

PARADISE DUCK. Common, especially during shooting season. Only a few pairs nest in the district. Where the majority disappear to is not known.

GREY DUCK. Very common. Fifty or more nests can be found a season. Mostly 12-20 up in willow trees. The young reach the ground by falling, scrambling and (rarely) being carried. The same nest may be used later by a different pair. Clutch 6-10. Incubation 28 days. Nest September-January.

MALLARD. Fairly common. Seem always to nest on ground at water's edge. November.

BLACK TEAL. Common. Six nests. All 100 yards or more from water, not as it usually stated on water's edge. All under heaps of discarded tree topplings or similar piles of sticks. Clutch 5. Eggs relatively enormous — far bigger than those of Grey, Mallard or Spoonbill ducks. Very quiet on nest and can be lifted and handled. Usually off nest 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

SPOONBILL DUCK. Approximately 50 birds. Only two nests seen. Both away from water under a tussock. Nest has a different smell from a Grey's and eggs more pointed.

BLUE DUCK. A few pairs in the tributaries of the Dart River at the head of the lake.

HARRIER. Common. Many nests found, but owing to their extreme touchiness we were unable to 'hide' any of them. And yet a nest with young, discovered while harvesting a crop, can be lifted holus-bolus to the edge of the field, say, 200 yards away, and the adults will continue to feed the young! Attempt a hide, no matter how subtly, and they desert.

FALCON. Four pairs in the district. Others known, especially towards Skippers. Two nests discovered this season (one only followed). Both at approximately 3000 ft. Birds hunt up to 7000 ft on the Remarkables. In this district is a bird of the open mountains. They are not to be found in the bush areas. Nest well constructed of tussock. Clutch 3-4. Incubation 30 days. Female never leaves nest till chicks well grown, except to drive off intruders and to receive her own food. Female does all the feeding of chick. Male does all the hunting — handing over to her to feed the chick. Only time male is at nest is the short 'standing guard' period while the hen is eating food brought. Hen never feeds at nest, always on a rock some distance from nest. They have a variety of calls — of anger, a distinct call to bring in her mate to drive off intruders, a hunger call, and rather nice 'Thank you' noises reminiscent of the whine of an excited puppy, on receiving food. The attack of the female is not as 'willing' as that of the male. With both birds attacking the tone is markedly more aggressive, and in a high wind definitely frightening. At one nest the hen bird was shot by persons unknown when the chick (the only hatch from four eggs) was two weeks old. The male carried on feeding the chick, doing all the hunting in the vicinity of the nest so as to be always on hand. The chick survived.

CLASSIFIED SUMMARISED NOTES

Avis Acres, Mrs. Taupo
I. G. Andrew, Palmerston North
J. W. Bain, Gisborne
D. A. Bathgate, Dr, Hastings
B. D. Bell, Blenheim
M. S. Black, Rotorua
A. Blackburn, Gisborne
M. J. Blundell, Mrs, Clevedon
M. J. Blundell, Miss, Clevedon
D. H. Brathwaite, Napier
M. J. Breen, Nelson
W. J. Broun, Wellington
C. R. Buckeridge, Te Matu

P. C. Bull, Lower Hutt
R. N. Buttle, Auckland
B. W. Campbell, Dunedin
B. S. Chambers, Auckland
S. Chambers, Auckland
W. C. Clark, Christchurch
J. Cowern, Kawhia
G. Crawford, Napier
M. P. Daniell, Waerenga
E. d'C. Darby, Takapuna
J. C. Davenport, Auckland
E. Dear, Kopane
H. F. Drake, Mrs, Runanga

Dunedin Naturalists' Field Club
 B. A. Ellis, Invercargill
 M. Fitzgerald, Gisborne
 R. E. W. Fordham, Rotorua
 W. M. Gardner, Rev., Thames
 F. E. Gee, Rotorua
 K. M. P. Gillespie, Miss, Titirangi
 A. J. Goodwin, Miss, Clevedon
 A. G. Gorbey, Wellsford
 E. A. Harbour, Mrs, Waipori Falls
 A. R. Harris, Dunedin
 B. D. Heather, Wellington
 A. C. Hipwell, Auckland
 M. Hodgkins, Tauranga
 J. R. Jackson, Greymouth
 R. M. Jenkins, Mrs, Dunedin
 H. W. Johnson, Seddonville
 King's College Bird Club, Otahuhu
 N. Macdonald, Miss, Howick
 David Medway, New Plymouth
 Donald Merton, Gisborne
 H. R. McKenzie, Clevedon
 C. Moore, Mrs, Dunedin
 K. Paviour-Smith, Miss, Napier
 C. Peart, Raglan
 J. G. Penniket, Barrytown

A. C. Prentice, Mrs, St Kilda
 A. Prickett, Mrs, Auckland
 J. Prickett, Auckland
 M. R. Roberts, Rotorua
 R. M. Royds, Invercargill
 J. W. St Paul, Clevedon
 R. St Paul, Minginui
 M. L. Sansom, Miss, Mangakino
 D. J. Shaw, Clevedon
 H. L. Secker, Wellington
 R. B. Sibson, Auckland
 G. E. Sopp, Waikaremoana
 P. A. Stein, Auckland
 W. S. Sutherland, Kawhia
 C. Tattershall, Rotorua
 E. G. Turbott, Auckland
 D. A. Urquhart, Karaka
 L. W. Walker, Mrs, Dunedin
 M. A. Waller, S. Kaipara
 A. H. Watson, Mt Maunganui
 J. Watt, Dunedin
 W. A. Watters, Wellington
 K. Westerskov, Wellington
 W. A. Williamson, Wellington
 R. A. Wilson, Bulls

N.I. KIWI (*Apteryx australis mantelli*). Mt Egmont, reported to be increasing. (D.M.) 8 heard during five nights in eastern Urerewa in heavy beech country 2400-4000 ft, mid-Feb. '56. (A.B.)

LARGE GREY KIWI (*Apteryx haasti*). Fairly common at Canoe Creek and elsewhere near Barrytown, Rough River, Ikamatua, and at the bushline nearby. Sparse near Otira, well up Kelly's, Creek, Taipo River, Twelve Mile Greymouth, and Harold Creek, Hari Hari. (R.J.)

YELLOW-EYED PENGUIN (*Megadyptes antipodes*). Sandfly Bay, Dunedin, 5/11/55, late p.m., 1 imm. and 6 breeders ashore; 3 nests seen, 2 with 2 eggs, 1 with 1 egg. (B.D.H., R.R.M.) Aramoana, 24/3/56. 2 dead, 1 apparently shot. (D.N.F.C.)

BLUE PENGUIN (*Eudyptula minor*). 13/11/55. Many nests on Pourewa I., East Coast and adjacent mainland. (D.M., A.B.) Taranaki coast, fairly common; 5 corpses found December-June. (D.M.)

N.Z. CRESTED PENGUIN (*Eudyptes p. pachyrhynchus*). Cape Farewell, 25/11/55, 1 ashore alive. (B.D.H.)

SOUTHERN CRESTED GREBE (*Podiceps cristatus australis*). Reported from several of the quieter lakes in Westland, e.g. Christabel, Wahapo, Ianthe, Mapourika; but not Brunner. (R.J.) Te Anau. 3/4/56. 1 with juv. (B.D.H., N.S.) Head of western arm, L. Manapouri; 24/1/56 (R.M.J.) and 18/2/56. (A.C.P., C.M.)

DABCHICK (*Podiceps rufopectus*). L. Rotoiti, made a nest and raised a brood in a boatshed. (A.C.H.) Tangoio, 1/1/55, 1. (D.H.B.) Present throughout volcanic plateau, often on very small lakes. (M.S.B.) Lake Waikareiti, Nov. '54, 2; unnamed lake to north 1 pr. with 3 young, and 3 others. (Per G.E.S.)

WANDERING ALBATROSS (*Diomedea exulans*). 20/1/56. 1 juv. off Auckland wharves during strong nor'-easter. (N.M., E.d'C.D.)

BLACK-BROWED MOLLYMAWK (*Diomedea melanophris*). 31/7/55. Sinclair Hd., Wellington, c. 12 offshore in adult plumage and 1 in intermediate plumage. Island Bay, 3 offshore, adult phase. (H.L.S.)

