; (6) 4; Total 14.

WHITE-FACED HERON (*Ardea novaehollandiae*), (1) 11; (2) 75; (3) 25; (4) 38; (5) 20; (6) 217; (7) 124; (8) 76, (9) 134, (10) 3. Total 723.

AUSTRALIAN BITTERN (*Botaurus stellaris poiciloptilus*), (2) 2; (4) 1. Reported plentiful in tidal swamps and inland. Total 3.

BLACK SWAN (*Cygnus atratus*), (1) 2; (5) 245; (7) 1000; (9) 550. Total 1797. No doubt many more to arrive from inland breeding grounds.

GREY DUCK (*Anas s. superciliosa*), (1) 5, (2) 250, (3) 86, (4) 30, (5) 125, (6) 51, (7) 24, (9) 76, (10) 3. Total 650.

MALLARD (*Anas p. platyrhynchos*), (5) 10, (9) 1. Total 11. Reported fairly common. Some hybrids seen. No particular care was taken with Grey and Mallard ducks.

NEW ZEALAND SHOVELER (*Anas rhynchotis variegata*), (5) 1, (9) 2. Total 3.

NEW ZEALAND BANDED RAIL (*Rallus philippensis assimilis*), (1) 3, (2) 2, (4) 1 others calling, (6) 2, (9) 1. Total 9. Only those near tidewater counted. Others inland.

NORTH ISLAND FERNBIRD (*Bowdleria punctata*), (1) 1, (2) 3, (6) 15 or so, some seen, some heard, (7) 1. Total 20. Only those in saltmarsh counted. Others inland.

#### SKUAS, GULLS, TERNS

ARCTIC SKUA (*Stercorarius parasiticus*), (2) 2, (4) 1. Total 3.

SOUTHERN BLACK-BACKED GULL (*Larus dominicanus*), (1) 16, (2) 88, (3) 25, (5) 18, (6) 58, (7) 124 including a late nesting colony, (8) 13, (9) 47, (10) 37. Total 471.

RED-BILLED GULL (*Larus novaehollandiae scopulinus*), (1) 54, (2) 234, (3) 189, (4) 110, (5) 17, (6) 19, (7) 72 (8) 279, (9) 106, (10) 36. Total 1080. Probably more to come from northern breeding places.

CASPIAN TERN (*Hydroprogne caspia*), (1) 11, (2) 1, (3) 6, (4) 16, (5) 55, (6) 46, (7) 37, (8) 8, (9) 39, (10) 105. Total 324.

WHITE-FRONTED TERN (*Sterna striata*), (1) 5, (3) 2, (4) 81, (7) 1, (8) 1, (9) 33, (10) 27. Total 150.

LITTLE TERN (*Sterna albisrons*), (6) 11. Total 11. These were fishing at the mouth of the Tauhoa River and were identified by G. J. H. Moon, who has known and photographed Fairy Tern (*S. nereis*) on the east coast for many years and immediately saw that these were different, being the same as those at Firth of Thames when in winter plumage.

#### WADERS

SOUTH ISLAND PIED OYSTERCATCHER (*Haematopus ostralegus finschi*), (1) 7, (2) 2, (3) 17, (4) 1, (5) 1068, (6) 80, (7) 125, (8) 1000, (9) 783, (10) 147. Total 3230. More winterers can be expected from the South.

NORTHERN OYSTERCATCHER (*Haematopus unicolor reischeki*)

Black phase, (1) 1, (5) 4. Total 5.

It is practically certain that there must have been others in distant flocks of S.I.P.O. of both black and pied phases.

Pied phase, (5) 2, (6) 1, (10) 5. Total 8.

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Grand Total 13.

PACIFIC GOLDEN PLOVER (*Charadrius dominicus fulvus*), (5) 4, (6) 3, (10) 1. Total 8.

BANDED DOTTEREL (*Charadrius bicinctus*), (1) 6, (5) 7, (6) 10, (8) 100, (9) 5, (10) 41. Total 169. Hundreds still to come from South.

LARGE SAND DOTTEREL (*Charadrius leschenaulti*), (10) 3. Total 3.

