

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wellington, 17th - 19th May, 1968

Once again the A.G.M. week-end attracted a gathering of members from the length and breadth of New Zealand. Between the programmed activities, members were able to make the most of the opportunity to renew old acquaintances and to make new ones, and to share experiences of the past year.

Over 70 members attended the Annual General Meeting on Saturday, 18th May. The President, Dr. G. R. Williams, welcomed those attending and explained that he would not make a full or formal presidential address, but he noted highlights in the development of the Society. In the coming year membership will reach 1000, another landmark of achievement. The Society is applying for affiliation to the Royal Society of New Zealand, which should bring considerable advantages. A full colour copy of the film of the Anniversary Expedition to the Kermadec Islands is to be ordered for the Society's records, and the use of interested groups of members.

Annual reports from the Society's schemes were read to the meeting. The Bailey Prize for the best contribution to the Nest Records Scheme by a Junior member was awarded to Bob Cowan, of Broadwood, Northland. The meeting carried a vote of thanks to Miss M. Neill, who has resigned from the position of Convenor of the Nest Records Scheme. Mr. F. C. Kinsky reported progress on the revised Checklist of New Zealand Birds, which will soon be ready for publication. No report was available from the Beach Patrol Scheme, but it is hoped that this will shortly be prepared. Beach Patrol cards were offered to members, and it was announced that Mr. M. J. Imber, of Wellington, has been appointed Convenor of this scheme.

While scrutineers left the meeting to count votes in the election of two members of the council, there was some discussion on the method of conducting elections where these were necessary. The secretary thanked members for their comments, which would be considered for incorporation into the constitution which was now being revised. Messrs. B. D. Bell and A. Blackburn were declared elected to the two vacancies, and Dr. G. R. Williams and Mr. F. C. Kinsky were declared elected unopposed to the positions of President and Vice-President, respectively.

The Treasurer, Mr. J. P. C. Watt, circulated copies of the audited Balance Sheet, and reported on the continued financial soundness of the Society. He drew members' attention to the fact that this state of affairs would continue only so long as the Society had the benefit of honorary workers in positions which frequently called for long hours of work. The handsome surplus in this year's accounts would be turned into a deficit of \$22 if only subscription income was considered, and the Society is deeply indebted to the Christmas Card scheme and to the editors of the Field Guide, who have made over their entire copyright interest to the Society. Mr. Watt proposed a clause for incorporation in the constitution of the Society, to provide for disposal of assets in the event of dissolution, and this was carried by the meeting as a recommendation to the Council. Its purpose is to establish more definitely the non-profit nature of the Society so that it will not be subject to income tax.

Two amendments to the constitution were put to the meeting. Mr. A. Blackburn moved that "the Society shall have power to make statements of fact and to offer advice on matters concerning the conservation of birds." Mr. J. M. Cunningham opposed the motion on the grounds that it was contrary to the intention of the original founders of the Society; it was also stated that the views of the Royal Forest & Bird Protection Society were not known, and it was considered that they should be consulted. Dr. R. A. Falla warned that the proposal was at the same time most attractive and yet most dangerous. We are all conservationists at heart, but the Society's contribution, he stated, can be in the encouragement of scientifically sound, unbiassed research. He said that the information which had been of such value to the Nature Conservation Council last year in regard to Lake Tuakitoto was based on independent research of an individual member, and would not have been so effective had it been put forward by a Society involved with conservation. The motion was firstly amended, and then when put to the meeting, was lost on a show of hands.

Mr. D. G. Dawson proposed an amendment to remove from the Council the power to co-opt members. After some discussion, the motion was lost on a show of hands.

Mr. Murray Williams asked members to co-operate more with organisers of future meetings in the return of slips notifying intention to attend. N.A.C. group discount was not available this year because less than ten members advised that they were travelling by air, although in fact many more did so. The President explained his disappointment that the Society's session at the ANZAAS Conference had to be cancelled as no papers were received. There was some discussion on the presentation of tables in "*Notornis*," reports of current banding results were asked for, and a suggestion was made that future meetings should set aside time for the presentation of papers. It was agreed that papers offered by any members would be a valuable addition to the programme of future annual meetings.