- GREY-HEADED MOLLYMAWK (*Diomedea chrysostoma*). 7/7/56. 2 juv. ashore at Muriwai. (R.B.S., B.S.C.)
- GIANT PETREL (*Macronectes giganteus*). Oct.-Dec. '55, odd ones scattered about Hauraki Gulf. (A.J.G.) As usual biggest numbers in Waitemata towards end of winter, 10+ seen several times in Aug. (A.P., J.P.) Muriwai. 3 ashore in early July. (E.d'C.D.)
- CAPE PIGEON (*Daption capensis*). Muriwai. 2 ashore in early July. (R.B.S., E.d'C.D.) 14/1/56, several a few miles off East Coast. (A.B.) New Plymouth. 1 corpse 20/6/56. (D.M.)
- BROAD-BILLED PRION (*Pachyptila v. vittata*). Bethells. 1 freshly ashore 3/9/56. (R.B.S.)
- LESSER BROAD-BILLED PRION (*Pachyptila s. salvini*). Muriwai, 4 ashore in early July '56. (R.B.S., E.d'C.D.) New Plymouth, 1954, 1 corpse. (D.M.) Foxton Beach, 9/7/56. 1. (I.G.A.)
- ANTARCTIC PRION (*Pachyptila desolata*). Muriwai, 3 ashore in early July '56. (R.B.S., B.S.C.) 28/8/56. 1. (E.d'C.D.)
- NARROW-BILLED PRION (*Pachyptila belcheri*). Muriwai, 3 ashore in early July '56. 28/8/56. 1. (R.B.S., E.d'C.D.) New Plymouth, 1954. 1 corpse. (D.M.)
- FAIRY PRION (*Pachyptila turtur*). Muriwai. 11/1/56, 3. 7/2/56, 1. 13 ashore in early July '56. 28/8/56, 3. (R.B.S., E.d'C.D.) Bethells, 3/9/56. 1. (R.B.S.) 30/8/56. 1 dead on East Coast road. (D.M.) Mid-Jan. '56, 2 dead near New Plymouth. (D.M.) Foxton Beach. 9/7/56. 1. (I.G.A.) Totoranui, 27/12/55. 2. Cape Farewell, 16/5/56. 1. (M.J.B.)
- FLESH-FOOTED SHEARWATER (*Puffinus carneipes*). Whangarei. Flocks of 20 and 50 working far up harbour, 29/10/55. (O.C., H.M.McK., H.R.McK.) Kaipara. 30/12/55, cyclonic conditions from N.E., 100+ off South Head. (J.C.D., R.B.S.) 14/1/56. Considerable numbers off coast north of Gisborne. (A.B.) Corpses. Muriwai 11/1/54, 4; 15/1/56, 11; 7/2/56, 1; Brown's Bay, 13/1/56, 1. (E.d'C.D.)
- BULLER'S SHEARWATER (*Puffinus bulleri*). Off Whangaroa 21/10/55, 2; 23/10/55, c. 50 off Kawau; then in hundreds throughout summer in Kawau-Cape Colville area of Hauraki Gulf. (A.J.G.) 10/1/56, Mission Bay, during a strong easterly, one was seen to pass slowly along the shore, flying low and wave-skipping almost like a Stormy Petrel, with wings held rather stiff, heading into the wind; apparently not in difficulties. (R.B.S.) Kaipara. 30/12/55. 3 off South Head. (J.C.D., R.B.S.) 14/1/56. Several off East Coast. (A.B.) Muriwai. 1 corpse, 14/10/56. (B.D.H.)
- SOOTY SHEARWATER (*Puffinus griseus*). Greymouth. 3/12/55. Many gathering at dusk off Perpendicular Pt. One in empty burrow beside main road at 12 Mile Bluff. (B.D.H., J.R.J., J.G.P.) Corpses. Muriwai 11/1/56, 8; 15/1/56, 8; 7/2/56, 3. (E.d'C.D.) Bethells 22/4/56. 4 old. Ocean Beach, H.B., 4/12/54. 7. (D.H.B., G.C.) Off Deep Cove, 22/1/56. c. 30. (R.M.J.)
- TASMANIAN MUTTONBIRD (*Puffinus tenuirostris*). Mayor I. Dec. '55. 1 washed ashore. (R.B.S.) Mt Maunganui, single birds found dead 17/12/55 and 29/6/56. (M.H., J.C.D.)
- FLUTTERING SHEARWATER (*Puffinus gavia*). Bethells 22/4/56, hundreds offshore. (R.B.S.) Wellington Harbour, flock present in July '56. (H.L.S.) Corpses. Muriwai 7/7/56, 2. (R.B.S.) Cape Farewell 16/5/56, 1. (M.J.B.)
- ALLIED SHEARWATER (*Puffinus assimilis*). 3 new West Coast records all belong to the small typical form, *assimilis*. Karekare, 29/12/55. (R.B.S.) Muriwai, 15/1/56. (E.d'C.D.) 14/10/56. (B.D.H.)
- WHITE-CHINNED PETREL (*Procellaria aequinoctialis*). Palliser Bay, 4/12/54, 1 recently ashore. (B.D.H.)

- GREY-FACED PETREL (*Pterodroma macroptera*). Off Waiheke I. 17/5/55, 1 picked up alive in sea, wing and leg crippled. (H.R.McK.) Bethells, 7/7/56. 1 corpse. (R.B.S.)
- WHITE-HEADED PETREL (*Pterodroma lessoni*). Karekare, 29/12/55, 1 old corpse. Muriwai, 15/1/56, 2. (E.d'C.D.) 3 ashore in early July. (R.B.S.)
- KERGUELEN PETREL (*Pterodroma brevirostris*). Awhitu peninsula. 5/11/55, a desiccated corpse, now in the Auckland War Memorial Museum, was found. The bird had probably come ashore in Oct. (V.M.R.) This is the ninth specimen picked up on the Auckland west coast.
- PYCROFT'S PETREL (*Pterodroma longirostris pycrofti*). Mt Maunganui, 22/12/54, 1 freshly dead, sent to Auckland War Memorial Museum. (A.H.W.) 17/12/55, 1 dead, wing 210, culmen 24.3, tarsus 28.5 m.m. (M.H., J.C.D.)
- COOK'S PETREL (*Pterodroma cooki*). Whangaparaoa Pen. 28/1/56, 3 heard at 8.30 p.m. (B.S.C.)
- WHITE-FACED STORM PETREL (*Pelagodroma marina*). Colville-Kawau-Great Barrier, Oct. '55-Jan. '56, up to 50 seen every trip. (A.J.G.) South of Waiheke-Ponui Channel, 11/12/2, 2. (M.J.B.) Off Clevedon River, 18/12/55, 2. (D.J.S.) Long Bay, 1 ashore 10/9/56. (E.d'C.D.)
- DIVING PETREL (*Pelecanoides urinatrix*). Maori Rock, off Kawau I. 22/10/55. 1100+. (A.J.G.) Corpses. Muriwai 7/7/56, 2 (R.B.S., B.S.C.); Island Bay, Wellington, 22/7/56, 1 (H.L.S.); New Plymouth, 1954, 1 (D.M.); Cape Farewell, 16/5/56, 2 (M.J.B.)
- GANNET (*Sula bassana serrat*). New Plymouth, 8/4/56, 12 diving; 4/6/56, 3. (D.M.) Off Wainui Beach, Gisborne, 7/1/55, many feeding with White-fronted Terns. (M.F.) Titahi Bay, 22/4/56, dead juv., brown dorsal surface flecked with white, buff pigment on head. (H.L.S.) Pelorus Sd., 4/3/56, 1; Motueka est., 24/3/56, 1; Riwaka, 8/4/56, 8; West Haven Inlet, 15/5/56, 12; Fisherman's I. and Marahau, 1/9/56, 12. (M.J.B.) In late December and early January few Gannets appear off the coast of Westland. They are usually well out to sea. In both 1955 and 1956 Gannets were seen off Punakaiki and Greymouth. In early May 1956, 12 remained for several days off Mokihinui feeding on shoaling fish, with other sea-birds. (J.R.J.) Near Doubtful Sound, 28-29/6/56. 1. (W.A.W.)
- BLACK SHAG (*Phalacrocorax carbo*). Young Nick's Head, 29/8/55, 20 nesting. 25/2/56, several dozen at Muriwai, Gisborne. (D.M.) Waikareiti, 28/1/56. 1. (R.B.S.) Taranaki, common along coast and nearby lakes. (D.M.) Hokowhitu lagoon, usually 1 or 2 present. (I.G.A.) L. McKenzie, 11/1/56. 3. (L.E.W.) L. Manapouri, 20/1/56. Several. (R.M.J.) Deep Cove, Doubtful Sound, 21-27/6/56. 1. (W.A.W.)
- PIED SHAG (*Phalacrocorax varius*). Muriwai lagoon, Gisborne, 3/4/56. 4. (J.W.B.) New Plymouth, occasionally seen along the coast. (D.M.) Hurunui River mouth, 8/1/56. 5, including 3 juv. (L.E.W.) Deep Cove, Doubtful Sound, 21-27/6/56. 1. (W.A.W.)
- LITTLE BLACK SHAG (*Phalacrocorax sulcirostris*). Pouto pen., Northland, 22/10/55. L. Rototuna 1, L. Waitere 2. (H.R.McK., A.G.G.) Big L. Ohuia, Wairoa, H.B. 1, probably others. (G.E.S., H.R.McK.) Tamaki est., 18/5/56, 70-90, working upstream and feeding in the manner typical of this species. (D.M.)
- LITTLE SHAG (*Phalacrocorax melanoleucos*). McLeod's Bay, Whangarei, 29/10/55, one nearly all white with orange bill. (Mrs O. Cullen, H.M. McK., H.R.McK.) Muriwai lagoon, Gisborne, 7/1/56, 1 with 26 *carbo*. (M.F.) Taranaki. Occurs along the coast and on L. Rotokare. (D.M.) Freeman's Lake, Puponga, 25/11/55, several; Collingwood, Motupipi, Takaka, Pelorus, frequent; Wairau Bar, 8 (1 all black, 1 pied, 3 intermediate); Jed River, Gore Bay, 2 (1 pied); Ashley mouth, 2/5/56, 4 (2

