

CLASSIFIED SUMMARISED NOTES.

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KIWI (*Apteryx* sp.).—Little Barrier Is., 10/11/53, J. Peart and C. Hadley found on track at 550ft., at night, a chick the size of a small hedgehog. (H.R.McK.).

STEWART ISLAND KIWI (*Apteryx australis lawryi*).—Foot of Mt. Rakiahua, Stewart Island, 19/1/54, two calling. (J.W.)

YELLOW-EYED PENGUIN (*Megadyptes antipodes*).—Highcliffe, Otago Peninsula, 3/4/54, five in moult on beach. (D.N.F.C.)

BLUE PENGUIN (*Eudyptula minor*).—Whangaroa, great increase noted, 1953-54. (T.M.R.) Occasionally one or two round rocks, Whanga-

ruru South. (F.W.S.). Mangawhai Beach, 24/9/54, five dead. (D.G.McM.) Pakiri, 11/7/54-21/8/54, always a few found dead on beach, greatest number counted 11 in one day. (A.G.G.) Auckland Harbour, 24/8/54, two near Mechanics Bay, diving and rolling on the surface flashing white underparts in the afternoon sun. (A.C.H.) Tuamotu Island, Poverty Bay, 28/8/54, several ashore brooding but no sign of eggs; nests in crevices on cliff rock-fall 70 to 80 feet above sea level. (A.B.) Near Pipitea Point, Wellington Harbour, 28/6/54, four; 3/9/54, one close to Jervis Quay. (E.B.J.)

N.Z. CRESTED PENGUIN (*Eudyptes pachyrhynchus pachyrhynchus*). Okains Bay, 10/1/54, corpse. (E.W.D., G.E.B.) Te Oka Bay, Bank's Peninsula, 23/2/54, one among boulders. (D.E.C.)

ERECT-CRESTED PENGUIN (*Eudyptes pachyrhynchus sclateri*).—Ward Is., Wellington Harb., 13/3/54, one; R. A. Falla reported some there a fortnight earlier. (E.B.J.)

SOUTHERN CRESTED GREBE (*Podiceps cristatus australis*).—Lake Sarah, Cass, 18/10/52, two pairs. (E.W.D.) South Fiord entrance, Lake Te Anau, 6/13/53, two. (M.M.G.) Te Anau, Dome Is., 15/1/54, 4; Te Anau Lake at 8-mile peg, 18/6/54, two. (N.S.)

DABCHICK (*Podiceps rufopectus*).—Okohukura Block (The Run), 4/9/54, 1 seen swimming in flooded paddock. (A.G.G., H.R.McK.) Ohinemutu swamp, L. Rotorua, 13/5/54, a pair; L. Okareka, 14/5/54, a pair. (S.C.) Matata, 4/8/54, one feeding in canal on tractor demonstration area. (C.D.B.) Lake Rotoma, 18/9/54, six pairs seen from road. (M.d'A., C.D.B.) Lake Taupo (Roto-ngaio Lagoon), 22/4/54, four (F.M.B.) Ngatapa, Gisborne, 1/5/54, one shot by mistake on swamp. (A.B.)

WANDERING ALBATROSS (*Diomedea exulans*).—Coast south of Manukau Heads (birds killed and washed up by series of storms, 20/6/54-22/8/54), 4/7/54, 2. (V.M.R.) Waikato Heads, 19/9/54, one dried remains. (R.B.S., N.M.). Between Lambton Harbour, Wellington, and Tory Channel, 12/10/53, eight, three females in early maturity; 17/5/54, 12, including two in early maturity and an old female. (H.L.S.) Wellington Harb., 7/1/54, immature bird in brown plumage, first seen since 1948. (C.B.J.)

ROYAL ALBATROSS (*Diomedea epomophora*).—Port Waikato, 12/7/54, one newly dead on beach after storm. (A.J.G.) Between Wellington Harb. and Tory Channel, 12/10/54 and 17/5/54, two on each date. (H.L.S.) Queen Charlotte Sound, 10/7/54, at least three, one as far as Waikawa. (B.D.B.)

BLACK-BROWED MOLLYMAWK (*Diomedea melanophris*).—Coast south of Manukau Heads, 4/7/54, 1; 11/7/54, 1; 7/8/54, 1. (V.M.R.) Fanal Is., Leigh, 3/5/54, two; Kawau, 19/4/54, one, and Bethell's, 24/7/54, one corpse. (N.M.). Between Waiheke and Coromandel, one followed launch closely. (A.J.G.) Wellington Harb., 29/6/54, two. (E.B.J.) Dieffenbach Pt. to Ship's Cove, Q. Charlotte Sd., 10/7/54, about six. (B.D.B.) Birdlings Flat, 23/2/54, corpse. (D.E.C.)

GREY-HEADED MOLLYMAWK (*Diomedea chrysostoma*).—Auckland west coast, at least 25 dead found between the Awhitu Pen. and Muriwai beach over July and August, 1954; most of these had immature bill colour. (N.M., A.C.C., R.S.C., J.C.D., S.C.R., V.M.R., H.G.W. and R.B.S.) Coast south of Manukau Heads, 26/6/54, 1; 27/6/54, 1; 4/7/54, 3; 11/7/54, 1. (V.M.R.)

BULLER'S MOLLYMAWK (*Diomedea bulleri*).—Coast south of Manukau Heads, 4/7/54, 1. (V.M.R.) Otago Heads, 17/4/54, two landed on water. (L.E.W., D.B.)

WHITE-CAPPED MOLLYMAWK (*Diomedea cauta*).—Muriwai, 25/7/54, 1 dried corpse found. (J.C.D., H.G.W.) Coast south of Manukau Heads, 26/6/54, 1. (V.M.R.) Wellington Harb., 1954, one seen. (E.B.J.) 12/10/53, one seen between Wellington Heads and Tory Channel, Cook Strait; five seen on 17/5/54, one in plumage of *D. cauta cauta*. (H.L.S.)

LIGHT-MANTLED SOOTY ALBATROSS (*Phoebastria palpebrata*). Muriwai, 10/7/54, one ashore. (N.M.). Bethell's, 10/7/54, one dead. (R.B.S.) Awhitu Pen., 4/7/54, one fresh. (V.M.R.) Coast south of Manukau Heads, 26/6/54, one. (V.M.R.)

GIANT PETREL (*Macronectes giganteus*).—Muriwai, 25/7/54, among four birds ashore one was in white plumage. (J.C.D., H.G.W.) Auckland Harb., 1954, winter months, several off Queen's Wharf among the black-backed gulls. (P.A.S.S.) Waitemata Harb., 15/12/53, two seen from ferry; 22/8/54, 26 plus in Waitemata. (R.B.S.) Coast south of Manukau Heads, 4/7/54–22/8/54, four. (V.M.R.) Tarawera River, Bay of Plenty, 12/9/54, one feeding inside river mouth. (M.d'A., C.D.B.) Tangoio, 29/5/54, one seen flying offshore. (D.H.B.) Between Lambton Harb. (Wellington) and Tory Channel, 12/10/53, somewhat less than 200 birds; 17/5/54, about 40, mostly between Karori Rock and Tory Channel. (H.L.S.) Wellington Harb., 1/9/54, one white giant petrel near s.s. Corinthic at 12.30 p.m. (R.V.R.); 2/9/54, again seen off Ngauranga by friends; telescope revealed it towards Somes Island at 12.45 p.m. (R.V.R. E.B.J.). One brought into Museum uninjured from surf at north New Brighton, 9/1/54, released from New Brighton Pier, 11/1/54 (E.W.D.)

CAPE PIGEON (*Daption capensis*).—Corpses, Muriwai, 10/7/54, 1 (N.M.); 11/7/54, 1 (H.G.W.); 25/7/54, 1 old. (J.C.D.) Whatipu, 5/9/54, 1 fresh; Bethell's, 7/9/54, 2. (A.C.C., R.S.C.) Waikato Heads, 19/9/54, 1. (R.B.S., N.M.) Coast south of Manukau Heads, 26/6/54–11/7/54, 3. (V.M.R.) Between Wellington Heads and Tory Channel, Cook Strait, 12/10/53, not more than 10; 17/5/54, 20. (H.L.S.) Wellington Harb., near Queen's Wharf, 2/9/54, several; 3/9/54, c 9. (R.V.R., E.B.J.); 9/9/54, one near Tug Wharf and Lyttelton Ferry; 13/9/54, one near latter. (E.B.J.)

BLUE PETREL (*Halobaena caerulea*).—Auckland west coast, from late June to mid-September, 1954, 13 dead birds picked up between the Waikato Heads and Muriwai Beach. (R.B.S., S.C.R., V.M.R., D.A.U., R.S.C., H.G.W., A.C.C., N.M. and J.C.D.) Coast south of Manukau Heads, 4/7/54, 1. (V.M.R.) Waiuku outer coast, Waiuku Gap to Hamilton's Gap, 27/6/54, 1. (S.C.R.)

PRIONS (*Pachyptila* spp.).—Auckland, west coast, the mortality of prions was exceptionally heavy over the 1954 winter. First deposits at the end of June and early July consisted largely of *P. salvini* and *P. vittata*. viz., between June 27 and July 25, the following numbers were recorded between Karekare and the southern 14 miles of Muriwai; *vittata* 146, *salvini* 568, *desolata* 29, *belcheri* 25 and *turtur* 74. During August and early Sept. *turtur* continued to come ashore in fair numbers, but the other species were scarce, viz., between Aug. 21 and Sept. 19 over roughly the same area the numbers were: *vittata* 1, *salvini* 9, *desolata* 1, *belcheri* 5 and *turtur* 54. (R.B.S., J.C.D., N.M., H.G.W., A.C.C., R.S.C., S.C.R., V.M.R. & D.A.U.)

BROAD-BILLED PRION (*P. vittata*).—Coast south of Manukau Heads, 20/6/54–11/7/54, 65; 7th and 22/8/54, none. (V.M.R.) Waiuku, 13/3/54, 1. (S.C.R.)

LESSER BROAD-BILLED PRION (*P. salvini*).—Coast south of Manukau Heads, 20/6/54–11/7/54, 327; 7th and 22/8/54, none. (V.M.R.) Mt. Maunganui, 17/7/54, two quite recently dead ashore, the only prions picked up this winter. (M.H.) Rangitaiki River mouth, 11/7/54, one dead on beach. (C.D.B.)

ANTARCTIC PRION (*P. desolata*).—Coast south of Manukau Heads, 20/6/54–11/7/54, 13; 7th and 22/8/54, none. (V.M.R.)

NARROW-BILLED PRION (*P. belcheri*).—Coast south of Manukau Heads, 27/6/54–22/8/54, 19. (V.M.R.)

FAIRY PRION (*P. turtur*).—Coast south of Manukau Heads, 20/6/54–22/8/54, 21. (V.M.R.) Waiuku, January-May, 1953 (three trips), 2; March-June, 1954 (four trips), one. (S.C.R.) Mt. Maunganui coast, 2/2/54, one quite fresh came ashore alive the previous night. (M.H.)

Between Wellington Heads and Tory Channel, Cook Strait, 12/10/53, few; 17/5/54, none. (H.L.S.)

FLESH-FOOTED SHEARWATER (*Puffinus carneipes*).—Hauraki Gulf, several trips, Jan.-April, 1954, always seen, usually small numbers, but c 100 off Kirita Bay, 17/1/54, and many seen near Kawau, 1/1/54 and 16/4/54. Winter records: Waiheke-Kawau and back, 19-21/6/54, one; Waiheke-Coromandel and back, 2-4/7/54, one. (A.J.G.) Between Wellington Heads and Tory Channel, Cook Strait, 12/10/53, nearly 30; 17/5/54, one. (H.L.S.) Cook Strait, 12/11/53, one seen very close to Tamahine. (R.H.D.S.).

BULLER'S SHEARWATER (*Puffinus bulleri*).—Whangaparoa Pen., flocks of up to 20 on 3/1/54 and 10/1/54, and other times during strong northerlies at Manly. (S.C.) Hauraki Gulf, several trips, Jan. and Feb., 1954, always seen but usually singly except for c 40 with flesh-footed shearwater off Kirita Bay, 17/1/54; 19-21/6/54, Clevedon-Kawau Is. and back, one, a winter record. (A.J.G.) Pukerua Bay, Wellington, 17/4/54, one dead several days; culmen, 42 mm. (H.L.S.). Okain's Bay, 10/1/54, corpse. (E.W.D., G.E.B.) New Brighton, 30/4/54, three corpses. (D.E.C.)

SOOTY SHEARWATER (*Puffinus griseus*).—Muriwai, 23/5/54, one recently ashore. (R.S.C.); 25/7/54, one about two weeks ashore (J.C.D., H.G.W.) Waiuku, Jan.-May, 1953 (three trips), two; March-June, 1954 (four trips), two. (S.C.R.) Great Barrier (en route), 16/4/54, some seen. (N.M.) Mt. Maunganui, 1/11/53, nine fresh birds ashore. (M.H.) Corpses: Birdling's Flat, 27/3/54, one; New Brighton, 8/5/54, ten; Spencer-ville, 15/5/54, one. (D.E.C.) Te Anau, 13/2/54, one in flight on Lake (confirmed by J. H. Sorensen). (N.S.). Invercargill Estuary, Awarua, 3/4/54, thousands feeding close in shore on sardines. (R.M.R.). Mole, Otago Heads, 17/4/54, large flock flying north. (D.B., L.E.W.). West End, Ulva Is., Stewart Island, 16/5/54, one young on water, could fly only about six feet. (J.W.).

SHORT-TAILED SHEARWATER (*Puffinus tenuirostris*).—Waiuku coast, 7/6/54, one dead ashore some time. (R.B.S., J.C.D.).

FLUTTERING SHEARWATER (*Puffinus gavia*).—Hauraki Gulf, several trips, also one to Whangarei, Jan.-July, 1954, always seen, usually small groups up to 40 but occasionally several hundred. (A.J.G.) Waiuku, Jan.-May, 1953, three on 13/3/53; March-June, 1954 (four trips), none. (S.C.R.). Coast south of Manukau Heads, 27/6/54-22/8/54, 11 (V.M.R.) Auckland west coast, odd birds found ashore right throughout the 1954 winter, greater numbers in August and September. (N.M., A.C.C., R.S.C., J.C.D., R.B.S.). Rangitaiki River mouth, 1/9/54, six freshly dead. (R.B.S.) Between Wellington Heads and Tory Channel, Cook Strait, 12/10/53 and 17/5/54, nearly 40 birds on former date and 25 on latter. (H.L.S.) Wellington Harb., 30/6/54, 30. (R.V.R., E.B.J.) Wellington Harb., off Queen's Wharf, 2/9/54, c 20 (E.B.J.); near Somes Is., 8/7/54, seven (R.V.R.).

