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- SIMMONS, K. E. L., 1957. The taxonomic significance of the head-scratching methods of birds. Ibis 99: 178-181.
- VAN TYNE, J., 1956. What constitute scientific data for the study of bird distribution? Wils. Bull. 68: 63-67.
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## ADDENDA

### *Contributions to Life Histories and General Biology*

- CUNNINGHAM, J., & WELCH, E. O., 1955. The Grey Teal in New Zealand. Some nesting and plumage notes. Emu 55: 303-309.
- FARNER, D. S., et al., 1956. The body temperatures of the North Island Kiwi. Emu 56: 199-206.
- McVEY, A., 1956. The Song Thrush: additional notes. Emu 56: 196-198.
- SERVENTY, D. L., 1956. A method of sexing petrels in field observations. Emu 56: 213-214. Breeding petrels may be sexed by examination of the cloaca; 'not dependent on any skilled knowledge of anatomical details.'
- WODZICKI, K., 1956. Breeding of the House Sparrow away from man in New Zealand. Emu 56: 146-147.

### *Behaviour*

- ROBERTS, R. V., 1956. Bird behaviour. Emu 56: 144. Note on N.Z. Pipit.

### *Distribution, Migration, Dispersal*

- GIBSON, J. D., & SEFTON, A. R., 1956. Additional records of Great-winged and Brown-headed Petrels from New South Wales, and some comparisons. Emu 56: 133-135. Notes on Grey-faced Petrel (*Pterodroma macroptera*) and Bird of Providence (*Pt. solandri*). 1956 A petrel new for Australia. Emu 56: 211-212. First Australian record of Westland Black Petrel.
- LEARMONTH, N., 1956. White-fronted Tern. Emu 56: 145.

### *Taxonomic and Miscellaneous*

- CLELAND, J. B., 1956. Birds as they affect the health and well-being of man in Australia. Emu 56: 183-193. Several birds mentioned also occur in N.Z.
- HEMMING, F., 1956. Important decisions on the names for certain birds recently adopted by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature. Emu 56: Changes in the names of Song Thrush from *Turdus ericetorum* to *T. philomelos* Brehm, 1831, and Snipes (e.g. Japanese Snipe) from *Capella* spp. to *Gallinago* sp.



## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Dunedin, 20th May, 1967

Over 60 members and friends attended.

Organisation of A.G.M. week-end activities was in the hands of Dunedin Regional Organiser, Mrs. J. B. Hamel, and her helpers. Arrangements for accommodation and outings were excellent, and the highlight of the week-end was a buffet dinner in the gracious surroundings of Glenfalloch.

Mr. Blackburn's Presidential Address summarised the progress of the Society from 1960 to 1967, a period in which there has been a steady growth in membership, a marked extension of the Society's organisation and activities, and an improvement in its financial position which has enabled Council to plan with confidence additional measures designed to further the Society's main object, to encourage the study of birds in New Zealand.

Mr. Blackburn presented the Treasurer's report, O.S.N.Z. and Kermadec Committee accounts, which were adopted. Annual Reports were summarised and will appear in full in *Notornis*. He also announced that the Field Guide was selling well, and that Mr. Sibson was working on revision against the probability of a second edition; that Biology of Birds is selling steadily but many members have not yet bought a copy; and that good progress has been made with preparation of the Checklist.

The Bailey Prize for the best contribution by a Junior Member to the Nest Record Scheme was awarded to Paul Sagar, Canterbury; the Kings College Bird Club award went to C. H. Barlow, Auckland, who has taken over from David Fenwick the task of preparing *Notornis* index.

Only three nominations (Mrs. J. B. Hamel, Dr. R. A. Falla and Mr. N. B. Mackenzie) were received to fill four routine vacancies on Council. These officers were declared elected. This left one vacant seat on Council, plus three vacated by the resignations as President, Treasurer and Secretary of Messrs. Blackburn, McKenzie and Edgar. Under the Constitution, Council is empowered to appoint officers to fill vacancies, however caused, and officers so appointed hold office until the expiry of the term of the officers they replaced.

The Vice-President, Dr. G. R. Williams, was appointed President, and Mr. A. Blackburn accepted appointment to fill the resulting vacancy as Vice-President. These officers retire in 1968. Messrs. J. P. C. Watt and B. A. Ellis accepted appointment as Treasurer and Secretary, and retire in 1969. Dr. P. C. Bull, a Past-President, accepted nomination as a Council Member and retires in 1970.

