

occasionally." E. L. Hyem in "Birds of Mernot", N.S.W., *Emu* 36: 262-272 states "a pair used to arrive in August, breed and then depart with their young." According to G. R. Gannon, "Distribution of Australian Honeyeaters", *Emu* 62: 145-166, this latter record would be close to the eastern edge of the birds' range in that part of N.S.W. The last two records of movement seem to be of the same type, but different from those further north.

There appears to be only one record of movement west of the Range in areas outside southern Queensland. This is given in G. W. Althofer's "Birds of the Wellington District, N.S.W." *Emu* 34: 105-112, a paper dealing with a district list over a 12 month period only. He recorded the species from May to September with an increase in numbers, reaching a peak in August. Even though the records cover only one year, they follow a similar pattern to my records at Jandowae, as far as numbers are concerned. The Wellington district is similarly situated, as regards distance from the Great Dividing Range, to Jandowae.

#### CONCLUSION

Migration of the Blue-faced Honeyeater shows only slight similarity to that of several species of Honeyeaters which indulge in urgent mass movement.

As migration is a very complex aspect of avian behaviour, I would not venture a reason for it in this species. However, I would go so far as to say that I doubt if the migration is allied with food supply, as may be thought in a less urgent one. The migration follows a constant pattern, irrespective of seasonal conditions.

*Jandowae, Queensland.*  
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**Bill abnormality of a Silver Gull.**—An adult-plumage Silver Gull, *Larus novae-hollandiae* Stephens, was observed at Tidal River, Victoria, on March 26, 1965, to have a deformed bill.

The upper portion of the beak, the premaxillary region, was twisted upwards at about the region of the nares, forming an angle of approximately 30° with the lower portion of the beak which appeared slightly longer. The bird was in full adult plumage and, though appearing slightly smaller than other adults nearby, was otherwise normal.

The observation tends to suggest that the deformity was of recent occurrence since it is unlikely that a nestling would obtain sufficient food from the parent if the injury had been received in the nest, or as a result of hostile behaviour of other birds at the colony during the fledging period.—F. I. NORMAN, Department of Zoology and Comparative Physiology, Monash University, Clayton, Vic.