HUTTON'S SHEARWATER (*P. gavia huttoni*).—Whatipu, 5/9/54, one fresh corpse found, very dirty specked under wing coverts, axillaries not white-tipped, female, wing 219, tail 71.9, culm. 36.1, tarsus 40.7 mm. (A.C.C., R.S.C.)

ALLIED SHEARWATER (*Puffinus assimilis*).—Mt. Maunganui coast, 7/11/53, one dead, about a week ashore, wing 185, culmen 25.0, grey inner webs to primaries suggest *P. a. haurakiensis*. (M.H.)

GREY PETREL (*Procellaria cinerea*).—Muriwai, 15/11/53, one ashore, wing 325, tail 116, culmen 47.3, tarsus 58.9; immature female. (J.C.D., B.D.H.).

WHITE-CHINNED PETREL (*Procellaria aequinoctialis*).—Muriwai, 23/7/54, one dead, wing 373, tail 132, culmen 51.0, tarsus 62, toe and claw 89 mm. (J.C.D., H.G.W.)

GREY-FACED PETREL (*Pterodroma macroptera*).—Fanal Is., 26/4-3/5/54, many hundreds roosting at nights and cleaning burrows; several in

burrows in daytime; no eggs. (N.M.) Whale Island, 13/5/54, many hundreds arrived at dusk and landed at night; clearing burrows. 14/5/54, vast numbers arrived from seaward from 4 p.m. till dusk, resting on water or circling overhead till dusk. Reported by P. Carter, 31/10/53; 1080 young birds taken by Maoris being half the number of previous year; some nestlings drowned in burrows and nests with egg deserted. (B.S.)

WHITE-HEADED PETREL (*Pterodroma lessoni*).—Auckland west coast, greater numbers than usual ashore during the 1954 winter, 25 birds being recorded between June 27 and the end of August between the Waikato Heads and Muriwai Beach. (J.C.D., R.B.S., N.M., V.M.R., S.C.R., R.S.C., H.G.W., A.C.C.) Coast south of Manukau Heads, 20/6/54–11/7/54, 13. (V.M.R.)

KERGUELEN PETREL (*Pterodroma brevirostris*).—West coast Auckland, the eight birds recorded during the 1954 winter will be written separately. (J.C.D., et al.) Coast south of Manukau Heads, 11/7/54, one (V.M.R.) One live bird found in St. Alban's, Christchurch, brought into Museum on 8/6/54, but died on 10/6/54, checked by R. A. Falla. (E.W.D., W.C.C.)

COOK'S PETREL (*Pterodroma cooki*).—Whangaparapara Harbour, Great Barrier Is., 29/12/53, heard coming in until 9.30 p.m. Have also heard these calls at Port Fitzroy. Thought to be this species but not sure of identity. (A.J.G.) Whangaparaoa Pen., 28/12/53, one heard over east end of Manly. (S.C.) Te Arai, 15/11/53, one corpse; 4/1/54, one corpse. (N.M.)

GREY-BACKED STORM PETREL (*Garrodia nereis*).—Waingawa River bed, Nov., 1953, corpse found. (R.H.D.S.)

WHITE-FACED STORM PETREL (*Pelagodroma marina*).—Hauraki Gulf, several trips Clevedon-Coromandel-Great Barrier Is.-Kawau Is., Dec., 1953-Jan., 1954, but seen only on 29th and 31/12/53, large numbers. Off Kawau Is., 1/1/54, one; Clevedon-Kawau Is.-Whangarei-Coromandel, trips Feb., April, June and July, 1954, none seen. (A.J.G.) On 11/7/54, one was found exhausted, Wilson St., Cambridge. (R.S.) Mt. Maunganui, 1/11/53, one; 2/12/53, one; 13/12/53, three. (M.H.)

COMMON DIVING PETREL (*Pelecanoides urinatrix*).—Muriwai, 25/7/54, two ashore. (J.C.D., H.G.W.) Muriwai, 28/8/54, two; 12/9/54, three; Piha, 21/8/54, one. (A.C.C., R.S.C.) Mt. Maunganui coast, corpses, 1/11/53, four; 28/11/53, two; 13/12/53, 23 (1 alive, 21 recent), two were young birds with down still attached in patches; 9/1/54, six half-decayed. (M.H.)

GANNET (*Sula bassana serrat*).—Off Whangarua, 28 young birds seen flying north from one to four most days, but a few days none seen. Two of latest ones had more white than normal. Previously they had not been seen to feed but this season several fed on piper. Although in deep water they took the slanting dive which is used by the adult in very shallow water. None seen to dive steeply; 16/2/54 to 31/3/54. (T.M.R.) Diving off beach, Whangaruru South; small numbers but Aug. 1954 about 30 seen feeding. (F.W.S.) Whangaparaoa Pen., one immature bird seen amongst adults on 2/1/54 and 17/1/54. (S.C.) Hauraki Gulf, 4/4/54, four juv. seen near Noises. Piha, 24/7/54, one dead with a yellow ring of plastic covered wire on its left leg. Upper Manukau, 20/8/54, 20 plus fishing in Upper Manukau above the bridge. (R.B.S.) White Is., 16/5/54, c 300 feeding offshore and distributed in small groups on different points at night; three young birds remained ashore, still being fed, and a few on wing. (B.S.) Hauraki Gulf, Feb.-June, 1954, odd young birds seen many times but three together, Whangaparaoa Passage, 16/4/54 and 19/6/54. (A. J. G.) Waiheke, 7/9/54, after violent northerly gale, many diving in front of breaching dolphins, close inshore at Arran Bay. Horuhoru. 9/9/54, early season, already 1800 adults close, 1131 nests with 158 eggs. (P.A.S.S.) Oaia, 22/9/54, 295 nests, two eggs just laid. (T.W.) Waitemata Harb., 16/1/54, one immature heading north over Rocky Bay, Waiheke. (N.M.) Mt. Maunganui, 24/4/54, one quite fresh on open coast, in juvenile plum-

age. (M.H.) Pelorus Sound, 26/6/54, c 30 (B.D.B.) Pleasant River Est., Otago, 16/4/54, one dead on beach; immature. (D.B., L.E.W.) Mole, Otago Heads, 17/4/54, one seen in flight. (D.B., L.E.W.) Karitane, Otago, 26/8/53, two fishing along coast. (J.W.)

BLACK SHAG (*Phalacrocorax carbo*)—Kopane, Manawatu, 4/11/53, five in flight at 5 a.m., very windy, birds flew within 50ft. of where I stood. (E.D.)

PIED SHAG (*Phalacrocorax varius*). — Opopo Bay, Waiheke Is., 2/7/54, rookery of 20 occupied nests, 10 birds sitting or brooding, 16 young seen. (A.J.G.) Not uncommon in the Upper Manukau in the winter. (R.B.S.) Te Koutu Lake, Cambridge, 14/2/54, one seen, alongside black shag, also seen April, one seen May, 1952. (R.S.) Picton, 10/7/54; c 28; Wairau Bar, 13/2/54, 20. (B.D.B.) Waipara River mouth, 4/4/54, 12. (D.E.C.)

LITTLE BLACK SHAG (*Phalacrocorax sulcirostris*). — Whangaroa Harb., not uncommon, 1953-54. (T.M.R.) Maraetai, Auckland, 22/8/54, 15 in close party (M.d'A.) Auckland, pair in Ponsonby Boat Harbour throughout the winter; 3/9/54, one still present. (P.A.S.S.) Matata Lagoon, 1/9/54, one (R.B.S.); 1/6/54, 9 (M.d'A.) 20/7/54, Whakatane Heads, 5, the usual number; 8/8/54, c 20 in close party on a rock (C.D.B. K.B.) L. Rotomahana, 31/8/54, two. (R.B.S.) Lowry Bay, 13/3/54, one (E.B.J.)

WHITE-THROATED SHAG (*Phalacrocorax melanoleucos brevirostris*).—Parengarenga Harb., 7/6/54, off Te Hapua and on a shell-bank south of Te Pua Pt., c 50 and 40-50 pied phase. (H.R.McK. ea al.) Pakiri River, 18/7/54 to 24/8/54, one. (A.G.G.) Western Springs, Auckland, 2/5/54, 27 counted together with seven large piers and five large blacks. (S.G.) The Sisters, Waiheke Passage, 10/1/54, 18 nests counted in low coprosma bushes contained the following: one egg, three nests; two eggs, three nests; one chick, one nest; two chicks, six nests; three young, three nests. (P.A.S., N.M., G.J.H.M., J.C.D.) Raglan Harb., east side, c nine and one pied phase. (C.P. et al.) Aotea Harb., 19/4/54, c 20 and two pied phase, one of which had large areas of white on upper shoulders of wings. (C.R.B. et al.) Kawhia Harb., 23/7/54, 20 plus and three pied phase. Several had white down to lower neck. (H.R.McK. et al.) Tauranga: Omukaroa and Mutahoa Is., 28/4/54, estimate 800 to 1000 shags roost here at night, of which white-throated greatly predominate; count of 580 flying in from northern end of harbour shore. (B.S.)

SPOTTED SHAG (*Phalacrocorax (Stictocarbo) punctatus punctatus*). Whatarangi, Palliser Bay, 9/10/54, four immature. (R.H.D.S., J.M.C.) Wairau Bar, 13/2/54, c 80. (B.D.B.) Invercargill Est.; 29/5/54, Clifton, one. (R.M.R.) Pahia, Southland, 9/8/54, on a rocky bastion off coast, 35 birds, with groups of two and three flying in until there were 58. (O.S.)

BLUE SHAG (*Phalacrocorax (Stictocarbo) punctatus steadi*).—Ulva Island, Stewart Island, 31/12/53, nine on rocks; North Arm, Paterson Inlet, Stewart Is., 2/1/54, eight; Ulva Island, Stewart Is., 5/1/54, four. (J.W.)

STEWART ISLAND SHAG (*Phalacrocorax (Leucocarbo) carunculatus*).—Otago Heads, 17/4/54, five seen and four bronze phase. (D.B., L.E.W.)

WHITE HERON (*Egretta alba*).—Rangaunu Bay, 9/9/54, eight about lower reaches. (H.W.W.) Houhora, 4/6/54, two; Rangaunu Bay, 3-4/6/54, seven; Mangonui, 3/6/54, one. (J.P. et al.) Rangaunu Harb., reported from Mr. E. Walker, 22/3/54, one; 29/5/54, five; 2/6/54, five; 4/6/54, seven; 1/7/54, eight; 13/7/54, nine; and 26/7/54, ten. Waipu Cove, 3/4/53 one reported. (H.G.W.) Whitford, near Auckland, 25/5/54, one by Whitford Bridge. (C.D.B., K.B.) Matata Lagoon, Bay of Plenty, 1/6/54, one. (M.d'A.) one from 20/6/54-1/10/54 (B.S.); 1/9/54, one. (R.B.S.) Waitohi, Bay of Plenty, 4/5/54, Mrs. H.R.McK. saw one near road. (H.R.McK.) Opotiki, local paper reported one seen on the banks of the Waitohi River during May, one was also seen there in early Septem-

ber. (K.C.B.C.). Lake Rotorua (Hamurana), 27/5/54; single bird reported; Ohinemutu, 5/6/54, one seen fishing near Sound Shell; flushed and flew lakewards towards Mokoia Island. (M.S.B.) Raglan Harb., 17/4/54, one, yellow bill and slate-grey legs. (C.P. et al.) Awapuni Lagoon, Gisborne, 23/4/54, one arrived and stayed until opening of duck season 1/5/54. (D.V.M.). Gisborne, 24/5/53, three on swamp at Glencoe Settlement. (A.B.) Karetu Lake, Wairoa, H.B., 1/5/54, two reported. (R.St.P.) Ahuriri Lagoon, 29/5/54, one (G.C.C.); 25/7/54, one (D.H.B.) Himatangi Beach, 6/4/53, one flying steadily southward. (I.G.A.) Foxton, 22/8/54, one on backwater. (R.H.D.S.) Merton, Otago, 1/4/54, one (R.J.); 30/7/54, one (W.A.W.). Loudens's Gully, Milton, 9/5/54, one. (L.E.W.) Stirling, 23/5/54, two; 24/5/54, one; 25/5/54, two. (R.V.McL.) Lake Hawkins, 8/6/54, two. (O.S.)

LITTLE EGRET (*Egretta garzetta*).—Entrance to Awanui Harb., Rangaunu Bay, 9/8/54, two seen on sandspit. (H.W.W.) Rangaunu Harb., 21/8/54, two. (H.G.W.) Manukau Harb., seen near the Onehunga-Mangere Bridge on 1/3/54 and then on numerous occasions in July, August and September. (F.M.B., J.C.D., A.P., J.P., R.B.S.)

BLUE HERON (*Egretta sacra*).—One or two occasionally seen on rocks, Whangaruru South. (F.W.S.) Mangawhai, 24/9/54, one. (D.G.McM.) Kaipara Harb., 18/10/53, two nests containing three eggs and two chicks one egg respectively on Moturimu Is. (N.M.) Mouth of Pakiri River, 11/7/54, one. (A.G.G.) Auckland, not yet recorded in Upper Manukau above the bridge and scarce in the middle Manukau, but one at Puhia Bay on 20/7/54; two sometimes seen at Puketutu Causeway. (R.B.S.) Raglan Harb., 17/4/54, four, others known to be about (H.R.McK., C.P., J.C.D.). Aotea Harb., 19/4/54, 23 in flock and a few odd ones. (C.R.B. et al.) Kawhia Harb., c nine on south side, flock of twelve has been seen. (W.S.S. et al.) Whitianga Harb., 27/1/54, one darting at fish from rock; Whangamata, 29/1/54, three. (R.S.) Ohope Beach, 26/2/53, one flying eastwards. (M.S.B.) Pakarac River, East Coast, 19/1/54, two feeding on bar at river mouth. (A.B.) Ahuriri Lagoon, 29/5/54, one. (D.H.B.) Ship's Cove, Queen Charlotte Sound, 10/7/54, one. (B.D.B.) Heathcote Esty., 1954, the most previously recorded was three but this year up to seven birds were seen on several occasions in April and May. (G.G.) Waipara Mouth, 4/4/54, ten. (D.E.C.) Akaroa Harb., 28/8/54, two. (D.E.C.) Teanawaewae Point, Portobello, Otago, pair nested Sept.-Oct., 1935, two chicks hatched and reared; 6/11/53, four; 2/1/54, three; 16/4/54, two adults and one juvenile; 16/5/54, two; 27/6/54, three. (A.R.H.) Hayward's Point, Pounawea, 2/1/54, five. (D.N.F.C.)

