

HARRIER (*Circus approximans*).

Of the harriers ringed at Hynish, H.B., between March, 1951, and 1952, six have been retrapped and eight have been killed, all within six miles of where ringed.

HEDGE SPARROW (*Prunella modularis*).

3130, ringed adult, 4/1/52, in Lower Hutt, was again recorded where ringed on January 4, 7, and 22, and was killed by a cat 20/2/52, nearby.

DIVING PETREL (*Pelecanoides urinatrix*).

5282, ringed adult, 19/7/51, on The Brothers Island, Cook Strait, and again recorded 1/9/51, was found dead near the Lighthouse, 1/11/51.

5284, ringed adult 22/7/51 on The Brothers Island, was found where ringed 8/8/51, 12/9/51 and 13/11/51.

GIANT PETREL (*Macronectes giganteus*).

16693, was ringed 6/3/51 at Heard Island at a probable age of 2½ months and it began flying in the middle of April. It was shot by a fisherman at the end of January, 1952, at Laguna Verde, on the coast a few miles south of Valparaiso, Chile.

16713, ringed similarly, was shot early in February, 1952, by fishermen at San Antonio, a port 40 miles south of Valparaiso. The rings were returned by Edwyn P. Reed, Asessor Technico, Direccion de Pesca y Caza, Valparaiso.

SILVEREYE (*Zosterops lateralis*).

27 recoveries are included in the records just received of 183 birds ringed in 1943-1947.

TERN, White-fronted (*Sterna striata*).

6233, ringed as a chick 7/1/52, Motutapu Island, Auckland, was found dead under power lines, 26/2/52, at Devonport.

37 birds ringed as chicks in the various colonies were found dead where ringed soon after.

THRUSH, Song (*Turdus ericetorum*).

4432, colour-ringed, age not known, 31/7/51, at Lower Hutt, was seen where ringed in August and October, and was found dead 19/11/51.

4431, ringed similarly 29/7/51, was seen several times weekly until 2/9/51, and was killed by a cat 2/10/51 nearby.

KAKAS IN SETTLED COUNTRY.—Miss E. Strange, Te Aroha, wrote on 15/5/52 that for several weeks past there had been ten or twelve kakas (*Nestor meridionalis*) at their farm, some five miles from the nearest bush (Mt. Te Aroha). The birds were probably attracted by the old orchard with a good deal of fruit. As, according to Miss Strange, this is an exceptional occurrence here, it is suggested that members take special note or make inquiries for similar records in their district. Evidence of a more widespread irruption during the autumn or winter into settled country would be of interest.—E. G. Turbott, Auckland Museum.

EUROPEAN WASP.—The Department of Internal Affairs, Box 8007, Government Buildings, Wellington, has received reports which suggest that the newly acclimatised wasp *Vespa germanica*, in the Rotorua Acclimatisation district may be competing with birds for food, namely, nectar and fruits of forest trees. It is possible that this may have harmful effects on such species as the tui and the bellbird in upsetting their seasonal movements in seeking food supplies. Any member having information bearing on wasp-bird relationships in New Zealand is requested to inform the Department.