Members endorsed Dr. R. A. Falla's vote of thanks to Regional Representatives, and the meeting closed at 10.42 p.m. for a light supper served by Wellington members.

There was general disappointment that bad weather caused the cancellation of the trip across Cook Strait, but about 30 members and friends viewed films on Saturday afternoon at the Dominion Museum. Most appreciated of these was the black-and-white copy of the film of the Kermadecs Expedition.

A well-attended meeting of Regional Representatives was held on Sunday morning, and a wide variety of topics were discussed. The position of Regional Representative is demanding of both time and effort, and this annual gathering presents the only opportunity to discuss methods, share problems, and generally learn from the experience of those in other regions.

At 34 Kelburn Parade on Sunday morning, approximately 30 members accepted the President's invitation to a 'Wine and Cheese' party, and this provided a very pleasant atmosphere for conversation and discussion.

The thanks of all members go to Murray Williams for the organisation which went into making this a very enjoyable week-end.

TREASURER'S REPORT

For Year Ended 31/12/67

PRESENTED AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
OF THE O.S.N.Z., WELLINGTON, 18/5/68

It is my pleasure to report the continued buoyant state of the Society's finances for the year ended 31/12/67. The excess of income over expenditure of \$2456 is most gratifying, though I would point out that this is wholly attributed to the receipt of royalties from the 'Field Guide' and to a \$651 profit from the sales of Christmas Cards. Taxation has yet to be deducted from the royalties and total taxation payable in 1968 may amount to a figure in the order of \$460. We are currently negotiating with the Inland Revenue Department in regard to this matter.

The only reason why the Society continues in a relative state of affluence is due to the fact that members of your Council, the Journal Despatch Officer, Convenors of special schemes, Regional Representatives, and members of the Christmas Card Committee, perform prodigious voluntary efforts at no cost to the Society.

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 royalty rights to the Society must also be recorded. The royalty payment represents 10% on 3830 copies sold as at 31/12/66. For the year ended 31/12/67 a further 1240 copies were sold in New Zealand together with 140 overseas. These returned a royalty of \$611.93 which will be shown in the accounts for 1968.

Sources of income other than royalties and Christmas cards are slightly down from last year's figures despite a 5.4% increase in membership. These sources of income (subscriptions, donations, sale of back numbers, interest and dividends) failed to meet the year's expenditure by the small margin of \$22. Expenditure for the year has increased by \$502 over that for 1966, and by \$456 over that for 1965. Publication costs of 'Notornis' have not altered significantly over the last three years but distribution costs have risen. General expenses have shown a sharp rise over those for last year, but are practically the same as those for 1965. Two non-recurring expenditures appear; printing of nest record cards, and the publication of the pamphlet 'Bird Study.'

Membership of the Society increased 5.4% during the year to a total of 948. (Ordinary 649, Junior 56, Husband and Wife 18, Endowment 30, Bodies and Clubs 47, Life 78.) New members totalled 100; there were 23 resignations and 24 members were written off as unfinancial, having been given three months notice of intention.

Unfortunately it has not been possible to bring the 'Biology of Birds' account to audit for this meeting. The receipts and expenses will come to charge this year and will be accounted for in full for the year ending 31/12/68. A loan to this account of \$2111.09 has been made out of the accumulated funds of the Society.

The Kermadec Account shows an excess of income over expenditure of \$266 and the loan from the Society's accumulated funds remains at \$1440. This account has now served its purpose and will be closed this year.