WHITE-FACED HERON (*Notophox novaehollandiae*).—Parengaranga Harb., 5/6/54, one off Te Hapua. (H.R.McK.) Waikopu Creek, Whitford, 18/7/54, three in party feeding on mudflat; not seen here since. (M.d'A.) Clevedon, 7/2/54, one. (H.R.McK.) Weymouth, Manukau Harb., 12/6/54, one. (H.R.McK.) Raglan Harbour, 17/4/54, two (H.R.McK.). Aotea Harb., one. (H.R.McK. et al.) Kawhia Harb., at Waipuna, six in flock. (H.R.McK. et al.) Porirua Harb., 5/8/54, two. (E.B.J.) Picton, 25/9/54, four; Blenheim, Oct. 1954, pair nesting in pine, High Street Bridge; Narrows, Wairau River, 26/10/53, three feeding in subsidiary streams; Kaikoura Pen., 5/12/53, three on south coast. (B.D.B.) Heathcote Esty., July, 1954, about 14 seen together. (E.W.D.) Tengawai River, Albury, South Canterbury, 8/5/54, five. (P.W.) Waitati, Otago, 25/3/54, nine on mudflats. (M.B.) Portobello, two to seven seen between 16/4/54 and 17/7/54. (A.R.H.). Golden Bay, Stewart Island, 15/5/54, one. (J.W.) Invercargill Esty., Awarua, 3/4/54, 23. (R.M.R.) Awarua Bay, 12/6/54, 15. (N.S., R.M.R.)

BITTERN (*Botaurus stellaris poiciloptilus*).—Kawakawa River, Taumarere, two pairs. (D.G.McM.) Clevedon, 16/1/54–24/2/54, seven reported from different areas mostly away from water; easily caught, so perhaps moulting or young birds driven from drought-shrunken swamps by older ones. (H.R.McK.) Lake Rotorua, 15/9/54, pair wading offshore in front of Queen Elizabeth Hospital, one usually seen here for greater

part of the year. (M.S.B.) Gisborne, 8/11/53, three on swamp at Glen-coe, Patutahi. (A.B.) Awapuni Stream, Gisborne, 24/4/54, one on roadside. (D.V.M.) Palmerston North, Hokowhitu Lagoon, 16/5/52, one flying; raupo since been much reduced. (I.G.A.) Te Moana, South Canterbury, 26/1/54, four young, one was caught and wing span measured 36 inches. (L.E.W.) Milford, South Canterbury, 5/1/54, one (L.E.W.) Oreti River, Mossburn, April, 1954, one in flight reported by Mr. Robb (P.W.D.)

GLOSSY IBIS (*Plegadis falcinellus*).—Berwick, Otago, 21/1/54, on north margin of Lake Waihola, S.F. ranger, Mr. Cruttwell reported three birds. (O.S.) Lake Hawkins, Invercargill, 9/6/54, seven; 10/6/54, none. (O.S.)

ROYAL SPOONBILL (*Platalea leucorodia regia*).—Wharekea, opposite sandspit at entrance to Rangaunu Bay, one seen by Mr. C. Leith; seems to go about with shags (H.W.W.) Foxton Beach, June, 1954, seven reported to be present again (K.C.B.C.); 31/5/54, five. (H.W.A., M.F.G.S.)

CANADA GOOSE (*Branta canadensis*).—Castle Rock, Lumsden, May 1954, Mr. L. S. Gilkison reported a flock of twelve landing on his property for a short time. (N.S.) Cass, 22/10/53, two pairs, one with nest. (E.W.D.) Kaituna, abundant on lakeside, 15/8/54 (E.W.D., W.C.C., G.E.B.) Queens-town, 16/4/54, nine on Lake Wakatipu. (K.J.W.M.)

MUTE SWAN (*Cygnus olor*).—Lake Pupuke, 26/8/54, seven on lake. (D.M.) Near Matamau, 31/7/54 two; near Pukehou, nine. (E.B.J.) Tomahawk, Dunedin, 15/5/54, nine seen, eight in flight. (D.N.F.C.) Vauxhall, Dunedin, 24/12/53, six in flight over harbour. (L.E.W.)

BLACK SWAN (*Cygnus atratus*).—N. Wairoa River, Aratapu, pair seen. (E.H.M.) Lake Pupuke, 25/8/54, nest containing two eggs found while there were two family groups on the lake containing two and three cygnets respectively; on 26/8/54 22 black swans counted. (D.M.) Lake Rotorua, Sulphur Bay, 10/2/54, c. 240, a record for this locality; flock included c. 10 cygnets in down and c 60 immature birds. (M.S.B. et al.) Muriwai, Gisborne, 26/6/54, c. 350 on lagoon, frequently seen in considerable numbers offshore beyond breakers. (A.B.) Kaituna, 15/8/54, extremely abundant. (E.W.D., W.C.C., G.E.B.) Timaru Lagoon, 8/8/54, several hundreds. (K.J.W-M.) Lake Waihola, 21/4/54, c 30 seen; Timaru 23/10/54, c. 300 seen (K.J.M-M.) Te Anau Downs, 8/1/54, three flew in and landed on harbour. (N.S.) Awarua Bay, 12/6/54, 200 plus. (N.S., R.M.R.) Caerhowel Arm, Paterson Inlet, Stewart Is., 19/1/54, six. (J.W.)

PARADISE DUCK (*Tadorna variegata*).—Matata Lagoon, 23/5/54, five, of which four were female. (B.S.) Matata, 1/6/54, nine. (M.d'A.); 26/6/54, five drakes and three ducks, some reliably reported shot here in 1947. (C.D.B.) Minginui, Sept.-Oct., 1953, a pair seen three times. (R.St.P.) Waimangu, 29/12/53, pair on brackish pond near tearooms. (D.P., M.S.B.) Waerenga-o-kuri, Gisborne, 2/5/54, flock of five including three drakes on H. Y. Litchfield's property; H.L.Y. has had his property declared a sanctuary and these ducks and all other birds are protected. (H.Y.L., M.S.B.) Muriwai, Gisborne, 24/1/54, c 50 on swamp, Young Nick's Head; breeds freely on Hangaroa and Ruakituri rivers. (A.B.) Lake Taupo, Roto-ngaio Lagoon, 22/4/54, four pairs. (F.M.B.) Ahuriri Lagoon, 13/2/54, three pairs; 31/7/54, one pair (D.H.B.) Headwaters of Ngaruroro River, Jan., 1954, male, female and young. (D.A.B.) Te Anau, west shore, 25/12/53, pair with seven ducklings two or three days old; three weeks later only six ducklings; Eglington Valley, 8/1/54, two pairs; Burwood Station, 12/3/54, forty; Lynwood Station, 12/3/54, 18; Lake Mintaro, Milford Track, 14/3/54, four; Arthur Valley, Milford Track, 15/3/54, several; Milford Sound, 17/3/54, four; Upper Hollyford, 18/3/54, one pair; Lake Hawkins, Invercargill, 29/4/54, 14. (N.S.)

GREY TEAL (*Anas gibberifrons*).—Lake Rotorua, near Golf Course, 1/3/54, flock of five, 8/6/54, one duck two drakes; Sulphur Bay, 15/4/54, pair, no evidence of breeding nor having bred. (M.S.B.) Waimangu, Crater Lake, near tearooms, 5/1/54, pair possibly breeding but not evident.

(M.S.B., D.P.). Lake Rotomahana, Estuary Waimangu Stream, 29/12/53, c 35. (D.P., M.S.B.) Lake Rotomahana, Estuary Waimangu Stream, 2/7/54, c 7. (F.E.G., M.S.B.) Picnic Point, Lake Rotorua, 21-27/1/54, 10 to 15 daily; 1-2/9/54, two pairs; Waimangu Stream, L. Rotomahana, 24/1/54, 7; 31/8/54, 6 pairs; small pool beside road to Waimangu, 31/8/54, pair. (R.B.S.)

BROWN DUCK (*Anas castanea chlorotis*).—Otaika River, Whangarei, 3/6/54, a pair and one thought to be a young male, seen from main road. (J.P., H.R.McK.). Waipu, 26/10/53, 15 adults, 7 ducklings. (N.M.)

GREY DUCK (*Anas superciliosa*).—Auckland, from 7/4/54 to 1/5/54 large flights of up to 50 birds seen flying over Seaview Road in an easterly direction each evening. (S.C.) Lake Rotorua, off Ngapuna shore, 1/3/54, estimated count of two large rafts, 100 and 150, disturbed by poachers and disappeared following day. (M.S.B. et al.). Te Koutu Lake, Cambridge, 28/2/54, 130; 13/3/54, 640, dabchick swimming close among them; 20/6/54, 100. (R.S.). Milford Sound, 16/3/54, 13. (N.S.) Awarua Bay, 12/6/54, 14. (N.S., R.M.R.)

MALLARD (*Anas platyrhynchos*).—Palmerston North, Hokowhitu Lagoon, many April-May, 14/5/54, c. 400, and Fitzroy Memorial Park, 16/5/54, c 250. (I.G.A.) Barry's Bay, Akaroa, 29/8/54, 12. (D.E.C.)

NEW ZEALAND SHOVELER (*Anas rhynchositis variegata*).—Miranda, 4/7/54, two pairs, the drakes not quite in full plumage. (H.R.McK. et al.). Matata, 4/8/54, 30 in flock in canal; 12/9/54, three drakes and two ducks. (M.d'A., C.D.B.). Matata Lagoon, 23/5/54, 44. (B.S.) Hanu-rana, Lake Rotorua, 24/6/54, c 30 feeding in weedy shallows; Whaka Stream Estuary, Rotorua, 15/3/54, pair. (M.S.B.) Invercargill Esty., at Clifton, 10/4/54, seven; 8/5/54, 35. (R.M.R.)

BLUE DUCK (*Hymenolaimus malacorhynchos*).—Minginui, via Rotorua, 19/4/54, one in the upper Whirinaki River; this area has been shot out. (R.St.P.). Rakauora, Gisborne, Nov., 1953, three permanent residents on tributary of Waipaoa River but do not seem to increase; five seen in one party on upper Waioka River, Feb., 1953, plus two other pairs. (A.B.) Headwater of Ngaruroro River, Jan., 1954 (D.A.B.). Tutakuri River, near track to Kaweka Hut, 1/8/54, reported by Mr. N. K. Flockton of Napier. (D.H.B.) Mingha River, 26/10/53, one. (R.A.E.) Olivine River, Otago, 22/2/54 and 23/2/54, two; 1/3/54, one; Routeburn Valley, Otago, 4/3/54, two; Orari Gorge, South Canterbury, 5/6/54, two. (B.W.C.) Pompolona Hut, Milford Track, Feb., 1954, three. (A.C.P.) Clinton River, Milford Track, 13/3/54, pair; Pompolona Huts, Milford Track, 14/3/54, pair preening beside stream running into Clinton River. (N.S.)

N.Z. SCAUP (*Aythya novaeseelandiae*).—Lake Rotorua, Sulphur Bay, 26/3/54, c nine, vanguard of usual winter flock that assembles near Ward Baths; 21/6/54, c 350 (maximum); 31/7/54, c 180; 19/9/54, c 45. By October 1st all breeding birds will have dispersed. A small coterie from 7 to 16 individuals, comprising mostly immatures and a few unmated adults, remain throughout the summer months. (M.S.B.) Queenstown, 18/12/53, 56. (T.S.) Queenstown, 16/4/54, 54, c 50 on Lake Wakatipu (K.J.W-M.). Te Anau, late Dec., 1953, and Jan., 1954, six to eight frequented lake shore at township; 18/6/54, thirty plus. (N.S.)

HARRIER (*Circus approximans*).—Minginui, 1953-54, one to four daily; none seen on high country. (R.St.P.)

N.Z. FALCON (*Falco novaeseelandiae*).—Rotorua, 3/4/54, large bird, probably female, flying over my property, Tarewa Road, towards Ngongotaha Mountain; 17/4/54, Clayton Road, sitting on power pole, probably same bird. (M.S.B.) Minginui, 1953-54, one or two frequently, punishing pigeons badly. (R.St.P.) Tutamoe Station, Tolaga Bay, 24/2/54, pair with young two or three weeks old; nest against log on hillside. (A.B.) Wellington, 10/5/54, a small young falcon on top of a Harbour Board shed being mobbed by yellowhammers. Pigeons were flying in alarm for no apparent reason and at great speed which attracted my attention. The

falcon looked no bigger than a morepork and was beautifully marked on the breast and tail. It yawned and flexed its left foot and claws but on being frightened by a passing motorist, it dropped over the far side of the shed. Body was found later by the same shed "D" and skeleton secured. (R.V.R.) Teme River, Avon Valley (Waihopi watershed), 7/5/54, one. (B.D.B.) Orari, 8/8/54, pair; The Gums, 9/3/54, one; Clinton, 21/4/54, one; Henley, 21/4/54, one; Gore-Invercargill, 9/6/54, three; Jollics, 14/4/54, one. (K.J.W.-M.)

BROWN QUAIL (*Synois ypsilophorus*).—Minginui, 1953-54, small numbers, being slowly killed out by cats, stoats and bush hawks, not so wary as the Californian quail. (R.St.P.)

PHEASANT (*Phasianus colchicus*).—Clevedon, 14/10/53, nest three eggs under dead gorse on roadside; 27/10/53, bird started sitting, 10 eggs; 14/11/53, nest deserted. (A.J.G.) Whakatane, 10/6/54, one all white cock bird with one ring-necked cock and four hens. (C.D.B.)

