

**FRIGATE BIRD AT TAURANGA.**—I have received an interesting report from Mr. A. H. Watson, Mt. Maunganui, of the occurrence of a female greater frigate bird. I showed the description and a sketch to Mr. E. G. Turbott and he agreed with the identification. Mr. Watson wrote: "I am enclosing a drawing I have made of a bird that was circling high over the Tauranga Harbour this afternoon (20/5/50). Judging from the height of the Mount, it must have been flying at between 700 and 800 feet. It would be, I think, as big or slightly bigger than a gannet; it had black wings and tail which was much forked. It had lost a feather on one side, also had a break in one wing, a white chin and breast and the bill was long and looked pointed but couldn't be sure at the height it was flying, nor could I be sure of the colour, but it looked reddish. No sign of its legs. The wings gave an occasional slight movement, but it was mostly a glide. The bird disappeared seaward to the north."—J. Davenport, Auckland.

**FRIGATE BIRD AT WHANGAREI.**—The occurrence of a frigate bird, probably a female greater frigate bird, at Whangarei, is reported by Mr. D. Purser, who, writing on June 29th, 1950, states:—"Yesterday I had a friend ring me to say that he had watched a frigate bird for some considerable time during the morning near Limestone Island, which is off Onerahi, in the Whangarei Harbour. He saw it dive on a Caspian tern which had caught a fish. The tern dropped its bundle very smartly and the frigate bird swooped down and got the fish. My informant, Mr. Jack Fisher, had spent much time in the Cook Islands group and had seen these birds by the hundred and had eaten them. He was able to give a good description of the specimen, which was black on top with a white throat and chest. It had the usual long bill with a pronounced hook and sharply swept-back wings, with a forked tail. It was in good condition and was very active when the terns were feeding. It is possible that it got blown south with a cyclonic storm which came down the Tasman two or three days before the bird was seen here."—Communicated by Mr. E. G. Turbott, Auckland.

## SCIENTIFIC NAMES.

The scientific names of birds mentioned in this issue, where not given in the text, are:—

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| Bellbird ( <i>Anthornis melanura</i> ).            | Kiwi ( <i>Apteryx</i> sp.).                      |
| Bittern ( <i>Botaurus poeciloptilus</i> ).         | Knot ( <i>Calidris canutus</i> ).                |
| Blackbird ( <i>Turdus merula</i> ).                | Morepork ( <i>Ninox novaeseelandiae</i> ).       |
| Chaffinch ( <i>Fringilla coelebs</i> ).            | Oyster-catcher ( <i>Haematopus</i> sp.).         |
| Crow, Blue-wattled ( <i>Calceas wilsoni</i> )      | Parakeet, Red-fronted ( <i>Cyanoramphus</i>      |
| Cuckoo, Shining ( <i>Chalcites lucidus</i> )       | <i>novaeseelandiae</i> ).                        |
| Dotterel, Banded ( <i>Charadrius bicinctus</i> )   | Pigeon (Native or Wood) ( <i>Hemiphaga</i>       |
| N.Z. ( <i>Pluvierhynchus obscurus</i> )            | <i>novaeseelandiae</i> ).                        |
| Duck, Blue ( <i>Hymenolaimus malacorhynchus</i> ). | Pipit ( <i>Anthus novaeseelandiae</i> ).         |
| Grey ( <i>Anas poecilorhyncha</i> )                | Pukeko ( <i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i> ).           |
| Fantail ( <i>Rhipidura fuliginosa</i> )            | Rifleman ( <i>Acanthisitta chloris</i> ).        |
| Fern-bird ( <i>Bowdleria punctata</i> )            | Robin ( <i>Miro australis</i> ).                 |
| Frigate Bird, Greater ( <i>Fregata minor</i> )     | Shag, Black ( <i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i> ).      |
| Gannet ( <i>Morus serrator</i> )                   | Pied ( <i>Phalacrocorax varius</i> )             |
| Godwit ( <i>Limosa lapponica</i> )                 | Shearwater, Buller's ( <i>Puffinus bulleri</i> ) |
| Goldfinch ( <i>Carduelis carduelis</i> )           | Fluttering ( <i>Puffinus gavia</i> ).            |
| Greenfinch ( <i>Chloris chloris</i> )              | Skylark ( <i>Alauda arvensis</i> )               |
| Gull, Black-backed ( <i>Larus dominicanus</i> )    | Sparrow, House ( <i>Passer domesticus</i> ).     |
| Red-billed ( <i>L. hollandiae</i> ).               | Starling ( <i>Sturnus vulgaris</i> )             |
| Harrier ( <i>Circus approximans</i> )              | Stilt ( <i>Himantopus himantopus</i> ).          |
| Hawk, Bush ( <i>Falco novaeseelandiae</i> )        | Swan, Black ( <i>Cygnus atratus</i> ).           |
| Hedge Sparrow ( <i>Prunella modularis</i> )        | Thrush, Song ( <i>Turdus ericetorum</i> ).       |
| Heron, White ( <i>Casmerodius albus</i> ).         | Tit, Yellow-breasted ( <i>Petroica macro-</i>    |
| white-faced ( <i>Notophoxys novaehollandiae</i> ). | <i>cephala</i> ).                                |
| Kaka ( <i>Nestor meridionalis</i> ).               | Tui ( <i>Prosthemadera novaeseelandiae</i> ).    |
| Kingfisher ( <i>Halcyon sanctus</i> ).             | Warbler, Grey ( <i>Pseudogerygone igata</i> ).   |
|  | Weka, S.I. ( <i>Gallirallus australis</i> ).     |
|  | Yellowhammer ( <i>Emberiza citrinella</i> ).     |