

NOTE ON HISTORICAL STATUS OF WEKA, RED-FRONTED PARAKEET AND BUSH PIGEON IN WELLINGTON PENINSULA

The dearth of records about bird life in the Wellington Peninsula makes the following authentic information of interest. Messrs J. J. Robinson, Paraparaumu, and J. L. Woodhouse, Wellington, inform me respectively that the Weka was last common at Makara in 1880 and was seen last in nearby Karori about 1890. The Red-fronted Parakeet was seen last by Mr Robinson in Makara in 1888. However, reliable information indicates its survival in the nearby Karori area (Wilton's Bush) between 1900 and 1910, though the bird died out by 1914.

Further information suggests that the species lingered to the same time in the Silverstream, South Karori. Nowadays the Bush Pigeon is only a visitor to the area west of Port Nicholson, but the species is said by Mr Robinson to have been resident in some bush on Cape Terawhiti after 1890. This area is now a pastoral run.

H. L. Secker, Wellington

REVIEW

Die im Senkenberg-Museum vorhandenen Arten austorbener, aussterbender oder seltener Vögel (*Senkenbergiana Biologica*, 36: 241-265), by R. Mertens and J. Steinbacher: 1955.

This paper consists of an annotated list of the specimens of extinct, vanishing and rare species of birds in the collections of the Senkenberg Museum, Frankfurt-on-Main. The following New Zealand species are represented: *Cabalus modestus*, *Thinornis novae-seelandiae*, *Turnagra capensis*, *Notiomystis cincta*, *Anthornis m. melanocephala*, *Calleas cinerea*, *Creadion c. carunculatus*, *Heteralocha acutirostris*, *Casarca variegata* (!), *Gallirallus a. grayi* and *G. a. hectori*, *Cyanorhamphus unicolor*, *C. malherbi* and *C. auriceps*. Unfortunately, the authors' sources for information on the status of New Zealand species are far from complete and adequate; neither Oliver (1930), the *Checklist* (1953), nor *Notornis* being cited in the list of references. Specimens of the Norfolk Island Pigeon and Kaka are recorded.

C.A.F.

END OF VOLUME SIX