CALIFORNIAN QUAIL (*Lophortyx californica*).—Whangaruru South, occasionally heard or seen, small flock of 8 or so. (F.W.S.) Whangaparaoa Pen., 14/1/54, a pair of adults with 12 young seen east end of Manly. (S.C.) Rotorua, Government Gardens, 1953-54 season, 3 or 4 pairs breeding; tame and feral cats take heavy toll of chicks; rats and stoats also present; largest broods to reach adolescent stage of recent years, one of five and one of seven birds; average would be three or four. Atiamuri-Orakei Korako, 1/6/52, observed coveys of 20, 13 and 9 besides many singles, twos and threes. (M.S.B.) Minginui, 1953-54, quite plentiful and has had a very good breeding season here, many apparently bred twice. (R.St.P.) Whakatane, winter, 1954, flock of c 70 in borough area. (C.D.B.) Ashburton River, 9/1/54, pair with 9-10 young in willow thickets. (A.B.)

N.Z. BANDED RAIL (*Rallus philippensis*).—Three seen in swamp Taumarere, Kawa Kawa River, one on road near Kawa Kawa (D.G.McM.) Karaka shellbank, 14/10/53, one chick by drain; Clevedon, 1953-54, seen fairly often. (A.J.G.) Auckland, 19/11/53, nest six eggs in grounds of the Middlemore Hospital. (R.B.S.) Welcome Bay, Tauranga, 4/8/54, two feeding on mudflat. (C.D.B.) Gisborne, 24/5/53, one in raupo swamp at Glencoe, Patutahi. (A.B.)

NORTH ISLAND WEKA (*Gallirallus australis greyi*).—Gisborne, 1953-54, very common and apparently increasing in area bounded by Uawa River north, Muriwai south and Otoko west. Slight tendency to extend restricted area observed and reported recently, especially N.-W. and S.-W. limits. Following breeding table carefully noted and reported by Mr. C. B. Burland, Patutahi: June, 1953, 4 hatched, 3 reared. August, 1953, 2 hatched, 2 reared. November, 1953, 3 hatched, 3 reared. March, 1954, 2 hatched, 1 reared. June, 1954, 3 hatched, 2 reared. All from one pair near the house. Both birds feed young until adult brownish feathers appear and then both, especially male, attack young birds and drive them away. One young bird remained after maturity and assisted to feed the next clutch for about two weeks. (A.B.) Patutahi, Gisborne, 24/5/54, four young hatched today from pair which have brooded several times during year. (J.M.M.) Gisborne, 5/8/52, nest found with three eggs, also observed two chicks on 2/9/53, and another nest with two eggs reported by Mr. P. Benson, Ormond, on 10/9/54. (D.V.M.)

WESTERN WEKA (*Gallirallus australis australis*).—Milford Track, 13/3/54, pair fed by guide at Mid-way Hut, Clinton Valley; 14/3/54, bird heard near Lake Mintaro. These are the only wekas left in valley after an invasion of stoats last year. The guide reports killing large numbers of stoats. (N.S.) Glade House, Lake Te Anau, Feb., 1954, two seen and one heard calling. (A.C.P.)

STEWART ISLAND WEKA (*Gallirallus australis scotti*).—Ulva Is., Stewart Island, 16/1/54, three on beach. (J.W.)

EASTERN WEKA (*Gallirallus australis hectori*).—Commonly seen in bracken country, Chatham Is., Jan., 1954. (E.W.D.)

MARSH CRAKE (*Porzana pusilla*).—Tokaanu, 20/1/54, one walked across road near jetty. (R.B.S.) Hastings, early March, one caught by cat in Karamu Stream (F.R.R.) Birds seen during duck-shooting season by Mr. F. Robinson, of Taradale, on Te Roto Kare, a small lake between Taradale and Fernhill, identified as this species, and included both adults and and at least one half-grown young. (D.H.B.) Near Dunedin, 28/6/54, one watched for an hour (A.C.P., L.E.W.); 18/7/54, one seen again at same place (A.C.P.); 11/7/54, one seen near Dunedin (M.L.J.). Ohai, 6/5/54, one found dead below power pole; the taxidermist who mounted it said it had a "broken skull above beak." (O.S.)

PUKEKO (*Porphyrio melanotus*).—Aratapu, Dargaville, 20/9/54, plentiful. (E.H.M.) Fanal Island, 30/4/54, one corpse, had been eaten by harrier. (N.M.) Moumoukai Valley, Hunua, rapid increase seems to coincide with decrease in wild ducks. (D.N.L.) Kaitoke Lake, Wanganui, 19/6/54, two with pure white wings (H.W.A.) Whakaronu, Palmerston N., 8/1/54, c 30 in stagnant floodwater. (I.G.A.) New Brighton district, 1954, still abundant in swamps. (E.W.D.) Between Stirling and Lovell's Flat, Otago, 19/5/54, about 150 on tussock swamp-land by railway line. (J.W.) Greatly increased in numbers at the Chatham Islands, commonly seen, January, 1954. (E.W.D.)

PIED OYSTERCATCHER (*Haematopus ostralegus finschi*).—Wainui Inlet, Kaipara, 11/10/53, c 24 sunning. (R.B.S., D.A.U. J.C.D.). Upper Manukau, 22 summered; c 200 wintered between Terarata Creek and Puketutu Causeway; 22/8/54, c 110. (R.B.S., F.M.B.). Firth of Thames, 21 summered, 180 plus by 31/1/54, 400 plus wintered. (H.R.McK. R.B.S., et al.) Clevedon River mouth, 25/10/53, three; 24/1/54-30/5/54, four. (A.J.G.) Whakatane Heads, 1954, winter, one with party of black. (M.d'A., K.B., C.D.B.) Bay of Plenty, Bowentown Shellbank, 17/11/53, five; 4/12/53, six; 28/2/54, 15, and in addition 12 pied birds too distant for identification; 21/8/54, 22. (B.S.) Raglan Harb., 17/4/54, two. (C.P., J.C.D., H.R.McK.) Aotea Harb., 19/4/54, 38. (C.R.B. et al.) Kawhia Harb., 23/7/54, 98 plus. (H.R.McK. et al.) Heathcote Esty., reached a peak of about 6,000 birds, 17/4/54. (G.G.) Large numbers at the north Canterbury river mouths and scattered along the beaches, feeding on small bivalves, throughout 1953-54. (E.W.D.) Waipara Mouth, 4/4/54, five. (D.E.C.) Karitane, Otago, 23/8/53, 72 on spit. (J.M.) Otago Harb., flights of 10, 8 and 12 flying eastward from Otago Harbour to sea coast. Jan., Feb. and March, and groups of 10, 10 and 40 plus flying westward in May. Groups of 40 plus at Otakou and mid-harbour banks, in March and April. (A.R.H.) At mouth of Upukarora, Te Anaū, 29/12/53, four; Eglinton Valley, 8/1/54, four pairs but none to be seen 14/2/54. (N.S.) Mātaura Island Bridge, 16/1/54, twelve. (O.S.) At Moko Moko Spit, Invercargill Estuary, 3/4/54, 200 plus. (R.M.R.) Cow Island, Awarua Bay, 12/6/54, 60 plus and groups of four to eight at other parts of bay. (R.M.R., N.S.) Dipton, 17/7/54, pair about to nest; on shingle at Oreti River, Benmore, 17/7/54, pair about to nest. (R.M.R.)

NORTHERN OYSTERCATCHER (*Haematopus unicolor reischeki*). One or two occasionally seen, Whangaruru South. (F.W.S.) Manukau Harb., one seen at Tararata Creek in 13/10/53, and on 29/12/53, one at Puketutu on 5/6/54. (R.B.S.) Miranda coast, one throughout the summer; immature breeder? (R.B.S.) Whitianga, Buffalo Beach, 26/1/54, pair of black, pink legs; one pied, grey legs, a few flecks on upper breast; sitting on outer edge of flock of gulls. Cook's Beach, 27/1/54, several pairs, two pure pied, white on wing; one pied with a black having streakings on belly, no white on wings; one with streaky belly and chest but having white on wings, running along with another with streaky chest and thighs, but no white on wings; scraping to each other and chasing. All had pink legs; only the pure pied had white above the tail. Buffalo Beach, 28/1/54, four pure black, three pied, two with grey legs, one pink; digging sideways for shells. Whangamata, 30/1/54, pair of black on estuary, also one pied and one black, the black was not such a jet colour as the back view of the pied; three black along Ocean Beach. (R.S.) Whakatane Heads, 1954,

winter flock up to 35, 33 black phase and two pied phase. It has been noted that c 17, all black, feed on outer rocks, while the others feed on mudflats in harbour. (M.d'A., K.B., C.D.B.). Whakatane Harb. rocks, 1/9/54, 23, mostly black but at least two smudgily pied. (R.B.S.) Aotea Harb., 19/4/54, one, with 38 South Island pied. (C.R.B. et al.). Ship's Cove and vicinity, Queen Charlotte Sound, 10/7/54, two pairs. (B.D.B.)

BLACK OYSTERCATCHER (*Haematopus unicolor*).—Ohope Beach, 26/2/53, a pair feeding at low tide at water's edge, near camping ground. (M.S.B.) Rangitaiki River mouth, 1/4/54, one; Whakatane, 21/3/54, 10 on rocks at harbour entrance; Whangapoua River mouth, East Coast, 24/3/54, two; Hicks Bay, 25/3/54, nine; Tolaga Bay, 26/3/54, one. (A.J.G.) Muriwai, Gisborne, 24/1/54, pair with one young bird about three weeks old. (A.B.) Kawhia Harb., 23/7/54, two. (H.R.McK., et al.) Palliser Bay, 9/10/54, one at Hamenga, two at Pararaki. (R.H.D.S., J.M.C.) St. Leonard's, 12/3/54, 9 or 10 in flight; Katiki, 2/6/54, three. (K.J.W-M.) Heathcote Estuary, 17/4/54, two in flock of 600 pied. (G.G.) Brighton, Otago, 30/5/54, six (M.L.J.) Taieri Mouth, Otago, 20/4/54, five (D.B., L.E.W.) Ocean Beach, Stewart Island, 5/1/54, pair with two downy chicks; Butterfield's Beach, Stewart Island, pair nesting; Horseshoe Bay, Stewart Island, 14/1/54, pair with three almost fully fledged chicks. (J.W.) Pounawea, Cannibal Bay, 31/1/54, two; Wiltshire Bay, 16/1/54, two; Hayward's Point, 20/1/54, three. (D.N.F.C.)

SPUR-WINGED PLOVER (*Lobibyx novae-hollandiae*).—Mataura Is. Bridge, 16/1/54, two; Lake Hawkins, 16/1/54, five. (O.S.) Lake George, near Colac Bay, 7/6/54, eight in flight. (R.M.R.) Awarua Bay, 12/6/54, two in flight. (R.M.R., N.S.) Near Oreti River at Caroline, Dipton, 20/7/54, two. (W.F.C.) Fosbender's, New River Ferry, 20/7/54, 20; 30/7/54, 19. (O.S.) Estuary, Invercargill, 10/12/53, 17 on riverbank. (L.E.W.)

GOLDEN PLOVER (*Charadrius dominicus*).—Parengarenga Harb., 7/6/54, one seen closely flying; two others a little distant; other birds further away thought to be this species; very few recorded as wintering in New Zealand. (H.R.McK.) Manukau Harb., Puketutu Causeway, five on 12/3/54. (R.B.S.) Clevedon, 12/3/54, three with dotterel on my farm. (G.K.McK.) Ahuriri Lagoon, 24/1/54, several seen, about 12 thought to be present. (D.H.B., D.A.B.) Ahuriri Lagoon, 13/2/54, eleven. (D.H.B.)

BANDED DOTTEREL (*Charadrius bicinctus*).—Ascot, Mangere, Auck., 7/4/54, 600 plus. (R.B.S.) Clevedon, 21/12/53, first seen c 60 on my farm; 10/1/54, 40 on neighbour's farm; 31/1/54, c 160 on my farm and two adjoining farms; 20/6/54, 60; 1/7/54, 120; 23/8/54, 40 on neighbour's farm and 20 on mine; 6/9/54, 12; 10/9/54, none. (G.K.McK.) Buffalo Beach, 28/1/54, nine by creek. (R.S.) Sulphur Bay, Lake Rotorua, 10/8/54, 4 or 5 pairs, full breeding plumage preparing to nest on silica flats. (M.S.B. et al.) Thornton, 1/9/54, two pairs on flooded paddock. (R.B.S.) Rangitaiki River mouth, 26/6/54, 50 plus in winter flock; 12/9/54, four nests found, three, three, three and two eggs. (M.d'A., C.D.B.) Tauranga, during Oct. and Nov., 1953, three or four pairs on territory and evidently breeding along the ocean beach. On the Matapihi mudflats, one seen for first time for some months on 28/12/53; 1/1/54, c 40; 17/1/54, 65; 27/2/54, 150-200; after this date only small irregular numbers right throughout the winter, viz., 3/4/54, one; 1/5/54, eight; 12/6/54, six; 12/7/54, 15; 24/7/54, one. (M.H.) Waiotahi River, Bay of Plenty, 22/3/54, two; Whangapoua River mouth, East Coast, 24/3/54, 18; Waiapu River mouth, 26/3/54, six. (A.J.G.) Muriwai, Gisborne, 1/11/53, one pair and one immature (no band) and three eggs scattered on mud-flat below high water mark. (D.V.M.) Headwaters of Ngaruroro River, Jan., 1954, adults with young. (D.A.B.) Ahuriri Lagoon, 1/1/54, a number roughly estimated at 50, adults in breeding plumage and juvenile birds; 24/1/54, large numbers again seen, about 50% juvenile birds. (D.H.B.) Palmerston North, Manawatu River shingle bed, 26/9/53, five, and seen on every subsequent visit till 28/2/54, but only one most times after 29/1/54; returned between 17/5/54 and 11/7/54; not nesting; high-

est number seen, 24/7/54, 13. (I.G.A.) Extremely common and breeding, "Narrows," Wairau River, nest found 21/10/53. (B.D.B.) Lake Ellesmere, 27/12/53, 21 juveniles, one adult male. (E.W.D., W.C.C.) Kaituna, 10/1/54, one adult male. (E.W.D., G.E.B.) Te Anau, Upukarora River, 29/12/53, 20 plus. (N.S.) Invercargill Estuary, 16/1/54, ten; Lake Hawkins, 16/1/54, 40 plus in flight over ploughed field; Awarua Bay (Joey's Island), 5/6/54, 23 (O.S.).

LARGE SAND DOTTEREL (*Charadrius leschenaulti*). — Miranda, Firth of Thames, one seen 26/10/53, 29/11/53 and 24/1/54. (H.R.McK.)