- pied); L. Te Anau, 3/4/56, several (including 1 all black, 1 pied); Fortrose, 30/3/56, 27 (1 pied). (B.D.H.) L. McKenzie, Canterbury, only white-throated phase seen. (L.E.W.) Deep Cove, Doubtful Sound, 21-29/6/56. 2. (W.A.W.) The white-throated phase outnumbers by far the white-bellied phase in Westland. (R.J.)
- SPOTTED SHAG** (*Stictocarbo punctatus*). Waiheke-Ponui Channel, 11/12/55, 20. Not often seen here. (M.J.B., M.J.B.)
- WHITE HERON** (*Egretta alba*). Mahia, H.B., 12/11/55, 1. (G.E.S.) Queen's Garden, Nelson, 21/9/56, 1. (M.J.B.) Takaka River mouth, 23/11/55, 1 with black legs and bright flesh-pink bill. (B.D.H.) Wanganui River mouth, Westland, 10/2/56, 3. Okarito lagoon, 11/12/55, 4. (B.D.H., J.R.J.) Opihi River mouth, Temuka, 22/2/56, 1. (B.D.H.)
- BLUE HERON** (*Egretta sacra*). Three Sisters rocks, Waiheke, 17/12/55, 2 flying young being continually harried by Black-backed Gulls. (M.J.B., M.J.B.) Aotea Harbour, winter '56, 30-40. (C.R.B.) Pourewa I., East Coast, 1 seen and used nest found. (A.B., D.M.) New Plymouth, common along the coast. (D.M.) Mahia Pen., 2/1/55. (D.H.B.) Porirua, 24/1/55, 1. Motupipi mouth, Takaka, 22/11/55, 1. Heathcote-Avon est., 13/10/55, 1. (B.D.H.) Westhaven Inlet, Nelson, 15/5/56, 1. (M.J.B.)
- WHITE-FACED HERON** (*Ardea novaehollandiae*). Kaipara, July 1956, breeding in the Hoteo Valley. (J.P., H.R.McK.) Wayby, 8/9/55, H. J. McKenzie reported one on farm; and a little later two on the next farm; June-July '56, 7 often seen. (H.R.McK.) Clevedon, 2/7/56, 5 on farm for some days. (G. M. Orum.) Waikato River mouth, 26/5/56, 1. (R.B.S.) Aotea Harbour, June-Sept. '56, up to 5. (C.R.B.) New Plymouth, mid-May '56, 1. (K.C.B.C.) Foxton, 13/8/55, 2. (I.G.A.) 7 together in mid-May. (M.S.B.) L. Hatumu, near Waipukurau, reported present for three or four years and believed to be breeding. (K.C.B.C.) Porirua, 24/1/55, 5; Pauatahanui, 11; Onoke, 18/12/54, 1; 29/1/55, 5; Kumenga, 29/1/55, 6. (B.D.H.) Seen almost daily inside Nelson boulder bank. Well established throughout the Nelson province. (M.J.B.) Westhaven Inlet, 26/11/55, many. Pakawau-Mangarakau, Puponga, Freeman's Flat, 25/11/55, 31. Takaka River mouth, 23/11/55, c. 40. Motupipi, 22/11/55, 5. Ligar Bay, 1. Kaiteriteri, 1. Motueka, 1. Port Motueka-Tasman, 19/11/55, 15; Ruby Bay, 4; Mapua, 1; Waimea River mouth, 10; Monaco Pen., 2; Cable Bay, Nelson, 2; Canvastown, 15/11/55, 4; Havelock, 1; Picton, 12/11/55, 2; Wairau Bay, 1; L. Grassmere, 13/11/55, 1; Orowaiti estuary, Westport, 1/12/55, 1; Cape Foulwind road, 1. (B.D.H.) Canoe Creek lagoon, 1; Taramakau estuary, 10/12/55, 2; Waitaha, 3; Wanganui (Westland), 1; Okarito lagoon, 11/12/55, 4. (B.D.H., J.R.J., J.G.P.) Jed River mouth, Gore Bay, 10/11/55, 2; Waipara, 5; Okuku R., 25/10/55, 1; Ashley est., some always present. (B.D.H., W.C.C.) Heathcote-Avon est., 28/10/55, 7; Teddington, Birling's Flat and L. Forsyth, a few always present (D.E.C.); small numbers noted in all suitable localities southwards to Southland, e.g. Opihi, Washdyke, Fairfield, L. Waiholo, Taieri estuary, Waikawa estuary, Haldane estuary; Awarua, 13 seen regularly; Oreti est., 33, probably full population in March. (B.D.H.) L. McKenzie, Canterbury, seen daily, max. 12, 5-12/1/56. (L.E.W.) Deep Cove, Doubtful Sound, 23/6/56. (W.A.W.)
- BITTERN** (*Botaurus stellaris poiciloptilus*). Awapuni lagoon, 20/12/55, 1. (J.W.B., M.F.) Webster's Swamp, Gisborne, 24/9/55, 3. (D.M.) L. Rotokare, New Plymouth, 25/4/56, 1. (D.M.) Foxton, 13/8/55, 3 or 4. (I.G.A.) Tangoio, 1/1/55; Ahuriri lagoon, 2 and 10/7/55. (D.H.B.) Pakawau, Golden Bay, 25/11/55, 1; Ashley River mouth, 9/10/55, 1; L. Tuakitoto, Balclutha, 14/4/56, 1; Awarua Bay, 8/3/56, 1. (B.D.H.)
- ROYAL SPOONBILL** (*Platalea leucorodia regia*). Manawatu estuary, 1/10/55, 2 (I.G.A.); 10/5/56, 9; 20/5/56, 12 (R.B.S., J.W.S.); 9/7/56, 12 (I.G.A.); Whanganui (Westhaven) Inlet, 26/11/55, 3. (B.D.H.)

- CANADA GOOSE (*Branta canadensis*). Kawaroa Park, New Plymouth, 8/12/55, 5 flying. (D.M.) Tasman River delta, 25-26/2/56, many hundreds. (B.D.H.)
- MUTE SWAN (*Cygnus olor*). Ashley River mouth, 9/10/55, 6; Woodend Beach lagoon, 25/10/55, 4. (B.D.H.) L. McKenzie, 10/1/56, 2. (L.E.W.)
- BLACK SWAN (*Cygnus atratus*). Houhora, Northland, 29/3/56, c. 500. (A.P., J.P.) Big L. Ohuia, Wairoa, H.B., 19/11/55, 59 adult and 33 young on lake of c. 20 acres. (G.E.S., H.R.McK.) Muriwai lagoon, Gisborne, 3/4/56, 68. (J.W.B.) 10/9/55, Patutahi swamp, Gisborne, 14 breeding. (D.M.) Deep Cove, Doubtful Sound, 21-29/6/56, 2. (W.A.W.)
- PARADISE DUCK (*Tadorna variegata*). L. Rotorua, appearing more often. (M.S.B.) L. Repongaere, Gisborne, 5/2/56, c. 2500; 30/6/56, 40. (A.B.) Minginui, a pair at odd times. (R.StP.) Wairau lagoon, Mahia, 19/11/55, 4 (3 females); L. Whakaki, 28 (4 females); L. Ohuia, 46 in pairs and 3 odd males. (G.E.S., H.R.McK.) L. Whakaki, H.B., 3-17/5/56, best count c. 100. (R.StP.) L. Rotokare, New Plymouth, occasional; Eltham hill country, 16/6/56, 2. (D.M.) Washdyke, 25/5/56, c. 50; Tasman River delta, 25-26/2/56, many hundreds; confluence Shotover and Kawerau Rivers, 8/4/56, 66; L. George, Southland, 23/3/56, 25. (B.D.H.) Conroy River mouth, 15 (7 females). (L.E.W.) Doubtful Sound, 21/1/56, 1 pair. (R.M.J.) Deep Cove, Doubtful Sound, 21-29/6/56, 35-40. (W.A.W.) Common on the open river beds of Westland. In the shooting season dozens feed at the mouth of the Grey River and especially at the abattoirs. (R.J.)
- GREY TEAL (*Anas gibberifrons*). L. Rotomahana, Waimangu estuary, 20/1/56, c. 50. (R.B.S., R.N.B.) L. Rotokawa, Rotorua, 23-25/1/56, 7-9. (R.B.S.) Picnic Pt, 21/8/56, 5. (M.S.B.) 29/5/55, Ahuriri lagoon, 7; 5/6/55, 5. (D.H.B.) Portobello, 31/7/55, 11. (A.R.H.)
- BROWN TEAL (*Anas chlorotis*). Kaeo, Northland, 31/3/56, 60. (A.P., J.P.) Golden Bay, Stewart I., 20/5/56, 2 at dusk. (J.W.)
- SHOVELER (*Anas rhynchos*). L. Repongaere, 30/6/56, c. 90. (A.B.) Hokowhitu lagoon, 22/9/55, 1 pair. (I.G.A.) Volcanic plateau, small numbers noted at L. Okareka, 7 on 8/3/56; Hamurana, c. 10 on 2/3/56; Waimangu, c. 14 on 29/5/56. (M.S.B., F.E.G., W.J.B.) Virginia Water, Wanganui, 10/5/56, 7. (R.B.S.) L. Grassmere, 13/11/55, few; Waipara estuary, 9/11/55, 1 pair; Waipara swamp, several dozen and some with young; Woodend Beach lagoon, 25/10/55, 12; Cooper's lagoon, Taumutu, 30/10/55, 1 pair. (B.D.H.)
- BLUE DUCK (*Hymenolaimus malacorhynchos*). Upper Whirinaki R., 25/3/56, 2, (R.StP.) Aniwhaniwa, Waikaremoana, '55-'56, increased from 2 to 5. (G.E.S.) Junction of Flora and Takaka Rivers, 9/5/54, 1. (M.J.B.) Mica Burn, 19/2/56, 2. (A.C.P., C.M.)
- N.Z. SCAUP (*Aythya novaeseelandiae*). L. Rotorua, a summering flock of 17-35 birds was present Nov. '55 - March '56 in Sulphur Bay; L. Rotoiti, 28/7/56, c. 106 at Twin Stream Bay; Hamurana, 28/7/56, c. 150; L. Rotorua, Sulphur Bay, 28/7/56, c. 360 - the biggest flock seen in ten years' watching at this place; L. Okareka, 24/6/56, wintering flock, c. 156; L. Rotoma, 16/8/56, c. 300; 1/9/56, c. 210; 21/9/56, c. 85. (M.S.B., W.J.B., F.E.G., H.R.McK.) Waimangu, L. Rotomahana, 20/1/56, 130+ in two flocks. (R.N.B., R.B.S.) Waikaremoana, 20/11/55, 10 (G.E.S.); 6 on 26/1/56. Waikareiti, 28/1/56, 2 pairs and 26 in a flock. (R.B.S.) L. Tutira, 13/11/54, few. (D.H.B.) Woodend Beach lagoon, 25/10/55, 5; Te Anau, 2/4/56, Eglinton mouth, 12; Te Anau Downs, 170; Te Anau town, 30. (B.D.H.) L. McKenzie, Canterbury, max. seen 9 ad. and 7 young, Jan. '56. (L.E.W.) Manapouri, 20/1/56, 1 with 4 young. (R.M.J.)
- HARRIER (*Circus approximans*). Clevedon, 18/12/55, one carrying eel; 21/1/56, 1 carrying rat. (M.J.B., M.J.B.) Volcanic highlands, much display of aerial acrobatics during last week of August and first half of September.

