

of the patrols may be summarised as follows: Auckland West Coast (15 patrols), Taranaki Coast (19), Wellington West Coast (114), Wellington South Coast (32), Marlborough Coast (16) and Otago Coast (16); the remaining 16 patrols were from scattered localities, mostly on the East Coast of the North Island. There is still a regrettable absence of reports from the Western and Southern Coasts of the South Island.

The patrols are representative of all months of the year; less than 50 birds were recorded each month from January to June, but numbers then increased to 66 in July and 459 in August and then declined to about 100 per month for the rest of the year. The high August figure is due mainly to some very productive patrols carried out at that time on the Auckland West Coast; then increased counts in August were much less marked in the Wellington Area.

The most numerous species (total for year in brackets) were: *Pachyptila turtur* (303), *Puffinus gavia subsp.* (160), *Puffinus griseus* (122), *Larus dominicanus* (94), *Pachyptila belcheri* (74) and *Eudyptula minor* (59). Among rarer species were *Phoebastria palpebrata* (2), *Halobaena caerulea* (2), *Procellaria cinerea* (1), *Procellaria westlandica* (1) and *Sterna fuscata* (6). The Sooty Terns (*S. fuscata*) are of particular interest because there were only six previous records of this tropical species in New Zealand. The 1960 specimens were found in July (1) and August (5) at Muriwai, Bethels (3) Foxton and Waitarere (Levin).

The organiser wishes to thank all those who have assisted in collecting such a fine set of records (collectively, members have tramped 225 miles on the beaches of the Wellington West Coast alone). Special thanks are due to Mr. B. W. Boesen, who has spent many hours in registering the cards as they come in, and in tabulating the records that the Society has collected over a period of twenty years.

Lower Hutt  
5/5/61

P. C. BULL, Organiser



## PERIODICALS IN LIBRARY

Of those marked \* only those numbers of ornithological interest are received. Where individual numbers are monographs, they are usually catalogued individually, and will appear in the list under authors, while the serial title will be listed here. Square brackets indicate that holdings are incomplete.

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## LETTER

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As I am at present writing a paper on the food and distribution of the Tuatara, I was interested in the note 'Fairy Prion chick attacked by Tuatara' (*Notornis* IX 133).

However, the footnote will stand amendment, for in 1885 Andreas Reischek and Professor Thomas recorded this bird-eating habit of Tuataras on Karewa Island in the Bay of Plenty (T. & P. N.Z.I. XVIII 109, 1885).

— E. S. GOURLAY

D.S.I.R. Nelson.

3/5/61



The Thirteenth International Ornithological Congress will convene at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, from June 17 to 24, 1962.

The official announcement and application for membership in the Congress are now ready for distribution. Interested persons who have not already done so should send their names and addresses to the Secretary General *as soon as possible*.

A small fund has been obtained to provide partial support for the travel of a few persons coming from outside North America. Application forms will be sent to persons requesting them. (Citizens of the United States and Canada are not eligible.)

All applications for membership, travel grants and places on the programme should be returned to the Secretary General *before December 1, 1961*.

Charles G. Sibley, Secretary General  
Fernow Hall, Cornell University  
Ithaca, New York, U.S.A.