The investments of the Society are of some concern. The shares in public companies are shown at cost in the Balance Sheet, but at 31/12/67 were valued at only \$3282. Their value at 15/5/68 stood at \$4215, which shows an upward trend. The overall interest for the year amounted to 3.7% of cost price. On the recommendation of legal and sharebroker advice your Council's Finance Committee advised investment of the \$2000 matured Dunedin City Council debentures in short-term trustee securities. This has been invested together with a further \$1000 since the books closed on 31/12/67 as follows:

	Amount	Cost Price	Interest Rate	Yield	Date of Maturity	Date of Investment
Southland Harbour Brd.	\$1000	\$958	5 %	6.2%	30/6/72	12/2/68
Auckland Hospital Brd.	\$1000	\$970	5½%	6½%	17/6/73	9/2/68
Otago Harbour Brd.	\$1000	\$971	5½%	6.2%	1/9/71	8/4/68
Also invested (Life Subs. etc. Reserve) is:						
Auckland Elect. Pwr. Brd.	\$400	—	5 %	5 %	1/4/69	26/2/58
„ „ „ „	\$400	—	5 %	5 %	1/4/70	25/8/58
„ „ „ „	\$600	—	5½%	5½%	15/2/71	27/12/67

These investments have been deliberately programmed to fall due on succeeding years, thus ensuring that the Society has funds available each year to meet any special commitments that should arise.

I would like to thank Jill Hamel and Bob Smith, whose assistance at various times during the year has greatly reduced the volume of work. I am also indebted to Mr. A. Richards for assistance with the final balance, and to Messrs. J. Lang (auditor) and H. R. Wilson (sharebroker) for their interest and courtesy in handling the affairs of the Society. My thanks also to Mr. A. Blackburn for compiling the Kermadec Account.

JAMES P. C. WATT,
Hon. Treasurer

15/5/68



DONATIONS

The following donations of \$1.00 or more were received during the year ended 31/12/67. Several donations of amounts less than \$1.00 were also received from a number of members, and 30 members contributed an extra dollar through their Endowment subscription. The Society gratefully acknowledges these sources of income which contributed \$68.45 in total last year.

G. Wightman (\$1.00); J. A. Fagan (\$1.00); Anon. (\$5.60); C. F. Parsonson (\$2.20); M. Pick (\$2.00); E. St. Paul (\$2.00); W. H. Gummer (\$2.00); Miss McDougall (\$4.20); D. Braithwaite (\$1.00); I. McLaren (\$1.00); Miss A. Wilson (\$1.00); A. A. Savell (\$2.05); Dr. A. Thoresen (\$1.25).

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

For the Year Ended 31st December, 1967

1966		1967
	Our Income was derived from —	
1737	Subscription (including arrears paid)	1724
55	Donations	38
	Christmas Card Sales	1215
	Less Costs	564
720		651
—	Field Study Course	103
268	Sales of back Numbers of Notornis	267
2780	TOTAL ORDINARY INCOME	2783
	INVESTMENT INCOME:	
238	Interest	190
182	Dividends	184
—	Royalty "Field Guide"	1724
420	TOTAL INVESTMENT INCOME	2098
\$3200	TOTAL INCOME	\$4881
	LESS EXPENSES:	
1506	Notornis Printing & Distribution	1761
95	Postages	52
115	Printing & Stationery	145
62	General Expenses	193
—	Annual General Meeting	29
90	Travelling Expenses	84
—	Nest Record Scheme	29
—	Bird Study Pamphlet	82
54	Taxes Paid	50
1922	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	2425
	SURPLUS FOR YEAR TRANSFERRED TO	
\$1278	ACCUMULATED FUNDS (Note A)	\$2456

PUBLICATION ACCOUNT

Transfer from Publication Reserve (Note B)	1000
Less Expenses Paid —	
Checklist Typing & Draft	104
BALANCE AS AT 31/12/67	\$896

"BIOLOGY OF BIRDS" ACCOUNT

Printing Costs to Date (Note C)	\$2111
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BALANCE SHEET

