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the Sea Swallow



BEING THE ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE ROYAL NAVAL
BIRD WATCHING SOCIETY

Published November, 1951

THE ROYAL NAVAL BIRD-WATCHING SOCIETY

(Affiliated to the British Trust for Ornithology)

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1951

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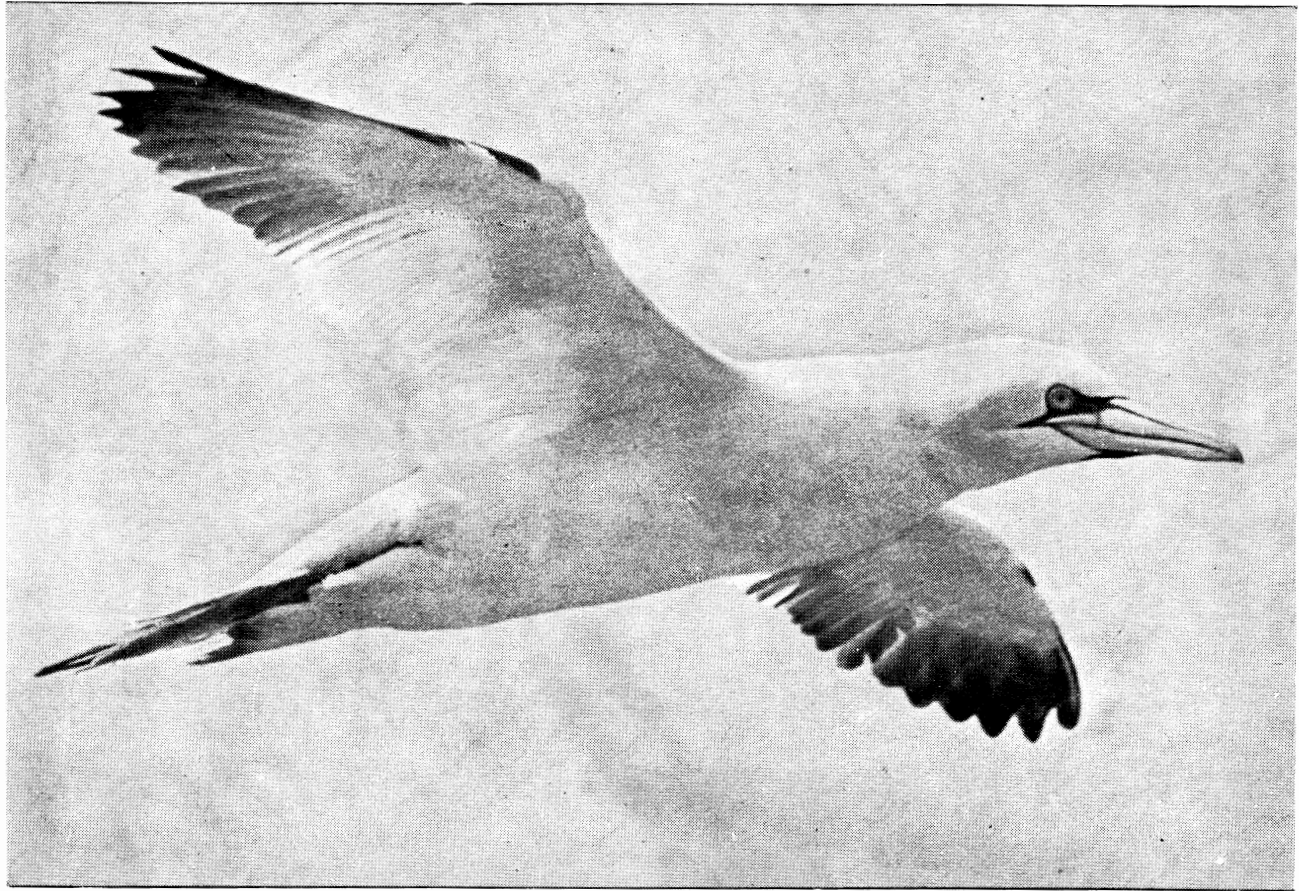
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GANNET IN FLIGHT.

Photograph by Captain E. D. Stroud, D.S.C., R.M.

FOREWORD

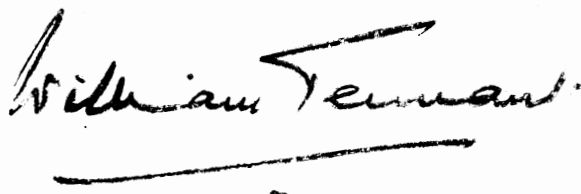
In these days for many members there is less time to study birds. Costs too have risen, and the Royal Naval Bird-Watching Society has had to increase its subscriptions. I am very glad to see that through the continued support of a number of members the Society still goes forward.

Financially, however, a larger membership is essential if progress and quality of bulletins and annual reports is to be maintained. I hope that those members who are in arrears with subscriptions, and to whom this annual report is being sent, will continue to lend their support.

Some of you may not have had the luck yet to wander over the Oceans, but if you do at all costs keep up your ornithology. You can almost fix your latitude and longitude in many parts of the world by the birds you meet. What a lot the seafarer misses who just calls them all seagulls.

Get someone to give you Alexander's "Birds of the Ocean" for a Christmas present. I am pretty sure it will pass many an hour for you on the bridge or the boat deck at sea.

Good luck for 1952.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William Tennant". The signature is written in dark ink and is underlined with a single horizontal stroke.

The Eades,
Upton-on-Severn,
Worcestershire.

October, 1951.

EDITORIAL

STATE OF SOCIETY

The effect upon our membership of the increased rates of subscriptions decided at the 1950 Annual General Meeting is not discouraging.