Messrs. Thompson and Lang, Dunedin, were appointed auditors for 1967, and a vote of thanks to Messrs. Bain and Sheppard, 1966 auditors, was unanimously carried.

A motion by Mr. J. M. Cunningham, that para 14 of the Constitution be amended by adding the following clause "(e) at least one member of Council shall reside in each of the North and South Islands" was carried.

A motion to abolish junior membership, by Dr. Williams, was not carried. A motion by Mr. J. M. Cunningham, that Reserve Funds be established for Life Subscriptions and for the Lenz Bequest, these to be left intact unless their use is specifically authorised by A.G.M. resolution, was put to the meeting, with an explanatory note by Mr. Cunningham. During discussion it was pointed out that Council had already in November, 1966, created a Life Subscription Reserve, and comments on the proposal by Auditors were read; the motion was put to the vote and not carried.

Mrs. Hamel's proposal that Council should consider a general revision of the constitution was carried. Mr. D. H. Brathwaite said that the quality of *Notornis* index had improved greatly in recent years but expressed his preference for listing birds under scientific rather than under popular names. This matter was referred to Council.

Mr. Blackburn expressed Council's gratitude to Dr. Westerskov for valuable information on the working of a Rare Birds Committee in Denmark, and announced that Council had decided that the existing Checklist Committee should be the basis of an O.S.N.Z. Rare Birds Committee.

A letter from Dr. R. A. Falla was read, conveying a message of congratulation from the Nature Conservation Council to Dunedin Branch of O.S.N.Z. for sound research and constructive approach to the problem of Lake Tuakitoto.

Mr. R. B. Sibson reminded the meeting that in March 1770 Captain Cook first sighted Dusky Bay, and suggested that the Society might celebrate the 200th anniversary of this event by organising an expedition to the area.

The meeting unanimously voted to send congratulations to Dr. C. A. Fleming on his Fellowship of the Royal Society, and to Mr. E. K. Saul on his award of the Royal Aeronautical Society medal for his work on birds at Auckland airport; and to convey to Professor B. J. Marples best wishes for his retirement, deep appreciation of his outstanding services to the Society as Founder Member, Editor, Secretary-Treasurer, Vice-President and President, and gratitude for his continued support during the whole period of the Society's existence. Dr. G. R. Williams proposed a vote of thanks to outgoing members of Council, and the meeting closed with a vote of thanks to Mrs. Hamel and her helpers.



## CARD COMMITTEE REPORT

This year was a notable one for the sale of Xmas cards. A total of 1312 dozen (approx. 15,700) were sold, which necessitated three printings (a result of insufficient optimism by the Convener and considerable patience and co-operation by the printer). Approximately 800 cards remain unsold but there should be no difficulty in selling them eventually.

The success of 1966 scheme stems, in large part, from the introduction of the first card of what we hope will be a series of historical prints. The 1966 card — Heaphy's Kakariki — was made available for the Society's use by the kind co-operation of the Alexander Turnbull Library in Wellington. By an oversight which, fortunately for the Society was noticed by Alexander Turnbull Library too late, the Society had the distinction of publishing the Heaphy painting for the first time. This would not have been allowed by the Library as it quite understandably feels that it should be the first publisher — if any — of important N.Z. historical material.

The Library kindly supplied historical notes for the painting which unfortunately arrived too late to be included on the card. The plan is to make sure that a brief historical statement is published with such cards in future.

I recommend that as a result of the enthusiastic response the 1966 card received that the Society continue a policy of printing Xmas cards of historical interest in future and that the 1967 card be a reproduction of the painting of the White-fronted Tern which appears in the volume by J. Richardson and G. Gray of bird and mammal paintings in the series *The Voyage of the Erebus and Terror* published in 1845.

Dr. C. A. Fleming kindly offered the Society the use — if required — of the painting of the Shore Plover which appeared in his paper on the Birds of the Chatham Islands. This may be used on a future occasion.

I should like to thank on the Society's behalf Mr. Bruce Chambers for advice, the Alexander Turnbull Library, Bryce Francis Ltd. (the printers), the Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society, and those who helped with the large task of packing and sending the cards, especially my wife.

