

Yellowhammer *Emberiza citrinella*. 23 map squares.

Chaffinch *Fringilla coelebs*. 26 map squares.

Greenfinch *Carduelis chloris*. 6 map squares; three sightings, one of 5 birds, between Parengarenga and the north coast bays; near Houhora; Karikari Bay; Tokerau (south end).

Goldfinch *Carduelis carduelis*. 19 map squares.

Redpoll *Acanthis flammea*. 10 map squares.

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*. 24 map squares.

Starling *Sturnus vulgaris*. 23 map squares; throughout, in moderate numbers; flock of 200, Karikari peninsula. May suffer competition for nesting sites from Mynas.

Indian Myna *Acridotheres tristis*. 26 map squares. Spread has been rapid. Few on Aupouri Peninsula till 1967, when a flock of birds arrived at Houhora in October, immediately dispersed and began to breed; some as far north as Te Pahi and Spirits Bay by November 1967. By late 1968 they were all the way up the peninsula and 60 were counted in the north-eastern tip, around North Cape area. P, 40, July 1969; nesting in holes in sandstone cliffs, 1970 (G. Eller). Kerr Point, January 1971, 47.

### CONCLUSION

A list of 137 birds (species and subspecies) from so small a part of New Zealand is remarkable enough; the prospect of adding to this list is exciting, and attainable if enough observers become available. There is no doubt that additional species of waders, rare stragglers and storm-cast specimens will sooner or later be recorded.



## SHORT NOTES

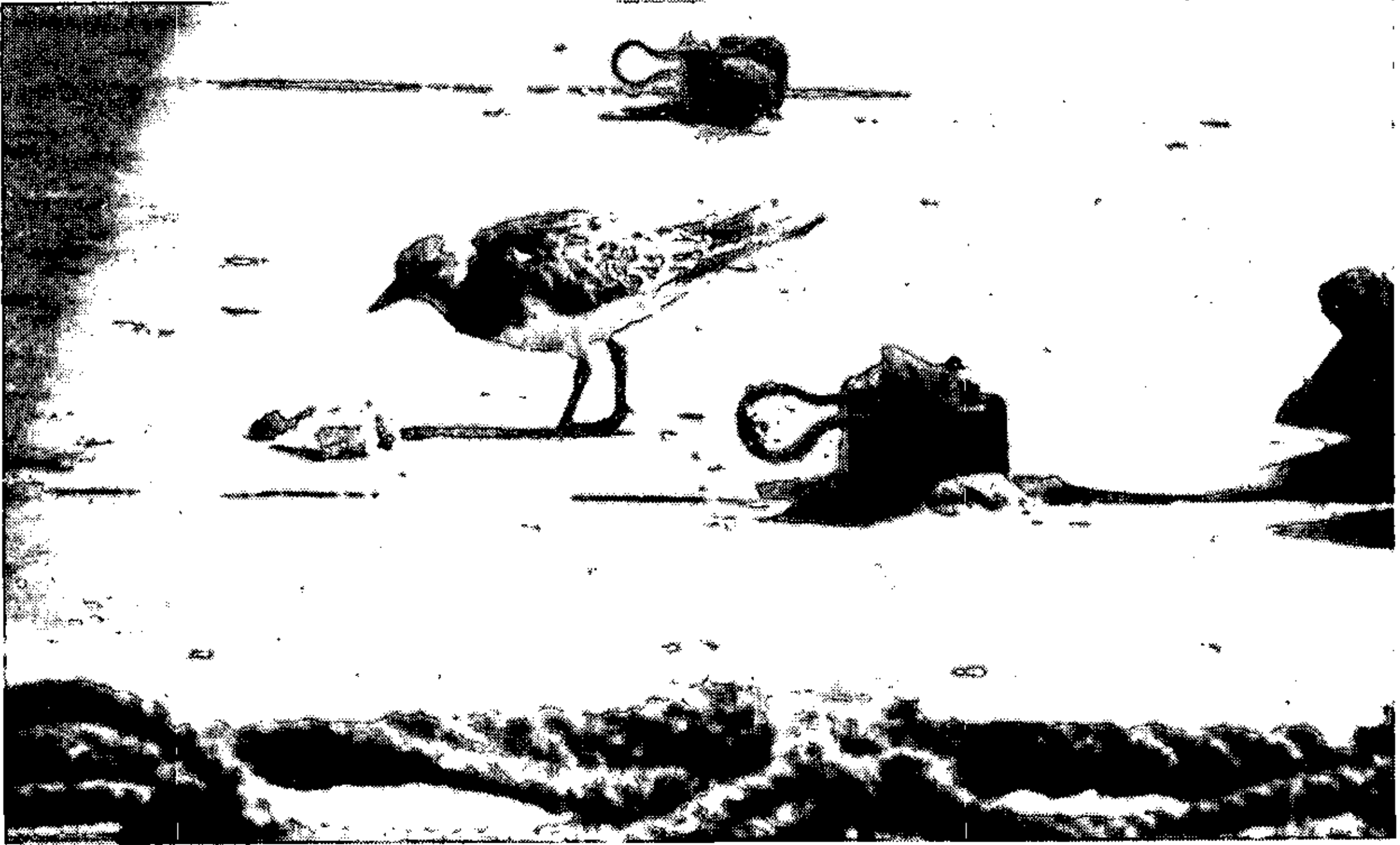
### A HITCHHIKING TURNSTONE

At 1300 hrs. on 11/11/70 in position 22° 12'S, 177° 26'E, that is approximately 120 miles south of Kandavu Island, a Turnstone was seen to fly aboard m.v. "Karamu."

The bird was apparently young, having much black about the head, and with legs a dull reddish orange. It was obviously very tired and sheltered from the wind by hiding behind the bolts on top of the after hatch, as though these bolts were stones on a beach. After resting for some hours it took up quarters on a net spread out on the hatch, where, as can be seen from the photograph, it merged completely with the background.

It remained on board, except for short flights around the ship, for the next 3 days 17 hours, during which time it was carried 900 miles to the south. When it finally left, the vessel was just south of Tiri Tiri Island.

Whilst the Turnstone was on board everyone was feeding it and amongst the foods seen to be eaten were raw and cooked meat, pieces of raw fat, raw and fried fish, bread, biscuits, mashed and chipped potatoes, banana, and uncooked rice. On one occasion it was given a fresh flying fish and the bird pecked out both of the eyes and was seen to be pecking continuously inside the gills. A shallow pan of fresh water was put on the hatch and in this the



[John Jenkins



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bird took many baths and seemed to be drinking very frequently, possibly as a result of its strange diet.

During its stay on board the bird became very tame, running up to anyone who stopped near the hatch and latterly pecking at your fingers if you put your hand near it.

Everyone on the ship was sorry to see the bird leave, and we are now wondering if it will re-join for its northerly migration!

— JOHN JENKINS