

**S. anaethetus.** Brown-winged Tern.

The only birds certainly identified as this species were a party of eight, flying with Sooty Terns near the Hull Islands, May 28. The smaller size of *anaethetus* could be seen and the upper-parts were dark brown, rather than brownish-black as in *fuscata*.

**S. fuscata.** Sooty Tern.

In most cases it is not possible to separate the Sooty, Brown-winged and Spectacled Terns at sea. All terns, dark above and light below are considered here.

About fifty off Honolulu on May 24. Many parties seen all round the coast of Oahu. One, definite Sooty Tern, on May 27. Total of about 1000 seen fishing in small parties off the Hull Islands on May 28. One party of *anaethetus* was seen but undoubtedly by far the largest proportion were *fuscata*. Small numbers seen throughout that day.

**Sterna bergii.** Crested Tern.

A few were seen in shore at the Hoorn Islands, Fiji, Auckland and Sydney.

**Auouis stolidus.** Common Noddy.

Except in mixed flocks it is difficult to distinguish this species from the other noddy terns; all are listed here. Ten dark terns on May 27 were probably of this species, although it is possible that they were immature Sooty Terns. About a hundred near the Hoorn Islands on May 29.

**Gygis alba.** White Tero.

Six fishing near Alofi Island, Hoorn Group, May 29.

## REFERENCES

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**Movements of Cattle Egrets.**—I refer to J. M. Hewitt's paper, 'The Cattle Egret in Australia', in the May issue of *The Emu* (vol. 60, pp. 99-102). I was interested in the four theories as to the manner in which the Cattle Egret *Ardeola ibis* colonized South America. The last mentioned, i.e. that they were wind-borne across the Atlantic, a distance of not less than 1,800 miles, being accepted as the most likely. It may interest readers to learn of the recovery in Trinidad of a Cattle Egret banded a year previously (1956) as a nestling at the Coto Doñana, Spain (ref. *Portrait of a Wilderness*. Guy Mountfort, 1958, p. 100), which appears to confirm such theory. There should be no doubts concerning the ability of this species to colonize Australia from the Asian continent.

—JOHN L. MCKEAN, Hampton, Vic., 28/5/60.