

New Zealand Bird Notes

Bulletin of the Ornithological Society of New Zealand.

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Annual Subscription, 5/-.

Life Membership, £5.

Price to non-members, 2/- per number.

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Vol. 3 No. 4 Published Quarterly JANUARY, 1949.

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REDISCOVERY OF NOTORNIS.

The news that on November 20, 1948, Dr. G. B. Orbell, of Invercargill and party had succeeded in rediscovering the notornis (*Notornis hochstetteri*) in the Lake Te Anau region created world-wide interest, as it was 50 years ago since the last specimen of this bird had been recorded and by many it was regarded as being extinct. Three birds were seen by Dr. Orbell's party and two captured were released after being photographed.

Prompt action was taken by the Government to safeguard the birds and an area of 400,000 acres has been set aside as a sanctuary, in which area no dogs or guns are allowed and a permit is required to enter it. Severe penalties are provided in the event of anyone found unlawfully molesting the bird or trespassing in the area. In addition, special steps have been taken to ensure the protection of the birds.