NEW ZEALAND (RED-BREADED) DOTTEREL (*Charadrius obscurus*), (1) 13, (5) 26, (6) 5, (8) 5, (9) 5, (10) 25. Total 79.

WRYBILL (WRYBILLED PLOVER) (*Anarhynchus frontalis*), (3) 23, (5) 212, (8) 64, (10) 56. Total 355.

LONG-BILLED CURLEW (*Numenius madagascariensis*) (8) 1. Total 1.

ASIATIC WHIMBREL (*Numenius phaeopus variegatus*), (5) 2. Total 2.

EASTERN BAR-TAILED GODWIT (*Limosa lapponica baueri*), (1) 700, (5) 3000, (6) 1500, (7) 1825, (8) 2309, (9) 1900, (10) 700. Total 11934. Some showing colour. Total smaller than expected.

KNOT (*Calidris canutus rogersi*), (1) 2200, (5) 1000, (6) 12, (7) 140, (8) 600, (9) 40, (10) 350. Total 4342.

BLACK-TAILED GODWIT (? species), (8) 1. Total 1.

TURNSTONE (*Arenaria i. interpres*), (5) 91, (8) 4, (10) 70. Total 165.

SIBERIAN PECTORAL (SHARP-TAILED) SANDPIPER (*Calidris acuminata*), (8) 8. Total 8.

RED-NECKED STINT (*Calidris r. ruficollis*), (10) 6. Total 6.

PIED STILT (*Himantopus himantopus leucocephalus*), (1) 75, (2) 80, (3) 405, (4) 223, (5) 63, (6) 302, (7) 25, (8) 559, (9) 125, (10) 45. Total 1902. Obviously not the full winter population.

BLACK STILT (*Himantopus novaeseelandiae*), (9) 1 all black and 3 heavily smudgy. Two others had smudgy heads. Larger than the Pied with them. Not seen, except for one smudgy, until 22nd, so must have been previously in the area south of Shelly Beach (Aotea), where the storm precluded exploration by boat, or they may have just arrived from the South.

## BIRDS OF INLAND AND LAKES

No comprehensive survey was made, as these places were outside the scope of the Course. These notes are being appended so that parties studying the harbour area may find a further interest.

The Pouto party (1), found on Upper Rototuna Lake 11 New Zealand Dabchicks (*Podiceps rufopectus*), one pair having a chick with creamy stripes on its head, 2 Pied Stilts and a mixture of shags, Black, Pied, White-throated, Little Pied and Little Black (*P. sulcirostris*). One of the Little Pied had strongly rufous markings on its white front. A mixture of ducks contained Grey, Shoveler and Mallard. Lower Rototuna Lake had one Little Black Shag, four Dabchicks and

10 N.Z. Scaup or Black Teal (*Aythya novaeseelandiae*). On a lakelet, "Shag Lake," by Lake Kanono, a mixed shag colony had a preponderance of Little Pied, with White-throated and Little Black also present. Twenty-four nests were from one to ten feet above the water in drowned manuka trees. Some birds had colour variations, one being buffy where it should have been white. On Lake Kanono were 6 Dabchicks, 11 Black Swans, including one pair with seven cygnets, and Grey, Shoveler and Mallard ducks.

On the Tinopai peninsula Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Brown were told by local residents of the presence of New Zealand Pigeon (*Hemiphaga n. novaeseelandiae*), Kiwi (*Apteryx australis mantelli*), N.Z. Red-crowned Parakeet (*Cyanoramphus n. novaezealandiae*), North Island Kaka (*Nestor meridionalis septentrionalis*), Eastern Rosella (*Platycercus e. eximius*), Fernbird and Banded Rail. Some of the two latter were inland and not in the same places as those included in the counts for the Course. They frequent both tidal creeks and inland swamps and scrub.

In the Whakapirau area A. Blackburn described a possible N.Z. Red-crowned parakeet and G. K. McKenzie one at another spot.

At Ngamotu R. B. Sibson found a Brown Teal (*Anas chlorotis*) on a dam on Hargreave's farm. He was told that Kookaburras occur fairly often. Mr. Russell Hargreaves reported them present the next day. Passerines here, as elsewhere, were plentiful, most species still singing. Flocks of Starlings were a welcome sight.