NEW ZEALAND DOTTEREL (*Charadrius obscurus*). — Kaipara South Head, 11/10/53, four seen (D.A.U., J.C.D., R.B.S.) Pakiri Beach, 18/7/54-21/8/54, four pairs seen on sand dunes (A.G.G.) Te Arai Beach, 23/7/54, four pairs within first mile of beach, seen again on 5/8/54 keeping very close to territories. (A.G.G., H.R.McK.) Tamaki Estuary, Auckland, 10/7/54, one. (F.M.B.) Matakaitai, Clevedon, 17-18/3/54, six seen after long absence from this old haunt; they did not stay; none had rings. (H.R.McK.) Kaiaua, Firth of Thames, 1953-54, found throughout in varying numbers up to nine; nest, three eggs hatched; chicks ringed; two survived to fly. (H.R.McK. et al.) Whitianga, 27/1/54, three, Cook's Beach, two flew calling inland towards inlet, later three or four on beach. (R.S.) Awarua Bay, 12/6/54, two (N.S., R.M.R.) Mt. Rakiwha, Stewart Island, 19/1/54, two with one chick on summit, Cacrhowel Arm, Paterson Inlet, Stewart Is., 19/1/54, three feeding on flats. (J.W.)

N.Z. SHORE PLOVER (*Thinornis novaezeelandiae*). — Nest with clutch of three; about 20 adults seen; South East Island, Chatham Islands, February 4, 1954. (E.W.D.)

WRYBILL PLOVER (*Anarhynchus frontalis*). — Muriwai Beach, 25/2/54, 14 counted feeding at the tide edge scattered along the 14 miles covered. (J.C.D., H.G.W.) Manukau Harb., Puketutu Causeway, 6/10/53, eight still present; 22/12/53, four; 6/1/54, c 130; 29/1/54, 400 plus; 12/3/54, 600 plus; 27/3/54, c 620; midwinter numbers apparently rather fewer but difficult to assess; 22/8/54, 306; 26/8/54, c 243. (R.B.S., F.M.B. and J.C.D.) Manukau Harb., Tararata Creek, 29/12/53, seven (R.B.S.) Miranda coast, Firth of Thames, c 33 summered; 30/12/53, c 96; 21/2/54, 1500-2000; 19/4/54, 2000 plus; 20/6/54, 1500 plus, others probably at Piako; 10/9/54, 400 plus (R.B.S., H.R.McK., et al.) Pakuranga, 29/9/53, flock of c 20 flew off ploughed paddock in direction of Manukau. (N.M.)

CURLEW (*Numenius madagascariensis*).—Firth of Thames, two, first seen on 6/6/53 were still present on 20/2/54, but have not been seen since. (R.B.S., F.M.B.)

WHIMBREL (*Numenius phaeopus*).—One at Karaka in the autumn. (D.A.U.) Lyall Bay, Wellington, 20/11/48, two seen, judged by plumage to be sub-species *variegatus*. The whimbrels were not disturbed by aeroplanes of the Moth type flying low overhead from Rongotai airfield, but one crouched as though frightened when a skylark sang. They were seen chasing amphipods about the beach, presumably for food. (H.L.S.)

BAR-TAILED GODWIT (*Limosa lapponica*).—Parengarenga Harb., 7/6/54, c 400, but tally uncertain as they were wild and shy owing to much shooting; Houhora, 4/6/54, 13; Rangaunu Bay, 400 plus, uncertain tally owing to much shooting; Mr. Kaka Wiki reported c 500 wintering here. (J.P. et al.) Rangaunu Harb., 21/8/54, 1,000 plus. (H.G.W.) Howick, at Cockle Bay, 21/3/54, 9.30 to 2.30, many groups of c 200 each flying towards Manukau Harb.; at Otahuhu, 6 p.m., one group of c 60 flying east to Cockle Bay; the full tide was 9 a.m. at Auckland, so they were not taking advantage of the tidal differences on the two coasts for feeding; 28/3/54, c 350 at Cockle Bay; 11/4/54, six, reported by R. J. Edwards. (H.R.McK.) Clevedon, 29/8/53, 84, all pale; owing to a high tide some settled in a wet grassed field and a few fed there by probing; 21/2/54, census of Matakaitai, Duder's and the river by eight members was c 1,440; 30% bright red; most others colouring, and a few pale; 17/3/54, 1,000 plus, nearly half were fully red; 4/4/54, 100 plus; 3/7/54, 66.

(H.R.McK. et al.) Miranda, 4/7/54, several feeding seriously in wet grassed field. (H.R.McK. et al.) Puketutu Causeway, Manukau, 600-1,000 throughout the winter. (R.B.S.) Miranda coast, F. of Thames, 800 plus wintered. (R.B.S., H.R.McK.) Raglan Harb., 17/4/54, 19, considered to be total for the harbour, not shot here, but decreased, perhaps owing to extra mud on flats from hill erosion. (C.P., J.C.D., H.R.McK.) Aotea Harb., 19/4/54, 180 plus, perhaps a few still to migrate, some shot here. (C.R.B., J.P., A.P., J.C.D., H.R.McK.) Kawhia Harb., 23/7/54, c 110, thought to be winter total, reported to be several thousands in summer, not shot here. (W.S.S., J.C., J.S.M., H.R.McK.) Whitianga, Buffalo Beach, 3/3/54, 27 at mouth of creek; Tauranga. Bowentown Shellbank, 25/10/53, estimated from 3,500 to 4,000 birds; 3/12/53, c 2,000; 24/12/53, 2,500/3,000; 17/4/54, c 300; 27/4/54, 250/300 estimate; 18/8/54, 160 (B.S.) Tauranga, by 6/12/53 the wintering flock at the Sulphur Point roost had increased to c 350, remained the same until a sudden increase to c 600 on 6/1/54, on 28/1/54 had increased to c 1000, and this large flock was noticed regularly up till Feb. 24; 10/3/54, c 200; 20/4/54, still c 200; 19/6/54, c 70 largest count since the beginning of the winter. (M.H.) Gisborne, 1/11/53, 35 on Awapuni Lagoon and 11 at Muriwai Lagoon. (D.V.M.) Ahuriri Lagoon, 1/1/54, c 180; 24/1/54, flock of 100-200 seen in flight; 13/2/54, c 140 (D.H.B.) Foxton, 31/5/54, 40 wintering. (H.W.A.) Heathcote Estuary, Christchurch, wintering godwit have been seen frequently this year (G.G., E.W.D.); 17/5/54, c 600 birds, with none in nuptial plumage. (G.G.) Harrington Point, Otago Harb., 22/5/54, two (M.B.) Harwood Flats, Otago Harb., 28/11/53, 99. (D.N.F.C.) Ocean Beach, Stewart Island, 5/1/54, 800 plus. (J.W.) Moko Moko Spit, Invercargill Est., 3/4/54, 280 plus. (R.M.R.) Joey's Island, Awarua Bay, 5/6/54, three separate flocks of 21 plus, 8 plus and 80 plus, in all 109 birds, a conservative estimate. (R.M.R., O.S.) Awarua Bay, 12/6/54, three separate flocks of 30 plus, 30 plus and 120 plus. (N.S., R.M.R.).

HUDSONIAN GODWIT (*Limosa limosa haemastica*). — Manukau Harb., Karaka, 26/9/54, one, and one in mid-winter, 1954. (J.C.D., R.B.S., D.A.U.).

GREENSHANK (*Tringa nebularia*).—Manukau Harbour, Puketutu Causeway, 24/5/54, three flying high and repeatedly calling. (R.B.S.)

TEREK SANDPIPER (*Xenus cinereus*).— Miranda coast, 24/1/54, one feeding on mud among banded dotterel and wrybill. (H.R.McK. et al.); 21/2/54, one leading large flight of wrybill, trilling clearly. (R.B.S., F.M.B.); 20/6/54, one feeding on mud at edge of large flock of wrybill. (R.B.S., N.M., H.G.W.)

TURNSTONE (*Arenaria interpres*).—Te Arai, 24/10/53, two (N.M.) Manukau, (a) Puketutu, 6/1/54, six; 29/1/54, c 60; 6/5/54, nine (R.B.S.) (b) Karaka, 26/9/53, 60 plus; 7/6/54, 31 (R.B.S. and J.C.D.) Miranda coast, 10 on 29/11/53, the most so far recorded on F. of Thames; 23/5/54, four (H.R.McK., R.B.S., et al.) Tauranga, Bowentown Shellbanks, 25/10/53, one seen at close range. (B.S.) Ahuriri Lagoon, 1/1/54, three; 24/1/54, two (D.H.B.) Kawakawa, Palliser Bay, 9/10/54, one much black on breast. (R.H.D.S., J.M.C.) Lyall Bay, Wellington, 24/10/54, one seen (H.L.S.) Kaikoura, rock ledges, 4/11/53, 24. (R.H.D.S.) Invercargill Estuary, 3/4/54, several flocks of 15 to 20 birds each. (R.M.R.)

KNOT (*Calidris canutus*).—Parengarenga Harb., 7/6/54, six, two being very red, others thought to be present; Rangaunu Bay, 5/6/54, four. Mr. Lupis reports 20-30 present (J.P. et al.) Karaka, Manukau, c 60 wintering on 7/6/54, 13 showing colour. (R.B.S., J.S.D.) Miranda, Firth of Thames, 400 on 23/5/54. (R.B.S.) Clevedon, 20/12/53, one very red; not stay long here. (H.R.McK.) Aotea Harb., 19/4/54, 12, one very red; Raglan, 17/4/54, none; Kawhia, 23/7/54, none seen. (H.R.McK., et al.) Gisborne, 1/11/53, one with flock of godwits, Awapuni Lagoon. (A.B.) Ahuriri Lagoon, 24/1/54, four. (D.A.B., D.H.B.) Wairau Lagoon, 3/11/53, c 27. (B.D.B., R.H.D.S.)

SIBERIAN PECTORAL SANDPIPER (*Calidris acuminata*).—Karaka, Manukau, 26/9/53, one. (R.B.S.) Miranda Pools, 14/11/53, four;

24/11/53, 15 plus; 2/12/53, 17; 21/2/54, 12 plus; 19/4/54, one. (R.B.S., H.R.McK., R.N.B. et al.) Ahuriri Lagoon, 2/1/54, 18; 13/2/54, 11. (D.H.B.)

AMERICAN PECTORAL SANDPIPER (*Calidris melanotos*).—Miranda, Firth of Thames, one seen with *Calidris acuminata* on 24/11/53, 31/1/54 and 21/2/54. (R.B.S., H.R.McK., F.M.B.)

CURLEW SANDPIPER (*Calidris ferruginea*).—Miranda, Firth of Thames, one on 14/11/53; two on 24/11/53 and 29/11/53; one in fading red plumage on 10/9/54. (R.B.S.)

RED-NECKED STINT (*Calidris ruficollis*).—Karaka, Manukau Harb., two wintered in 1953 and were still present on 21/3/54. Miranda coast, seven on 24/11/53 and 30/12/53; four on 19/4/54; one on 20/6/54 and 10/9/54. (H.R.McK., J.C.D., R.B.S., R.N.B. et al.)

PIED STILT (*Himantopus himantopus leucocephalus*).—Pakiri Ocean Beach, 11/7/54 to 21/8/54, usually c nine, greatest number seen 16; Te Arai beach, 23/7/54, 15 in creek half way along beach. (A.G.G.) Moumoukai, Clevedon, 27/1/54, 9 p.m., a number calling as they flew overhead at about 1600ft. on a line from Manukau Harb. to Firth of Thames. (J.W.StP.). Thornton, 1/9/54, several pairs on flooded paddocks (R.B.S.) Matata-Whakatane, 1954, winter population 500 plus. (C.D.B., K.B.) Tauranga, 28/11/53, seven seen for first time since end of August on the Matapihi mudflats, however often heard passing over at night; 5/12/53, c 40, increasing to 95 during Jan., 60-70 during Feb., and then dropping to c 30 which seemed to be the usual winter count. On the open coast up to 17 seen on a number of occasions during June, July and August. (M.H.) Lake Rotorua, 10/8/54, c 60 along Whaka Stream and at the estuary. (M.S.B. et al.). Horsham Downs, Hamilton, 4-14/9/54, three pairs nesting with eggs, also several immature birds about. Tauhei, Morrinsville, early Sept., flock of c 50 birds scattered over peat swamp, some showing signs of holding territory but others definitely immature birds from last season. (S.C.) Cambridge, 30/6/53, many in lake formed by rain; October, two flew over Lake Te Koutu (never seen here); December on, nesting finished, none at quarry at Roto-o-rangi, but 14 Feb. heard flying over; 19 March, two and two chicks flying over; pass through Cambridge at all times of the year; resident in spring for nesting. (R.S.) Kawhia Harb., at Waipuna, 23/7/54, 14 fully black stilts in close party with pied stilts, seen closely at rest on a rock and also flying. About one mile away was a mostly black bird with another flock of pied. Residents report odd blacks over the years but no party or flock seen. (W.S.S., J.C., J.S.M., H.R.McK.). Muriwai, Gisborne, 24/1/54, c 250 on salt swamp behind Young Nick's Head; there all winter. (A.B.) Lakes Whakaki and Keretu, 1-10/5/54, plus 100; best count 1,000 plus on L. Whakaki. (R.St.P.) Ahuriri Lagoon, 2/1/54, c 300 (est.); 24/1/54, 200-300 (est.). (D.H.B.) Karori, 21/2/52, c 10 calling at 2200, flying northward from south. (H.L.S.) Dillon's Point, Blenheim, 28/8/54, one black stilt among approx. 100 pied stilts. (B.D.B.) Ashley River, 24/10/53, clutch of four. (E.W.D.) Kaituna, 10/1/54, common. (E.W.D.) Portobello, three to four seen regularly January to July, 1954. (A.R.H.) Tomahawk, Dunedin, 15/5/54, eleven. (D.N.F.C.) Long Point, Pounawea, 15/1/54, two adults and two young. (D.N.F.C.) Upukarora River, Te Anau, 29/12/53, one. (N.S.) Maitara Island Bridge, 16/1/54, 32; Awarua Bay at Joey's Island, 5/6/54, 30. (O.S.) Awarua Bay, 12/6/54, eight (N.S., R.M.R.)

ARCTIC SKUA (*Stercorarius parasiticus*).—Hauraki Gulf, many trips, Nov., 1953-July, 1954, seen frequently, usually one or two, but highest count six, Rangitoto Channel, 19/4/54. (A.J.G.) Hauraki Gulf, 4/4/54, five or six near the Noises. (R.B.S.) Waitemata, 4/4/54, two. (N.M.) Rarimu-Whale Island area, 13/5/54, eight on wing in various phases of plumage but none very light. (B.S.)