— G. R. WILLIAMS, Convener



## TREASURER'S REPORT

I am sure that all members will note with satisfaction the buoyant state of the Society's finances, the excess of income showing an increase of £600 over the previous year. Income under all headings shows substantial increases, whilst total expenditure, despite a rise in printing costs, is lower by £23. Membership shows a normal increase, and at 31/12/66 stood as follows: Honorary life members 2, Life members 76, endowment members 27, ordinary 755, and junior 67, making a total membership of 927. This is after writing off 34 unfinancial members at balance date, several of whom have since paid. Last year's Christmas card of an historical painting proved extremely popular, and for the £360 added to our revenue we are indebted to Dr. G. R. Williams and Mrs. Williams, who between them received all orders and attended to dispatch, quite a major task. The sales of back numbers included a number of complete sets of 'Notornis,' and it is pleasing to note that this demand has extended into 1967.

On the expenditure side, no amount is shown under "Field Study Courses," a donation of £10 from car owners at the Nelson LDW being included under "Donations." No contribution to the banding scheme was called for during the year, and with the amalgamation of the whole scheme under Wildlife Division, we do not anticipate having to subsidise it.

Referring to the Balance Sheet, your Council has now discussed the question of providing specific Reserve Funds, invested in trustee securities, to cover the various reserves totalling £1410 which have been created. The addition of £865 to accumulated funds is the final balance from the Christmas card account conducted in Auckland by Mr. Bruce Chambers. Over the years, £1415 has been contributed to the Society's funds from this source, and we are deeply grateful to Mr. Chambers and his helpers for their splendid work. The credit balance of £1793 at the bank has been substantially altered since balance date, firstly by a payment of £1056 for the printing of Mr. B. D. Heather's 'Biology of Birds,' and secondly by the receipt of £862 by way of royalties on approximately half the first edition of our Field Guide. An audited statement of Mr. Heather's account will be produced at the end of the current year; and we must express our deep appreciation to the co-authors of the Field Guide, Dr. R. A. Falla, Messrs. E. G. Turbott and R. B. Sibson, for their generosity in assigning their rights to the Society. I feel that our investment in shares calls for some comment. This is a long term, as opposed to a speculative, investment, so that I do not consider we should be unduly concerned with the present depressed state of the share market. The shares are all solid industrials, and the main point is that our income from this source remains steady, despite temporary capital depreciation. Values may

even fall lower during the present economic squeeze, and will not rise until Britain releases the ban on overseas investment, possibly at the end of 1967.

I make no forecast for the future, other than I think we can look forward to it with confidence. I should like to express my gratitude to Mr. J. P. Watt for the great help he has already given as Assistant Treasurer, and hope that he will continue to find enjoyment and reward now that he is taking over the responsibilities of Treasurer.

— A. BLACKBURN, Acting Treasurer



## MEMORANDUM ON O.S.N.Z. ACCOUNTS, 1966

The enclosed statement of accounts for the year ended 31/12/66 was drawn up by the acting Treasurer, Mr. A. Blackburn, early in the New Year, and presented for audit. Earlier he had suggested to members of Council that all reserves shown on the Balance Sheet should be represented by specially designated Reserve Funds, and that as a first step towards this end, the investment of £700 in Auckland Power Board debentures be designated "Life Subs Reserve Fund." He further requested that members of Council consider whether the Lenz bequest of £3500 should be set aside as a capital reserve. If Council approved, then the Dunedin City Council debentures of £1000 plus the shares investment £2500, should be designated "Lenz Bequest Reserve Fund." These proposals were in due course considered by members of Council and approval given by a majority.

In the meantime, audit of the accounts had been completed, and when the Auditors' consent to making the necessary alterations in the Balance Sheet was sought, they had the following comments to make:

1. That the Council should not be restricted in the use of Lenz bequest monies, and the mere fact of creating a capital reserve would not in any case so restrict it.
2. That as the bequest was made for no specific purpose it would be preferable to leave the sum in Accumulated Funds.
3. That a motion in general meeting to restrict Council in the use of the Lenz bequest would amount virtually to a vote of no confidence in the present and future Councils.
4. That they would prefer that Council should discuss the matter further "round the table."
5. That they doubted in any case whether the investment in shares provided a suitable investment for a capital reserve fund, owing to fluctuations in value, and reserve funds should be invested in trustee securities.
6. That sufficient investments be set aside as Reserve Funds to cover the specific reserves already made, totalling £1410, and that a Savings account be opened to receive additions to such reserves, such as life membership subscriptions; and as the funds in the savings account accumulate, they be withdrawn and invested in a more remunerative security.

We are indebted to Messrs. Bain & Sheppard for their constructive suggestions, which will be fully discussed at the meeting of Council to be held on 19th May, 1967.