- (M.R.R., M.S.B.) Ngatapu, Gisborne, 9/1/56, nest with 3 fledged young; skeleton of Weka and torn-up skins of hedgehogs nearby. (M.F.) Taranaki, common. (D.M.)
- N.Z. FALCON** (*Falco novaeseelandiae*). Rotorua, not infrequent visitor to town; one reported to have killed a bantam; one seen chasing sparrows. (M.S.B.) Horehore track, East Coast, 29/1/56, 2 pairs together. (A.B.) Mangapapa, Gisborne, 16/4/56, 1. Minginui, '55-'56, usually 1 or 2 about. (R.St.P.) Waikaremoana, 15/11/55, one came down closely in bush to imitation of its chatter with cork on bottle. (H.R.McK.) L. Rotokare, New Plymouth, May '55, 1 chasing Fantails; Rugby Park, 4/6/55, 1 chasing Yellowhammers. (D.M.) Not uncommon in the beech forest of Westland, as at Paringa, or along the coast road to Westport. They sometimes fly well out to sea for no obvious reason. 18/5/56, 1 flew in from half a mile out to sea at Mokohinui estuary. (R.J.) Waiau River, Te Anau, 1/4/56, 1. (B.D.H.) O.T.C. hut, Silver Peaks. (B.W.C.)
- BROWN QUAIL** (*Syncoicus ypsilophorus*). Rotorua, a few noted. Mihi Hot Springs, Waikato, 9/9/56, 12. (F.E.G., M.S.B.)
- CALIFORNIAN QUAIL** (*Lophortyx californica*). Poutu Pen., 23/10/55, the biggest flock seen contained 35 birds. (J.P., A.P.) Clevedon, 1955, 3 nests of 16, 16 and 12 eggs deserted owing to weed cutting. (H.R.McK.) Minginui, 1955-56, first tiny chicks on 2 Jan.; broods of 12, 12, 13, 8, 4, seen in Jan. In May flocks of 30-150; up to 500 in one day; fewer later. (R.St.P.) New Plymouth, decreasing. (D.M.) Fagan's Creek, Barrytown, a few remain. (J.G.P.) Burke's, Dunedin, 11/11/35, 3—the only record. (W.A.W.)
- BANDED RAIL** (*Rallus philippensis*). Remuera, Shore Road, 28/11/54. (B.S.C.)
- N.I. WEKA** (*Gallirallus australis greyi*). Gisborne, abundant in parts and showing signs of increasing their restricted range. (A.B.) 18/1/56, 1 seen wading in water up to breast; 24/1/56, 1 attacked by Mynas, but not perturbed. (M.F.)
- WESTERN WEKA** (*Gallirallus australis australis*). Golden Bay, November 1955, common in pakiti and scrub. (B.D.H.) Common in the beech forest from the Grey north to Golden Bay, especially about Reefton. Reported from Arahura, Whataroa and Okarito, but scarce there. Plentiful up Kurangarua Valley in 1952, especially on Welcome Flat and Carsell's Flat. In Jan. '55 they had become scarce, but were still at Douglas Hut, Copland River. (J.R.J.) Helena Falls, Wilmot Pass, Doubtful Sound, several. (R.M.J., A.C.P., C.M.)
- PUKEKO** (*Porphyrio melanotus*). Volcanic plateau, every sizeable area of swamp has its quota (M.S.B.); on the golf links at Sulphur Pt. L. Rotorua, 25-35 feeding is a common sight (M.S.B.). Napier, Ahuriri lagoon, not common, but reliably reported to breed. (D.H.B.)
- MARSH CRAKE** (*Porzana pusilla affinis*). Matawhero railway station, Gisborne, 1 killed by dog, second victim. (D.M.)
- SPOTLESS CRAKE** (*Porzana tabuensis plumbea*). Ardmore, 2/8/56, 1 brought by cat to Mrs C. E. A. Stokes. It was well enough to be released. (H.R.McK.)
- S.I. PIED OYSTERCATCHER** (*Haematopus ostralegus finschi*). S. Kaipara Heads, 11/12/55, c. 40 summering. (R.B.S.) Tangaihi, 23/10/55, 44+ on old wharf. (J.P. et al.) 11/3/56, 23. (J.C.D., B.S.C.) Ruakaka, 31/3/56, 4. (A.P., J.P.) Batley, Kaipara, 10/9/55, 45. (H.R.McK.) Mataitai, Clevedon, 20/8/55, 9; the biggest count here. (A.J.G.) Thames, old wharf, 25/7/56, 111; 4/8/56, 119; 8/8/56, 50. (W.M.G.) Aotea Harbour, c. 40. (C.R.B.) Kawhia Harbour, census July '56, 270. (W.S.S., J.C.) Manawatu estuary, 23/1/55, 8. (B.D.H.) 20/5/56, 6. (R.B.S.) Motueka estuary, 24-25/3/56, 200+; Marahau estuary, 2/9/56,

400+; Nelson Haven, 7/10/56, 300+. (M.J.B.) Golden Bay, 22-28/11/55, Collingwood, several hundred; Puponga, 26; Nelson, 30. Wairau Bar lagoon, 12/11/55, 10; L. Grassmere, 13/11/55, 2; Conway River, 10/11/55, several pairs; Waipara estuary, 18/10/55, 500+; 9/11/55, 40. Okuku R., 25/10/55, breeding. Ashley River mouth, 9/10/55, 19; 22/10/55, 5; 14/12/55, 278; 19/2/56, 500+; 2/5/56, c. 3000. Waimakariri, 3/5/56, 200. (B.D.H.) Heathcote-Avon estuary, 13/10/55-28/10/55, 550. (D.E.C., B.D.H.) Teddington, 11/10/55, 23. Orowaiti, Westport, 1/12/55, 40. (B.D.H.) Much less common in Westland than the Black Oystercatcher; Mikonui, 24/1/56, 2; Okarito, 10/12/55, 17; Fox River mouth, 21/1/56, 1. (J.R.J.) Dunedin Harbour mole, 6/11/55, c. 100. (B.D.H.) Upper Otago Harbour, 24/2/56, 24, stayed for some months. (W.A.W.) Taieri mouth, 14/4/56, 104. L. Tuakitoto, Balclutha, 14/4/56, 3. Waikawa, 30/3/56, 320. Haldane est., 30/3/56, 1. Fortrose, 30/3/56, 100+. Riverton, 23/3/56, 300+. (B.D.H.) Doubtful Sound, 19/2/56. (A.C.P., C.M.)

NORTHERN (VARIABLE) OYSTERCATCHER (*Haematopus unicolor reischekii*). Ruakaka, 31/3/56, 16 smudgy and 19 black. (A.P., J.P.) Tangaihi, 23/10/55, 3. (J.P. et al.) 11/3/56, 40. (J.C.D., B.S.C.) South Kaipara Heads, 11/12/56, 2. Waikato est., 26/5/56, 2. Manawatu est., 20/5/56, 5 smudgy and 6 black. Waimeha, Waikanae, 14/5/56, 1 smudgy and 3 black. (R.B.S.) Ohau, 23/1/55, 2. (B.D.H.) Himatangi, 11/2/56, 1 apparently juv. smudgy was following two black. (I.G.A.)

BLACK OYSTERCATCHER (*Haematopus unicolor*). Muriwai lagoon, Gisborne, 9/10/55, 2. Pourewa I., 7/11/55, nest in driftwood; pair seen with full-grown young on 13/1/56. (A.B., D.M.) Gisborne, 30/12/55, 4. (J.W.B., M.F.) Ocean Beach, 4/12/54, nest destroyed by high tide; Mahia Pen., 1-2/1/55, 1 on reef. (D.H.B.) Cape Farewell, 28/11/55, 8. Nelson Harbour, 20/11/55, 2. (B.D.H.) Morueka and Marahau estuaries, some. (M.J.B.) There are pairs at the mouths of most rivers from Karamea to Big Bay. The lagoons may have several pairs. They breed on the Ahaura River bed at Kopara. (J.R.J.) Okarito, 11/12/55, 7. (B.D.H.) Ashley est., 2/5/56, 2. Taieri mouth, 14/4/56, 27. Akatere mouth, 15. Waikawa, 30/3/56, 7. Haldane est., 30/3/56, 4. Waituna lagoon, 31/3/56, 2. Riverton, 23/3/56, 2. Colac Bay, 23/3/56, 7. Lake George, 23/3/56, 1. (B.D.H.) Deep Cove, Doubtful Sound, 21-29/6/56, 4. (W.A.W.) Stewart I., 2/1/56. The territory threat display that I described in *Notornis*, 6, p. 175, was seen for a second time. But on this occasion the display took place on a boulder-and stone-strewn beach, and because of this the movements were rather less synchronised, though otherwise identical with those described before. (J.W.)

SPUR-WINGED PLOVER (*Lobibyx novae-hollandiae*). Near Fortrose, 30/3/56, 4 in ploughed paddock. Near Waituna lagoon, 31/3/56, 4. Oreti est., Awarua, March '56, 5 regularly. L. George, 23/3/56, 9. (B.D.H.) L. Manapouri, 17/1/56, 5. (M.J.B.)

PACIFIC GOLDEN PLOVER (*Charadrius dominicus fulvus*). Awapuni lagoon, Gisborne, 9/10/55, 9. (A.B., D.M.) Muriwai lagoon, 30/12/55, 8. (J.W.B., M.F.) Ngamotu lagoon, Wairoa, H.B., 19/11/55, 18. (G.E.S., H.R.McK.) Ahuriri lagoon, 31/3/55, 3+; 19/2/55, c. 9; 27/2/55, c. 11; 6/3/55, 12+. (D.H.B.) Freeman's Flat, Puponga, 25/11/55, 1. Wairau Bar, 12/11/55, 2. (B.D.H.) Okarito, 11/12/55, 4. (B.D.H., J.R.J.) Greenpark, Ellesmere, 16/10/55, 3. (D.E.C., B.D.H.) Near Fortrose, 30/3/56, 16 in ploughed paddock (6 in breeding dress). Waituna lagoon, 31/3/56, 10 (3 in breeding dress). Awarua Bay, 8/3/56, 1. (B.D.H.)

RED-CAPPED DOTTEREL (*Charadrius alexandrinus ruficapillus*). Waipara mouth, 18/10/55, 1 female. 9/11/55, not seen there; but 1 female at Ashley River mouth on 9-22/10/55 and 14/12/55; very excited and aggressive in October, though apparently unmated. None on 19/2/56 and 2/5/56. (W.C.C., B.D.H.)