A comparison between the state of the Society (A) at the time of the 1950 annual meeting, and (B) at the time of going to press is as follows:—

	(A)	(B)
Balance in hand	£37 7s. 0d.	£42 15s. 8d.
Executive Council	14	14
Honorary Members	7	10
Life Members	97	91
Ordinary Members	53	46
Ordinary Members (subs (1951) due)	43	59
TOTAL	214	220

The financial position, through the response received to the use of "Bankers' Orders," is now on a firmer footing, and we wish to take this opportunity of thanking members for their continuing support.

There is still, however, a large number of ordinary members whose subscriptions for the current year at the new rates of 10/- (Officers) and 7/- (Ratings) are still outstanding. The annual report is being sent to these members, who are requested to pay their 1951 subscriptions as soon as possible.

POLICY

From several suggestions received it is felt that the emphasis given to the Society's principal interest in the observation and record of birds *at sea* may prove a source of discouragement to members serving ashore. The principal object still remains that of promoting interest in birds met by Members wherever their ships may be stationed in the world, and particularly birds met with at sea.

The Society wishes to assure members serving ashore at home however that ways and means of promoting greater opportunity for their interests are **not being overlooked**.

To this end it is hoped that shore based members in the U.K. will cooperate during the 1952 breeding season in the British

Trust for Ornithology's "Nest Record Investigation." Record cards will be available in good time on application to the Hon. Secretary R.N.B.W.S. price 10 cards for 6d., and further details will be published in bulletins.

LOCAL ADVICE—HOME

All Members may not be aware that the British Trust for Ornithology has nominated Regional Representatives in all the counties and vice counties in the British Isles. We are indebted to the Trust for their cooperation in informing us that their Regional Representatives will be glad to offer advice and answer queries to R.N.B.W.S. Members in their neighbourhood. The list of representatives is held by our Hon. Sec. who will supply names and addresses as requested.

HOME CONTACT LIST

It is under consideration to compile a small House Contact List within the Society.

PROGRESS DURING 1951

H.M. Ships undertaking long ocean voyages.

We acknowledge with thanks the assistance given by the Director of Operations, Admiralty.

During the year a personal letter from the Chairman, together with full details of "Sea Reporting," has been sent to the Commanding Officers of 25 ships scheduled for long ocean passages. These include surveying ships, and ships already on foreign stations.

Interesting Sea Reports are already coming to hand.

ANALYSIS OF SEA REPORTS SCHEME

Outline details of this scheme are given in this report.

LIAISON WITH CADET TRAINING CRUISER

We are grateful for the interest taken by Captain Richard Onslow, R.N. on the Chairman's suggestion that H.M.S. Devonshire should cooperate with the Society. The ship has now formed a small Bird Watching Society, and we wish it every success.

CURRENT ANNUAL REPORT

It has been the aim in the 1951 Report to include only articles received from Members of the Society.

We wish to express thanks to those Members who have contributed, for the helpful suggestions received from Members, and for the assistance given by our Advisors of the British Trust for Ornithology, the Hydrographer of the Navy, and others.

FORWARDING WRITTEN NOTES

We still feel that many interesting observations both from afloat and ashore do not reach our Hon. Secretary, whose post bag deals with only a few regular correspondents. We welcome correspondence and notes, and hope that Members will forward notes whenever possible.

ADDRESS OF BRITISH TRUST FOR ORNITHOLOGY

The address of the Trust's new headquarters is 2, King Edward Street, Oxford. Tel. Oxford 2574.

ADDRESS OF CHAIRMAN R.N.B.W.S. (1951)

Captain G. S. Tuck's permanent address is now "Pratten-den's," Bury, Sussex.

ANALYSIS OF SEA REPORTS SCHEME

One of the objects of the Society is the maintenance of reports of all birds identified at sea. The long term object of these reports is the study of the ocean distribution of different species at different seasons of the year. A considerable number of reports are already available, and Members who have reported since the inauguration of the Society may be interested to learn of present developments.

The final intention is to keep separate world ocean charts for each month of the year, and as sea reports are received to plot **POSITIVELY IDENTIFIED REPORTS** of different species by a key letter system in the position reported on the appropriate monthly chart. As an additional analysis, partly on account of the greater frequency of reports, and of the interest attached to reports covering migration routes having the British Isles as the focal area, it is intended to keep monthly plots on a larger scale chart extending approximately between 10 degrees and 65 degrees North, and 15 degrees East to 40 degrees West.

We wish to acknowledge with thanks the assistance given by the Hydrographic Dept., Admiralty, in the initial selection of suitable charts.

Captain G. S. Tuck R.N. (retrd.), who is organising this study points out that initially work will be confined to a limited number of species, and that the full scheme will take some time to put into operation.

NOTES TO SEA REPORTERS ON THE SCHEME.

A preliminary study of past reports by the organiser shows that the great majority have to be discarded through lack of certainty as to positive identification, or through lack of accurate details of the salient points in recognition to enable identification to be established.

ONLY POSITIVELY IDENTIFIED REPORTS ARE OF VALUE.

The organiser does not wish to discourage the quantity of reports but suggests that the following points should be borne in mind.

1. All positively identified reports to be labelled "POSITIVE" in remarks column of sea report sheet.
2. All unidentified reports to be labelled "UNCERTAIN".

Eight

3. Every reporter should be in possession of a good text book covering species likely to be encountered in his area.
4. Always use glasses to identify. Note down in writing at the time as many salient characteristics as possible such as size, form and colour of bill, legs and feet, general colour above, below and of head, exact place and detail of any distinctive colour bands, whether wings are long and narrow, or broad and short, any wing tip markings, etc.

The observer should then refer to his text book for assistance.

Unless notes are written down at the time, reference to a text book alone may often result in "wishful thinking."

5. Mr. James Fisher's "Watching Birds" — Penquin series, gives valuable advice.

SEA REPORT SHEETS—1951

A number of Sea Reports have been received too late to include in this report, and more are expected from H.M. Ships now on passages or due for passages.

The following are acknowledged :—

HOME WATERS

A.B. R. Gibbs	East Coast, Harwich area.
Lt.-Cdr. G. C. Leslie	East Coast, Scotland.
Lt. (E) W. S. Hearn	East Coast, Scotland.

