

REGIONAL ORGANISERS.—Regional organisers are the representatives of the society in their districts to whom members may turn for help and information about the society. Members are urged to meet their organisers for they will be able to be of much assistance. They have a wide knowledge of society activities and will help members to take part in them. They are willing to assist members to make up their notes for sending to the editor, and in some suitable districts organise meetings and field trips for the benefit of members. The council has defined 19 districts, and appointed the following organisers. Other appointments are under consideration, but the council will naturally consider representations from members in the districts for which there is a vacancy:—Southland (east to the Mataura River and including Stewart Island and Gore) Mrs. O. A. B. Smith, Home Street, Winton. Otago (south to the Mataura River, north to the Waitaki River, and including Queenstown), Mrs. L. E. Walker, 15 Cornwall Street, Vauxhall, Dunedin. Canterbury (south to Waitaki River, and north to the Conway River), vacant. Marlborough (south to the Conway River and including Havelock and the Sounds), Mr. B. D. Bell, 6 Graham Street, Blenheim. West Coast, vacant. Wellington (including Upper Hutt and Waikanae), vacant. Wairarapa (including Woodville), Mr. J. M. Cunningham, 39 Renall Street, Masterton. Manawatu (south to Waikanae and north to the Rangitikei River and Ashhurst), Mr. E. Dear, Kopane R.D., Palmerston North. Wanganui (south to the Rangitikei River, north to Waitotara and inland to Waiouru), Rev. H. W. Austin, c/o The Collegiate School, Wanganui. Taranaki (south to Waitotara, north to Awakino), vacant. Hawke's Bay (south to Woodville, north to Wairoa), Mr. D. H. Brathwaite, 11 May Avenue, Box 360, Napier. Gisborne (including Wairoa and Lake Waikaremoana and north to Hick's Bay), vacant. Rotorua-Taupo (including Mamaku, the Rotorua lakes and Kaingaroa), Mr. M. J. S. Black, "Savernake," Tarewa Road, Rotorua. Bay of Plenty (Waihi to Hick's Bay), vacant. Waikato (south to Awakino and Taumarunui, north to Rangiriri and Hikutaia, east to Paeroa and Putaruru), vacant. South Auckland (south to Te Kauwhata and Ngatea, north to Awhitu Peninsula, Karaka, Papakura and Whitford, and including the Firth of Thames and Thames, Mr. H. R. McKenzie, Clevedon. Auckland (south to Manurewa and Howick, north to Helensville and Warkworth), Mr. J. C. Davenport, 718 Remuera Road, Remuera, Auckland. North of Auckland (north of Helensville-Warkworth), vacant.

AN ORIENTAL CUCKOO IN NORTHLAND.—On December 18, 1952, I observed an Oriental cuckoo (*Cuculus saturatus*) in trees by my house. I watched it with binoculars for three-quarters of an hour, one-third of that time at a range of twenty-five feet, in the best of light. Having regard to the value for identification purposes of taking original notes I wrote down the following details on the spot: "Head and upper surface blue-grey; tail dark brown, spotted light; bill horn colour; eyelid bright yellow; long tail, but not excessively long; held on as swallow when resting on upward-sloping branch." I am familiar with the long-tailed cuckoo (*Urodynamis taitensis*) and it was certainly not of that species. A study of the description given by Oliver, "New Zealand Birds," convinced me that I had seen an Oriental cuckoo.—A. H. Watt, Te Kao.

NEW ZEALAND WRENS.—It is a somewhat unusual experience to see in one day three species of New Zealand wrens—the rifleman (*Acanthisitta chloris*), the bush or green wren (*Xenicus longipes*), and the rock wren (*X. gilviventris*). I had been led to understand that, at the time the bush wren was seen it was believed to be present only on the outlying islands and not on the mainland of Stewart Island. In January, 1936, I was one of a party of over 20 Dunedin Naturalists' Field Club members to visit Stewart Island. On January 20, the party climbed Mt. Rakeahua, setting out from the hut at the foot of Rakeahua. In the lower part of the bush the rifleman was seen. When more than half-way up the bush track, Miss M. P. Finlayson (a member of the Society) called the attention of those near her, including myself, to a bush wren. There can be no question of the identification being correct, as, while we watched the bird, Miss Finlayson pointed out the difference between it and the rifleman. When we came out above the bush line, beside a mountain tarn, we saw a rock wren.—I. Tily, Dunedin.