# **BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1966**

1965		1966	1965		1966
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			<b>Current Assets</b>		
216	Sundry Creditors	229 13 9		Bank of New Zealand	1793 5 4
75	Subscriptions in Advance	99 6 10		Sundry Debtors	35 15 6
<b>Reserves</b>			227		1829 0 10
	Life Subs., Special Appeal and Christmas Card Scheme	700 0 0	<b>Stocks on Hand</b>		
	Add Life Subs. 1966	60 0 0	300	"Notornis," etc.	300 0 0
700		760 0 0	720	<b>Loan to Kermadecs Fund</b>	720 0 0
500	Special Publications Reserve	500 0 0	<b>Investments</b>		
150	Minor Expeditions Reserve	150 0 0		Auckland Power Board	700 0 0
<b>Accumulated Funds</b>				Dunedin City Council	1000 0 0
	Balance 1/1/66	4306 6 10		Shares in Public Companies	2500 10 0
	Add Balance from Christmas Card A/c.	865 6 4	4200		4200 10 0
		5171 13 2	500	<b>Library at valuation</b>	500 0 0
	Add Excess Income over Expenditure	638 17 1			
4306		5810 10 3			
5947		£7549 10 10	5947		£7549 10 10

# Income and Expenditure Account for the Year Ended 31st December, 1966

1965		1966	1965		1966
	Printing "Notornis" ....	704 17 4		Current Subscriptions	
	Distribution ....	48 0 6		excluding Life	848 3 7
676		<u>752 17 10</u>		Add Arrears paid ....	20 7 8
22	Postages ....	47 5 4	805		<u>868 11 3</u>
61	Printing and Stationery ....	57 10 7	16	Donations ....	27 6 8
94	General Expenses ....	31 1 9		Christmas Cards Sales ....	660 0 0
-	Travelling Expenses ....	45 0 0		Less Brochures, Printing	
35	Income Tax ....	27 0 0		and Postage	299 19 9
16	Field Study Courses ....	- - -			<u>360 0 3</u>
80	Contribution to Banding Scheme ....	- - -	66	Sales Back Numbers "Notornis," etc. ....	133 11 7
38	Excess of Income over Expenditure ....	638 17 1	90	Interest Received ....	119 4 8
1022		<u>£1599 12 7</u>	45	Dividends ....	90 18 2
			1022		<u>£1599 12 7</u>

## Auditors' Report

We report that we have examined the Books, Accounts and Vouchers of the Society and of the Kermadecs Expedition Account for the year ended 31st December, 1966. In our opinion, and according to the best of our information and explanations given to us and as shown by the said Books, the Balance Sheets and Income and Expenditure Accounts are properly drawn up so as to give respectively a true and fair view of the state of the Society's affairs as at 31st December, 1966, and the income and expenditure for the year.

We have not audited the records covering the publication "A Biology of Birds," the receipts and payments for which are handled through an account with Bank of New Zealand, Upper Hutt, styled "Ornithological Society of New Zealand (Inc.) Publication Account."

GISBORNE

27th February, 1967

BAIN & SHEPPARD, Public Accountants

Hon. Auditors

# KERMADEC EXPEDITION

## INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR PERIOD

22nd JUNE, 1964, to 31st DECEMBER, 1965

	£	s.	d.
<b>INCOME:</b>			
Sponsors' Contributions and Sundry Donations	677	12	5
Interest	23	11	8
Photographs	44	14	3
	£745	18	4
<b>EXPENDITURE:</b>			
Stores and Equipment	212	3	9
Insurance	16	2	6
General Expenses	67	7	11
Travelling Expenses	86	2	0
Kermadec Reprints	36	5	9
Excess of Income over Expenditure	327	16	5
	£745	18	4

## BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1965

<b>LIABILITIES:</b>	£	s.	d.
Sundry Creditors	39	1	3
Loan from Ornithological Society general funds	720	0	0
Accumulated Funds	327	16	5
	£1086	17	8
<b>ASSETS:</b>			
Cash at Bank	949	18	6
Stocks on Hand at Valuation:			
Tentage £50; Stores £25;	£75	0	0
Kermadec Reprints	40	0	0
	115	0	0
Sundry Debtors	21	19	2
	£1086	17	8

### Auditors' Report

We report that we have examined the books and vouchers of the Kermadec Expedition Fund for the period ending 31st December, 1965. In our opinion the Income and Expenditure Account for this period is properly drawn up and the Balance Sheet as at the 31st December, 1965, shows a true and fair view of the Expedition Fund at that date.