As at December 31st, 1967

1966		1967
	CURRENT ASSETS:	
3586	Cash at Bank of New Zealand (Note D)	5400
72	Sundry Amounts Owed to the Society	66
600	Stocks of "Notornis" on Hand (Note E)	600
1440	Loan to Kermadec Account	1440
-	Loan to "Biology of Birds"	2110
5698	TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	9616
	INVESTMENTS AT COST:	
5001	Shares in Public Companies (Note F)	5050
3400	Stocks in Dunedin City Corporation (\$2000), & Auckland Electric Power Board (\$1400)	-
	SPECIAL FUNDS:	
	MINOR EXPEDITIONS RESERVE:	
-	B.N.Z. Savings Account	300
	LIFE SUBS. ETC., RESERVE:	
-	Auckland Power Board	1400
-	B.N.Z. Savings Account	120
8401	TOTAL SPECIAL FUNDS	1820
1000	LIBRARY AT VALUATION (Note E)	1000
\$15099	TOTAL ASSETS	\$17486
	LESS LIABILITIES:	
459	Sundry Amounts Owed by the Society	480
199	Subscriptions in Advance	212
	RESERVE FUNDS:	
1520	Life Subs, Etc.	1520
300	Minor Expeditions	300
-	Publication Account	896
1000	Special Publications Reserve	-
		3408
	VALUE OF ACCUMULATED FUNDS	
	AS BELOW	\$14078
	ACCUMULATED FUNDS:	
10344	Balance 1/1/67	11622
1278	Plus Excess Income over Expenditure	2456
\$11622	BALANCE OF FUNDS AS AT 31/12/67	\$14078

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

Note A: The Society may be liable for taxes amounting to \$466 on the profits of the Field Guide, Interest and Dividends.

Note B: The transfer to the account was made in accordance with the council decision 19/5/67.

Note C: The printing costs paid represent a loan to this account to be recouped from income brought to charge during 1968.

Note D: The cash at the Bank includes the matured investment with the Dunedin City Corporation not reinvested as at 31/12/67.

Note E: No new valuation of the stocks of "Notornis" or the Library have been made. The values stated are as in previous years.

Note F: The shares owned are as follows:

Andrews & Beaven Ltd.	....	....	400	\$1.00
Farmers Trading Co. Ltd.	....	....	500	\$0.50
General Foods Corpn. Ltd.	....	....	594	\$0.50
Alex. Harvey Ltd.	....	....	140	\$0.50
N.Z. Forest Products Ltd.	....	....	400	\$1.00
Wilsons Cement Ltd.	....	....	500	\$1.00

These shares had a cost price of \$5049.60, but only had a market value at 31/12/67 of \$3281.86. The market has risen slightly since then (\$4215 at 15/5/68).

AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS

For the Year Ended 31st December, 1967

We report that, in our opinion, the foregoing accounts of **The Ornithological Society of N.Z. (Inc.)** for the year ended December 31st, 1967, are in agreement with the books and records of the Society and give a true and fair view of the Society's position at that date and of the results of its transactions for the year. The Society has kept proper books and supplied all the information required.

An audit certificate from Messrs. Bain & Sheppard has been received for the Kermadec Expedition Account.

THOMPSON & LANG, Public Accountants,

Auditors

Dunedin, 13th May, 1968

KERMADECS EXPEDITION ACCOUNT

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1967

INCOME

	\$
Sponsors' Contributions and Donations	132.00
Interest	41.84
Stores sold	63.44
Equipment sold	60.50
	\$297.78

EXPENDITURE

General Expenses	4.07
Travelling Expenses	28.00
Excess Income over Expenditure	265.71
	\$297.78

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1967

LIABILITIES

Ornithological Society Loan	1440.00
Accumulated Funds:	
Excess Income to 31/12/67	265.71
Less Deficiency Account 31/12/66	175.94
	89.77
	\$1529.77

ASSETS

Cash at Bank of New Zealand	1429.77
Tentage at depreciated value	100.00
	\$1529.77

Auditors' Report

We report that we have examined the Books, Accounts and Vouchers of the Kermadecs Expedition Account for the year ended 31st December, 1967. 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, 1967, and the income and expenditure for the year.

