

whilst on the west the species occupies every oceanic headland in Ireland. Mr. Fisher discusses possible causes but admits that up to the present no satisfactory solution has been determined.—D.L.S.

The Sea-Birds of Sydney.—K. A. Hindwood (*Proc. Zool. Soc., N.S.W.*, 1939-40) provides a reference list of species known to have occurred in a coastal area extending sixty miles both north and south from Sydney Heads. Basset Hull's researches established many breeding stations and produced interesting data. Storm-blown birds have added to the records. Fifty-two species are included in the list, limicoline birds generally being excluded. Occasional records include many of the Petrels, and the Crested Penguin (as already recorded in *The Emu*, vol. XXXVIII, p. 377). Sight records extend to the Long-tailed Skua and a Frigate-bird (? sp.), amongst others. In 1878 a specimen of the White Tern (*Leucanous* (= *Gygis*) *albus*) was shot between Sydney and Lord Howe Island. Considering that this species is found both east and west of Australia it is perhaps a matter for comment that there has been no Australian record.—C.E.B.

Fish Predators of Birds.—Our member Mr. G. P. Whitley, of the Australian Museum, Sydney, has just published a distinctive book, *The Fishes of Australia*, pt. 1—Sharks, etc., and, among the multifarious facts included, is a summary of the records dealing with fish preying on birds. On page 62 he refers to sharks snatching Mutton-birds from the surface of the water, citing also a possible case of a Black-browed Albatross suffering a like fate. In the notorious "shark arm case" of 1935 the tiger shark concerned disgorged a partly digested Mutton-bird besides the human arm which caused such a sensation at the Taronga Park Aquarium. A Gannet, a Little Penguin and other birds have also been found in tiger shark stomachs, but this species is essentially a scavenger, and it cannot be accepted from such evidence that it preys to any degree on living birds. Another species of shark in which bird remains have been reported is the white pointer, a Gannet being found in one in New Zealand. In inland waters a trout has been known to leap at a Blue Wren and a perch in the Nepean River was found to contain two Diamond Sparrows.—D.L.S.

OBITUARY

The death is recorded of Mr. George Sharp, who passed away at Brisbane, Queensland, on August 9, 1940. George Sharp, with the help of his brother, John, collected in various parts of Australia, mainly in northern Queensland, and also New Guinea, for museums and zoological gardens. Later he went to Africa to obtain examples of the big game of that country. Some years before his death Mr. Sharp prepared an account of his travels and experiences but the projected work was not published. Mr. Sharp is best remembered in the annals of Australian ornithology as the collector who obtained the first clutches of the eggs of both the Golden Bower-bird (*Prionodura newtoniana*) and the Tooth-billed Bower-bird (*Scenopæetes dentirostris*) on the Atherton Tablelands, north-east Queensland, during November, 1908. A full account of those discoveries appears in the *Victorian Naturalist* (vol. XXV, pp. 160-168, pls. 7-8), together with photographs of the nests and eggs of both species. Mr. Sharp was born at Newcastle, New South Wales, on March 25, 1860, and was therefore over 80 at the time of his death.—K.A.H.

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