CHAMBERS, WORTH & CHAMBERS, Auditors

Auckland: 29th July, 1966



**KERMADECS EXPEDITION ACCOUNT****INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31st DECEMBER, 1966**

	£	s.	d.
<b>INCOME:</b>			
Sponsors' Contributions and Donations	112	4	0
Interest	17	0	4
Recordings N.Z.B.C.	6	9	6
Excess Expenditure over Income	415	15	10
	<u>£551</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>8</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE:</b>			
Stores	335	4	7
Equipment	47	14	5
Photographic Film	72	0	0
General Expenses	15	18	5
Insurance Premium	54	4	0
Reprints written off	26	8	3
	<u>£551</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>8</u>

**BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1966****LIABILITIES:**

	£	s.	d.
Ornithological Society Loan	£720	0	0

**ASSETS:**

Cash at Bank	557	0	7
Tentage at depreciated value	50	0	0
Sundry Debtor	25	0	0
Deficiency Account:			
Excess Expenditure to 31/12/66	£415	15	10
Less Accumulated Funds 31/12/65	327	16	5
	<u>87</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>5</u>
	<u>£720</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

**Auditors' Report**

We report that we have examined the Books, Accounts and Vouchers of the Kermadecs Expedition Account for the year ended 31st December, 1966. In our opinion, and according to the best of our information and explanations given to us and as shown by the said Books, the Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account are properly drawn up so as to give respectively a true and fair view of the state of the Kermadecs Expedition Account as at 31st December, 1966, and the income and expenditure for the year.

Gisborne, 27th February, 1967

BAIN &amp; SHEPPARD, Public Accountants

Hon. Auditors

## REPORT OF THE NEST RECORD SCHEME

**For the Year Ending 16th May, 1967**

During the year, 745 nest record cards have been completed. Cards were received from 41 contributors. The prize for the best contribution by a junior member went to Paul Sagar of Timaru (121 cards). Bob Cowan of Broadwood a close second (108 cards).

Nineteen cards were received from members of the Kermadec Expedition party. These have provided us with our first records for the Spotless Crake, the White Tern and the Red-tailed Tropic Bird.

Mr. D. G. Dawson has now finished his thesis on the nesting success of the House Sparrow and has been granted his degree of Bachelor of Science with Honours.

Readers of "Notornis" will have seen Dr. Flux's analysis of the nesting success of Song Thrushes at St. Arnaud, Nelson.

Recently we have received requests for data on the breeding of the Weka and the two species of Magpie, but unfortunately we have very little data available. Interested members are urged to help with information on the nesting of these birds.

Our coverage of introduced species, especially the Blackbird, Song Thrush, House Sparrow, Hedge Sparrow and Goldfinch has increased greatly in the last few years, but it would be interesting to see more records of our native forest-inhabiting birds.

The organiser wishes to thank all those who during the past year, have contributed with such hard work and enthusiasm to the success of this scheme.

— MARGARET M. NEILL



### LIST OF CONTRIBUTORS

J. F. Anton, A. F. Barwell (26), R. Bond, Dr. P. C. Bull, David Burt, D. E. Calvert, J. C. R. Claridge, Nigel F. Coates, Bob Cowan (107), J. Cowie, Miss A. M. C. Davis, D. G. Dawson (68), A. T. Edgar, Dr. J. E. C. Flux (35), Robin Gallienne, D. Haddon, J. E. Hilton, J. R. Jackson (40), Peter Jackson (21), E. B. Jones, B. R. Keeley, H. R. McKenzie, D. V. Merton, G. H. Moon, David Mudge, Miss M. M. Neill, J. A. Pearl, Mrs. H. R. Petterson, R. E. R. Porter, R. Reese (25), L. K. Rowe (33), Paul M. Sagar (121), H. L. Secker, Mrs. F. G. Soper, Mark Soper, Gail Soper, Dr. M. F. Soper, C. R. Veitch, Miss L. Whiteley, and in conjunction with H. R. McKenzie — Misses Susan Fogarty and Anthea Goodwin, Mrs. R. V. McIntosh, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Brown, John A. Bell, A. Blackburn, Rev. R. J. Fenton, E. G. Turbott and Dr. E. Halkier of Denmark.