Gisborne, 6th May, 1968

BAIN & SHEPPARD, Public Accountants
Hon. Auditors

The following donations made to the Kermadecs Expedition Fund since the last list of sponsors was published are gratefully acknowledged:

	\$		\$
Edgar, A. T.	20	Entomology Div., D.S.I.R.	100
Sykes, W. R.	14	Nuttall, A.	10
Watt, Dr. J. C.	10	Veitch, C. R.	20
Fooks, Mr. & Mrs. L.	10	Peart, J. A.	12
Crockett, D. E.	10	Anton, J. F.	100

LIBRARY REPORT

1st January to 31st December, 1967

The past year has again proved satisfactory. Journals, separates and inter-loans have been in demand and despatched. In all there have been over forty borrowings. Requests for inter-loans are increasing. Again we are indebted to the Museum Council and Director for our room, and to Miss Evans and her staff for friendly helpfulness.

— HETTY MCKENZIE, Hon. Librarian



REPORT OF THE NEST RECORD SCHEME

For the Year Ended April 30th, 1968

For the year ending April 30th, 1968, we have received 624 nest record cards from 21 contributors. Observations have been made for 46 species. The largest contribution by a junior member is that of Bob Cowan of Broadwood, who recorded 212 observations of nesting of 30 species. The most detailed observation of an individual nest was made by Kathy Pullen of Kingseat Farm, who has recorded daily visits to a Grey Warbler's nest from November 18, 1967, to January 3rd, 1968.

Once again several members have made use of the nest record cards for information on breeding behaviour. We would be grateful if those availing themselves of this service could, where practicable, make available to the Society the results of their analyses, as the information would then be available to others on request. This does not apply, of course, to those whose results are published in *Notornis* or elsewhere. Although all the information furnished by observers is of use, the most valuable that can be given, particularly from the point of view of population dynamics, is the number of young hatched from each nest. This is the part of the breeding period about which least is known and about which information is needed.

Our good wishes go to all those who are planning to participate in the scheme next year.

— MARGARET M. NEILL,
Nest Record Organiser



LIST OF CONTRIBUTORS

J. S. Bartle, J. Bell (24), M. Bysouth (11), Robert Cowan (212), J. A. Cowie (12), P. S. Crozier, M. Douglas, A. T. Edgar (10), Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Fooks, Mrs. D. Gainey, D. W. Haddon (260), G. Harrow, T. R. and H. A. Harty (10), J. E. Hilton (35), J. R. Jackson, E. B. Jones, G. Leitch, Kathy Pullen, H. L. Secker, J. G. Smith, J. Taylor.

