

COURTSHIP DISPLAY OF MALLARD.—On August 11, 1951, while sitting overlooking a still pool between two small waterfalls, two mallard—a duck and a drake—were observed apparently feeding. Then it was noticed that, although both birds were bobbing their bills into the water they were doing so regularly, rapidly and with a contra movement—duck, drake; duck, drake, and so on—all the time circling slowly in counter-clockwise direction. As I watched the bobbing became more rapid and synchronised—circling continued. This went on for perhaps five minutes, then the drake swam to the edge of the nearer waterfall and flew over followed by the duck. The drake stood on a stone and preened under tail coverts; duck on edge of waterfall watching him. Then both returned to pool and resumed circling. Drake trod duck under water. Both swam over the waterfall into the adjacent pool. Here they stood on separate stones—after showering themselves well—and preened all over. Observer had to go away at this stage, but when observed ten or fifteen minutes later they were still standing on separate stones preening. From first observation of “bobbing” till treading took place would be about twenty minutes.—Miss J. Gardner, Dunedin.

SCIENTIFIC NAMES.

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

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| Albatross, Light-mantled Sooty (<i>Phoebastria palpebrata</i>). | Petrel, Diving (<i>Pelecanoides urinatrix</i>). |
| Albatross, Royal (<i>Diomedea epomophora</i>) | Petrel, Giant (<i>Macronectes giganteus</i>). |
| Albatross, Wandering (<i>Diomedea exulans</i>) | Petrel, Grey-faced (<i>Pterodroma macroptera</i>) |
| Blackbird (<i>Turdus merula</i>). | Pheasant (<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>). |
| Bellbird (<i>Anthornis melanura</i>). | Pigeon (Native or Wood) (<i>Hemiphaea novaeseelandiae</i>). |
| Chaffinch (<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>) | Pigeon, Rock (<i>Columba livia</i>). |
| Creeper, Brown (<i>Finschia novaeseelandiae</i>). | Pipit (<i>Anthus novaeseelandiae</i>). |
| Cuckoo, Shining (<i>Chalcites lucidus</i>) | Prion, Fairy (<i>Pachyptila turtur</i>) |
| Dabchick (<i>Poliiocephalus rufopectus</i>). | Pukeko (<i>Porphyrio poliocephalus</i>). |
| Dotterel, Banded (<i>Charadrius bicinctus</i>) | Quail, Californian (<i>Lophortyx californicus</i>). |
| Dotterel, N.Z. (<i>Pluviorhynchus obscurus</i>) | Rail, Banded (<i>Hypotaenidia philippensis</i>) |
| Duck, Grey (<i>Anas poicilorhyncha</i>) | Redpoll (<i>Carduelis cabaret</i>). |
| Duck, Mallard (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>) | Rifleman (<i>Acanthisitta chloris</i>). |
| Duck, Paradise (<i>Tadorna variegata</i>). | Shag, Black (<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>). |
| Fantail (<i>Rhipidura fuliginosa</i>) | Shag, King (<i>Leucocarbo carunculatus</i>) |
| Gannet (<i>Morus serrator</i>) | Shearwater, Fluttering (<i>Puffinus bulleri</i>) |
| Godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>) | Shearwater, Sooty (<i>Puffinus griseus</i>). |
| Goldfinch (<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>) | Silver-eye (<i>Zosterops lateralis</i>). |
| Goose, Canadian (<i>Branta canadensis</i>) | Skua, Southern (<i>Catharacta lonnbergi</i>) |
| Grebe, Crested (<i>Colymbus cristatus</i>) | Skylark (<i>Alauda arvensis</i>) |
| Greenfinch (<i>Chloris chloris</i>) | Sparrow, House (<i>Passer domesticus</i>). |
| Gull, Black-backed (<i>Larus dominicanus</i>) | Starling (<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>) |
| Gull, Black-billed (<i>Larus bulleri</i>) | Stilt (<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>). |
| Gull, Red-billed (<i>L. hollandiae</i>). | Storm Petrel, White-faced (<i>Pelagodroma marina</i>) |
| Harrier (<i>Circus approximans</i>) | Swan, Black (<i>Cygnus atratus</i>). |
| Hawk, Bush (<i>Falco novaeseelandiae</i>) | Teal, Black (<i>Aythya novaeseelandiae</i>) |
| Hedge Sparrow (<i>Prunella modularis</i>) | Tern, Caspian (<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>) |
| Kea (<i>Nestor notabilis</i>). | Tern, Fairy (<i>Sterna nereis</i>) |
| Kingfisher (<i>Halcyon sanctus</i>). | Tern, White-fronted (<i>Sterna striata</i>). |
| Kakapo (<i>Strigops habroptilus</i>) | Thrush, Song (<i>Turdus ericetorum</i>). |
| Kokako, Blue-wattled (<i>Calleas wilsoni</i>) | Tit, Yellow-breasted (<i>Petroica macrocephala</i>). |
| Magpie, White-backed (<i>Gymnorhina hypoleuca</i>). | Tui (<i>Prothemadera novaeseelandiae</i>). |
| Morepork (<i>Ninox novaeseelandiae</i>). | Yellowhammer (<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>). |
| Oystercatcher, S.I., Pied (<i>Haematopus finschi</i>) | Warbler, Grey (<i>Pseudogerygone igata</i>). |
| Owl, Little (<i>Athene noctua</i>) | Wren, Rock (<i>Xenicus gilviventris</i>) |
| Penguin, Little Blue (<i>Eudyptula minor</i>) | |
| Petrel, Cook's (<i>Pterodroma cookii</i>) | |