## SPECIES LIST OF NEST RECORD CARDS

SPECIES	Previous Total	1966-67	Total	SPECIES	Previous Total	1966-67	Total
North Island Kiwi	1	-	1	Banded Dotterel	143	16	159
Stewart Island Kiwi	1	-	1	N.Z. Dotterel	42	10	52
Great Spotted Kiwi	10	1	11	Wrybill	9	-	9
Yellow-eyed Penguin	1	1	2	Pied Stilt	176	8	184
Little Blue Penguin	57	-	57	Black Stilt	6	-	6
White-flipped Penguin	12	-	12	Southern Skua	1	1	2
N.Z. Crested Penguin	2	-	2	Black-backed Gull	207	2	209
Southern Crested Grebe	2	-	2	Red-billed Gull	41	21	62
N.Z. Dabchick	1	-	1	Black-billed Gull	100	-	100
Wandering Albatross	11	-	11	Black-fronted Tern	175	31	206
Light-mantled Sooty Albatross	4	-	4	Caspian Tern	19	-	19
Fairy Prion	16	-	16	Antarctic Tern	3	-	3
Flesh-footed Shearwater	1	-	1	Fairy Tern	8	-	8
Sooty Shearwater (Muttonbird)	4	-	4	White-fronted Tern	16	17	33
Fluttering Shearwater	7	-	7	White Tern	-	1	1
Allied Shearwater	3	-	3	Grey Ternlet	5	-	5
Black Petrel	1	-	1	N.Z. Pigeon	23	1	24
Grey-faced Petrel	14	-	14	Rock Pigeon	59	-	59
Kermadec Petrel	1	-	1	Kaka	9	-	9
Pycroft's Petrel	3	-	3	Kea	51	-	51
White-faced Storm Petrel	5	-	5	N.Z. Parakeet (Red-crowned)	4	3	7
Diving Petrel	51	-	51	Yellow-crowned Parakeet	3	-	3
Gannet	4	-	4	Shining Cuckoo	3	1	4
Black Shag	46	-	46	Morepork	7	1	8
Pied Shag and Bronze	18	1	19	Little Owl	13	-	13
Little Black Shag	1	-	1	Kingfisher	42	9	51
White-throated Shag	11	-	11	South Island Rifleman	44	-	44
King Shag	18	-	18	Rock Wren	11	-	11
Spotted Shag	5	-	5	Skylark	82	7	89
Blue Heron	24	-	24	Welcome Swallow	76	31	106
White-faced Heron	10	1	11	Fantail	102	17	119
Bittern	2	-	2	Pied Tit	-	-	-
Canada Goose	21	-	21	(White-breasted Tomtit)	12	-	12
Domestic Goose	-	-	-	Yellow-breasted Tomtit	21	1	22
(presumed farm escape)	-	1	1	North Island Robin	7	-	7
Mute Swan	9	-	9	South Island Robin	15	-	15
Black Swan	38	1	39	North Island Fern Bird	2	3	5
Paradise Duck	6	-	6	South Island Fern Bird	9	-	9
Grey Teal	9	-	9	Brown Creeper	2	-	2
Brown Teal	2	-	2	Whitehead	6	-	6
Grey Duck	65	6	71	Yellowhead	13	-	13
Mallard	35	10	45	Grey Warbler	62	4	66
Shoveller	11	-	11	Song Thrush	799	105	904
Black Teal	6	-	6	Blackbird	717	103	820
Harrier	48	-	48	Hedge Sparrow	98	22	120
N.Z. Falcon	5	-	5	N.Z. Pipit	28	1	29
Pheasant	11	5	16	Bellbird	16	-	16
Brown Quail	1	1	2	Tui	21	1	22
Californian Quail	14	2	16	White-Eye	82	11	93
Chukor	1	-	1	Greenfinch	64	8	72
Banded Rail	2	2	4	Goldfinch	216	67	283
Spotless Crane	-	2	2	Lesser Redpoll	42	4	46
North Island Weka	4	-	4	Chaffinch	95	49	144
South Island Weka	6	-	6	Yellowhammer	24	1	25
Pukeko	77	6	83	House Sparrow	298	103	401
Australian Coot	4	-	4	Starling	162	18	180
S.I. Pied Oystercatcher	95	6	101	Myra	13	-	13
N.I. Pied Oystercatcher	19	3	22	White-backed Magpie	12	4	16
Black Oystercatcher	28	3	31	Magpie (Species not indicated)	6	-	6
Spur-winged Plover	26	6	32	North Island Saddleback	7	-	7
				5293	745	6039	

## RECORDING SCHEME

### Report for 1966/67

More contributors than last year, with outstanding contributions from Otago and South Auckland but surprisingly little from several regions where plenty of information is available but unrecorded; from a few regions nothing has been received this year. An impressive amount of material has been filed, but one reason for non-publication of species summaries is the unfortunate absence of records from certain areas.

