

occupies 79 days. Chicks are fed irregularly on fish and squid until they may attain a maximum weight of 32.5lb. (adults weigh about 20lb.). Sorensen confirms the absence of a fasting period before the young fly. Adult body-moult is suspected during a few weeks before and after the egg hatches.

Growth of the chick during the 35 to 38 weeks spent in the nest is described week by week and the history of a restricted colony, in which every bird was ringed and each nest pegged, is followed from 1943 to 1946. These few pages are the result of many long hours of careful observation and recording in weather that was usually bad. None of the 390 young ringed on the island was recovered in later seasons.

The patience and conscientious industry of this investigation into the biology of our most noble seabird in its bleak environment must earn the admiration of all fellow students of oceanic bird life. The bulletin is easy to read, but there are a few awkward passages (e.g. the opening sentence under "Unusual Behaviour") which suggest uncritical editing. Photographs are excellent; reproduction adequate; reproduction of graphs in half-tone seems unnecessary. The bibliographic reference (from cover, as quoted above in full) could well have been simpler and less redundant. Lack of a title page (with publication date and reference) between cover and contents raises problems for librarians planning to bind the series. Such faults can be remedied in the future bulletins necessary to record four years of sub-antarctic nature studies.—C.A.F.

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### SCIENTIFIC NAMES.

The scientific names of birds in this issue, where not given in the text, are:—

Bell-bird (*Anthornis melanura*).  
Blackbird (*Turdus merula*).  
Creeper, Brown (*Finschia novaeseelandiae*).  
Cuckoo, Shining (*Chalcites lucidus*).  
Dotterel, Banded (*Charadrius bicinctus*).  
Dotterel, N.Z. (*Pluviorhynchus obscurus*).  
Duck, Grey (*Anas poicilorhyncha*).  
Fantail (*Rhipidura fuliginosa*).  
Goldfinch (*Carduelis carduelis*).  
Harrier (*Circus approximans*).  
Huia (*Heteralocha acutirostris*).  
Kaka (*Nestor meridionalis*).  
Magpie (*Gymnorhina* sp.).  
Pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus*).  
Pigeon, Wood (*Hemiphaga novaeseelandiae*).  
Rifleman (*Acanthisitta chloris*).  
Robin (*Miro australis*).  
Silver-eye (*Zosterops lateralis*).  
Skua, Southern (*Catharacta skua lonnbergi*).  
Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*).  
Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*).  
Thrush, North Island (*Turnagra tanagra*).  
Thrush, Song (*Turdus ericetorum*).  
Tomtit, South Island (*Petroica m. macrocephala*).  
Tui (*Prothemadera novaeseelandiae*).  
Warbler, Grey (*Pseudogerygone igata*).

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