MEDITERRANEAN

Sig. J. A. Bailey	Malta area.
Chief E.R.A. N. C. Wain	Malta area.

PASSAGES

Lt. D. H. C. Lowis	U.K. to Persian Gulf and Persian Gulf area.
Lt.-Cdr. D. Jermain and Officers	U.K. to Malta.
Lt. D. H. C. Lowis	U.K. to Zanzibar, East Africa.
*1st Officer J. F. Anderson (s.s. Asturias)	U.K. to Australia and return.

*Mr. W. B. Alexander of B.T.O. has kindly commented on this report. Extracts of his comments are being forwarded to 1st Officer Anderson.

NOTES ON SEA REPORTS

(i) *Report of Gulls with missing or damaged legs*

Certain gulls, for example the Black Backed Gulls, Herring Gulls, and Kittiwake Gulls, frequently tuck one or both feet forward under the feathers of their flanks to obtain more perfect streamlining. The feet so tucked away are quite invisible, and may give the impression of a legless bird. The illustrations on pages 22 and 23 of Mr. Barlee's book "Birds on the Wing" show this characteristic very clearly.

(ii) *Herring Gulls attacking small migratory birds*

Reports have been received of herring gulls seen attacking chaffinches and other small migratory birds in North Sea and Channel areas in October, 1951. Several gulls gang together to drive one small bird into the sea, and the first to reach it then swallows it whole.

NOTES FROM ABROAD

MALTA

Dr. C. De Lucca has been elected an honorary member of the Society and local representative in Malta.

He will be glad to offer any assistance and advice to members. Dr. De Lucca has many years experience of birds of the Maltese Islands; his father owns a collection of over 300 mounted specimens of birds obtained in the islands which may be referred to for identification of observations. Dr. De Lucca's address is 3, Rigu Street, Birkakara, Malta.

For an up to date and concise reference to birds which may be observed in the islands attention is invited to Mr. John Gibb's paper (*Ibis*, 93 (1951): 108-127)—"The Birds of the Maltese Islands"—copies of this and earlier papers by Mr. John Gibb, and other literature on the birds of Malta are held by the Royal Malta Library, Valletta.

FRANCE (Fontainebleau, 1951)

Commander E. C. L. Day writes:—

Fontainebleau Forest extends for 6 to 7 miles around the town, but one can travel considerable distances without hearing or seeing any birds. This is probably due in part to the complete absence of water.

Although the river Seine flows along its eastern border, the forest itself is without a single stream. The soil is sandy and there are several outcrops of sandstone rock. Generally speaking it is only where little pools remain in the rocks, or in the few moist places that birds congregate.

During 1951 the more interesting birds seen here, which are not commonly seen in England were:—

Crested Tit—11th February.

Redstarts—Both common Redstart and Black Redstarts seen towards the end of March. Black Redstarts are more plentiful but both types remain to breed.

Hoopoe—12th April. They are fairly common visitors.

Serin—Common in the locality.

Large numbers of warblers arrived with the spring migration. Chiff Chaffs seemed to pass through, but no doubt some nested. Nests of Willow Warbler and Wood Wren were found.

Nightingales, Blackcaps and Garden Warblers were plentiful.

The following may be seen at all seasons:—

Ravens, Treecreepers, Green, greater spotted and lesser spotted woodpeckers.

U.S.A.

Any members visiting the U.S.A. are advised to get in touch with Commander T. E. Barlow, D.S.C., R.N., at H.M.S. "Saker," Washington D.C. He will help them with local information and contacts.

JAMAICA

Mr. C. Bernard Lewis, Curator of the Science Museum, Institute of Jamaica, has been elected an Honorary Member of the Society and local representative in Jamaica.

NOTES FROM HOME

A number of reports of general interest have been received from Home Members, but in future we hope that Members will give us more notes from Home.

LAND BIRDS FOLLOWING SHIPS

Two examples of land birds picking up ships and possibly being diverted from their original destinations by the "Hospitable residence afforded" are quoted:—

House Martins

Describing birds seen during a coastal passage from Rosyth to Belfast during May, 1951, a Member writes:—

"About noon we proceeded North from May Island, and were joined in the afternoon by 10 House Martins which flew up repeatedly to the funnel and superstructure, twittering, and using these as if they were flying up under the eaves of a house. It occurred to me that they were "sipping" droplets of condensed steam escaping from the syren, and when a large drip tray of fresh water was placed handy on deck the Martins were soon perching on its edge. They roosted for the night on the tubular guide for the syren wires on the lee side of the funnel, and 8 of them were there the following morning at 4 a.m. when the ship ran into dense fog. The sounding of the syren about 10 feet from where they were roosting made no impression on them, and, indeed, they often flew right up to the syren when it was in full blast. They flew about the ship all morning and disappeared only after the ship had anchored 5 miles off shore in the Moray Firth.

Kestrels

(D. T. F.) writes—On 10th September, 1951, while the ship was on passage from Alnmouth to Invergordon two kestrels (young birds of the year) picked up and followed the ship off North Berwick. The weather was stormy, and soon they began to land on at intervals to rest. I had no difficulty in catching one of them from the bridge. These birds stayed with the ship until her arrival at Invergordon.

ORKNEY ISLES

(G.C.L. reports). Longhope. 21st April, 1951.

Long tailed ducks in large numbers were seen frequenting the half-tide rocks in the centre of Longhope.

Hoy, 22nd April, 1951.

Of the many Fulmar Petrels counted on the cliffs, one only was seen to be of the blue phased variety.

DORSET

(A.G.F. reports). Portland, 8th April, 1951.

Hoopoe identified in garden at Portland Castle.

SCOTLAND

(E.H.J. reports). Glen Orchy, Argyllshire, 14th July, 1951.

(i) Golden eagle identified in a small wood about a mile up the glen from the bridge at the head of Loch Awe.