Useful locality reports have been received from Manukau, Firth of Thames, Muriwai Lagoon (Gisborne), Eastern Taranaki, Washdyke Lagoon, Lake Sumner, Matukituki Valley and Makarora river beds.

Species files of Little Black Shag, Paradise Duck and Magpies have been on loan to students.

I have handed over my task as Secretary, O.S.N.Z., but am still Convener of the Recording Scheme and will have more time to devote to Recording work. Please let me have your notes, especially from areas which have contributed little in the past, so that geographical coverage may be more complete, thereby increasing the value of the files to those who wish to use them, and making possible effective work on preparation of species summaries.

#### List of contributors:—

*Stewart Island* — Mrs. O. Sansom.

*Southland* — Mrs. Barlow, L. E. Henderson, O. Linscott, T. M. Smith, R. R. Sutton.

*Otago* — J. Allan, Mrs. Andreson, J. Aspinall, Mrs. Buchanan, P. Child, B. Cunninghame, Dunedin Naturalists Field Club, G. Grant, R. Gray, Mrs. Hamel, Mrs. Hannah, A. R. Harris, A. J. Hodgkin, H. W. M. Hogg, Mrs. B. Kelly, D. Kelly, I. G. McLaren, B. McPherson, I. L. McVinnie, W. T. Poppelwell, P. Schweigman, E. Sheat, Mrs. Smith, R. F. Smith, M. F. Soper, J. Trigg, K. Westerskov.

*Canterbury* — Dr. Marie Buchler, D. G. Dawson, G. Harrow, J. R. Jackson, B. R. Keeley.

*West Coast* — T. Hartley-Smith.

*Marlborough* — J. A. Cowie.

*Nelson* — Mrs. Soper, W. V. Ward.

*Wellington* — J. A. Bartle, B. D. Bell, B. D. Heather, Miss M. M. Neill, H. L. Secker.

*Wanganui* — R. W. Macdonald.

*Manawatu* — E. Dear, E. B. Jones.

*Taranaki* — N. V. A. Banks, D. G. Medway.

*Gisborne* — A. Blackburn.

*Volcanic Plateau* — A. Cragg, R. W. Jackson, H. Lyall, M. G. Macdonald.

*Bay of Plenty* — H. D. London, Mrs. McLintock, Miss Rucroft, R. St. Paul, R. M. Weston.

*Waikato* — M. P. Daniel.

*South Auckland* — J. F. Bell, Mrs. B. Brown, S. Chambers, J. E. Coulthand, M. Douglas, D. A. Lawrie, D. N. Lilburne, A. McDonald, H. R. McKenzie, Mrs. M. E. McKenzie, D. J. Panchhurst, R. C. Pullen, D. Walter, Mrs. Walton.

*Auckland* — R. Blanshard, A. G. Gorbey, G. D. Leitch, Mrs. A. Prickett, R. B. Sibson, E. G. Turbott, Mrs. Wagener.

*Kaipara* — Mrs. Barron, M. A. Waller.

*Northland* — S. Barrett, D. E. Calvert, T. R. Calvert, R. Cowan, A. T. Edgar, A. McQueen, Mrs. Reynolds, Mrs. Ward.

E. & O. E.

— A. T. EDGAR



## LIBRARY REPORT

**1st January to 31st December, 1966**

The year has proved a satisfactory one with most of the work, of necessity, being done by post. The usual journals, separates and exchanges continue to arrive and go out as requested, and some members are doing special research studies. The records give some twenty-five borrowings.

Our thanks and appreciation of the room at the Museum and of the help of Miss Evans and her staff should again be recorded.

— HETTY MCKENZIE, Hon. Librarian



## NOTICE

### 40th ANZAAS CONGRESS

The Australian and New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science holds Congresses at intervals of about 18 months and Christchurch, New Zealand, is the venue of the next Congress which will be held from January 24th till January 31st, 1968. The seventeen sections involved, covering all the physical, biological and social sciences, arrange a week's programme of symposia and papers, some designed for a particular section and some of more general interest to include a number of allied sections. The programme of the Zoology Section will include papers on themes of particular interest to Australian and New Zealand zoologists.

