

(2) Mid-Feb., 1940. Geo. H. White, at 6.30 to 7 p.m., while travelling by car saw, all the way from Kirikiri Hill, near Papakura, to Waiau Pa, via Karaka, south Manukau Harbour, several great flocks flying roughly east, which could take them from south Manukau Harbour to Miranda. It was of course too early for migration.

(3) 12-18/3/43. Clevedon estuary. I received four separate estimates of c.5000. This was most likely a migratory move as the local population up to then had been 400.

(4) 19/3/49. Miranda. 20,000 to 25,000 Godwit and Knots, the latter being in the majority, all doing pre-migration flying. Mixed parties such as this are not recorded on the chart.

(5) 6/11/49. Off wharf at Maraetai Beach, early rising tide, c.600 flying east along Clevedon coast of Tamaki Strait. This was puzzling. Were they flying from Whitford or northern Manukau Harbour via Whitford to Clevedon estuary or to Miranda?

(6) 14/4/57. Mangakino, Waikato River, c.40 grey winterers flying north along Maraetai Lake (Hydro). This is far inland and could only have been related to a long flight.

(7) 1/3/64. Oruarangi, just south of Puketutu Island, north Manukau Harbour, c.10,000, with c.800 knots, flying to Whitford, which was proved by following them by road. The movement is known to be an old habit of late in the season and used to be exploited by shooters posted on hilltops when a strong wind kept the birds low. This was $1\frac{3}{4}$ hours before high tide in the Manukau so had there been a census that day and Whitford not visited these would have been missed. Strangely enough this flight was of $12\frac{1}{2}$ miles, whereas they could have gone to Mangere Airport, $3\frac{3}{4}$ miles, Puhinui, $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles, or Karaka Shellbank, $8\frac{1}{4}$ miles. At Whitford they merely rested on the partly exposed sandy flats, the tide being about three hours earlier than Manukau, and then flew back as the tide fell on the Manukau side.

It is to be noted that all except one of these "Unusual Occurrences" have happened close to the outward migration time. This is well clear of both our summer and winter censuses but when such odd happenings occur at this season it can surely be expected that lesser ones can occur occasionally at the census times, thus accounting for variations which may otherwise be attributed to human error. The writer is satisfied that the good work of members has resulted in a good coverage of these two important godwit habitats.



SHORT NOTE

TURNSTONES AT SEA

On 27/11/66 I was on passage from Suva to Lyttelton in M.V. Matua. At 1630 hrs. an unusual and unexpected bird-call was heard, and I found that not one but three Turnstones (*A. interpres*) were accompanying the ship. They flew about for some time without coming on board. They were last seen at 1800 hrs., when the ship's position was 29° 26' S, 175° 42' E.

— JOHN JENKINS