Glen Affric (between Cannich and Strug) 23rd Sep. 1951.

(ii) Buzzard seen from distance of 20 feet.

Alness, Near Invergordon, Ross-shire.

(iii) Dipper seen in Alness River—21st September, 1951.

(D.T.F. reports). Fyrish Hill, Alness, Near Invergorden.

Capercaillie (male and female) and red squirrels seen in forest on 21st and 29th September. Blackcock on the moors.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR OCEANOGRAPHY BIRD RINGING INVESTIGATION

Arrangements for this investigation are now complete and we have been asked to publish details so that any Members of the R.N.B.W.S. who are now serving at sea and keen to assist can take an active part. The probability of the opportunity arising to capture and ring birds alighting on H.M. Ships must rest largely with the station on which the individual ship is serving, and on the ship's sea passages. Where experience has shown that opportunities for ringing have occurred periodically, either on board or in bird colonies ashore, then it is suggested that a member, willing to assist, should not hesitate to apply for the sets of rings and the full instructions.

The issue of rings and instructions is being undertaken by Miss H. E. Bargmann, British Museum (Natural History) Cromwell Road, London, S.W.7.

Members should write direct to Miss Bargmann for full details.

Members should remember that the effect is worth while it only one or two opportunities for ringing arise, and that without rings all opportunity is lost!

BRIEF REQUIREMENTS OF THE SCHEME

Ringings: Rings are provided in six sizes and members will be sent a set of rings, and full instructions as to how to ring.

Reporting: A report is made on each bird ringed and full details are included on method of reporting.

Birds caught already ringed: The scheme covers the reporting of birds captured and found ringed.

Catching birds: The instructions give different ingenious methods of catching birds at sea.

Measuring birds: The instructions also include sketches and methods of measuring birds.

Members taking part in this scheme are requested to keep in touch at the same time with the Hon. Sec. R.N.B.W.S., so that all new developments can be communicated.

NOTES FROM OTHER SOCIETIES

BUTTERFLIES AT SEA

South Eastern Union of Scientific Societies—Insect Immigration Committee.

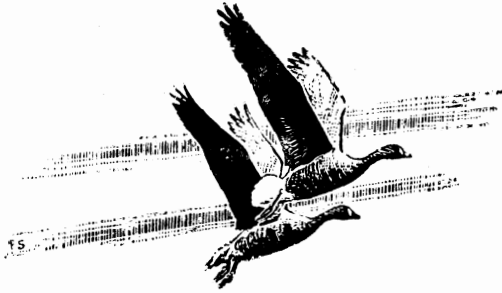
We have been reminded in a recent letter from Captain T. Dannreuther, R.N., F.R.E.S. of several instances of interesting reports from sea of butterfly and dragonfly migrations.

The most outstanding of recent records are of the Monarch (or Black-veined Brown $4\frac{1}{2}$ ") butterfly, recorded 100 miles off the Azores and 800 miles west of Queenstown by H.M. Ships during the war (individual not migratory instances).

In October, 1947, H.M.S. Belfast reported thousands of Clouded Yellow Butterflies emigrating from Devon. A repetition of westerly swarms of the Four-spotted Libellula (Dragonfly) across the North Sea is anticipated.

The Insect Immigration Committee is extremely interested in any reports and specimens forwarded from H.M. Ships.

Reports, including such details as used in Bird Sea Report Sheets, and specimens, should be forwarded to — The Chief Entomologist, Rothamsted Lodge, Harpenden, Herts, from whom further details and Migrant Insect Record Cards can be obtained.



SPRING MIGRATION IN NORTH-WEST GERMANY—1951

BY SURGEON-LIEUTENANT J. G. HARRISON, R.N.V.R.

Throughout the spring of 1951 I was stationed at Cuxhaven on the mouth of the Elbe Estuary, a wonderful centre from which to see the migrants on their journey northwards.

The volume of migration traffic is far more impressive than in England, and a much higher percentage of the total bird population are migrants, associated with the severe winters. The return of the first Starling, Sky-Lark or Green Plover, when the cold weather breaks at the end of January or later, is an event comparable to the first Swallow in England, and comparatively unobservant people will comment on the sudden increase of Tits in their gardens in early spring.

The northward migration of wildfowl begins within a few days of the thaw reaching the Elbe marshes. This year it began as early as January 20th, with a big increase in Mallard, Goosanders and Smews and the return of the first Whooper Swans, Grey Lag and White-fronted Geese, Wigeon and Teal. In late January and early February, there was a return of the severe cold and the marshes again became frozen and pack ice drifted down the Elbe on the tide. It was interesting to see that all the fowl were able to survive and even continued in some cases to increase, with one exception — the Whooper Swans, which all disappeared once more. Their favourite food of reed tubers and young reed shoots were frozen and they did not graze on the grass like the other fowl.

March saw the peak of the wildfowl migration on the Elbe, and the two islands of Pagensand and Bishorst, some way inland towards Hamburg, were their favourite halting places. On March 22nd there were 2,500 Grey Lag on the islands, the same number as there were during the previous autumn; so it would seem that they migrate over the same route in spring and autumn. This does not seem to be true of White-fronted Geese. At one time last autumn there were approaching 10,000 of them on the Estuary, but only 500 were seen on their return journey



*Where the Elbe and the North Sea join—Kugelbake, Cuxhaven.
(Photograph by Lieutenant-Commander (S) E. A. J. Collard, R.N.)*

this spring. Other geese visited the Elbe, the most noteworthy being an enormous gaggle of fully 5,000 Barnacle Geese that were feeding on reclaimed saltings opposite Cuxhaven on February 20th.

One of the main routes of departure from the Elbe in spring is in a north-easterly direction, across Schleswig-Holstein to the Baltic. I have watched Whooper Swans, Grey Lags and Goo-sanders flying on the route, and it is significant that Whoopers, Barnacles, Wigeon and Pintail are seen along the upper reaches of the Estuary as far inland as Hamburg in much greater numbers in spring than in autumn. For example, in autumn the largest pack of Wigeon on Bishorst Island only numbered 300 (this is thirty-five miles inland), but in spring there were 1,500 on one day.

