

SHORTER NOTICES

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Australasian Publications

Palaeornithology

SCARLETT, R. J. 1967. A sub-fossil record of a Barn Owl in New Zealand. *Notornis* 14: 218-219.

Bones of *Tyto alba*, probably of the sub-species *delicatula* from Australia, are recorded from a sub-fossil deposit at Tom Bowling Beach, Northland. —H.L.S.

Species

CARROLL, A. L. K. 1968. Foods of the Harrier. *Notornis* 15: 23-28.

A study of the stomach contents of 124 Harriers *Circus approximans* showed their food to be predominantly birds, mammals and insects, occasionally frogs and fish. —D.G.M.

FORDHAM, R. A. 1968. Dispersion and dispersal of the Dominican Gull in Wellington, New Zealand. *Proc. N.Z. ecol. Soc.* 15: 40-50.

The population, flocking habits and restricted dispersal in the area of Cook Strait are described as judged from banding and other techniques. —H.L.S.

HENDERSON, L. E. 1968. First record of the Emperor Penguin in New Zealand. *Notornis* 15: 34-35.

The first Emperor Penguin recorded in New Zealand was found alive on a beach near Invercargill on 5 April 1967. —D.G.M.

KAIGLER, C. G. 1968. Red-necked Avocet in Westland. *Notornis* 15: 123.

The first acceptable record of the sighting of an Australian Avocet in New Zealand since 1912. —D.G.M.

Economic ornithology and Conservation

CAITHNESS, T. A. 1968. Poisoning gulls with alpha-chloralose near a New Zealand airfield. *J. Wildl. Mgmt* 32: 279-286.

This records the killing by narcotic poison in 1965 of 85% of gulls breeding near an airfield. Ornithologists familiar with the behaviour of the individual Black-backed Gull will feel dismay at the size of the kill and sincerely hope that poisoning operations of this kind will be kept to a minimum. —H.L.S.

COLLETT, N. and HARRISON, D. L. 1968. Some observations on the effects of using organochlorine sprays in an orchard. *N.Z. J. Sci.* 11: 371.

Accumulated spray deposits over twelve years in a Christchurch orchard were apparently harmful to some insect-eating birds which fed in the orchard. —H.L.S.

Bibliography

OLIVER, H. S. 1968. Annotated index to some early New Zealand bird literature. *Wildl. Publ.* 106, Dept. Int. Aff., Wellington. Pp. 222, 8" x 10" approx. Boards, xerox.

Mrs Oliver's index lists by species, subjects and authors in separate sections the publications on New Zealand birds up to 1900 and is a valuable source of information, particularly for students of nomenclature. —H.L.S.

NOTICES

XV International Ornithological Congress

The dates for the Congress have been determined as follows:

The Hague: 30 August-5 September 1970 (inclusive).

Congress Fee: Full Members—150 Dutch Guilders; Associate Members—100 Dutch Guilders.

Membership of the Congress is open to all ornithologists over the age of 18 years. Full members are entitled to attend all functions of the Congress and to receive the Proceedings. Wives, husbands and children over the age of 18 of full members can register as Associate Members at a reduced fee, which entitles them to attend all functions, but not to receive the Proceedings. Restriction of the number of membership is not considered.

After a formal opening on the Sunday evening, 30 August, the rest of the week will be devoted to scientific meetings. These will consist of Plenary Sessions in the mornings and Sectional Sessions in the afternoons. Some of the Plenary Sessions will have the character of a Symposium on well advanced or promising fields of ornithological research; at others recent advances in selected fields of ornithology will be reviewed. Forum discussions in the afternoon will give the opportunity to pay additional attention to the subjects treated in the morning. At the Sectional Sessions short offered papers will be read. Part of the afternoon sessions will be devoted to special or specialists' meetings. In addition there will be exhibits, a whole-day excursion on Wednesday and film shows in the evenings.

There will be ample opportunity for informal contacts, but no excursion before or after the Congress will be organized.

The Congress will meet in the new buildings of the Netherlands Congress Centre, where all meals (except breakfast) will be served and where each night coffee shops and bars will be open. Accommodation will be arranged in hotels in the vicinity or on caravan or camping sites, if desired.

Application forms with full details can be obtained from:

The Secretary-General (Dr K. H. Voous)
XV International Ornithological Congress
c/o Netherlands Congress Centre
10, Churchillplein
The Hague
The Netherlands

A list of hotels and prices will be sent with the application form. Completed forms must be returned to the above address not later than 1 May 1970, at which date registration for membership will be closed.

Those wishing to contribute papers for the Sectional Sessions, exhibits or films are requested to apply for the appropriate application sheets as early as possible and to have these returned not later than 1 December 1969, after which date unfortunately no papers or films can be accepted, as scrutinizing, section allocation and production of the Abstracts Volume require considerable time.

FOR SALE

Littler's Birds of Tasmania, good order, \$30 o.n.o. Emu Vol. 57 (5), 60 (2), 61 (3), 62 (1), 64 (3), 65 (2, 4), 66 (1-4), 67 (1-4), 68 (1, 3, 4) at \$0.75 each. Miss C. H. Mosey, Glen Clova, 9 Araluen St, Lindsfarne, Tas. 7015.

ORNITHOLOGICAL TOUR OF NORTHERN TERRITORY

Ansett-Pioneer are organizing two tours of the Northern Territory in July, both starting in Alice Springs. The first is from 19 July to 6 August and the second from 24 July to 6 August. Dr A. H. Lendon is leading the tour. Particulars from Ansett-Pioneer, 142 North Terrace, Adelaide. Cost of Tour A \$343, Tour B \$267.

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