BLACK-BACKED GULL (*Larus dominicanus*).—Ruakaka, 25/10/53, nesting colony, 40 plus nests, no eggs. (N.M.) Devonport Wharf, Auck., 2/7/54, seen sitting on pile below bright light at 7 p.m. and 10 p.m.;

16/7/54, 10 p.m., lone adult, sometimes darting to water to feed on fish attracted by the light. (H.G.W.) Lake Rotorua, 1/11/53, two pairs breeding (a) on rocks at approaches to Sulphur Bay and (b) mouth of Alum Creek, Ngapuna shore. One pair of this species has bred consistently for many years. They are a grave menace to all the lacustrine birds breeding here, especially the banded dotterels, ducks and stilts, by devouring eggs and chicks. A flock from 80-150 arriving from the coast assembles in this lake during February and March annually. (M.S.B.) Palmerston North, 14/5/54, c 400 flying along Manawatu River, 5 p.m. (I.G.A.) Colony at "Narrows," Wairau River, about 50 nests occupied 15/10/53; approx. 75 occupied and first eggs hatched, 21/10/53; breeding on rocks on south side of Kaikoura Pen. and on Riley's Rock, Goose Bay, no estimate of numbers made 5/12/53. (B.D.B.)

RED-BILLED GULL (*Larus novae-hollandiae scopulinus*).—Whangaruru South, common; 1953 nested on isolated rock at end of beach, 23 nests; visited when young should have been active but only seven there; three eggs in nests. (F.W.S.) Cavalli Island, 5-10/2/54, thousands moving south, dying of starvation; Mrs. McDonald, of the island, tried to feed them—a hopeless task. They pressed right into the house, fear conquered by hunger. (T.M.R.) Lake Rotorua, Sulphur Bay, 10/9/54, large flock c. 300 assembled on site of usual breeding ground behind Ward Baths; much activity claiming territory. The comparatively small resident population has recently been reinforced in great strength by immigrants from the sea. (M.S.B.) Breeding south side of Kaikoura Peninsula and Riley's Rock, about 500 at peninsula, no estimate of Rileys, 5/12/53. (B.D.B.)

BLACK-BILLED GULL (*Larus bulleri*).—Clevedon, 21/2/54, one, immature; 3/7/54, 11, all adult. (H.R.McK. et al.) Miranda coast, Firth of Thames, 24/1/54, one; 19/4/54 on. 250 plus; 10/9/54, c 140. (R.B.S. et al.) Lake Rotorua, Sulphur Bay, 3/8/54, first contingent of the current season's breeding colony arrived, c. 30; gradual increase in numbers, the count to date, 20/9/54, being 200 plus. As the two species of "grey backs" share the same colony there is much rivalry for the choicest nesting sites. (M.S.B.) Gisborne, 19/1/54, c 80 birds nesting with white-fronted terns on broken isolated part of old groyne in harbour; many eggs, young in all stages, some nearly fledged; nests mostly ring of pebbles, some in *danthonia* on old woodwork. (A.B., D.V.M.) Mouth of Ngaruroro River, 9/1/54, nesting colony, mostly still with eggs, but chicks of all ages seen including a few almost fully fledged. One adult bird seen with bright scarlet bill and legs, bill with slight black tip ($\frac{1}{2}$ in. or less); slender bill and wing markings of typical *bulleri* adult. (D.H.B., G.C.C.) Foxton Beach, 12/1/54, c 12 immature, probably about a year old. (R.B.S.) "Narrows," Wairau River, 12 nests occupied, about 30 birds present 15 and 21/10/53; Kahutara River mouth, 5/12/53, about 100 present, possibly breeding but not investigated owing to the presence of picnickers in area. (B.D.B.) Tengawai River, 4/11/53, c 20 nests with one egg; 12 empty in process of being built; 8/11/53; 48 nests, five with two eggs, nine with one egg, rest empty. (N.M.) Lake Ellesmere, 27/12/53, three nests in tern colony. (E.W.D., W.C.C.) Te Anau and Manapouri, Dec., 1953, Jan., 1954, thousands of birds on and about lakes feeding on a golden white moth which was prolific this season and which, incidentally, appears to have destroyed large areas of beech forest. Not one bird was seen in this area by April. (N.S.) Dipton, Oreti River, 17/7/54, flock of 400-500 selecting resting site below Benmore Bridge; Mossburn, 24/7/54, 300-400 selecting resting site at Hamilton Burn. (R.M.R.)

BLACK-FRONTED TERN (*Chlidonias albostrata*).—Mayor Island, 28/2/54, one apparently of this species seen with a flock of white-fronted tern resting on a flat rock; smaller than the latter species; grey on back and breast; darker on the wings; white forehead, black round the eyes and extending backward but not right round, top of head mottled with black; bill shorter than white-fronted and warm yellow; legs bright orange. (A.H.W.) Bay of Plenty, Matata demonstration area, 23/5/54, 22 near woolshed; 18/7/54, reported by farm manager that 14 remained through

spring and summer 1953-54, and at this date they are about the south paddocks in fair numbers. (B.S.) Matata, 12/6/54, three; 26/6/54, 60 plus flying constantly and making sudden darts to pick up food from closely-grazed sheep pasture. Mr. Hird reported c 60 there for some time and that 14 stayed right through this year. Rangitaiki River mouth, 6/6/54, 20 plus, some fishing by trailing their beaks; 26/6/54, 25 plus, beaks fully coloured, except one; 11/7/54, three; 12/9/54, three. (M.d'A., C.D.B.) Rangitaiki River mouth, Bay of Plenty, 2/4/54, 32; Waiau River mouth, Bay of Plenty, 23/3/54, one with white-fronted terns; Waiau River mouth, 26/3/54, one with white-fronted terns. (A.J.G.) Rangitaiki River mouth; 1/9/54, two in adult plumage and 13 immature. (R.B.S.) Haumoana, 18/7/54, two adults in breeding plumage seen catching insects over a ploughed paddock by Black Bridge. (D.H.B.) Hokeo Beach, Levin, 4/4/54, 14 seen accompanying large numbers of red-billed and black-backed gulls at the stream mouth, seven had dark bills and yellow legs while the other seven had bright yellow bills as well as legs; heads grey speckled; next day only two present. (A.P.) About 12 pairs breeding, "Narrows," Wairau River, two nests found 15/10/54 on exposed shingle in widely scattered colony, one egg just hatching 21/10/53. (B.D.B.) Ashley River, 24/10/53, four nests with clutch of three; hatched 8/11/53. (E.W.D.)

WHITE-WINGED BLACK TERN (*Chlidonias leucopterus*).—Manukau Harbour, 30/5/54, one in black breeding plumage at Karaka, harried by godwits. (D.A.U.)

CASPIAN TERN (*Hydroprogne caspia*).—Rangaunu Harb., 21/8/54, 150. (H.G.W.) Whangaruru South, three or four always along the shore. (F.W.S.) Tauranga, Bowentown Shellbank, 20/10/53, 66 on nests, jostled by massed godwits; Matakana Is., 26/10/53, 85 and nests with eggs 72; 31/10/53, 101; 7/11/53, 40 nestlings in down. (B.S.) Tauranga, during Sept. and Oct., 1953, large body of c 50 birds on Matapihi mudflats, disappeared through Nov., Dec. and Jan., but a breeding colony was reported on Matakana Is.; 5/6/54, c 20 at Matapihi. (M.H.) Sulphur Bay, Rotorua, 15/3/54, c 11 resting on sandspit in brackish lagoon, seven adults and four immatures; all adults in summer plumage. (M.S.B.) Ahuriri Lagoon, 13/2/54, two; 31/7/54, two. (D.H.B.)

FAIRY TERN (*Sterna nereis*).—Pakiri, 5/8/54, one seen feeding on fresh water stream; later, hearing a commotion, saw two birds apparently being chased by a red-billed gull, chattering excitedly all the time they continued to fly close together for at least seven minutes after the gull had disappeared and after this commenced fishing operations again in the stream. (A. and J.P.) Te Arai, 5/8/54, a pair about a mile along beach flew in from the south, in breeding plumage, legs and bill a clean yellow. (A.G.G., H.R.McK.) Puketutu Causeway, Manukau, 1/3/54, one, ? fairy, flying with godwits and then fishing alone, watched for some time, no similar tern previously recorded here. (R.B.S.)

WHITE-FRONTED TERN (*Sterna striata*).—Gisborne, 19/1/54, c 100 nesting with black-billed gulls on old harbour groyne, eggs and young in all stages. (A.B., D.V.M.) Mouth of Ngaruroro River, 9/1/54, a few with eggs near the black-billed gull colony, two or three flying juveniles, but no chicks seen. (D.H.B., G.C.C.) Ahuriri Lagoon, 13/2/54, c 25. (D.H.B.) Wairau Bar, 13/2/54, approx. 800 resting on shingle; breeding on south side of Kaikoura Peninsula and Pinnacle Rock, Goose Bay, eggs and young in both colonies. High mortality (estimate 30%) of day-old chicks at peninsula. Estimate of breeding populations: Pinnacle Rock, 200 upwards; Kaikoura Peninsula, 1,000-1,500. Could not determine whether birds were breeding at Riley's Rock. (B.D.B.) Lake Ellesmere, c 1500 nests with 2,500 chicks hatched on 3/1/54; no eggs on 5/12/53, and eggs only on 27/12/53. (E.W.D., W.C.C.) Mole, Otago Harbour, 17/12/54, birds nesting on Mole; many young with pink on breast; no pink on adults; 27/12/54, many chicks now in flight; one kept trying out its wings and eventually jumped so high it landed over edge of mole and fell into sea below. (L.E.W.) Clutha River mouth, 16/1/54, large colony of breeding birds, many young noted. (D.N.F.C.)

N.Z. PIGEON (*Hemiphaga novaeseelandiae*).—Clevedon, c 1920, Mr. Holger Orum reported Mr. A. McKie having seen hundreds in a flock settling on trees on Otatau hills, three miles east of Clevedon. They were so exhausted as to be easily approached within a few feet. They soon dispersed. 22/4/54 and 18/6/54, Mrs. Sladdin reported one feeding on leaves and shoots of arbution against verandah. (H.R.McK.) Moumoukai, Clevedon, 1954, increasing where protected; very scarce where shot. (J.W.St.P.) Minginui, 1953, winter and spring very scarce; small numbers through following summer. Feeding noted: Dec., lace-bark leaves; Jan., konini and winberry; Feb., tawa and rimu; March, tawa and miro; April, miro and rimu; 16/4/54, one killed by bush hawk by our camp. The pigeon was retrieved from the creek where the bush hawk was standing on it and it was found that the pigeon's head and neck had been almost pulped by the blows of the feet of the other bird. (R.St.P.) Whare Flat, Dunedin, 19/8/54, pigeon's nest about 30 feet up in a pine tree in a plantation. One broken egg shell on the ground and one fully fledged young one sitting beside the nest. The young one called and flapped its wings when the parent approached and kept flapping its wings during the feeding process which took several minutes. (B.J.M.) Waipori Gorge, Otago, 12/12/53, nine at camping ground and 29 seen in Gorge, eight in flight at one time. (D.N.F.C.) Opoho, Dunedin, two, November, 1953, and one on 2/3/54; first records for some years from this district. (J.W.) Milford Sound, February, 1954, eight seen feeding on wineberry. (A.C.P.)

ROCK PIGEON (*Columba livia*).—Queenstown, 16/4/54, pair seen and nest with one egg found under road bridge. (K.J.W-M.)

KAKAPO (*Strigops habroptilus*).—Seen at the headwaters of the Ngaruroro River 50 years or so ago by Mr. Scott, a former rabbit inspector. (D.A.B.)

KAKA (*Nestor meridionalis*).—Maractai, Auckland, 21/1/53, one on kauri tree in my bush back in township; 16/10/53, 10.30 p.m., several calling; 30/10/53, 5 a.m., one calling (M.d'A.) Koponui, 8 miles N.W. of Pirongia Mt., 27/6/54, two heard by my son (C.R.B.) Minginui, Aug., 1953–July, 1954, a few seen, but more heard, each month (R.St.P.). Opotiki, 2/7/54, two shot by Maoris were found in sack by ranger. (C.D.B.) Te Puke, May, 1954, one reported feeding on fruits of arbutus. (K.C.B.C.) Haumoana, about 4/7/54, bird seen by Mrs C. Scott (N.B.—Not connected with above of that name); described as being like a parrot in build, with parrot-like bill, colour brown with some suggestion of greenish, voice a harsh "cawing," seen climbing bamboos with aid of bill. (D.H.B.) Milford Sound, 16/3/54, three in flight. (N.S.) Golden Bay, Stewart Is., 31/12/53, five; Thule, 1/1/54, seven; 9/1/54, eight; 20/1/54, three; Price's Peak, 4/1/54, one near track; Observation Rock, 17/3/54, three. (J.W.)

KEA (*Nestor notabilis*).—Arthur Pass, 21/8/54, three, Mt. Aicken and four, Bealey Valley. (D.E.C.) Lake Gunn, Eglinton Valley, 14/2/54, three in flight; Milford Track, 14/3/54, three fed by party on top of McKinnon Pass. (N.S.)

EASTERN ROSELLA (*Platycercus eximius*).—Manly, Whangaparaa, recorded for first time in mid-Nov., 1953, again seen on 27/12/53. (S.C.) Clevedon, 1/10/53, one flying, not seen again. (H.R.McK.) Michie's Crossing, Otago, 24/7/54, nine seen. (C.W., D.N.F.C.) Waipori, Otago, 12/12/53, one seen in Gorge. (D.N.F.C.)

N.Z. PARAKEET (*Cyanoramphus novaezelandiae novaezelandiae*).—Fanal Island, 26/4–3/5/54, c six seen. (N.M.) Thule, Stewart Island, 2/1/54 and 21/1/54, one feeding on muttonbird scrub seeds. (J.W.)

YELLOW CROWNED PARAKEET (*Cyanoramphus auriceps*).—Little Barrier Is., 11/11/53, one seen at 900ft. by C. Hadley; 12/11/53, 200ft. two seen closely and carefully noted by M. Breen and J. Peart. (H.R.McK.) Minginui, April, 1954, returned after long absence; in edge of rimu bush. (R.St.P.) Reported to be present in Burns Range, H.B., by Mr. D. H. Neil, Omakahi Station, Glenross Rd. (D.H.B.)