By the end of March, the wildfowl had greatly decreased; the Mallard had returned to the fresh marshes for nesting and a few days later the first Garganey and Shoveller were back, together with the Ruffs, Black-tailed Godwits, Redshank and Snipe.

From early March, a great migration of other species started. The birds travelling north-westwards on a broad front between Hamburg and the sea. They probably extended much further than this, certainly out to seaward as far as Heligoland. At the same time the migrants tended to concentrate in certain parts of this broad front into what the Americans would call the "main flyways"—hence the old controversy of broad fronts versus narrow routes for migration. Like so many controversies, there seems to be an element of truth on both sides. Tired migrants concentrate on Heligoland for a rest; there is a concentration "flyway" along the Friesian Islands and another following the coast of the mainland. These two unite on the spit of coast lying between the Weser and the Elbe until they come to the furthest point on which Cuxhaven is situated. Here they split up and may continue their journey in any direction from N.W. to E., providing that the weather is favourable. If unfavourable, and especially if there are strong tail winds, they may refuse to cross the ten miles of water at the mouth of the Elbe and either turn back or rest in the surrounding countryside.

Early morning is the most profitable time to watch the migrants arriving on the point, at a place known as the Kugelbake. This is an old wooden beacon standing at the end of a stone breakwater, making the division between the sea and the Estuary proper. For the seaman it is just as important a place as for the ornithologist—it is "Duty free" to seaward of the beacon! From the Kugelbake between March and May the exact directions of 25,000 migrants were studied, and this is in the process of being analysed in relation to complete meteorological conditions.

logical observations. There can be few places where so many migrants can be seen with such a wide choice of routes to take. Results so far indicate that the route taken depends upon the weather and that the force and direction of the wind are of the greatest importance in determining this choice.

Watching from this stone breakwater is an exciting pastime. Small specks appear in the distance to the south-west and gradually resolve themselves into birds; their identity may remain in doubt until they are right overhead. The numbers are immense, and my 25,000 were seen in thirty-five hours. The peak period was between mid-March and mid-April. Starlings were easily the most numerous, with Chaffinches, Green Plovers, Linnets, Jackdaws and Hooded Crows next in that order. High up numerically were certain species that are uncommon or rare in the British Isles; Shore Larks (March), Blue-headed Wagtails (April) and Grey-headed Wagtails (May). The latter were in flocks up to seventy strong. I was surprised by the number of House Sparrows and Wood Larks that came over, and by the scarcity of woodland species—only two Great Tits to represent the whole of the Tit family, one Nuthatch and one Robin were seen, and very few Thrushes. The Dutch have produced evidence to show that the Tits tend to keep where possible to wooded country for their travels and this may provide an answer to their apparent scarcity. Very few flights of wildfowl were seen; the few that were, included Whooper Swans, White-fronted and Brent Geese, Sheld-duck, Mullard, Golden-eyes, Goosanders and Red-breasted Mergansers, but in this case many others were heard at night.

A number of Hawks travelled with the migrants, including many Sparrow-Hawks, Hen- and Marsh-Harriers, Peregrines, Merlins, Kestrels, a beautiful Goshawk and a number of Honey-Buzzards. On May 20th, a flock of eighteen of these flew low over my head, so that it was possible to see their great range of plumage from a very dark chocolate type through heavily spotted ones, to a splendid bird that was completely white underneath. A Kingfisher and a pair of Hawfinches were unexpected and other pleasant encounters were a pair of Gull-billed Terns and a flock of seven Little Gulls in their summer plumage, with their black heads and almost black underwings.

My big ambition during the spring was to see a Crane and a Bluethroat, and in both I was successful. Four Cranes circled round overhead, trumpeting loudly, while we were watching an Avocet colony on the north shore of the Elbe opposite Cuxhaven on May 26th. By that time I had almost given up hope for a Bluethroat, which is a surprisingly rare bird on the German mainland in spring, but on June 1st I rode out to the Island of Neuwerk at low tide and put up a Red-spotted Bluethroat from the sea-wall, and watched it feeding on the saltings.

Thanks to the activities of Communist demonstrators, I was able to visit Heligoland three times this spring, but unfortunately the peaks of Communist activity and bird migration failed to coincide. On the first visit—March 25th—the island was full of Woodcock and Blackbirds, besides small numbers of many other common species. Three skeins of Brent Geese flew over at great height on a course that would have taken them from the east coast of England to the west coast of Schleswig-Holstein.

It was much the same on my second visit on April 14th. The Guillemots had returned to their nesting cliffs at the northern end of the island and were flourishing in spite of the bombing. May Day produced a record “bag” of thirty-seven Communists, a Slavonian Grebe and a Black Kite! The Kite was circling over the Overland among the Herring Gulls; the Grebe in resplendent summer plumage, was swimming in the Inner Harbour, among the rusty, twisted wrecks. Both birds are unusual on the island; the Grebe being frequent in winter, but rare in its summer plumage.

Between May 2nd and 8th, I was on leave on the Island of Borkum, the most westerly of the German Friesian Islands, and witnessed a great “rush” during a spell of easterly fine weather. All the birds were travelling from west to east, across the island, and naturally there were many interesting species. I was excited when I saw the first Ortolan Bunting, but by the end of the visit they were commonplace. Within a few minutes of finding the first Ortolan, an Osprey flew over—Borkum is that kind of an island. The bushes along the sand-dunes were often full of birds—Pied Flycatchers, Wrynecks, Grasshopper Warblers and a Great Grey Shrike to mention a few. In the marshes many flocks of migratory Wagtails fed among the herds of Friesian cattle. Among the usual Blueheaded Wagtails there were a few of our own Yellow Wagtails and several parties of Grey-headed Wagtails on their way to Scandinavia. Corn-crakes could often be heard rasping away in large numbers, both on the marshes and in the dunes. Finally, along the shore the flocks of waders at high tide were far larger than anything I have seen in England. These included Avocets, Kentish and Little Ringed Plover, Black-tailed Godwit, Ruffs and Dusky Redshanks. The last of the Brents, a gaggle of 600, were seen several times and four Grey Lags.

