the Zoology Department, University of Canterbury, for institutional support; the University Grants Committee for a Postgraduate Scholarship; and the Marlborough Catchment Board for permission to work in Kowhai Bush. I am grateful to J. Warham, C. L. McLay, K. Duncan, B. D. Heather and J. D. Wright for constructive criticism of earlier drafts of this paper; to P. M. Johns for identifying invertebrates, and to M. I. A. Bulfin for identifying seeds from pellets cast by robins.

## LITERATURE CITED

LITERATURE CITED

BEST, H. A. 1975. The Black Tomtit. Wildlife — A Review 6: 32-37.

CROXALL, J. P. 1977. Feeding behaviour and ecology of New Guinea rainforest insectivorous passerines. Ibis 119: 113-146.

FALLA, R. A.; SIBSON, R. B.; TURBOTT, E. G. 1966. A field guide to the birds of New Zealand and outlying islands. London: Collins.

FLACK, J. A. D. 1973. Robin research — a progress report. Wildlife — a Review 4: 28-36.

FLACK, J. A. D. MS. The Black Robins of Tapuaenuku. A study of a rare species. Unpub. monograph, Dept. Int. Aff. file, Wellington.

FLACK, J. A. D. in prep. In New Zealand birds. Readers Digest.

GIBB, J. A. 1961. Bird populations. In Marshall, A. J. (ed.). Biology and comparative physiology of birds. Vol. 2. New York: Academic Press.

GRAVATT, D. J. 1971. Aspects of habitat use by New Zealand honeyeaters, with reference to other forest species. Emu 71: 65-72.

physiology of birds. Vol. 2. New York: Academic Press.

GRAVATT, D. J. 1971. Aspects of habitat use by New Zealand honeyeaters, with reference to other forest species. Emu 71: 65-72.

HAILMAN, J. P. 1960. A field study of the Mockingbird's wing-flashing behaviour and its association with foraging. Will. Bull. 72: 346-357.

HEPPNER, F. H. 1965. Sensory mechanisms and environmental cues used by the American Robin in locating earthworms. Condor 67: 247-256.

HEPPNER, F. H. 1965. An ontogeny of wing-flashing in the Mockingbird with reference to other behaviours. Will. Bull. 77: 264-281.

HUNT, D. M.; GILL, B. J. (Ed) 1979. Ecology of Kowhai Bush, Kaikoura. Mauri Ora. Spec. Pub. 2. Christchurch: Univ. Cant. Biol. Soc.

KACELNIK, A. 1979. The foraging efficiency of Great Tits (Parus major L.) in relation to light intensity. Anim. Behav. 27: 237-241.

KEARTON, P. M. 1979. The breeding biology and behaviour of the Yellow-breasted Tit (Petroica macrocephala macrocephala). MSc thesis, Univ. Cant.

OLIVER, W. R. B. 1955. New Zealand birds. 2nd edition. Wellington: A. H. & A. W. Reed.

POWLESLAND, R. G. 1979. Pellet casting by South Island Robins. Notornis 26: 273-278.

SHARELL, R. 1971. New Zealand birds. Christchurch: Whitcoulls.

SPARKS, J. H. 1961. The relationship between foot-movements and feeding in shorebirds. British Birds 54: 337-340.

TRAVIS, J. 1977. Seasonal foraging in a Downy Woodpecker population. Condor 79: 371-375.

TRAVIS, J. 1977. Seasonal foraging in a Downy Woodpecker population. Condor 79: 371-375. UDE SHANKAR, M. J. 1977. Aspects of the behaviour of the South Island Fantail **Rhipidura fuliginosa fuliginosa**. MSc thesis, Univ. Cant. WARHAM, J. 1956. Why do wagtails wag tails? The West Australian.

R. G. POWLESLAND, Department of Zoology, University of Canterbury, Christchurch.

Present address: Wildlife Service, Department of Internal Affairs, Private Bag, Wellington.

## SHORT NOTE

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

## TRANS TASMAN CATTLE EGRETS

Recently I was told that shortly after leaving Sydney on 1 March 1980 seven large white birds were noticed following *Union Hobart*. They stayed with the vessel, intermittently landing on board, until 4 March when a few miles off Farewell Spit. From descriptions and photographs taken atthe time the birds are identifiable as Cattle Egrets (Bubulcus ibis).

JOHN JENKINS