

In spite of its shortcomings this book would be suitable for school libraries. It has a variety of illustrations, and the text simply and clearly gives information not conveniently available elsewhere.

E. M. McCulloch

Sixty Camera Studies of Australian Birds by Donald Trounson and Molly Clampett, 1969. Aust. Wom. Weekly, Sydney. Pp. 64, 60 col. pll., dist. maps, 11" x 8½". \$A1.00.

As the authors make clear, most of the fifty-seven species portrayed in this paperback, which includes twenty-nine parrots and cockatoos, were photographed in an indoor 'bird studio'. This is obvious from the sometimes exotic background foliage, the occasional broken feathers of wing or tail, and the disarrayed plumage in some of those trapped with official permission in the field and liberated in the studio. The quality of the plates is uneven. Some are excellent, others are fuzzy or show wrong colouring. There is very little information in the brief notes in the appendix, but the accompanying species distribution maps are useful and accurate.

The production in general is not of the quality one might expect from a \$100,000 scheme to create a central collection of colour photographs of Australia's 700 or so species of birds' and seriously detracts from its desired photographic standards. The book should appeal to readers of the *Woman's Weekly* and provide for beginners a useful pictorial introduction to a limited range of native birds.

H. E. A. Jarman

SHORTER NOTICES

It is not possible for the Editor of "Literature" to check the bibliographical accuracy of all titles and references supplied by contributors.

Australasian Publications

Palaeornithology

SCARLETT, R. J. 1968. An Owlet-Nightjar from New Zealand. *Notornis* 15: 254-266.

From a number of New Zealand localities a sub-fossil Owlet-Nightjar with larger limbs than *Aegotheles* is described as a new genus and species *Megaegotheles novaezelandiae*.

D. G. M.

SCARLETT, R. J. 1969. On the Alleged Queensland Moa, *Dinornis queenslandiae* De Vis. *Mem.Qd Mus.* 15: 207-212

Examination of the holotype of *Dinornis queenslandiae* De Vis, a part left femur, has shown that it is from a *Pachyornis elephantopus* (Owen) derived from a Moa-hunter Maori midden from the South Island of New Zealand and it must therefore be expunged from the list of Australian fossil birds.

Author's abstract.

Families

LENDON, A. H. 1968. Distribution of Australian Psittacines. *S. Aust. Orn.* 25: 3-17.

This paper provides up-to-date information on the parrot family on the basis of regional lists, published records, museum specimens and the author's own observations over many years. The distribution given in the 1926 Checklist is corrected or amplified where necessary. There are references to certain well-marked subspecies in the text, but the general treatment is strictly binomial.

H.T.C.

Regions/Distribution/First Records: SA - NT, NZ

BONNIN, M. 1968. The Bridled Tern Breeding in South Australia. *S. Aust. Orn.* 25: 18 and 22.

This note reports the surprising discovery of a breeding pair of Bridled Terns *S. anaetheta* at Baudin Rocks off Robe, SA. The report provides an additional species record for SA.

H.T.C.

ECKERT, J. 1968. The Large Sand-Dotterel. A New Record for South Australia. *S. Aust. Orn.* 25: 21-22.

The author records the taking of a Large Sand Dotterel *C. leschenaultii* near Lake Alexandrina and a Terek Sandpiper *T. cinerea* near Landlock on the Coorong. Both are first records for SA.

H.T.C.

PATON, J. and D. WATERMAN, M. 1968. The Pink and Rose Robins in South Australia. *S. Aust. Orn.* 25: 19-20.

A claim is here submitted for a record of the Rose Robin *P. rosea*, an uncoloured bird having been trapped at Beaumont, near Adelaide, 24 August 1968. A sight observation at Belair, 13 August 1968 by Brian Glover, *ibid* p. 56 and the capture of a similar uncoloured bird by Mrs. Paton at Beaumont, 27 June 1969 (unpublished) indicates that this species should probably be listed for SA as a winter migrant.

H.T.C.

PARKER, S. 1969. New and Interesting Distribution Records of Central Australian Birds. *S. Aust. Orn.* 25: 59-71.

This is a short but important paper. Many of the notes and a comprehensive gazetteer of place names mentioned in the text are supplementary to Storr's regional 'List of Northern Territory Birds'.

H.T.C.

ANDREW, I. G. 1968. Occurrence of Great Knot in New Zealand. *Notornis* 15: 207-210.

The first record of the Great Knot *C. tenuirostris* in NZ describes three birds seen at the Manawatu Estuary 15 October 1967.

D.G.M.

McKENZIE, H. R. 1968. Suspected Upland Plover (*Bartramia longicauda*) in Manukau Harbour. *Notornis* 15: 216-218.

A description is given of a bird suspected to be of this species in the Manukau Harbour 28 February 1967, with references to literature on the species.

D.G.M.

WESTERSKOV, K. E. 1968. Australian Brolga (*Grus rubicunda*). Recorded in New Zealand. *Notornis* 15: 248-253.

CHANCE, G. R. 1969. A New Bird for New Zealand — Australian Little Grebe, at Arrowtown. *Notornis* 16: 3-4.

SCARLETT, R. J. 1969. The Occurrence of the Musk Duck, *Biziura lobata* (Shaw) in New Zealand. *Notornis* 16: 57-59.

BARLOW, M. 1969. Dusky Moorhen on Lake Hayes. *Notornis* 16: 81-84. Records of these Australian species in New Zealand are given.

D.G.M.

Bibliography — Correction. The author of 'Annotated Index to some early new Zealand Bird Literature' is H. C. Oliver, not H. S. Oliver as printed *Emu* 69: 62.

Overseas Publications

Osteology

BOCK, W. J. and McEVEY, A. 1969. The Radius and Relationship of Owls. *Wilson Bull.* 81: 55-68.

The 'wing spur' or *os prominens* in strigid owls is a sesamoid bone attached to the radius. *N. strenua* and *novae-seelandiae* are discussed. Owls of the genus *Tyto* lack the *os prominens* but the presence of the osseous arch and arrangement of certain tendons support the idea that *Tyto* is related to other owls. Certain hawks possess an *os prominens* but this does not imply affinity. In hawks and owls the relations of tendons and ligaments, and the bone configuration, are different.

J. McK.