In conclusion I must mention that this account is by no means complete, and is only a general survey of the spring migration as I saw it. For any one lucky enough to be in that part of the world at any time of the year there is a great opportunity to see all kinds of birds and to watch their migration on a scale such as is seldom seen in Britain.

BIRD WATCHING IN A "BIG WAY"

Being an account of a trip to the Avocet breeding grounds

BY COMMANDER C. E. HAMOND, D.S.O., D.Š.C., R.N.

June 17th, 1951 :

My wife and I drove from Portchester to Dunwich, Suffolk, 200 miles, putting up at the Cliff House. This is a comfortable guest house standing at the top of low sand cliffs surrounded by garden and mixed woodland with open glades covered by a growth of bramble, bracken and burnet rose. Redstarts fed young in a box near the front door, pied wagtails and chaffinches did the same in the creeper above. Nightingales were thicker than I have ever seen them, except in the Isle of Majorca. They were pecking about the sandy roads every few yards like robins. All the commoner warblers were in full song and very numerous, except lesser whitethroat. Nightjars lulled us to sleep.

June 18th :

Visited Minsmere sanctuary by permit. We were met by the watcher, Dick Wolfendale, at his hut overlooking the marsh. Wheatear, sheld-duck and sand martins colonised a sandy bank a few yards off. We walked along the sea shore for a mile and then turned into the marsh and spent a good spell in a wooden hide. Thence a short walk to another hide and back to the hut by a path through wood and heath. The R.S.P.B. rent some 1,500 acres mostly mere and reed bed, the rest being rough woodland, heath and light arable. Almost every type of habitat is included. The high spot was a pair of spoonbills of which we had an excellent view. Heavy clouds kept the bearded tits down in the reeds but we occasionally saw one take a short flight. Bitterns boomed at intervals and one fed on a grass bank among some cattle. After a sharp rain squall, all the bitterns got up and had a fly round, maybe a dozen of them. Sheld-duck, mallard, teal, garganey and shoveller were seen and all the usual reed bed birds. On the way back to Dunwich my wife found a scrape with two stone-curlews eggs—altogether we identified 75 birds on that day, beating our previous record by one. We continued to keep the record for the trip of 12 days.

June 20th :

At Orford. Went down to Havergate Island, a party of five
Twenty-two

in the Society's motor boat. We were met by the voluntary watcher, one of two who were doing a fortnight there. We were split up between two hides overlooking the marsh, changing rounds after lunch. The marsh is partly flooded to a depth which suits the Avocet's feeding habits. There were many black-headed gulls with chicks, some of them well grown and feathered. The place was infested with sheld-ducks, but we only saw one brood of tinies. I often wonder how sheld-ducks ever hatch. Pairs seem to sit about all day in the most casual manner during the incubating season. There were two small colonies of sandwich terns of about 10 and 16 pairs respectively. I believe these to be the first in Suffolk for 28 years. Common and lesser terns were present but they breed over the river on the sea spit. Redshanks, larks, meadow-pipits, ringed plover and a single stonechat bring us to the Avocets.

From the hides we could watch their activities at close quarters. One kept on finding more owing to the fact that all the birds on the marsh were white with black heads. There were said to be 24 or 25 breeding pairs—some young were fledged or three parts grown. The old birds becoming suspicious would fly round above us calling and after a while would circle round and plane down onto the marsh. This was the most graceful action with wings raised high and legs lowered. The Avocet's flight has a beauty and grace which few birds can equal. The head is held high and the long blue legs trail behind—several were still sitting and were most conspicuous. They were very territory-conscious and attacked any intruder from a sheld-duck to a lark. I watched and sketched an Avocet which walked up behind a sheld-drake and gave it a good peck in the stern. The sheld-drake whipped round and ran at it, head down, neck stretched like a gander. The Avocet nearly fell over backwards. Immediately afterwards they were both feeding as if they had never met.

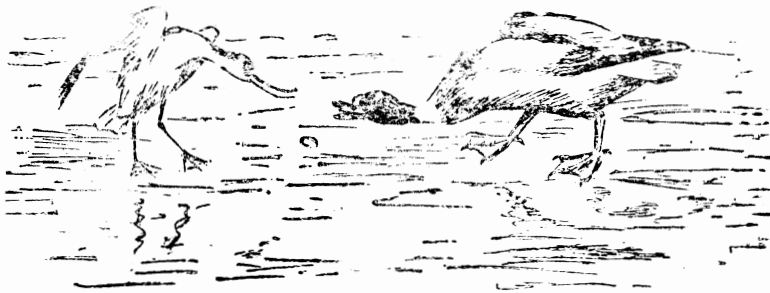
We watched for a long time a gull chick, evidently adrift, being savagely attacked by two adult gulls. They dropped on it repeatedly from above, knocking it over in the mud and pecking it viciously—its own parent occasionally made a half hearted attack on the aggressors. I thought it must be killed, but, though smothered with mud, it continued its aimless journey. How human is *larus ridibundus* in its dislike and jealousy of other people's children!

It was a memorable day and we feel that the achievement of the R.S.P.B. in encouraging and protecting this beautiful British bird deserves every credit and support.

A drive, through Suffolk, which gave us a fine cock montagu's harrier on Benacre Broad, was followed by a few days in North Norfolk.