SHINING CUCKOO (*Chalcites lucidus*).—Whangaruru South, first heard Oct. 16, 1953 and Oct. 3, 1954; largest number seen at one time; three. (F.W.S.) Little Barrier Is., 25/9/53, first heard. (C.H.P.) Puhoi, 2-8/1/54, a pair of grey warblers seen feeding two young cuckoos each day between dates given. (J.C.D.) Birkenhead, Auckland, 2/11/53, two seen on kawkawa, one giving usual call. This one was more excitable and appeared sleeker than the other fatter dull-coloured bird. First bird seen to catch a caterpillar and feed it to the other; second bird was making quiet cheeping noises which after a while attracted a grey warbler. This feeding performance was seen later in the day, the sleeker bird making a great fuss and swaying its tail from side to side. (A.P.) Clevedon, first calls: 19/9/53, Miss D. Browne; 25/9/53, Miss M. Waters, and an hour later, half-mile south, heard by Miss D. Browne. These are reliable observers (H.R.McK.) Clevedon, 25/9/53, first song, incomplete; 30/9/53, full song; 11/1/54, last song. (A.J.G.) Moutmoukai, Clevedon, 22/9/53, first song; 19/1/54, last song. (E.St.P.) Moutmoukai, Clevedon, first song 27/9/53, last song, 8/1/54. (J.W.St.P.) Moutmoukai Valley, Hunua, arrivals never known before early October. (D.N.L.) Minginui, 3/10/53, first seen and heard; 22/1/54, last song; 6/7/2/54, last seen. (R.St.P.) Lake Okataina, 6/10/53, first call heard (K.O.B-W). (N.B.: Both *Eudynamis* and *Chalcites* are rare visitors to Rotorua and its immediate environs, although common enough in the nearby exotic forest.) (M.S.B.) Tauranga, 10/3/54, two seen in garden feeding on pear slug on a plum tree. (M.H.) Mt. Maunganui, 11/2/54, seen in garden, last seen on 20/2/54 (A.H.W.) Taihape, 14/1/54 one in full song (R.B.S.) Blenheim, 26/3/54, two. (B.D.B.) Christchurch Oct. 16-17, 1953, heard in garden; full song on Oct. 31. (G.G.) Wai-kouaiti, 29/10/53, one dead in garden; 16/3/54, one seen. (B.McD.) Winton, 11/3/54, one feeding in tree in garden. (N.S.) Thule, Stewart Is., 30/12/53 and 3/1/54, one heard; 1/1/54, one seen. (J.W.)

LONG-TAILED CUCKOO (*Eudynamis taitensis*).—Little Barrier Is., 18/10/53, first heard. (C.H.P.) Howick, 2/2/54, one heard in garden. (N.M.) Clevedon, 9, 13, 14/2/54, calls heard; presumed migrating. (H.R.McK.) Lake Okataina, 5/10/53, first call heard. (K.O.B-W.) Minginui, 18/9/53, first call, apparently an odd bird; they do not usually arrive until Oct. 11 to 13; 10/2/54, last seen and heard. (R.St.P.) Ruakituri River, Nov.-Dec., 1953, plentiful in bush on riverflats upstream; also in considerable numbers upper reaches of Waimana River, Bay of Plenty, every summer; calling all day and night. (A.B.) Headwaters of Ngaruroro River, Jan., 1954. (D.A.B.) Chateau Tongariro, 11-20/1/54, only one heard in the beech forest where whiteheads are scarce. (R.B.S.) Catlins Lake, Pounawea, one seen on 14/1/54 (D.N.F.C.) Halfmoon Bay, Stewart Is., 30/12/53 to 22/1/54, one around every day. (J.W.)

MOREPORK (*Ninox novaeseelandiae*).—One or two frequently heard at dusk at Whangaruru South. (F.W.S.) Clevedon, 22/9/54, 7.45 a.m., in full flight, one flew past me and settled in grass on edge of road through bush. So intent was it on a live starling held in its feet that I was able to pick it up. I had to kill the injured starling and released the morepork. (D.J.S.) Te Puke, 1953, heard. (J.G.) Palmerston North Esplanade Bush, 28/6/53, two birds and 4/12/53, one. (I.G.A.) Teme River, Avon Valley, 5/5/54, one calling. (B.D.B.) Cass, Oct., 1952, heard commonly. (E.W.D.) Vauxhall, Dunedin, 8/3/54, one heard (L.E.W.) Gibbs Hill, Pounawea, 15/1/54, three seen. (D.N.F.C.) Thule, Stewart Island, 30/12/53-22/1/54, one heard almost every night. (J.W.)

LITTLE OWL (*Athene noctua*).—Abundant in Hagley Park and gardens, Christchurch, 1954. (E.W.D.) Opoho, Dunedin, 24/2/54, 15-23-27/3/54, one heard. (J.W.) Vauxhall, Dunedin, 13-14/2/54, 22-31/5/54, call heard. (L.E.W.)

KINGFISHER (*Halcyon sancta vagans*).—Whangaruru South, always present in one and twos. (F.W.S.) Aratapu, Dargaville, seen occasionally. (E.H.M.) Fanal Is., April-May, 1954, several seen but not plentiful. (N.M.) Seaview Road, Auckland, during Sept. a pair seen determinedly excavating a hole in an old willow. (S.C.) Clevedon, 22/1/54, nest in low

bank foot high on grassy hillside; well-grown chicks. (A.J.G.) Clevedon, 31/3/54, one on power wire dropped skink while killing it, swooped and caught it only six feet below wire, continuing flight to a tree at same height. (H.R.McK.) Minginui, Aug., 1953, none seen; Sept., came back in force for nesting; Jan., 1954, exodus begun; May, the last ones seen for the season; calling continued from Sept. to April. (R.St.P.) Rotorua area: Uncommon winter visitor, present from March until September, widely distributed; non-breeding; abundant Rotoehu-Rotoma Lakes area. Rotoehu 26/4/54, c 21 on power wires in stretch of c. half-mile. (M.S.B.) Thames coast, 25/1/54, two on rocks; May, 1952, dozens; Cambridge, late March, kingfisher back in town again, away all summer. (R.S.) Abundant in outer settled areas near Christchurch and Heathcote Estuary. (E.W.D.) Rangitata Island, 7/8/54, one; Orari, 8/8/54, one; Winslow, 8/8/54, one (K.J.W.M.) Akaroa Harbour, 28-29/8/54, common. D.E.C.) Portobello, Otago, vanishes in August and normally reappears February, three to four seen March to May, 1954. (A.R.H.)

RIFLEMAN (*Acanthisitta chloris*).—Headwaters of Ngaruroro River, Jan., 1954, numerous (D.A.B.) Woodville Domain, 24/8/52, one pair and one female. (I.G.A.) Few seen and heard but not as common as might be expected, Teme River, Avon Valley, 19/4 and 5-7/5/54. (B.D.B.) Takamatua Bay, Akaroa, 29/8/54, two. (D.E.C.) Pigeon Flat, Otago, 17/4/54, two seen. (D.N.F.C.) Piano Flat, 21/2/54, eight; Clinton Valley, 14/3/54, several seen. (N.S.)

ROCK WREN (*Xenicus gilviventris*).—Milford Track, 14/3/54, four seen at about 4,000 ft. on the Arthur Valley side of McKinnon Pass. (N.S.)

SKYLARK (*Alauda arvensis*).—Clevedon, 3/11/53, nest two eggs; 5/12/53, nest, four eggs in fairly short grass. (A.J.G.)

FANTAIL (*Rhipidura fuliginosa*).—Rotorua, 15/7/53, c 90 pied feeding along the warm scrub-fringed Whaka Creek from the mouth to approx. 500 yards upstream. The prey was apparently a small gnatlike fly (M.S.B., R.E.W.F.) Gisborne, 10/9/54, two black observed at Hospital Hill, one in same area last year. (D.V.M.) Teme River, Avon Valley, 19/4 and 5-7/5/54, very common, both phases present. (B.D.B.) Reservoir Reserve, Dunedin, 7/2/54, two young seen, tails not fully grown. (P.M.) Fernhill, Dunedin, 1/5/54, nine pied and one black. (D.N.F.C.) Seen at Kaingaroa and Titirangi, Chatham Islands, 1954, including one albino. (E.W.D.)

PIED TIT (*Petroica macrocephala toitoi*).—Dome Hills, Warkworth, 21/2/54, seven plus. (N.M.) Moutoukai Valley, Hunua, 4/9/54, one, the first seen in this part of the valley for a long time. (D.N.L.) Nat. Mill, Tarawera River, 27/6/54, four plus (C.D.B., M.d'A.) Minginui, 1953-54, always one to five near mill; 23/8/53, a pair catching spiders on wall of hut and trying to catch flies through glass of window; 22/9/53, female building nest under eave of old hut beside mine, using mostly moss, straw and spider webs. When it was nearly completed a gale blew it a foot along the ledge. It was returned to the original spot and secured. On Oct. 3 she was sitting and the male feeding her. The nest was later robbed by rats. 11/11/53, nest found two feet from ground in an old uprooted totara stump; female feeding young; they apparently survived to fly. (R.St.P.) Headwaters of Ngaruroro River, Jan., 1954. (D.A.B.)

YELLOW-BREASTED TIT (*Petroica macrocephala macrocephala*).—Fairly common Teme River, Avon Valley, 19/4 and 5-7/5/54. (B.D.B.) Howden, Cass, 21/10/52, pair (E.W.D.) Opoho, Dunedin, 3/10/53, pair; 20/4/54, male, first record for about 20 years for this area. (J.W.) Sandy Bay, Pounawea, 12/1/54, two pairs; Nuggets, 18/1/54, three pairs; Reserve, Pounawea, 16/1/54, two pairs. (D.N.F.C.)

ROBIN (*Miro australis*).—Mamaku Bush, 20/5/53, one singing strongly on a very frosty morning, 8.25 a.m.; 3/9/54, one singing 30ft. up in a tree. (R.B.S.) Rotorua, 1st-5th April, 1954, one strongly singing male seen each day in a small plantation of young pines in the gardens of the Forestry Research Institute at Whakarewarewa. Whiteheads and pied tits seen frequently in the exotic forests proper about half a mile away. (J.C.D.)

Headwaters of Ngaruroro River, Jan., 1954 (D.A.B.) Teme River, Avon Valley, numerous on first visit, 19/4/54, but only one heard on second, 5-7/5/54. (B.D.B.) Powder Creek, Otago, calls heard, 11/4/54 (D.B. and L.E.W.). Eglington Valley, 8/1/54, one took crumbs from lunch basket; 14/2/54, three; Piano Flat, 21/2/54, four; Cascade, Eglington Valley, 19/3/54, one. (N.S.)

FERNBIRD (*Bowdleria punctata*).—Common in swamps about Kawakawa. (D.G.McM.) Chateau Tongariro, 19/1/54, one calling among the Scotch heather two miles below the chateau. (R.B.S.) Tongariro Nat. Park, 23/2/53, 8 or 10 in patch of gorse and flax. (T.S.) On top of the Blowhard, near Kuripapanga, 1/12/53, a good view of a single bird in bracken fern near the road. (D.H.B.) Westport, 31/12/53, three pairs. (J.T.P.) Otatara, June, 1954, on Henderson's farm one bird was seen and two more heard. Mr. Henderson says that a pair nested there last season and reared three chicks. He gave me the old nest from low down in rushes, where a "tunnel" led into it; Mataura Road East, 19/7/54, one. (O.S.)

BROWN CREEPER (*Finschia novaeseelandiae*).—Teme River and Avon Valley, 19/4 and 5-7/5/54, about six flocks seen on each visit ranging from 8 to 30; mostly working through tree tops but three flocks were coming through at ground level. (B.D.B.) Howdon, Cass, 21/10/52, two pairs. (E.W.D.)

WHITEHEAD (*Mohoua ochrocephala albicilla*).—Minginui, 1953-54, a few in cut-out country, many in main bush. (R.St.P.) Waioeka River, 2/4/53, female (minus tail) observed feeding four fledged young, male looking on; considerable numbers seen in this area. (A.B.) Headwaters of Ngaruroro River, Jan., 1954. (D.A.B.)

YELLOWHEAD (*Mohoua ochrocephala ochrocephala*).—Howdon. Cass, 21/10/53, one pair. (E.W.D.)

GREY WARBLER (*Gerygone igata*).—Queen's Park, Invercargill, 17/7/54, a mating flight seen. (O.S.)

SONG THRUSH (*Turdus ericetorum*).—Mairangi Bay, 18/4/54, four-note song several times repeated; 28/4/54, first sub-song; 23/5/54, full song, two birds; 21/6/54, two major songsters for last three weeks suddenly finished. (H.G.W.) Clevedon, 30/9/53, one imitating the call of a nearby shining cuckoo, upward notes only; 27/4/54, first song. (A.J.G.) Minginui, 1953-54, Aug., song became fuller from 3rd, faded out end of Jan. May 16, song began. (R.St.P.) Rotorua, 5/5/53, first full song; 28/12/53, last song; 15/5/54, first full song. (M.S.B.) Palmerston North, 1/5/54, first song. (I.G.A.) Nelson, 7/3/54, first song for year, quite long burst of full-song early morning; 17/3/54, morning song is now general. (L.G.) Longwood, four young thrushes were found in a nest on Mr. J. A. Matheson's farm, Longwood. They were hatched on 15/7/54. (O.S.) South-East Island, Chatham Is., Feb. 1954. (E.W.D.)

BLACKBIRD (*Turdus merula*).—Mairangi Bay, 15/6/54, first song. (H.G.W.) Little Barrier Is., 12/11/53, one pecking nikau berries. Mrs. Larkin reports this to be usual. (H.R.McK.) Minginui, 16/9/54, song began; Feb., declined; mid-March, ceased. From May to Sept. most go into heavy bush, returning to the self-sown hawthorn on the flats to nest in spring. (R.St.P.) Rotorua, 16/7/53, first full song; 12/12/53, last song; 2/8/54, first full song. (M.S.B.) Palmerston North, 1952, first song on Aug. 16; 1953, first song on July 7, then on Aug. 3; 1954, one single full song on June 18, then July 27 and Aug. 4 (I.G.A.) Karori, Wellington, snail *Wainuia urnula* occasionally believed to be eaten by blackbirds judged by the broken shells which are found occasionally on the track and forest floor of a small bush reserve. (H.J.S.) Nelson, 6/1/54, last full-song for season, single phase, twice repeated, midday; 29/5/54-14/6/54, same bird gave incomplete full-song in morning when flying out from and returning to roost in the evening. No more song heard until 18/7/54 and thereafter normal full-song. Singing although heard at extremities of day in many places in Nelson was not general throughout the day until second week in August. (L.G.) Waimate, small-fruit growers offer 6d. per dozen for heads

and eggs, £5 bonus to one who collects most (also for thrushes). (C.W.McL.) Dunedin, 31/7/54, first full song heard. (O.C.) South-East Island, Chathams, Feb., 1954. (E.W.D.)

