

Some of these concern Australian ornithology. Thus it is sought to place the name *gibberifrons* on the Official List of valid names for our Grey Teal and *castanea* for the Chestnut Teal. The authors deserve congratulation for their scholarship and the clarity of presentation of their arguments.—D.L.S.

Breeding of the Great-winged Petrel.—Under this title John Warham contributes one of the best accounts to date of this species (*Pterodroma macroptera*) (*Ibis*, vol. 98, April 1956, pp. 171-185). The observations were made on two visits to the nesting colony at Eclipse Island, near Albany, W.A. Warham finds that this winter-breeding, non-migratory petrel has an incubation period of about 53 days (one record) and the young remains in the burrow for 128-134 days (two records). The parents cease to brood the newly-hatched chicks after two or three days and there is no starvation period at the close of the fledging period. The author supports the suggestion of Dr. L. E. Richdale "that the presence or absence of a migratory urge affects the attentiveness of the parent petrels at the end of the breeding season and that a starvation period exists only with the migratory species." There was no evidence found that the birds spit oil at intruders, as do the surface-nesting fulmars. It is yet undetermined whether the Great-winged Petrels share the same burrows with the summer-breeding migratory Fleshy-footed Shearwaters (*Puffinus carneipes*), which also nest on the island. Four striking flashlight photographs add to the interest of the paper.—D.L.S.

News and Notes

CHANGE OF TITLE

Dr. C. C. N. Vass, honorary editor of the *British Abstracts of Medical Science* has announced that in future this publication will appear under the title of 'International Abstracts of Biological Science', the address of which is 4 and 5 Fitzroy Square, London, W.1, England.

BIRDS OF NEW GUINEA

The publishers of Tom Iredale's projected 'Birds of New Guinea' have announced that this work will be published in a limited edition of 1,500 sets in December this year. It will appear in two volumes, quarter morocco bound, of 250 pages each, and will describe 650 species, with thirty-five colour plates, figuring 347 birds, by Lilian Medland. A special pre-publication price is offered of £16/16/- the set, by payment in advance before publication. If any sets remain unsold on publication, the price will be raised to £25/4/-. Orders to be placed direct with the publishers, Georgian House Pty. Ltd., 296 Beaconsfield Parade, Middle Park, S.C.6, Melbourne.

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