In conjunction with the Congress several excursions have been arranged, two of which should be of special interest to ornithologists. One, from February 1st to 8th, includes visits to the Westland glaciers, Queenstown, Milford Sound and the Dunedin albatross and penguin nesting sites, and the other, from February 1st to 6th, to Stewart Island, including a visit to one of the islands where mutton birds and other petrels breed.

Further details of section programmes and excursions will be found in the First Circular for the Congress, copies of which are available at all Branches of the Ornithological Society or from Mr. C. M. Harris, C/o Chemistry Department, University of Canterbury.

## THE BIRD BANDING SCHEME

The 17th Banding Year of the Scheme administered by the Dominion Museum was difficult because of administrative changes and a considerable increase in banding activity.

During the year ending 31st March, some 35,000 birds were banded. Significant contributions to the overall total were the 5,700 birds banded by the Campbell Island Meteorological Party, working mainly on Albatrosses; the O.S.N.Z. Raoul Island Expedition, which banded 5,300; and the Animal Ecology Division, D.S.I.R., which banded 3,700 in the course of their studies into the life histories of various species and work on aspects of crop damage by birds.

A significant trend towards organised research projects has evolved and an increasing number of students are making use of the scheme for thesis and post-graduate studies. Work recently undertaken or in progress by students includes the Black-backed Gull, Indian Mynah, Rook, House Sparrow, Antarctic Skua, South Island Fernbird and Pied Oystercatcher.

The merging of the Dominion Museum Banding Scheme with the Wildlife Service Scheme on gamebirds and some native birds, will bring together all bird-banding in New Zealand under one administration. This should ensure a cohesive national policy, and when future trends are shortly finalised will enable the increased growth of research.

The many teething troubles associated with the development of a mechanical recording system have caused some frustrating and time-consuming delays. Most of the problems have now been eliminated and progress in future will be more rapid. However, the job of converting established data in both schemes will take some time. The recent appointment of Mr. L. R. Moran as full-time assistant to the Banding Officer will enable the increased flow of day to day work and the conversion of back data, to be dealt with more satisfactorily.

The proposed training and information services for banding operators should increase their efficiency in field work and research and it is hoped that the ties with O.S.N.Z. will continue to be helpful in this way.

Overall, this has been a year of great significance for bird-banding in New Zealand. We now have two full-time officers to administer the scheme and as time progresses the already strong ties with O.S.N.Z. should give support and strength to this important and expanding field of ornithological research.

— C. J. R. ROBERTSON, Banding Officer

## THE DUNEDIN EXCURSIONS

For the bird-watcher, Dunedin is no mean city. In its environs there are so many types of habitat that within a few miles one may see birds of bush, swamp, lagoon, shore, sea-cliff and ocean. On Saturday, May 20th, the aim of the excursion was to show to visitors the attractions of the coast north of Dunedin; and, of course, the newly-built observation hut of which our local members are justly proud. It stands on its own little promontory, strategically overlooking Wai-kouaiti lagoon. The weather was warm and almost windless; and with the sun behind us we were able to take our time studying flocks of Grey Teal and Shovelers; and, in particular, to note the very white breasts of some of the drake Shovelers. While we were watching the ducks — five white-headed Paradise and many Mallard were also present — there appeared a flight of big white birds and hopes were raised. White Herons? Royal Spoonbills? No! Feral farmyard geese with one pseudo-greylag among them. On the salicornia beds flocks of Redpolls were feeding. When the water level rises in the lagoon, the hut should enable local observers to make original studies of waterfowl and to take photographs of loafing flocks such as have not been taken before in New Zealand.

After lunch we followed coastal roads, noting *en passant* a statuesque White Heron, one of three or four which may be intending to winter around Dunedin. Some of us then went by devious winding ways over Mt. Cargill and to Long Beach, where four Royal Albatrosses were resting not far offshore on the calm sea when a fifth flew in to join them.

On Sunday morning we gathered at the Museum to enjoy a selection of Dr. Soper's colour slides, taken on the recent O.S.N.Z. expedition to the Kermadecs. Have the breeding birds of a small group of sub-tropical islands ever before been so skilfully and sympathetically photographed? At the end of Dr. Soper's lecture, the applause was loud and long. Yet another feast for the eye was a display of bird paintings by Ian McVinnie, one of our members from Oamaru.

In the afternoon some of us were whisked over the hills and far away to a quiet beach where, after an easy walk, we could sit among the marram and watch Yellow-eyed Penguins coming ashore in the gentle surf and even hear them braying. Night was falling when we left. For a mere northerner, antipodean counterpart perhaps of a Sassenach, this was a treat indeed.

— R.B.S.