SPECIES LIST OF NEST RECORD CARDS

SPECIES	Previous Total	1967-68 New Total	SPECIES	Previous Total	1967-68 New Total		
North Island Kiwi	2	-	2	Spur-winged Plover	32	-	32
Stewart Island Kiwi	1	1	2	Banded Dotterel	159	4	163
Great Spotted Kiwi	1	-	1	N.Z. Dotterel	52	1	53
Yellow-eyed Penguin	11	-	11	Wrybill	9	-	9
Little Blue Penguin	57	-	57	Pied Stilt	184	17	201
White-flipped Penguin	12	-	12	Black Stilt	6	-	6
N.Z. Crested Penguin	2	-	2	Southern Skua	2	-	2
Southern Crested Grebe	2	-	2	Black-backed Gull	209	2	211
N.Z. Dabchick	1	-	1	Red-billed Gull	62	34	96
Wandering Albatross	11	-	11	Black-billed Gull	100	-	100
Light-mantled Sooty Albatross	4	-	4	Black-fronted Tern	206	1	207
Fairy Prion	16	-	16	Caspian Tern	19	-	19
Flesh-footed Shearwater	1	-	1	Antarctic Tern	3	-	3
Sooty Shearwater (Mutton bird)	4	-	4	Fairy Tern	8	1	9
Fluttering Shearwater	7	-	7	White-fronted Tern	33	12	45
Allied Shearwater	3	-	3	White Tern	1	-	1
Black Petrel	1	-	1	Grey Ternlet	5	-	5
Grey-faced Petrei	14	-	14	N.Z. Pigeon	24	-	24
Kermadec Petrel	1	-	1	Rock Pigeon	59	-	59
Pycroft's Petrel	3	2	5	Kaka	9	-	9
White-faced Storm Petrel	5	-	5	Kea	51	-	51
Diving Petrel	51	-	51	N.Z. Parakeet (Red-crowned)	7	-	7
Gannet	4	-	4	Yellow-crowned Parakeet	3	-	3
Black Shag	46	6	52	Shining Cuckoo	4	-	4
Pied Shag and Bronze	19	-	19	Morepork	8	-	8
Little Black Shag	1	-	1	Little Owl	13	1	14
White-throated Shag	11	-	11	Kingfisher	51	9	60
King Shag	18	-	18	South Island Rifleman	44	-	44
Spotted Shag	5	-	5	Rock Wren	11	-	11
Blue Heron	24	7	31	Skylark	89	4	93
White-faced Heron	11	1	12	Welcome Swallow	106	44	150
Bittern	2	-	2	Fantail	119	13	132
Canada Goose	21	1	22	North Island Tomtit	12	2	14
Domestic Goose	-	-	-	South Island Tomtit	22	-	22
(presumed farm escape)	1	-	1	North Island Robin	7	1	8
Mute Swan	9	-	9	South Island Robin	15	-	15
Black Swan	39	-	39	North Island Fern Bird	5	-	5
Paradise Duck	6	1	7	South Island Fern Bird	9	-	9
Grey Teal	9	-	9	Brown Creeper	2	-	2
Brown Teal	2	-	2	Whitehead	6	-	6
Grey Duck	71	6	76	Yellowhead	13	-	13
Grey Duck/Mallard Cross	-	1	1	Grey Warbler	66	16	82
Mallard	45	1	46	Song Thrush	904	175	1079
Shoveller	11	-	11	Blackbird	820	117	937
Black Teal	6	-	6	Hedge Sparrow	120	13	133
Harrier	48	-	48	N.Z. Pipit	29	1	30
N.Z. Falcon	5	-	5	Bellbird	16	1	17
Pheasant	16	2	18	Tui	22	1	23
Brown Quail	2	1	3	White-eye	93	6	99
Californian Quail	16	2	18	Greenfinch	72	2	74
Chukor	1	-	1	Goldfinch	283	3	286
Banded Rail	4	-	4	Lesser Redpoll	46	1	47
Spotless Crane	2	-	2	Chaffinch	144	9	153
North Island Weka	4	-	4	Yellowhammer	25	2	27
South Island Weka	6	1	7	House Sparrow	401	57	458
Pukeko	83	12	95	Starling	180	17	197
Australian Coot	4	-	4	Myna	13	6	19
South Island Pied Oystercatcher	101	-	101	White-backed Magpie	16	-	16
Northern (Variable) Oystercatcher	22	6	28	Magpie (Species not indicated)	6	-	6
Black Oystercatcher	31	-	31	North Island Saddleback	7	-	7
			TOTALS	6039	624	6663	

RECORDING SCHEME

Report for 1967/68

Much more use has been made of the scheme this year. Ten species files have been sent out to members (1965/66, 4 files; 1966/67, 3 files).

Now that the scheme is being increasingly used, I look forward to receiving more material from Regions which so far have contributed very little. The more information that comes in, the more useful the files will be to members working on individual species. I am again grateful to my regular correspondents for the trouble they have taken to write up their notes, and to all those others who have contributed in varying degrees.

Locality reports from Firth of Thames, Manukau, Washdyke Lagoon and Kaimanawa Ranges have been received. Newsletters from Southland and Otago, and minutes of Taranaki meetings contain much useful material which has been added to the files. Please let me have a copy of any such documents from other regions. The usefulness of the scheme depends on the co-operation and support of Regional Representatives.

List of Contributors:—

Southland — Mrs. Barlow, P. Muller, R. R. Sutton.

Otago — J. Allan, Mrs. Anderson, J. Aspinall, G. Chance, R. Cunningham, R. Gray, Mrs. Hamel, Mrs. Hannah, A. R. Harris, M. W. M. Hogg, Mrs. B. Kelly, D. Kelly, I. McVinnie, B. McPherson, W. T. Popplewell, M. P. Schweigman, E. Sheat, Mrs. I. Smith, R. F. Smith, M. F. Soper, J. Watt, K. Westerskov.