Our list grew very slowly, helped by a tree sparrow nesting

in a friend's box, the fulmars in Sherringham Cliffs and the lesser whitethroat, snipe and a lucky chance golden plover—a call at a Surrey pond on the way home gave us grey wagtail, kingfisher, great crested grebe, wood wren and tufted duck and a lane near home produced an albino blackbird nearly pure white (which didn't count). During the whole 12 days of intense concentration we never saw a sparrow-hawk, neither spotted wood pecker, marsh tit nor several other reasonably common birds. We breasted Portsdown Hill and ran down into Portchester with 99 on our list to be met in our own garden by the welcome, if tuneless, voice of Malcolm, our faithful Gird.



SOME BIRDS OF THE LEEWARD ISLANDS

BY CAPTAIN G. S. TUCK, R.N.

The month was November, and the ship some 850 miles East North East of the island of Barbuda when a red billed tropic bird came aboard. Next night a second tropic bird flew into the waist and was brought in for my inspection during dinner. I had no idea then that four months later I should be standing at the top of precipitous cliffs with the North East Trade blowing into my face and gazing over a chain of lovely coral islets and reefs to watch these ocean wanderers returning to their breeding sites on Great Bird Island, Antigua.

What an enchanting sight it was too; I had been "stewing" in the hot sun on the lee side of this small islet, and decided to climb the steep prickly reverse slope of the cliffs, dodging prickly pear and thorn until suddenly I was at the top with the full fresh trade wind about me, and listening to continuous high "trilling" calls. I really believe that the tropic birds were actually arriving at the time. Parties of three to five birds in a group were flying together in a form of nuptial flight, shivering their wings and calling continuously in high pitched notes. Two or three would shudder their wings in this way, and then all would plane steeply towards the sea together. They flew only a few yards from the cliff face and right past me, so that I could see their coral red beaks, bold black eye streaks, and the black pencilling on their backs. Their long pointed tail streamers were sometimes cocked in the air.

In those intervening months I was to learn something of the bird life of Antigua and the islands nearby.

Antigua had great possibilities for the study of birds. At the North East end of the island lies Parham harbour, extending into Parham Sound, and sheltered from the swell by a chain of islands of which Long Island is the largest (138 acres), while Great Bird Island (20 acres) and Hell Gate Island (a stack) are the breeding areas of the Noddy, Least Tern, Roseate Tern, and Sooty Tern. The Laughing Gull may also nest on Hell Gate Island.

To the South West and South of the island lie hundreds of acres of shallow salt or brackish mangrove, bordered lagoons and inlets where the little Blue Heron or Gaulling can always be seen in numbers, and the West Indian Green Heron, the Showy Egret, and the Black Necked Stilt are resident.

The immature little blue herons by the way are pure white, and make a striking contrast to the slate blue plumage of the old birds.

When Professor Stuart Danforth visited Antigua for three weeks in the summer of 1933 to undertake a census of its bird life, he recorded eighty different species, and at the time his

list recorded 20 species hitherto unidentified. There is still a great possibility of adding many birds to this list, especially in the winter months when the Southward flow of winter migrants passes through the Leeward Islands.

Armed with James Bond's "Field Guide of the Birds of the West Indies" I started to explore the islands of Parham Sound and jotted down a few notes.

"Long Island—8th December":

Landed from dinghy at Western end and walked a quarter of a mile to the north shore. Bursting through the scrub I found the sweeping arc of a coral sand bay before me. To the left, a hundred yards off shore, lay a flat coral stack, and basking upon it some twenty Brown Pelicans. I withdrew to take stock; there were groups of coral heads fifty yards out, and inside this broken reef the wavelets ran in over shallow sand. Five pelicans were idling, buoyant as corks, a few yards out. Every now and then the little flock rose ponderously, and flying in a wide circle closed the shore line, heads bent downwards: then with a quick twist of the body each in turn plunged with a tremendous splash into the sea, dive bombing the shoals of small fry. Two Royal Terns were sitting on outgrowing coral fronds, and these joined the pelicans and dived amongst them.



Brown Pelicans Float Buoyant as Corks.
(Photograph by Captain G. S. Tuck, D.S.O., R.N.)



MASTERY OF FLIGHT.



BROWN PELICAN DIVING.
(Photographs by Captain G. S. Tuck, D.S.O. R.N.)

Royal Terns, with their black crowns, red beaks and black legs are not easily mistaken as they are so much larger and sturdier than the other Terns.

As I sat watching, a Belted Kingfisher flew across the bay and perched on a branch overhanging a sea pool. Mainly ashy blue above, he is conspicuous by a broad grey band cutting across his white chest and belly. Several parties of Sandpipers were running along the tide line, Least Sandpipers, and among them one or two Willets, much larger birds, somewhat like our own Redshank in flight. I rose and skirted the bay, following limestone and coral rocks, and found more and more waders and Sandpipers, tame and easily approached, but most difficult to identify in winter plumage. One party of about five were undoubtedly grey Plovers, not given in Danforth's list.

Later, as I skirted a small muddy swamp close below the only house on the island I spotted two dainty little plovers, rather like the little ringed plover. They were Snowy Plovers, winter migrants from North America, I turned in to tea with the Henzell's, the owners of Long Island, and during tea became acquainted with the one species peculiar to Antigua alone--the Antiguan Bullfinch.

He is a smart bird, mainly black with a rufous throat, and like our robin very inquisitive of humans. As we sat quietly at tea we saw this smart fellow hop gaily onto the table and gobble up the cake crumbs.

Across the bay the ship lay at anchor, and a Magnificent Frigate Bird circled overhead. These birds were common visitors to the anchorage, but curiously enough I only saw females, or as such I presumed all to be, as in every case a white patch on throat and neck was clearly visible. Occasionally a Booby flew by.

As time went on I had opportunities to see the Humming Birds, Kingbirds, pigeons, doves, grassquits and others in easy excursions inland. However it is the Pelican colony on the cliffs to the east of Frigate Bay, St. Kitts, that remain the most vivid memory.