BANDED DOTTEREL (*Charadrius bicinctus*). Tamaki est., 10-19/5/56, 60-90 daily. (D.M.) Waikato est., 26/5/56, 17. Manawatu est., 20/5/56, c. 50. (R.B.S.) Ohau, 23/1/55, 70. (B.D.H.) Otaki, 1/1/56, 25. (H.L.S.) Waikanae, mid-May, 3. (R.B.S.) Gisborne, 20/12/55, Awapuni lagoon, 1 pair with fully-fledged young. (M.F.) Muriwai lagoon, 31/12/55, 12; 7/1/56, 20; 3/4/56, 15. (J.W.B., M.F.) L. Whakaki, H.B., May '56, max. 120. (R.StP.) Ahuriri lagoon, 19/2/55, c. 8. June-July, max. 4. (D.H.B., G.C.) Onoke, 29/1/55, 39. (B.D.H.) Hutt River est., 16/4/56, 13; 6/5/56, 12. Pauatahanui, 26 on 20/5/56. A flock of c. 20 has been seen in this locality during the winter months of the last four years. (P.C.B.) Wairau Bar, 12/11/55, abundant. Scarce in N.W. of S.I. 12-27/11/55: 2 at Puponga; Orowaiti est., Westport, several, including flying young. (B.D.H.) Nelson, Nov. '55, 3. (M.J.B.) Breeds at most Westland estuaries from Canoe Creek to Okarito. April-August, feeds in paddocks: sometimes 200 on Recreation Ground, Greymouth. (J.R.J.) Conway River bed, 10/11/55, numerous; Waipara, 9/11/55, many flying young; Ashley, 9/10/55, numerous; 14/12/55, very numerous; 19/2/56, almost all without bands; 2/5/56, 70. (W.C.C., B.D.H.) Oct. '55, recorded at: Okuku R.; Greenpark; Timber Yard Pt and Taumutu, Ellesmere; Cooper's lagoon; Birdling's Flat; Raikaia. (D.E.C., B.D.H.) Washdyke, 4/11/55, 22/2/56, 1/3/56, numerous; 25/5/56, some dozens. L. Tuakitoto, Balclutha, 14/4/56, 2. Fortrose and Haldane est., 30/3/56, several; Awarua Bay, 8/3/56, numerous; Waituna lagoon, 31/3/56, 2; Oreti est., Awarua, March '56, max. 30. (B.D.H.) Conroy est., 11/1/56, 10. (L.E.W.)

RED-BREADED (N.Z.) DOTTEREL (*Charadrius obscurus*). Owhiti Bay, Waiheke I., 2. (A.J.G.) S. Kaipara Heads, 11/12/55, 1 pair; Waikato est., 26/5/56, 1. (R.B.S.) Tauranga, 6/7/56, 4, the first record for Otumotai tidal flats; since then 2 or 3 frequently seen; 2 on 1/10/56. (M.H.) 6-31/3/56, Oreti est., Awarua, 4 the most together; Oreti Beach, 22/3/56, 5. (B.D.H., R.M.R.)

WRYBILL (*Anarhynchus frontalis*). Tamaki est., 19/5/56, 10. (D.M.) Manawatu est., 20/5/56, 1. (R.B.S.) Onoke, 29/1/55, 1. Waipara mouth, 18/10/55, 3+; 9/11/55, 2. (B.D.H.) Ashley mouth, 9/10/55, 45; 22/10/55, 33; 14/12/55 and 19/2/56, none; 2/5/56, 1. (W.C.C., B.D.H.) Waimakariri est., 9/10/55, 28; Selwyn est., 15/10/55, 5; Taumutu, 41. (D.E.C., B.D.H.) Washdyke, 4/11/55, 4. (B.D.H.)

LONG-BILLED CURLEW (*Numenius madagascariensis*). Pauatahanui Inlet, 23/10/55, 1 with a Godwit and 2 Stilts. (P.C.B.) Okarito, 11/12/55, 2. (B.D.H., J.R.J.)

ASIATIC WHIMBREL (*Numenius phaeopus variegatus*). Ashley River mouth, 14/12/55, 2. (W.C.C., B.D.H.)

BAR-TAILED GODWIT (*Limosa lapponica baueri*). S. Kaipara Heads, 11/12/55, c. 4000. (R.B.S.) Tauranga, 30/9/55, 300-400, first big flock seen for some months; 4/10/55, c. 500 at Sulphur Pt; summer flock numbered c. 600; c. 400 on 14/3/56; none seen during winter months till 3/9/56, when c. 30 were back. (M.H.) Gisborne, Awapuni lagoon, Oct.-Dec. '55, c. 40; Muriwai lagoon, 7/1/56, 15; 25/2/56, 4. (J.W.B., M.F., D.M.) Wairoa est. lagoons, 1/1/55, c. 110; Mahia Pen., c. 6; Ahuriri lagoon, 27/2/55, 12. (D.H.B.) 15/10/55, c. 150. (G.C.) 19/10/55, c. 400 in several flocks. (W.A.W.) Raglan, summer '55-56, 30; winter '56, none. (C.P.) Aotea, 2/9/56, 150-200. (C.R.B.) Kawhia, census July '56, 50-60. (W.S.S., J.C.) Rangitikei est., 23/1/55, c. 100; Manawatu est., 23/1/55, c. 200. (B.D.H.) 1/10/55, c. 70. (I.G.A.) 20/5/56, 8. (R.B.S.) Pauatahanui, 23/10/55, 1. (P.C.B.) Onoke, 29/1/55, 6. (B.D.H.) Nelson Haven, 20/3/56, 800+, have been in locality most of summer; Riwaka, 24/3/56, 20; Puponga, 13/5/56, several groups of 15-20 birds. (M.J.B.) Whanganui (Westhaven) Inlet, 26/11/55, c. 450; Golden Bay, Nov. '55, 'inestimable'; Takaka mouth, 23/11/55, c. 200; Nelson, 20/11/55, 100+; Wairau Bar lagoon, 12/11/55, 200+; L. Grasmere, 13/11/55, 13.

- Orowaiti est., 1/12/55, 2. (B.D.H.) Wanganui est., Westland, 10/12/55, 12; Okarito lagoon, 11/12/55, 100+. (B.D.H., J.R.J.) 15/2/56, 8 at Greymouth abattoirs; said to occur in Sept. and Oct. sometimes in some numbers at Taramakau est. (J.R.J.) Ashley mouth, 9/10/55, 93; 22/10/55, 81; 14/12/55, 44; 19/2/56, 50; 2/5/56, 11. (W.C.C., B.D.H.) Waimakariri, 3/5/56, 12; Heathcote-Avon est., 13-28/10/55, 800+; Taumutu, 30/10/55, 5. (D.E.C., B.D.H.) Washdyke, 4/11/55, 4. Dunedin Harbour, 6/11/55, c. 650; Waikawa, 30/3/56, 30; Fortrose, 20; Awarua Bay, 8/3/56, 82; Riverton, 23/3/56, 9; Oreti est., Awarua, March '56, max. 500; Oreti Beach, large numbers visit it. (B.D.H.)
- TURNSTONE** (*Arenaria interpres*). S. Kaipara Heads, 11/12/55, 12. (R.B.S.) Kaikoura, 6/5/56, 12+. (B.D.B.) Ashley, 19/2/56, 1. (W.C.C., B.D.H.) Taumutu, Ellesmere, 15/10/55, 20 (2 in breeding dress); 30/10/55, 2. (D.E.C., B.D.H.) Fortrose, 30/3/56, 26; Awarua Bay, 8/3/56, 16; Oreti est., Awarua, 6-31/3/56, always in big numbers, 200+ the biggest flock seen; Riverton, 23/3/56, 10. (B.D.H., B.A.E., R.M.R.)
- KNOT** (*Calidris canutus*). S. Kaipara Heads, 11/12/55, 1000+. (R.B.S.) Golden Bay, Nov. '55, many hundreds; L. Grasmere, 13/11/55, 3; Taumutu, 15/10/55, 50; Oreti est., Awarua, March '56, several hundreds. (B.D.H.) Okarito, 11/12/55, 1. (B.D.H., J.R.J.)
- SHARP-TAILED SANDPIPER** (*Calidris acuminata*). Ahuriri lagoon, 6/3/55, 4 (?). (D.H.B.) L. Hawkins, Invercargill, 13-25/3/56, up to 10 during high tides in Oreti est. (B.D.H.)
- AMERICAN PECTORAL SANDPIPER** (*Calidris melanotos*). L. Grasmere, 13/11/55, 3; Waipara River mouth, 18/10/55, 1. (B.D.H.)
- PIED STILT** (*Himantopus l. leucocephalus*). Raglan Harbour, May '56, 200. (C.P.) Kawhia, census July '56, 200. (W.S.S., J.C.) Waerenga, spread over country here by mid-June, three weeks earlier than usual. (M.P.D.) Galatea, B.O.P., Nov. '55, reports of c. 200 on old lagoon, many nesting. (R.StP.) Gisborne, best count at Awapuni lagoon, c. 150 on 20/12/55; Sponge Bay, 18/12/55, 15. (M.F.) Several nests near abattoirs. (D.M.) L. Whakaki, H.B., 3-17/5/56, best count 400. (R.StP.) New Plymouth, Paritutu Beach, 3/12/55, 2. (D.M.) Palmerston North, Dec. '55-March '56, up to 24. (I.G.A.) Head of L. Wairarapa, 29/1/55, 400+; Onoke, 29/1/55, 18. (B.D.H.) Hutt R. est., 16/4/56, 4; 6/5/56, 3. Pauatahanui, 23/10/55, 2. (P.C.B.) Porirua, 12/8/56, 1. (H.L.S.) Totaranui lagoon, 27/12/55, 8. (M.J.B.) 12-28/11/55, none seen Wairau Bar - Westport, save 6 at Motupipi, Takaka, on 22/11/55. (B.D.H.) Kakepotahi, 10/12/55, 9 on Waitaha River bed; otherwise none seen Westport to Okarito lagoon, where there were 2 on 11/12/55. (B.D.H., J.R.J.) Reported in the Poerua swamp. Winter population (1950-1956) c. 12 at Greymouth. (J.R.J.) Wairau Bar lagoon, 12/11/55, 40+; L. Grasmere, 13/11/55, 106. Conway R., 10/11/55, 3 pairs on riverbed. Jed River mouth, Gore Bay, 10/11/55, 1. Waipara mouth, 9/11/55, 4; Ashley and Waimakariri 23; 19/2/56, 24; 2/5/56, 55. (W.C.C., B.D.H.) Waimakariri mouth, mouths, 9/10/55, none. (B.D.H.) Ashley mouth, 22/10/55, 40; 14/12/55, 3/5/56, 16. Okuku R., 25/10/55, 3. (B.D.H.) Heathcote-Avon estuary, 28/10/55, 10. (D.E.C., B.D.H.) Selwyn mouth, 15/10/55, 9; Birdling's Flat, 29/10/55, 5; L. Forsyth, 29/10/55, 40; Cooper's lagoon, Taumutu, 30/10/55, 7; Washdyke lagoon, 4/11/55, 28; 1/3/56, 90; Saltwater Creek, Timaru, 4/11/55, 33; 22/2/56, 8; Waitaki est., 30/6/56, 4; L. Waiholo, 14/4/56, 36; Taieri, 14/4/56, 5; L. Tuakitoto, Balclutha, 14/4/56, 140; Fortrose, 30/3/56, several; Haldane est., 30/3/56, 2; Waituna lagoon, 31/3/56, 18; Awarua Bay, 8/3/56, 14; Oreti est., Awarua, March '56, 90 max.; L. George, 23/3/56, 13. (B.D.H.)
- BLACK STILT** (*Himantopus novaezealandiae*). Kawhia Harbour, May '54, 6; 25/5/55, census 2; 22/7/55, census 10; July '56, census 9. (W.S.S., J.C.)