HEDGE SPARROW (*Prunella modularis*).—Whangaruru, 1954, one seen about lawn. (F.W.S.) Clevedon, 20/11/53, abandoned nest, three eggs, in jasmine. (A.J.G.) Nelson, 5/4/54, short burst of full-song, early morning; 17/6/54, short bursts of full-song heard; by 26/6/54 singing throughout day and general in district. (L.G.) Flocks seen on South East Island, Chathams, February, 1954. (E.W.D.)

N.Z. PIPIT (*Anthus novaeseelandiae*).—One or two frequently on beach, Whangaruru South (F.W.S.) Fanal Island, 26/4-3/5/54, one seen. (N.M.) Minginui, 16/8/53, ceased to come for daily ration of huhu; river shingle beds are a favourite haunt. (R.St.P.) Westport Reservoir, near Mt. Rochfort, 28/12/53, 12 and two immature. (T.J.P.)

BELLBIRD (*Anthornis melanura*).—Leigh Harb., 7/11/53, several singing. (H.R.McK.) Kawau Is., at Bostaquet Bay, 17/4/54, one heard. (A.J.G.) Moumoukai, Clevedon, 1954, about the same as last year; failure to increase here is difficult to understand. (J.W.St.P.) Minginui, Aug., 1953-July, 1954, plentiful; sings all year, but best in Feb. and March; in April, found up to 4,000ft. (R.St.P.) Aotea Harb., 19/4/54, several seen and heard. (J.P., A.P., J.C.D., H.R.McK.) Kawhia, 23/7/54, seven miles towards Raglan, one seen, several heard. (H.R.McK.) Headwaters of Ngauroro River, Jan., 1954. (D.A.B.) Palmerston North Esplanade, 26/8/51, c five, first time ever seen there; then annually, May-September, feeding from flowering gums. (I.G.A.) Common in bush on eastern side of Akaroa Harbour, 27-29/8/54. (D.E.C.) Waimate, seen at long intervals (C.W.McL.) Near top of Mackinnon Pass, Milford Sound Track, Feb., 1954, three singing. (A.C.P.) Piano Flat, 21/2/54, several seen; Milford Track, 13/3/54, very numerous at Glade House and in lower Clinton Valley. Odd birds were seen in the moss covered forest in the upper Clinton, that is beyond the Pompalona Huts. Two birds were seen at bush line 3,800ft. on the McKinnon Pass. (N.S.)

TUI (*Prosthemadera novaeseelandiae*).—Whangaruru South, when kowhai and pohutukawa in flower up to six about; rest of year one or two present. (F.W.S.) Clevedon, 10/11/53, one feeding in grapefruit tree; 13/11/53, nest about 35ft. up in a macrocarpa tree near house, two chicks and one addled egg; 27/11/53, one chick left nest; 15/11/53, young bird with adult in flax, called incessantly but fed itself mostly and was only fed once by parent; 4/1/54, bird carried straw or sticks into tall pine. (A.J.G.) Tarawera Buried Village, 29/8/54, c 12 in tall gum. (R.B.S.) Minginui, Oct., 1953, song, 4.30 a.m. to 7.30 p.m.; 13/12/53, 3.20 a.m. to 8 p.m. (R.St.P.) Palmerston North Esplanade, annually from 1950, feeding mainly on flowering gums, all months except March and October. (I.G.A.) Eglinton Valley, 8/1/54, one alighted from some trees to a piece of driftwood on a river beach then attempted to retrieve something unknown from the gravel but was disturbed. However, it immediately repeated the performance with apparent success; Milford Track, 13/3/54, one only in Clinton Valley, but Guide reported three fighting at Glade House same morning. (N.S.) Pitt Island, South-East Island, Chathams, Jan.-Feb. 1954, occasionally seen and heard. (E.W.D.)

WHITE-EYE (*Zosterops lateralis*).—Kaimaumu, Awanui Harbour. 7/6/54, large flocks feeding on wattle blossom. (J.P. et al.) Clevedon, 9/11/53, first young birds being fed by parents from dishes; 25/12/53, three chicks being fed. (A.J.G.) Ngongotaha (Rotorua), 16/9/54, small flock in plum tree taking either nectar or minute insects from blossom. (R.E.W.F.) Rotorua, Tarewa Rd., May to September, 1954, flocks from 10-40 plus have been present intermittently, attracted by Chinese gooseberries, privet berries and later by scraps from kitchen; partial to meat and fat. (M.S.B.) Minginui, 1953-54, song started late Oct., April, numerous from high beech country to lower levels; faded in June, July. (R.St.P.) Invercargill, 24/7/54, twenty-four in garden, the first arrivals this winter. (R.M.R.)

GREENFINCH (*Chloris chloris*).—Clevedon, 7/2/54, last song. (A.J.G.) Near Lake Rotokawau, Rotorua, 20/3/54, small flock by road. (A.J.G.) Minginui, Aug., 1953 to March, 1954, only a few, though good numbers on 7-mile hill above Murupara; April-May-June, flocks up to 400, July, none seen. (R.St.P.)

GOLDFINCH (*Carduelis carduelis*).—Clevedon, 27/10/53, first song; 27/1/54, last song. (A.J.G.) Moumoukai, Clevedon, 1954, good numbers early winter here (1,500ft.) but decreased in August. (J.W.St.P.) Minginui, Aug., 1953 to April, 1954, rare, often absent; May-June, flocks up to 300; July, small lots. It appears that the finches may work in a cycle and that this area is only a part of it. (R.St.P.) Whakatane, 20/7/54-7/9/54, several flocks up to 70. (C.D.B.) Opotiki-Gisborne, via East Cape, 22/3/54-3/4/54, plentiful, flocks all the way. (A.J.G.) Nelson, 4/3/54, still singing vigorously. (L.G.) Dunsandel, 9/3/54, 30-40; Rakaia, 9/3/54, c 150 (K.J.W-M.)

REDPOLL (*Carduelis flammea*).—Mt. Albert, Auckland, 1/5/54, one flying. (R.B.S.) Moumoukai, Clevedon, 1954, winter, greatest number yet seen; one flock of 80-100 resident for some weeks. (J.W.St.P.) Kaiaua 4/10/53, c. 30; Otau, 3/10/54, c 20. (N.M.) Rotorua, Tarewa Road, 2/6/54, two feeding on *Poa annua* on back lawn; July, Aug., and Sept., numbers from 2 to 12 observed daily, feeding on *Poa annua* on paths, garden plots and lawns. Difficult to distinguish sex as all birds showed red front and smudgy black chin. Males of these coteries had not attained roseate breasts on completion of this note, 19/9/54. (M.S.B.) Minginui, 1953-54, difficult to understand as usual; Aug.-Sept., none; Oct.-Nov., flocks up to 450 (this is what should be the nesting season); Dec.-April, very few; May-June, flocks up to 200; July, none seen. (R.St.P.) Tauwharepara, Tolaga Bay, several small flocks on high country in October, 1953; numerous old nests 6ft. to 8ft. up; first new nest found 22/11/53. (A.B.) Gisborne, 1/11/53, several near Awapuni Swamp. (D.V.M.) Palmerston North, Awatea Terrace Reserve, 15 and 18/12/52, adults feeding young in silver birches. (I.G.A.)

CHAFFINCH (*Fringilla coelebs*).—Mairangi Bay, 14/3/54, few notes of song heard regularly; 28/7, first sub-song heard here and at Brown's Bay, 6 birds; 6/8/54, first full song. (H.G.W.) Clevedon, 25/1/54, last song; 3/8/54, first song incomplete; 8/8/54, full song. (A.J.G.) Kawhia, 23/7/54, very large population; one flock of c 200 (H.R.McK.) Minginui, 23/8/54, song began. Up to Sept. some came for their huhu ration. After breeding formed large flocks up to 1,000. Some flocks far up river in bush on shingle beds. (R.St.P.) Nelson, 2/8/54, first full song for season, a weak incomplete attempt at first phase. By 8/8/54, singing was strong, full repertoire of phrases and heard throughout the day. (L.G.) Glory Bay, Pitt Island, 26/1/54, two juveniles. (E.W.D.)

YELLOW HAMMER (*Emberiza citrinella*).—Whangaruru South, four pairs round cottage all winter feed at bird table. (F.W.S.) Clevedon, 7/2/54, last song. (A.J.G.) Clevedon, 19/12/53, nest 3 eggs; 26/12/53, another nest of 4 chicks week old. (H.R.McK.) Moumoukai, Clevedon, 1954, except for redpoll all finches have decreased here since the country has been shut up for water catchment and the fern is covering the open country. (J.W.St.P.) Minginui, 1953-54, hardly any in spring, none in summer, small lots May-June-July. (R.St.P.) Horsham Downs, Hamilton, 4-14/9/54, a large night roost found in a toitoi hedge, rough estimate c 500 birds, goldfinches were roosting in the same hedge. (S.C.) Otakura, near Pounawea, 12/1/54, adult flew off nest on ground at top of an old quarry, nest contained two eggs. (D.N.F.C.)

GIRL BUNTING (*Emberiza cirius*).—Waihopai, 18/9/54, four in flock, possibly 8, but 4 flew away before identification could be established, black facial markings very distinct. (B.D.B.)

SPARROW (*Passer domesticus*).—Mairangi Bay, 23/1/54, female killed a shield beetle and carried off to nest; 12/2/54, young still being fed. (H.G.W.) Chatham Is., South East Island, Feb., 1954, one corpse only found. (E.W.D.)

STARLING (*Sturnus vulgaris*)—Whangaruru South, about six pairs nest in Pohutukawa trees. (F.W.S.) Aratapu, Dargaville, 20/9/54, thousands fly south each morning and return north in evening, occasionally settling in nearby trees. (E.H.M.) Minginui, 1953-54, no large numbers this season owing to lack of kahikatea fruit. (R.St.P.) Chatham Islands, Jan.-Feb. 1954, flocks seen near most settlements towards evening. (E.W.D.)

INDIAN MYNA (*Acridotheres tristis*)—Whangaparaoa Pen., heard for first time at Manly on 27/12/53, again on 3/1/54, two seen and heard again on 15/1/54 and three seen on 21/1/54. (S.C.) Auckland, Ponsonby, pair in 1952, now (1954) two pairs; one pair builds at St. Stephen's Church; Waiheke, 7/9/54, the first myna seen at the eastern end of Waiheke Island, after a violent northerly gale found in early morning on roof of house in Arran Bay, not seen since. (H.R.McK.) Clevedon, winter of 1954, roosting in dense flock in my trees as in 1952 and 1953, but increased to c 400 this year; contrary to custom they all left early in August. Mrs. E. Staples, Kaiaua, Firth of Thames, reported 200 plus suddenly coming to roost in a hedge of acmena about August 11 where none had been seen roosting before. It seems most unlikely, however, that the Clevedon birds have transferred to Kaiaua. (P.H.O.) Whitianga, 27/1/54, two on adjacent roof tops, not seen later; further south, Whenuateite 2, Tairua 2 seen while passing through; Whangamata heard; Waihi-Paeroa, plentiful; Te Aroha, very numerous; Cambridge, 28/2/54, on shed roof, flew into trees with large piece of white paper. (R.S.) Moumoukai Valley, Hunua, 1954, the first pair I saw arrived in Sept., 1946 or 1947, and I now know of one lot of two and one lot of three. (D.N.L.) Tauranga-Whakatane area, 11/8/53 to 1/10/54, increased numbers where previously established and spreading further afield, i.e., Taneatua 4, Awakeri 5. (B.S.) Te Puke, December, 1953, seen and heard. (J.G.)

MAGPIE (*Gymnorhina* sp.)—Southern Kaipara Peninsula, 11/10/53, from Parakai to the Heads, well distributed, some with irregular black bands across the upper back. (J.C.D.) Cambridge: In local "Independent," W. Harbutt, writing weekend 7th June, 3 magpies flying, Pahihi Road, Tirau. Later endorsed: 2 staying on farm at Morrinsville. Another writer stated he had attempted to introduce two young ones several years ago but they died. (R.S.) Opotiki, a report from a Mrs. A. L. McKenzie of one seen on their farm during August, 1954. (J.C.D.)

WHITE-BACKED MAGPIE (*Gymnorhina hypoleuca*)—North Taieri Plains, Otago, 19/7/53, one seen. (J.W.)

NORTH ISLAND KOKAKO (*Callaeas cinerea wilsoni*).—Moumoukai, Clevedon, 16/11/53, found deserted unfinished nest in toro c 60 yards from nest site of 2/12/50. (R.J.F.) Moumoukai, Clevedon, 1954, no change in numbers noted. In 1953, with Mr. Manning and H.R.McK., trapped 24 rats in parts of breeding territories of two pairs, about four acres of bush. (J.W.St.P.) Aotea Harb. area, spring of 1953, heard one in bush on back of my farm, the first for years; 23/6/54, Te Mata-Aotea Harb. Road, heard one in bush by road; the call is well known to me. (C.R.B.) Kawhia, 22/7/54, report from Maoris at Te Maika; plentiful just south of Kawhia but not so common further south towards Awakino. (H.R.McK.) Mamaku Range, Nov., 1953, two of this sp. (probably a pair) seen in heavy bush country 12 miles south of Mamaku township, observed by Mr. Ian Rawstorn, an officer of State Forest Service. From his description, I have no doubt that the birds seen by him were of this species. (M.S.B.) Mamaku, off Highway, 14 mile peg; 9/8/54, single bird on top of tawa tree uttered the familiar "mewing" notes several times. Observed for several minutes, when it flew down into undergrowth, characteristic feeble flight. (C.T.)

Date of Publication—January 1st, 1955.

The Masterton Printing Co., Ltd., Lincoln Road, Masterton.