petrel and for comments on the manuscript and help with the literature. Mr. David Attenborough kindly sent notes on the species noted on the island during his stay there, and these will be incorporated in a full account of the past and present status of the birds of the island. For transport I am grateful to the C.S.I.R.O. Fisheries Laboratory at Thursday Island and to Messrs. Whittaker Bros. of Cairns. A grant from the Commonwealth Science & Industry Endowment Fund was used to defray travelling expenses.

REFERENCES

**South-Polar Skua Recovery in Australia.**—A banded Skua (*Catharacta maccormicki*) was recently reported by Mr. L. S. Barrett of Warwooka, South Australia. The bird was found dead by Mr. Barrett's children on the southern shore of Hardwicke Bay, Yorke Peninsula, on May 19, 1958. In reporting, he stated it had been dead probably less than seven days, and that this would coincide with a storm of gale-force winds from the west, which apparently had originated in the polar or sub-polar regions.

This adult bird had been banded by me on March 1, 1957, at the Wilkes Station in Antarctica (latitude 66° 15' S, longitude 110° 31' E) during the International Geophysical Year, with United States Fish and Wildlife Service band number 617-00501. It also had a 1 1/2-inch wide, green, thermoplastic band. This latter was part of an international skua-banding programme wherein 10 nations banded at 18 stations in Antarctica, each station using a different coloured band (Eklund, *Emu*, 58 (2) 98, May 1958; *S.A. Orn.*, 22 (5-6) 71, July 1958). A distribution and life-history study of the species was recently completed. Over 1,270 skuas have been banded thus far, 671 of which were banded at the Wilkes Station. Mr. Barrett’s was the first reported winter-time recovery for the species away from Antarctica. The airline distance covered by this bird was approximately 2,200 miles.