BLACK-BACKED GULL (*Larus dominicanus*). Gisborne, Muriwai lagoon, 100+ nests in sandhills. (M.F., J.W.B.)

RED-BILLED GULL (*Larus novae-hollandiae scopulinus*). Three Sisters, Waiheke I., 6/11/55, 1 nest; 13/11/55, several nests; 17/12/56, all gone. (M.J.B., M.J.B.) Mt Maunganui, 21/1/56, 2 seen eating ripe coprosma berries. (A.H.W.) Nesting colonies on seaward side of Motuaroi I., near Tolaga Bay, and at Moutara Pt. (A.B.) New Plymouth, Sugarloaves: Pararaki, 9/1/55, c. 200 pairs; Moto-o-tamatea, eastern face, 9/1/55, 15 nests; 10/1/56, 9 nests; western face, 13/1/56, 42 nests. (D.M.) Waipara mouth, 9/11/55, several; Birdling's Flat, 29/10/55, 40. (B.D.H.) Nelson Boulder Bank, Nov. '55, c. 150 birds nesting. (M.J.B.) Rare in Westland; 6 nests at Okarito. (J.R.J.) Blanket Bay, Fiordland, 22/1/56, 1 nest with 2 eggs; many chicks at all stages. (R.M.J.)

BLACK-BILLED GULL (*Larus bulleri*). Thames town, winter '56, up to 6. (W.M.G.) Clevedon, 20/8/55, 1 imm. (A.J.G.) Manawatu est., May '56, several. (R.B.S.) Head of L. Wairarapa, 29/1/55, 51; Onoke, 18/12/54, 1. (B.D.H.) Okarito lagoon, 160 nests. (J.R.J.) Waipara mouth, 18/10/55, few; 9/11/55, 50; Ashley mouth, 9/10/55, c. 100; 22/10/55, few; 19/2/56, 200+; 2/5/56, c. 400. Selwyn mouth, 15/10/55, plentiful; Birdling's Flat, 14/10/55, few; 29/10/55, 60; L. Forsythe, 29/10/55, 25; Washdyke lagoon, 4/11/55, 30; 22/2/56, numerous; Saltwater Creek, Timaru, 22/2/56, 200; Tekapo, 25/2/56, 12; Balmoral army camp, Tekapo, 200; Alexandra, 18/4/56, several on Clutha; L. Tuakitoto, Balclutha, 14/4/56, 30; Fortrose, 30/3/56, 60 in paddock. (B.D.H.)

BLACK-FRONTED TERN (*Chlidonias hybrida albostratus*). Waikanae, 19/5/56, 34. (R.B.S.) Porirua, 12/8/56, 1. (H.L.S.) Westport-Okarito, 1-11/12/55, none seen on rivers or at river mouths. (B.D.H., J.R.J.) Fabian's Valley, Marlborough, 15/11/55, 3 over paddock; Waiau R., 12/12/55; Lewis Pass-Hammer, seen; Conway R., 10/11/55, colony near breeding *L. bulleri*, 1 nest 2 eggs, 9 young in water together; Okuku R., 25/10/55, up to 6 hawking at once, one aggressive to *H. o. finschi*. Waipara mouth, 18/10/55, several; Ashley mouth, 9 and 22/1/55, none; 2/5/56, 50; Waimakariri mouth, 3/5/56, 60; Taieri, 14/4/56, 4; Dacre, 5/4/56, 5; Southland 6-31/3/56, frequent inland over paddocks, particularly near big rivers, e.g. Mataura, Winton, Thornbury; less common in coastal areas, e.g. Fortrose, Awarua Bay, L. Hawkins, Riverton. (B.D.H.)

CASPIAN TERN (*Hydroprogne caspia*). Gisborne, Muriwai lagoon, 7/1/56. (M.F., J.W.B.) Ahuriri lagoon, 31/1/54, 14; 16/7/55, 3. (D.H.B.) Manawatu est., 1/10/55, 13. (I.G.A.) River mouths of Wellington west coast, Jan. '55, a few at each; Porirua, 7; Pauatahanui, 24/1/55, 11. Onoke, 29/1/55, 1. (B.D.H.) Nelson, 9/2/56, 2; Pelorus Sound, 4/3/56, 2; Riwaka, 25/3/56, 2. (M.J.B.) Whanganui (Westhaven) Inlet, 26/11/55, 10. Ligar Bay, 22/11/55, 1; Nelson Boulder Bank, 20/11/55, 1 pair with 2 chicks in Red-billed Gull colony; Wairau Bar, 12/11/55, 5 without nests in colony of White-fronted Terns and Red-billed Gulls. (B.D.H.) Most of the larger Westland estuaries have odd breeding pairs. Okarito, 11/12/55, 1 pair with 2 chicks in colony of White-fronted Terns. (B.D.H., J.R.J.) Ashley mouth, 9/10/55, 4; 2/5/56, 4; L. Forsythe, 29/10/55, 1. Taumutu, 30/10/55, 4. (D.E.C., B.D.H.) Waitaki mouth, 30/6/56, 2. (B.D.H.) Karitane, 9/10/55, 3. (L.E.W.)

TERN (species?). Gisborne, Muriwai lagoon, 7/1/56 and 20/1/56, 2 believed to be Fairy Terns (*S. nereis*). (M.F., J.W.B.)

WHITE-FRONTED TERN (*Sterna striata*). Three Sisters, Waiheke I., 13/11/55, c. 40 nests with eggs; 4/12/55, 34 eggs, 12 chicks; 17/12/55, all gone. (M.J.B., M.J.B.) Thames town, winter '56, up to 300. (W.M.G.) Waikato est., 26/5/56, 200+. (R.B.S.) New Plymouth, Jan. '56, substantial colonies on Moto-o-tamatea and Pararaki. (D.M.) Himatangi Beach, 11/2/56, c. 100. (I.G.A.) Waikanae, 22/1/55, c. 1100. (B.D.H.)

- 11/5/56, 100+. (R.B.S.) Ligar Bar, Takaka, 22/11/55, some close inshore, otherwise not seen in Golden Bay. (B.D.H.) Nelson Boulder Bank, Nov. '55, 50 nesting, chicks numerous; Pelorus Sound, 4/3/56, 9. (M.J.B.) Waipara mouth, 18/10/55, c. 150, noisy, carrying fish; 9/11/55, c. 80, in full display, no nests. (B.D.H.) Ashley mouth, 9/10/55, 2; 19/2/56, 50; 2/5/56, 260. (B.D.H., W.C.C.) Waimakariri mouth, 3/5/56, 80. Diamond Harbour, 17/10/55, none at usual breeding site. Birdling's Flat, 14 and 29/10/55, 200, not displaying. Selwyn mouth, 15/10/55, in small aggressive groups. Taumutu, 15/10/55 and 30/10/55, c. 200, much display. Dunedin Harbour mole, 6/11/55, c. 200, much display. Porpoise Bay, Waikawa, 30/3/56, several. (B.D.H.) Upper Otago Harbour, 25/2/56, 3 (only record) on sand flats. (W.A.W.)
- N.Z. PIGEON (*Hemiphaga novaeseelandiae*). Auckland, 1 present in Sea-view Rd from April to Sept. '56; associating closely with some Homing Pigeons; consumed guavas while available; later its staple food was puriri berries. (B.S.C., S.C.) Clevedon, 24/7/56, unusual sight of 24 flying over bush reserve. (H.R.McK.) Waerenga, '56, increasing in odd patches of bush in settled country. (M.P.D.) Rotorua district, a few on Ngongotaha Mt, generally scarce. (M.S.B.) Minginui, '55-'56, up to 18 daily, often scarce; food - Sept.-Dec., houhere leaves, also May-July; Nov. and July, kohia (passion vine) leaves; Jan., fuchsia and coprosma fruit; February, fuchsia and green miro; March-April, miro; 14/3/56, one on hawthorn fruit. (R.StP.) Waikaremoana, '55-'56, more plentiful than at any time since 1936; even present in spring; numerous till autumn; left at end of June; seen to feed on a gall or fungus on *Nothofagus menziesii*. (G.E.S.) 4/1/56, 14 in one flock. (A.B.) Pehiri valley, Gisborne, increasing. (A.B.) New Plymouth, marked increase over recent years. (D.M.) Westland, scarce in the pure beech forest, well distributed elsewhere; Karama, 30+ reported together; big flock feeding in neinei on the Balfour Range. (J.R.J.) O.T.C. hut, Silver Peaks, 20/11/55, 1 or 2 in beech. (B.W.C.) Deep Cove, Doubtful Sound, 21/1/56, 13 together in flight. (R.M.J.) 21-29/6/56, a few seen. (W.A.W.) School Creek, Dunedin, 10/5/56, 6-8. (D.N.F.C.)
- KAKAPO (*Strigops habroptilus*). Manapouri-Doubtful Sound track, fresh tracks reported recently by R. Pauli in high level forest between First Arm and Crooked Arm, Doubtful Sound. (W.A.W.)
- N.I. KAKA (*Nestor meridionalis septentrionalis*). Port Fitzroy, Great Barrier, 21/1/56, seen and heard. (A.J.G.) Ponui I., '55, P. Chamberlin reports that they are sometimes heard flying over at dusk. (H.R.McK.) Clevedon, 15/5/56, L. P. Sladdin reported one in his garden; it bit through stalks of tree tomatoes, dropped the fruit to the ground and went down to eat it. (H.R.McK.) L. Pupuke, Takapuna, 1 present all winter. (A.C.H., R.B.S.) Auckland, Cornwall Park, 2 in Sept. (J.C.D.) Awhitu, 2/8/56, 1 stayed four days. (V.M.R.) Rotorua, 14/11/54, 1 in oak near Sulphur Pt. (A.C.H.) Waimangu, 31/3/56 - 20/5/56, 4 feeding on apples at the tea-rooms. (W.J.B., M.S.B.) Taupo, 4 in gardens, most of the winter. (A.A.) Minginui, '55-'56, Aug.-April, up to 10; May-July, odd ones; noisy on damp days. (R.StP.) Waikaremoana, '55-'56, increasing. (G.E.S.) Seen daily and heard frequently. (A.B.) Nuhaka, one reported in school grounds for a fortnight. (A.B.) Roundaway Station, near Pouerere Beach, H.B., May '55, one present for some time reported by Mr Robin Bell. (D.H.B.)
- S.I. KAKA (*Nestor m. meridionalis*). Totaranui-Wainui Saddle, 1/1/56, 23 flying by groups from beech to rata forests, noisy. (M.J.B.) Westland, widely distributed. (J.R.J.) Takitimu Mts, Elmwood Ck, 3/12/55, 1 in beech at 2000 ft. (B.W.C.) Head of Wilmot Pass, Doubtful Sound, Deep Cove, odd ones seen and heard Jan. '56. (M.J.B., R.M.J., A.C.P., C.M.)
- KEA (*Nestor notabilis*). Occasionally visits Greymouth and Blackball; uncommon in the Paparoas. (J.R.J.) Wilmot Pass and Deep Cove, Jan. '56, a few. (W.A.W.)