Canterbury — C. N. Challies.

West Coast — P. Grant.

Nelson —

Marlborough — J. A. Cowie.

Wellington — B. D. Bell, P. C. Harper, F. C. Kinsky, D. V. Merton, Miss M. M. Neill, M. Williams.

Wairarapa —

Manawatu — E. Dear, E. B. Jones.

Wanganui — R. W. Macdonald.

Taranaki — D. Medway.

Hawkes Bay — Dr. Bathgate, N. B. Mackenzie.

Gisborne — A. Blackburn.

Volcanic Plateau — A. E. Beveridge, P. J. Howard, R. W. Jackson, H. Lyall, M. G. Macdonald.

Bay of Plenty — P. Densem, H. D. London, Mrs. McLintock, R. Weston.

Waikato —

South Auckland — J. F. Bell, Mrs. B. Brown, Miss K. Browne, S. Chambers, D. A. Lawrie, Miss P. J. Lane, D. McKenzie, Mr. and Mrs. H. R. McKenzie, M. Ross, A. Todd.

Auckland — Miss J. H. Goulding, P. Gross, G. D. Leitch, Mrs. S. Reed, R. B. Sibson, E. G. Turbott, Mrs. L. Wagener.

Northland — F. P. Hudson, Mrs. K. Reynolds.

Far North — D. E. Calvert, T. R. Calvert, R. Cowan, A. T. Edgar, Miss E. Madgwick.

(E. & O. E.)

— A. T. EDGAR, Recorder

CHRISTMAS CARD REPORT

The second Christmas card in the historical series has again proved the success of using this style of card. The Council decided on a printing of 20,000 cards and 1402 dozen (16,824) were sold. This is a small increase (90 dozen) on last year's sales. A few 1966 cards were also sold. This gave a net profit for the year of \$871.05. We have on hand 50 dozen 1966 cards and 317 dozen 1967 cards. These can be regarded as assets which can be utilised in mixed packages at a later date.

As most know the card used this year was the painting of the White-fronted Tern by Josef Wolf which appears in the volume by J. Richardson and G. Gray of mammal and bird paintings in the series *The Voyage of the Erebus and Terror* published in 1845. Mr. A. A. St. C. M. Murray-Oliver of the Alexander Turnbull Library kindly supplied the historical notes which were used inside the card.

A number of historical publications have been examined to find a suitable painting for the coming year. I recommend the use of the painting of a Saddleback by John Latham from "A General Synopsis of Birds" published in 1783.

On the Society's behalf I would like to thank the Turnbull Library, Mr. Murray Oliver, Bryce Frances Limited (printers), the Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society and the volunteers who assisted with the counting and packaging of the cards.

— BRIAN D. BELL



REPORT OF THE SOCIETY'S REPRESENTATIVES ON THE BANDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Members will be aware that the Wildlife Branch of the Department of Internal Affairs took over the National Banding Scheme from the Dominion Museum on 1st April, 1967. The Controller is advised by two committees (1) a Departmental committee, consisting of the Head of Wildlife Research, the Banding Officer and the Senior Conservation Officer and (2) a Banding Advisory committee consisting of 7 representatives of various interested bodies. Messrs. J. M. Cunningham and G. Harrow were appointed to represent the O.S.N.Z. and meetings were held on 23rd June and 28th July. A number of proposals was before the committee including 3 classes of permits, annual permit fees of from \$2 to \$10, the charging of rings for certain programmes, and considerable tightening of the circumstances under which permits would be issued.

The society's representatives took full part in the long discussions of these topics and wish to record their appreciation of the sympathetic hearing accorded them by the Department. In these discussions your representatives took fully into account the interests of members and the society as well as their own viewpoints, and are happy to report that the Department has concurred with many opinion expressed. As a result, there will be no permit fees nor, in most cases, any charge for rings. It is recognised that if a study is worthy of being carried out and a permit issued, the operator should not be charged for the privilege of doing it.

