

NOTORNIS

In continuation of New Zealand Bird Notes.

Bulletin of the Ornithological Society of New Zealand.

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EDITORIAL.

Members will notice that with this issue, the name of this publication has been changed to "Notornis." This is in accordance with a resolution passed by the annual meeting of members held in Wellington on May 19.

In the first three years' existence of the society its publications were issued in cyclostyled form, as annual reports in 1940 and 1941, and as bulletins in 1941-42. Then it was decided to have the bulletins printed and the first in this form, under the title of "N.Z. Bird Notes," was issued in January, 1943. The title was extended to "New Zealand Bird Notes" in July, 1946.

Ever since the inception of the society many members favoured the adoption of a bird name for its publication, and at the annual meeting in 1949 a recommendation was made to the incoming committee to arrange for a change of name, members being invited to consider "Notornis," or alternatively, to offer other suggestions. The committee, after careful consideration, decided, by a majority decision, to recommend "Notornis" to the annual meeting held this year. The meeting approved that name by a substantial majority of votes.

The adoption of "Notornis" (of Greek derivation, meaning "Southern Bird") as the name of the society's publication follows the practice observed by many ornithological societies overseas of using a bird name, and it is felt that members generally will welcome the change, although some may differ as to the choice of a name. As in the past with "New Zealand Bird Notes," it is intended to continue the policy of including in "Notornis" articles and notes of interest to all classes of members.