RED-FRONTED PARAKEET (*Cyanoramphus novaezelandiae*). Waikaremoana, '53, 2 feeding on coprosma berries; red crowns clearly seen at 7 feet. Only the plentiful Yellow-crowned seen here before. (G.E.S.) Seddonville, reported occasionally from Charming and Chasm Creeks. (J.R.J.)

YELLOW-CROWNED PARAKEET (*Cyanoramphus auriceps*). Minginui, '55-'56, up to 6; but fewer in winter. (R.St.P.) Waikaremoana, prefers feeding on younger beech trees on edge of forest; often flocks of up to 20; increasing. (G.E.S.) Comparatively common around Reefton and on the floor of the Grey Valley on the poorest land in silver pine-mountain beech forest. (J.R.J.)

PARAKEET (*Cyanoramphus* species?). Mamaku, 25/6/56, 1 answered lure call. (H.R.McK.) Spey R., 21/1/56, heard in the top of beech. (M.J.B.)

SHINING CUCKOO (*Chalcites lucidus*). First seen or heard: Ponui I., 25/9/55 (P. Chamberlin); Clevedon, 6/10/55 (A.J.G.), 7/10/55 (M.J.B., Miss Waters), 8/10/55 (A. R. Browne); Hunua, 6/9/55 (D. Warren); Moumoukai, 29/9/55 (J.W.St.P.); Minginui, 26/9/55 (R.St.P.); Aotea, 9/10/55 (C.R.B.); New Plymouth, 13/8/55 (D.M.); Henley, 18/9/55 (L.E.W.). Last song: Moumoukai, 8/1/56; Minginui, end of January (R.St.P.); Waikaremoana, 31/1/56 (R.B.S.); North Egmont Hostel, 22/1/56 (D.M.). Rotorua, apparently prefers exotic to native forest. (M.S.B.) Minginui, 2 seen on 28/3/56 feeding on small caterpillars on kohia. (R.St.P.) Vauxhall, Dunedin, 18/3/56, 1 juv. in kowhai. (L.E.W.) Casual records: Ngaruroro River bed, 21/11/54. (D.H.B., G.C.) Takaka, 23/11/55; Murchison, 29/11/55; Gore Bay, Cheviot, 10/11/55. (B.D.H.) Pukeiti Rhododendron Trust, 22/12/55, 5. (D.M.)

LONG-TAILED CUCKOO (*Eudynamis taitensis*). Mt Hobson, Remuera, 19/2/56, 1. (A.C.H.) Clevedon, 19/12/55, 2110 hrs., 3 calls pass from N.E. to S.W. (H.R.McK., H.M.McK.) Minginui, first call 23/10/55; calls ceased 28/1/56; last seen 6/2/56; but on upper Whirinaki, 2 on 3/3/56. (R.St.P.) Kaingaroa, 21/11/55, 1 five miles inside pine forest. (H.R.McK.) Gisborne, Kaiti, 19/10/55, 1. (J.W.B.) Pukeiti, 22/12/55, 2. (D.M.) Spey River, 18/1/56, 1 sitting in a tree near 4 Yellowheads. (M.J.B.) Doubtful Sound, 19/2/56. (A.C.P., C.M.)

MOREPORK (*Ninox novaeseelandiae*). Deep Cove, Doubtful Sound, 26/6/56. (W.A.W.)

LAUGHING OWL (*Sceloglaux albifacies*). c. 1939 one believed seen 200 ft below summit of Mt Maud, Aniseed Valley, Nelson, among the limestone bluffs. (J.R.J.)

LITTLE OWL (*Athene noctua*). Lawrence, 19/4/56. (B.D.H.)

KINGFISHER (*Halcyon sancta vagans*). Clevedon, April '56, 1 pecking at crickets in cracks in ground; 6/7/56, 1 carrying food hotly pursued by another, squawking. (H.R.McK.) Papatoetoe. Dr G. Nicholls saw a Kingfisher fly down from a tree and pick up a live mouse from some tall grass. Back on the branch, it battered the mouse to death. (J.C.D.) Minginui, arrived 16/9/55; up to 10 per day in summer; March-July, odd ones. 16/11/55, a nesting pair diving at a stoat which was coming out of a knot-hole in a dead maire after robbing their nest. (R.St.P.) Waikaremoana, nests mostly in dead *Nothofagus menziesii*, facing south. (G.E.S.) Ngatapa, Gisborne, numerous. (M.F.) Westland, many breed along the streams in heavy bush; and return in March to their coastal haunts. (J.R.J.) Doubtful Sound. Commonly seen. (W.A.W., A.C.P., C.M.)

KOOKABURRA (*Dacelo gigas*). At least one has been present in Auckland for some time. (E.G.T.)

DOLLAR BIRD (*Eurystomus orientalis pacificus*). Tikitiki, East Coast, 20/5/56, 1 reported; identification 'fairly certain'. (A.B.)

N.I. RIFLEMAN (*Acanthisitta chloris granti*). Waikaremoana, 4/1/56, 8 nests found, one containing young recently hatched. (A.B.) Mt Egmont, not as common as on the adjacent Pouakai Ranges. (D.M.)

- S.I. RIFLEMAN** (*Acanthisitta c. chloris*). Occasional in Greymouth gardens; sparse in Westland lowland forest; abundant in beech forest. (J.R.J.) Queenstown, common in remnant beech forest. (B.D.H.) Silver Peaks, Manapouri, Wilmot Pass, Doubtful Sound. (B.W.C., R.M.J., A.C.P., C.M., W.A.W.)
- ROCK WREN** (*Xenicus gilviventris*). Takitimu Mts, 3/12/55, above bush-line on rock at 4,000 ft, 1 seen. (B.W.C.)
- FANTAIL** (*Rhipidura fuliginosa*). Minginui, nest started 2.30 p.m. 26/11/55 completed by 9 a.m. 28/11/55. (R.St.P.) Mt Egmont, Pouakai and Kaitoke Ranges, common to 3,000 ft. (D.M.) Wedge Hill, Picton, 3 of 6 seen were black; Whatamango to Port Underwood, only 2 of 20 seen were black. (H.L.S.) Deep Cove, Doubtful Sound, common. (W.A.W.)
- PIED TIT** (*Petroica macrocephala toitoi*). Minginui, seldom seen or heard in breeding season. (R.SP.) Kuripapango, singing in second growth manuka all along Kaweka track to Tutaekuri R.; Maungaharuru Range, inland from Tutira, 13/11/54. (D.H.B., G.C.) Mt Egmont, up to 4,000 ft. (D.M.) Wilton's Bush, Wellington, 20/9/55, 1 calling; the last record for this spot is 18/10/24 by R.H.D.S. Rimutaka Range, present in scrub on summit, 27/12/55; Maungakotukutuku stream, Paraparaumu, 12/8/56, one calling. (H.L.S.)
- YELLOW BREASTED TIT** (*Petroica m. macrocephala*). Deep Cove, Doubtful Sound, common. (W.A.W.)
- N.I. ROBIN** (*Petroica australis longipes*). Minginui, usually present; up to 9 up the river; 'one very tame, shares my lunch'. (R.St.P.) Waikaremoana, '54, 1 in new place, 5 miles from others known; '55, 1, 3 miles north; '56, seen at Lake House after some years' absence. (G.E.S.)
- S.I. ROBIN** (*Petroica a. australis*). Flora Hut, Mt Arthur, 30/5/56; Whangamo Saddle, 3/8/56, 1. (M.J.B.) Westland, unevenly distributed throughout the beech forest and with occasional groups in the lowland forest. (J.R.J.) Eglinton valley, 2/4/56. (B.D.H.)
- FERN BIRD** (*Bowdleria punctata*). Westland, occurs in the patches of scrub on most pakihis proper. Near Seddonville a fire has much reduced them, where for 50 years they had been known as common. Recently recorded from Charleston, the coastal side of the Paparoas, and Okarito. (J.R.J.) L. Waiholo, 24/1/56, 1. (L.E.W.)
- BROWN CREEPER** (*Finschia novaeseelandiae*). Westland, sparsely distributed. Barrytown, Rewanui, Haupiri, Whataroa, Waitangi, Copland. (J.R.J.) Goulard Downs, 2,500 ft, Heaphy track, 1/4/56, 3 in isolated patch of bush; Leathem valley, 28/8/56, a few; Wilmot Pass, 18/1/56, 2. (M.J.B.)
- WHITEHEAD** (*Mohoua ochrocephala albicilla*). Minginui, up to 200 daily in spring, decreasing later; August-May, noisy; June-July, quieter. (R.St.P.) Waikaremoana, Jan. '56, plentiful; present on Ngamoko trig, 3,644 ft. (R.B.S.) Maungaharuru Range, inland from Tutira, seen and heard. (D.H.B., G.C.)
- YELLOWHEAD** (*Mohoua o. ochrocephala*). Westland, uncommon; almost always found in the beech forest often with Parakeets. Reported from Charming Creek; Seddonville; Reefton; Ahaura valley; Tutaekuri; Mt Elliott; Hot Springs Creek, Hari Hari; they are more numerous in the beech of S. Westland. (J.R.J.) Spey River, 18/1/56, 8 in 2 groups, 4-4; Wilmot Pass, 21/1/56, 9 in 2 groups, 4-5 (M.J.B.); 24/1/56, a pair called down by 'cork and bottle'. (R.M.J.)
- GREY WARBLER** (*Gerygone igata*). Waikaremoana, '53, seen feeding young in nest which had fallen two feet from a bush; a new hole had been made as the original one was against the ground. (G.E.S.) Mt Egmont, up to 5,000 ft. (D.M.) Deep Cove, Doubtful Sound, occasional singing 21-29/6/56. (W.A.W.) Blanket Bay, 22/1/56, 1 on Red-billed Gulls' breeding island. (R.M.J.)