Eleven or twelve Welcome Swallows (*Hirundo neoxena*) were found at the last bridge on Island Road, Tapora. By Misses McIntyre and Goodwin, with 1 nest, 1 egg, 1 nest flattened as if used and 1 apparently just started.

B. D. Bell reported on M. A. Waller's lagoons, South Head, Pied Shag 37, White-throated Shag 30, Pied Stilt 16, White-faced Heron 4, Bittern 3, Dabchick 5, plus two young, Grey Duck 40, Shoveler 2 or more, Mallard 5. On lakes and ponds on Mr. Donohue's property Brown Teal 1, White-throated Shag 8, Grey Duck 10, Black Shag 2, and Black Swan 4. A night roost of shags was reported.

Such birds as Pukeko (*Porphyrio porphyrio melanotus*), Indian Myna, White-backed Magpie and Kingfisher (*Halcyon sancta vagans*) were not included in the Course count.

Participants for full time (marked \*) and part time were: Miss M. M. Neill\*, B. D. Bell\*, Wellington; D. E. and Mrs. Crockett\*, Wanganui; Michael Bysouth\*, R. and Mrs. and Miss Bysouth\*, Hawera; R. J. E. and C. W. Taylor\*, Havelock North; A. M. C. Davis\*, Te Kuiti; A. Blackburn\*, Gisborne; D. Bettesworth\*, Cambridge; J. A. and Mrs. Brown and family\*, Papakura; G. K. and Mrs. McKenzie\*, Miss A. J. Goodwin\*, H. R. and Mrs. McKenzie\*, Clevedon; Miss M. C. R. McIntyre\*, Howick; Miss J. Key-Jones\*, R. B. Sibson\*, D. V. Merton\*, Auckland; M. K. Jones and three Senior Scouts, Riverhead; G. J. H. Moon\*, Warkworth; L. L. and Mrs. Wintle\*, Mangawhai; F. P. Hudson, M. G. Dill, Kaipara Flats; M. A. Waller, Kaipara South Head; Thos. Cowan\*, Tapora; Mrs. M. J. Barron, Pouto; M. M. Ross\*, Punaruku, Northland; A. T. Edgar, Kerikeri, Bay of Islands.

In order to add to the usefulness of the 1965 Survey for future observers the writer asked Mr. R. B. Sibson to make a historical record of some birds previously noted in the Kaipara Harbour. In May, 1941, R.B.S., E. F. Dodson and W. Ridland travelled by rail to Helensville,

then by steamer to Pouto. For the first night they slept with no bedding on the very hard planks in the Pouto wharf shed, but "men was men" in those days! On this trip they explored the coast and the lakes of the lower Pouto Peninsula. R.B.S., with Mr. and Mrs. Prickett and others, has since made many trips to several parts of the Harbour and F. P. Hudson has reported on the coast and the waters at and beyond Tauhoa.

## ADDITIONAL NOTES AND COMMENTS

By R. B. SIBSON

As old narrow country roads have improved and new roads have been built, Auckland ornithologists have been able to visit the tips of some peninsulas and some remote stretches of shoreline on the Kaipara much more frequently. One result has been that the list of some less common breeders and of rare visitors is becoming impressively long. So that the ornithological picture of Kaipara may be more complete and the report of the 1965 census more valuable for future reference, the following notes are appended. Most, though not all of these observations have been reported in *Notornis* and the references are given.

**DABCHICK.** On 6/1/49 (3, 202) 3+ pairs were breeding on a big shallow lake among the sand dunes at Taporā. Also on the lake were some scores of Shoveler ducks and several Scaup, including two ducks, each with five ducklings. This lake has since been drained and its floor is rough pasture.

**SHEARWATERS.** Numbers of petrels and shearwaters of various species are annually cast ashore, but on 30/12/55 after it had been blowing strongly from the north-east for two days — Northland was catching the edge of a tropical cyclone — some hundreds of *P. carneipes* and a few *P. bulleri* were flying over mid-Kaipara especially where the grey-brown silt-laden water met the blue-green oceanic water of the Tasman.

**LESSER FRIGATE BIRD** (*Fregata ariel*). One at Pahi in March, 1907. More recently single birds recorded in March 1959, January 1960 and March 1963 (9, 109 and 10, 238).