Most approved applicants will be issued with a "restricted" rather than a "general" permit, in which the species or groups of species to be ringed are listed, and/or the localities in which ringing may be carried out. For example, a member may be authorised to ring White-fronted Tern anywhere in New Zealand, or perhaps in a particular colony only, while another may be permitted to ring any species trapped in his town garden. While there will be no "holus bolus" ringing of all birds, we feel the Department will be liberal in its policy and will not refuse any application which is based on a sound programme of research involving ringing. All applications for "general" permits are to be referred to both the Departmental and Advisory committees, and the Department has agreed that any applicant who is refused a permit of the kind he wanted has the right to have his application referred to the Advisory Committee for reconsideration, and this is a safeguard of great potential value to members. So far no applications have been referred to the committee.

It is now up to members and the Society to arrange suitable schemes based on more serious consideration thus providing an enjoyable week-end occupation.

Appended hereto is a notice of the Department's policy. Applicants should apply to the Banding Officer, Wildlife Branch, Department of Internal Affairs, Private Bag, Wellington, setting out previous banding experience and the proposed programme including species, localities, trapping methods, etc. The reason for the project and what is hoped to be gained from it should be given in as much detail as possible.

— J. M. CUNNINGHAM
G. HARROW

3/4/1968

POLICY FOR THE ISSUE OF PERMITS

There shall be two types of permit:—

1. Restricted (R)
2. General (G)

Prospective operators shall apply for permits to be issued according to the following policy:—

A. Application

1. For the proposed band project, all applicants shall set out a detailed statement of their aims, the methods (including trapping methods) they intend to use, the species they intend banding and the locality in which the work is to be done.
2. All prospective operators shall be asked for a reference from a referee who must be any *one* of the following:—

An active banding operator of more than 3 years experience.

A regional representative of a local or regional ornithological organisation.

A senior officer of the Wildlife Service.

An ornithologist known to a member of the Departmental or Advisory Committee.

B. *Determination of Type*

All applications will first be considered by the Departmental Committee.

1. When an operator wishes to study a particular species (or more than one) then a 'Restricted' permit setting out *only* those which may be banded will be issued. Such a permit may include a locality restriction.
2. When a 'General' permit is required to cover a number of species, or a number of localities, or both, the application shall be referred directly to the Advisory Committee with an indication from the Department about what restrictions if any are likely to be imposed. (Such action will be dependent on policy from time to time.)
3. General permits when issued, will automatically be reviewed by both Committees annually.
4. *An operator may apply to band any bird in New Zealand or under permit, elsewhere (Antarctic, Pacific Islands, etc.). Each application will be treated on its merits and in the light of Departmental policy at that time.*
5. Should the project applied for be not approved (e.g. previous comprehensive studies having been done) the Department reserves the right to allow a suitably qualified operator to proceed provided bands are paid for by the operator.
6. Only 'Restricted' permits will be issued to Acclimatisation Societies and operators with less than 2 years experience.
7. All bands for approved projects will be issued free of charge with the proviso that Acclimatisation Societies, Universities, Government Departments or such other Organisations as the Department may deem fit may be charged.

C. *Provisions of Issue*

The Department, before it gives permission to band, must be satisfied:—

- (a) That the operator will adhere to the rules and instructions as laid down from time to time.
- (b) That the operator is competent to recognise all species he desires to band.
- (c) That the operator will exercise due care in trapping, and in placing or replacing bands on birds.
- (d) That colour markers, streamers, or tags will not harm the birds or conflict with other studies.

D. *Rights of Appeal*

Should an application be refused, a project not be approved, or the type of permit be disputed, then the applicant shall be given the grounds for refusal and be told that if he so desires the matter will be referred to the Advisory Committee for further consideration.

E. *Membership of O.S.N.Z.*

All banding operators are strongly recommended to become members of the O.S.N.Z. (if not already members) so that up-to-date contact may be maintained with ornithological research in New Zealand.