- PIPIT (*Anthus novaeseelandiae*). Miranda, 8/10/55, nest 3 eggs being incubated on edge of road only few inches above tidal mud. (H.R.McK.) Clevedon, 4/11/55, fledgling seen; 27/2/56, nest 1 egg. (A.J.G.) Taranaki, common along coast; up to 5,500 ft on Mt Egmont. (D.M.) L. McKenzie, 11/1/56, nest 4 eggs under tussock; 12/1/56, nest empty. (L.E.W.) Deep Cove, Doubtful Sound, 23/6/56, 2. (W.A.W.)
- STITCHBIRD (*Notiomystis cincta*). Little Barrier, '56, one female, while feeding, repeatedly made the sound described as a low warble. The same sound was heard also from a male and other female in addition to the typical 'stitch' call. (K. M. P. Gillespie.)
- BELLBIRD (*Anthornis melanura*). Gisborne, Ngatapa, 4/9/55, 3 on fruit blossom; uncommon here. (M.F.) 31/8/55, 2, first known report in Gisborne town. (A.B.) Rotorua, increasing. (M.S.B., M.R.R.) Minginui, '55-'56, Aug.-Sept. up to 25; Oct.-April up to 60; May-June up to 8; food same as tui's, with totara fruit added. Song faded mid-May - July. (R.StP.) Palmerston North Esplanade, 10/5/56, first seen for year; max. 3 on any day. (I.G.A.) Kuripapango, 14/5/55, 1. (D.H.B., G.C.) New Plymouth, increasing; Mt Egmont, common up to 4,000 ft. (D.M.) Waipori Falls, none seen this winter, though food was plentiful. (E.A.H.) Deep Cove, Doubtful Sound, common in mid-winter. (W.A.W.)
- TUI (*Prosthemadera novaeseelandiae*). Gisborne, up to 12 in town, Aug.-Sept. '55. (A.B.) Rotorua, only an occasional visitor to the town; nowhere really common in the district and possibly declining. (M.S.B., R.E.W.F.) Minginui, '55-'56, Aug.-April up to 45 daily; May-July scarce; food, fruit of puta-puta-weta, whau-whau-paku, fuchsia, coprosma, wineberry, hawthorn, and flowers of fuchsia and kowhai. (R.StP.) Palmerston North Esplanade, present nearly all year except March; commonest July-Aug., up to 20. (I.G.A.) New Plymouth, plentiful in parks and patches of bush; Mt Egmont, up to 4,000 ft. (D.M.) Cable Bay, Nelson, 19/11/55, 1 with right central tail feather completely white. (R.D.H.) School Creek, Dunedin, 10/5/56, 1. (D.N.F.C.)
- SILVEREYE (*Zosterops lateralis*). Ngatapa, Gisborne, large flocks during winter. (M.F.) Minginui, '55-'56, numbers fluctuate; April up to 300 daily; July none; Feb., feeding on wineberry and kaikomako. (R.StP.) Taranaki, abundant; high on Mt Egmont even in mid-winter, e.g., common but silent 23/6/56, at 3,000-4,000 ft. (D.M.) Westland, abundant, except in pure beech forest. (J.R.J.)
- LESSER REDPOLL (*Carduelis flammea cabaret*). Mt Maunganui, 14/10/56, 15 - the first recorded in 15 years. (A.H.W.) Minginui, '55-'56, flocks again in breeding season, e.g. 250 in Sept., 300 in Oct. on a shingle bed, 40 in Nov., and many odd birds. Dec.-July, smaller flocks. (R.StP.) Aniwanui, Waikaremoana, June '56, flocks totalling 2,000 to 3,000 birds arrived; noted that flocks of small birds here tend to move north. (G.E.S.) L. Whakaki, H.B., 3-17/5/56, up to 40 daily. (R.StP.) Mt Egmont, common above 3,000 ft in sub-alpine scrub. (D.M.)
- YELLOWHAMMER (*Emberiza citrinella*). Minginui, very scarce. (R.StP.) Karori, Wellington, 19/9/56, c. 100 in public park; birds singing incessantly in the flock. (H.L.S.) Deep Cove, Doubtful Sound, 2, mid-winter '56. (W.A.W.)
- MYNA (*Acridotheres tristis*). Arran Bay, Waiheke I., 4/1/56 and later, 2; second record for Waiheke, the first being in May '44 when a single bird was seen for a day after an easterly storm. (P.A.S.S., J.C.D.) Ponui I., '55, 2 reported by P. Chamberlin. (H.R.McK.) Volcanic plateau, steadily increasing, flocks of 5-12 noted in winter. (F.E.G., M.S.B.)
- WHITE-BACKED MAGPIE (*Gymnorhina hypoleuca*). Gisborne, 10/6/56, 3 attacked and killed hen pheasant. (A.B.) Tuai, Waikaremoana, 2 in 1940, now c. 200. (G.E.S.) Puketuru, Putaruru, A. Christmas reports 2 in '55, later 4. (H.R.McK.) Taranaki, gradually spreading. (D.M.) Westland, some near Cass; common at Craigieburn. (J.R.J.)

S.I. KOKAKO (*Callaeas c. cinerea*). Reported as heard on the ridge between Two-mile and Three-mile Creeks, Mokihinui. (H.W.J.)

ANNUAL LOCALITY REPORTS

MIRANDA COAST, FIRTH OF THAMES

Christmas, 1955, was followed by three weeks of strong easterly and north-easterly winds; on result of which was that more 'tubenoses' than usual were found ashore in the Firth of Thames.

FAIRY PRION. 1 juv. freshly dead 15/1/56. 2 fragmentary on 25/2/56.

BULLER'S SEARWATER. 1 dead on 15/1/56, 1 dead on 12/7/56.

SOOTY SHEARWATER. 1 dead on 12/2/56.

TASMANIAN MUTTONBIRD. 1 dead on 12/2/56.

WHITE-FACED HERON. One or two birds have been present throughout the year. It is expected that this heron will soon be breeding, if it has not done so already. Sample records, 2 on 2/12/55 and 2 on 27/12/55, 2 on 17/6/56.

BLACK SWAN. Not common. 27 on 17/6/56 is the biggest count so far.

SHOVELER. 2 males on 8/10/55; 2 on 27/2/56 on the pools and a pair on Waitakaruru Creek on 17/6/56.

S.I. PIED OYSTERCATCHER. 122 on 25/8/55; 40+ on 25/10/55; 58 on 4/12/55 was probably the total of summerers. As in Manukau the first migrants are back by the New Year. 99 on 3/1/56; c. 240 on 15/1/56; c. 500 on 19/2/56. A peak of c. 830 was reached in mid-March; but some of these evidently moved on, for the wintering total was c. 600.

BLACK OYSTERCATCHER. One between 25/10/55 and 27/2/56; two between 21/4/56 and 9/9/56.

PACIFIC GOLDEN PLOVER. This does not appear to be a regular summer visitor to the Miranda Coast. None was recorded during the 1955-56 season; but N.M. found two early return-migrants on 8/9/56.

BANDED DOTTEREL. On the Kaiaua-Miranda coast, where a few years ago 20-25 pairs bred, it is now doubtful if there are 10 breeding pairs. 25/8/55, 9 birds seen, one nest with one egg found; 8/10/55, 6 pairs located, 5 'loose' birds, 1 chick seen; 4/12/55, census 29 birds, 2 pairs still nesting; 18/12/55, 2 small and 1 large chick ringed; new nest at Miranda creek; 27/12/55, a flock of 51 including 26 young of the season; one nest with 3 eggs; 2/1/56, not plentiful, those seen being young and 2 pairs of late-breeders with chicks; 15/1/56, c. 20 on the Waitakaruru mudflats; 27/2/56, 143 on Miranda lagoon; c. 60 on 31/3/56 near Waitakaruru; 18/3/56, 18; 21/4/56, c. 20 in lush waterlogged grass; 6/5/56, Kaiaua-Miranda, none.

N.Z. DOTTEREL. 25/8/55, 1 pair at Kaiaua and 1 pair at White Bridge; 8/10/55, 5 at Kaiaua; during the summer odd unmated birds moved up and down the coast; no successful breeding reported; but on 18/3/56, 6 at Kaiaua and 1 at Miranda; 17/6/56, 5 (3 coloured) at Kaiaua.

WRYBILL. 303 on 8/10/55. Most of these evidently left, so that only 40-50 summered, e.g. 38+ on 25/10/55, 54 on 6/11/55 and 43 on 4/12/55, 108 on 27/12/55. By 2/1/56 they had increased to c. 330, and by 15/1/56 to 1,150+. 2,000+ on 27/2/56. Winter census, c. 2,600 all in one flock, checked by several observers on 17/6/56. 850+ on 26/8/56; c. 500 on 9/9/56; c. 330 on 13/10/56.

LONG-BILLED CURLEW. 2 on 4/12/55, 18/12/55 and 27/12/55; 3 on 2/1/56; 4 on 18/3/56; 2 on 31/3/56; 2 on 13/6/56.