

New Zealand Bird Notes

Bulletin of the Ornithological Society of New Zealand.

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Christchurch, DR. R. A. FALLA; Dunedin, Professor B. J. MARPLES.

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SOCIETY'S ANNUAL MEETING.

A continued increase in the number of members, who now total 240; proposals for more extensive ringing of birds and a projected gannet census were highlights of the annual meeting of the Society, which was held in the Dominion Museum, Wellington, on 25th May, 1946. Dr. R. A. Falla (retiring president) presided over a large attendance of members. It was the first general meeting to be held since 1941.

On the suggestion of Dr. Hamilton, the meeting agreed to a recommendation that the incoming committee should set up a sub-committee to examine the constitution, with a view to clarifying several doubtful points, their recommendations to be presented at the next annual general meeting.

Financial Statement.—On the motion of Dr. Falla, seconded by Dr. Wodzicki, the following statement was adopted and approved.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
In Hand, 1/5/45	78	9	2	R.A.O.U. Subscription	2	2	0
Subscriptions	86	11	11	White-eye Circular		11	6
Donations	1	17	6	"N.Z. Bird Notes," No. 9	7	5	0
Interest	2	19	4	"N.Z. Bird Notes," No. 10	7	5	0
	£169	17	11	Supplement	8	2	6
	32	8	0	Postage, etc.	3	12	6
					£32	8	0
In hand, 1/5/46	£137	9	11				

Mr. Hursthouse suggested that in future the presentation of the financial position should conform to the usual requirements of a full statement of the year's accounts.

The Committee's report, which was adopted, stated, *inter alia*, that the Society was fortunate in exchanging publications with the Wilson Ornithological Club, U.S.A. The Society now had the Wilson Bulletin Vols. 56 and 57, a most valuable addition to the available ornithological literature, and its thanks were due to the Wilson Ornithological Club.

Amendments to the Constitution.—The following alterations, of which due notice had been given, were approved:—

- (a) Insertion of an extra clause to read "No alteration to the Constitution may be made unless all members have been informed of the proposed change at least fourteen days before the meeting at which the change is made.
- (b) Insertion at the end of clause 7 the words "Any officer of the society may also hold the office of Regional Organiser."
- (c) In clause 8 the words "a Recorder" to be inserted in line 2 after the words "a Secretary-Treasurer."
- (d) Insertion of a new clause to read, "The function of the Recorder shall be to take charge of any books, papers, photographs, etc., belonging to the society and if possible to keep for the use of members, a list of the ornithological literature available in the Dominion. Any officer of the society may also hold the office of Recorder."
- (e) Clause 16 to be deleted and replaced by the following: "One member of the committee shall be appointed to act as editor (or, if necessary, two members to act as joint editors) of the Bulletin of the Society, "N.Z. Bird Notes."

Proposals re Ringing.—An account of the scheme for ringing silver-eyes and an indication of its possible extension to include other birds was given by Mr. J. M. Cunningham. On the motion of Dr. Falla, seconded by Mr. Fleming, a ringing sub-committee consisting of Mr. Cunningham as convener, Dr. Wodzieki, and Mr. Sibson was elected. Mr. Yerex pointed out that in a comprehensive scheme there was likely to be some technical breach of the Animals Protection Act and it was agreed that any scheme proposed by the committee or adopted by the society should be referred to the Department of Internal Affairs for official sanction.

Overdue Subscriptions.—On the suggestion of Mr. Cunningham, it was recommended to the incoming committee that in future accounts be sent to members when subscriptions fall due, and again when they remained unpaid.—Agreed.

Moved by Dr. Wodzicki, seconded by Mr. Hursthouse, that all members whose subscriptions were more than three years in arrear should be struck off the membership list after a reminder had been sent to them by their Regional Organiser.—Agreed.

Name of the Magazine.—Moved by Dr. Oliver and seconded by Mr. Yerex, that the matter of changing the name of the society's publication, "N.Z. Bird Notes" should be referred to the incoming committee for consideration.—Agreed.

Nominations of Officers.—Moved by Mr. Hursthouse and seconded by Dr. Hamilton, as a recommendation that clause 14 of the constitution be amended to read: "Notice is to be sent to each member not later than 1st April advising them that nominations of officers under clause 6 close on 14th April. (Names of retiring members to be given.) Provided that if no nominations be received for any office, the general meeting may then table nominations."

This decision was made following on an earlier discussion that arose regarding the election of officers (a list of officers for the year appears on page 1), especially as to the interpretation of various clauses in the constitution. It was agreed that difficulties arose where no nominations had been received.

Supplement to Volume 1.—Mr. Stidolph wrote pointing out certain omissions in the list of N.Z. Birds published as a supplement to Volume 1. Moved by Mr. Fleming and seconded by Mr. Cunningham, that corrections should be printed, distributed and numbered in a form suitable for pasting in the back of the supplement.—Agreed.

Dr. Wodzicki suggested that the incoming committee should endeavour to arrange fuller reviews of "N.Z. Bird Notes" in the "Emu," and arrange further exchanges with overseas publications.

Dr. Wodzicki also outlined a project whereby the society might assist in compiling a gannet census. This was approved and Mr. Fleming agreed to make inquiries regarding aerial photographs of certain inaccessible gannetries.

Moved by Mr. Fleming, seconded by Mr. Sibson, that the incoming committee be recommended to explore the possibility of reprinting the three first cyclostyled bulletins uniformly with "N.Z. Bird Notes."—Agreed.

Votes of Thanks.—The following votes of thanks were passed: To Professor B. J. Marples for his long service as secretary-treasurer; to Dr. Oliver and the management committee of the Dominion Museum for the use of the building; to Dr. Hamilton for arranging the film screening to follow the meeting.

A film of the gannet colonies at Cape Kidnappers taken by Professor McMeekan was screened by Dr. Hamilton. Dr. Wodzicki introduced the screening.