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Notornis

In continuation of New Zealand Bird Notes.



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MEETING AT DUNEDIN.—On October 20, 1950, a meeting of the Dunedin members of the Ornithological Society was held in the Biology Lecture Room at the Museum. Two natural history films dealing with bird life were shown. After a discussion on matters of interest for the welfare of the Society members were free to chat and to examine the photographs of bird life and bird records exhibited.

NOTES ON THE GANNET (*Morus serrator*).—On Whangaroa Harbour, 15/3/50, one was seen asleep on the water, the feet moving to keep it into the wind although its head was under its wing. I went alongside with the launch engine idling and it only awoke when I lifted it on the flat of my hand. A young gannet was seen leaving a colony, Coromandel gannetry, early in March, 1942. With W. Blair I waited below for two hours until one young flew off squealing and away out of sight. The adults were working the young down to the edge of the cliff by enticing them with food. Young apparently old enough to leave were seen being fed. Off Whangaroa, Northland, observations of young gannets at sea seen from launch engaged in sword-fishing in summer and autumn are: Say five days each week: 1947-48 season, none seen; 1948-49 season, seen from January to March, mostly singly, seldom two at once, never more frequent, about once in three trips; 1949-50, seen from January to present date (14/3/50) as in 1948-49. The young birds were always travelling north and were not seen feeding. The adults seen were in parties of four to 12, feeding and not moving in any particular direction. No adults were seen with or near young.—(T. M. Roberts.)