**WHITE HERON** (*Egretta alba*). A regular winter visitor, sometimes in fair numbers (10, 313).

**LITTLE EGRET** (*Egretta garzetta*). One at Port Albert on 16/4/61 (10, 44). Probably overlooked in winter among *E. alba*.

**WHITE-FACED HERON.** Still rather rare in 1956, viz. only one seen in December during a week's exploration based on Tinopai; but becoming plentiful by 1958 (7, 194 and 8, 68). c75 in one roost at Journey's End, Taporā, on 1/5/60.

**WHITE IBIS** (*Threskiornis strictipennis*). One at Te Kopuru, winter 1957 (8, 56).

**ROYAL SPOONBILL** (*Platalea regia*). Three during autumn 1958 (8, 68) and 4 in May 1959 (8, 202) at Taporā. Possibly now a regular visitor.

**GREY PLOVER** (*Charadrius squatarola*). One at the "Island" at Taporā on 16/4/61 (9, 242).

**PACIFIC GOLDEN PLOVER.** Regular summer visitor: the biggest flock so far being 28 at Taporā on 11/11/62.

- BANDED DOTTEREL.** Only a few pairs breed. Winter flocks of 80+ at Tapora and 300+ at Jordan's have been recorded (10, 250).
- LARGE SAND DOTTEREL.** One with Banded Dotterels at Jordan's on 26/5/63 (10, 250).
- RED-BREASTED or NEW ZEALAND DOTTEREL.** Kaipara Harbour is one of the most important areas for the survival of this scarce endemic species.
- WRYBILL.** The winter population has been estimated at 400-500 (10, 151) but in view of the recent survey this figure may be too low.
- ASIATIC WHIMBREL.** Eight near Parkhurst on 29/12/56 (7, 196). One at Jordan's on 26/5/63 (10, 250).
- TEREK SANDPIPER** (*Tringa terek*). Tapora, 1 on 3/5/59 and 1/2/60 (8, 265); 1 on 1/5/60 (9, 76); 1 on 13/4/63).
- TATTLER.** 1 at Mairetahi on 16/3/64; identity, *incanus* or *brevipes*, not determined.
- TURNSTONE.** A characteristic bird of the shoreline at Tapora. Biggest flock before the survey 80+ on 11/11/62; but 150+ on 19/4/65.
- SHARP-TAILED SANDPIPER.** 2 at Tapora on 13/4/63 appear to be the first recorded in Kaipara.
- CURLEW SANDPIPER** (*C. ferruginea*). 1 at Tapora on 1/4/64, apparently the only record so far.
- RED-NECKED STINT.** Small numbers so far, max. 4. Often with Wrybills at Tapora.
- ARCTIC SKUA.** On 30/12/55, during a north-easterly gale, c50 skuas were harrying the terns off South Head. At least two were suspected of 'pomarinity.'
- BLACK-FRONTED TERN** (*Chlidonias albostrigatus*). At Tangaihi, 16 on 23/4/55 (6, 244) and 14 on 15/6/57 (7, 197). At Tapora 1 on 11/11/62 (10, 186). Possibly a regular winter visitor in small numbers.
- WHITE-WINGED BLACK TERN** (*Chlidonias leucopterus*). 1 on Lake Kanono, Pouto, on 6/5/41 (6, 46).
- CASPIAN TERN.** One of the largest breeding colonies in this country is near Waionui Inlet on the sands below South Head.
- FAIRY TERN** (*Sterna nereis*). A pair has been seen near Tapora in the nesting season but no nest could be found. Otherwise there are no recent records that are wholly acceptable.
- LITTLE TERN.** Small non-breeding terns seen in summer at Tapora show the same plumages and moults and behave in the same way as Little Terns in the Firth of Thames. On 11/11/62 there were at least 13 resting among waders.
- WHITE-FRONTED TERN.** There is usually a big breeding colony on the sands below South Head; and in some years they breed on the 'Island,' Tapora.
- WHITE-CAPPED NODDY** (*Anous tenuirostris minutus*). The first and second North Island records both come from Kaipara; viz. 1 at South Head on 19/10/53 (6, 176) and one near Woodhill, 5/8/64, skin now in Auckland War Memorial Museum.