February 14th, Basseterre Bay, St. Kitts :

Cast off two in the rubber air sea rescue dinghy, and with paddle and camera "set to pelicans." I wonder if anyone has tried stalking wild pelicans in a rubber dinghy at sea before? For all their grotesque attitudes and absurd solemnity as they ride on the sea, or sit on the rocks, they are very wary of near approach. Here on the steep cactus covered cliffs quite two hundred brown pelicans live and breed in the scrub and trees at the top of the cliffs. Across the cliff face Pelicans wheeled, dived and soared: one could not help being amazed at the strength

and mastery of their flight. The old mature birds looked more black and white against this setting, with their yellowish crowns, silver grey upper wing coverts, white foreheads and neck stripes.

As my dinghy set in to the rocks the resting pelicans would start to sway their bodies and pouched beaks anxiously, then raise their wings high above their heads before launching themselves into the air.

For two hours I floated and paddled amongst the colony, rarely within camera range, in my mind comparing these birds in the wild state with the ponderous pelicans of St. James' Park.

The same evening the ship was steaming quietly to the East past the high peak of the island of Nevis and so back to base.

BIRDS QUOTED IN THE TEXT

Red billed Tropic Bird ...	(<i>Phaeton aethereus</i>)
Noddy	(<i>Anous s. stolidus</i>)
Least Tern	(<i>Sterna antillarum</i>)
Roseate Tern	(<i>Sterna d. dougalli</i>)
Sooty Tern	(<i>Sterna f. fuscata</i>)
Laughing Gull	(<i>Larus antricilla</i>)
Gaulding	(<i>Florida coerulea coerulescens</i>)
West Indian Green Heron...	(<i>Butorides viriscens maculatis</i>)
Snowy Egret	(<i>Egretta t. thula</i>)
Black necked Stilt	(<i>Himantropus mexicanus</i>)
Brown Pelican	(<i>Pelecanus o. occidentalis</i>)
Royal Tern	(<i>Himantropus mexicanus</i>)
Belted Kingfisher	(<i>Ceryle alcyon</i>)
Least Sandpiper	(<i>Pisobia minutilla</i>)
Willet	(<i>Catoptrophorus s.</i> <i>semipalmatis</i>)
Grey Plover	(<i>Squaterola squatirola</i>)
Snowy Plover	(<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>)
Antiguan Bullfinch	(<i>Loxigilla noctis ridgwayi</i>)
Magnificent Frigate Bird...	(<i>Fregata magnificens</i>)
Booby	(<i>Sula leucogaster</i>)
Humming Bird	(<i>Sericotes n. holosericeus</i>)
Kingbirds	(<i>Tyrannus dominicensis</i>)
Pigeons	(<i>Columba leucocephala</i> and <i>Columba squamosa</i>)
Doves	(<i>Columbigalline passerine</i> <i>trochila</i>)
Grassquits	(<i>Tiaris bicolor omissa</i>)

A BIRD DAY IN THE FALKLANDS

BY ADMIRAL SIR WILLIAM TENNANT.

We left the ship surrounded by Giant Petrels and South Black-backed Gulls. They seemed to have the refuse of the ship to themselves and no other species were prepared to come anywhere near their territory.

Such beautiful fliers are the Giant Petrel, with all the aerobatics of the Albatross and man in the way of gliding and banking and taking off and landing.

We landed in a sandy cove below a rookery of Gentoo Penguins. They suffered our intrusion for a time and then waddled in to the sea. The young birds were comical enough, for in their hurry they frequently tripped one another up and fell flat on their ample stomachs.

Next we met some steamer Ducks, practically flightless, though if really put to it they can flap along the surface. They seem to be the opposite number to the Eider of northern waters.

Then we had a great bit of luck and sighted, basking at full length on the sand, a leopard seal. In the distance he looked like an enormous white and silvery ship. He soon woke up and resented our presence, and opened his large mouth with rage and shortly made off to the sea. He is heavily protected in Falkland, for his skin is silvery with black spots, and makes a sealskin coat much in demand. The local boatman fear this monster for if he feels like it he is not above attacking a boat and snapping at any arm he can reach. This specimen must have been all twelve feet long.

We next struck off across the moor—"Camp" as it is called in these islands. The Camp and the tree-less moors are the image of Shetland, and if we could substitute sea trout for penguins the likeness would be complete. The open Camp is not much inhabited by birds—the winter Plover, which resembles the Dotterel, we saw in some numbers, and they were ridiculously tame; a Pipit or two and the local Blue Tyrant, which is like our Wheatear, were about the only small birds to be seen of the seafarers and coastal species.

Perhaps the finest bird was the Kelp Goose—he is not shot as he is not good to eat. How lucky some birds are not to be good for the human's kitchen. The Gander is snow white with a black, short bill, and yellow eggs, and the Goose is brown with black and white barred wings. They make a very handsome pair. Many seemed to be barren pairs—I fancy they have a rough road to hoe in protecting their eggs from the many nest raiders such as the Skua, Giant Petrels, Southern Black Backed Gulls, Turkey Vultures and humans.

After some miles we came to a Rock Hopper Penguins' rookery. There were thousands of birds, which were fascinating to watch—they were mostly old birds moulting and young birds shedding their down and getting their feathers. It was not difficult to get to within 4 feet of them, but then they would move off, but if in moving off one touches another, a fight immediately begins and the chorus of hard swearing is terrific; their irritation with each other was much greater than their fear of us.

Four kinds of Penguins nest in Falkland, of which three are common: the Gentoo, the biggest, with a white patch in the head; the Jackass which is really the Magellan Penguin and only distantly related to the true Jackass of South African waters. The Jackass nests in burrows and undermines the ground, and in his area it is most unwise to ride. He seemed to be by far the least sociable of them all; the Rock Hopper—a small variety with a little gold crest tuft at the side of his head is, I think, the most attractive of all. If you really get their attention, and get them away from the pack, they seem quite ready to stop and talk to you at a range of 3 or 4 feet, with no idea of running away, a rarer variety, of which we only saw one, is the Macaroni, who has a flowing gold crest from his head. Why this handsome bird should be inflicted with such an ugly name is not known. Crested or Crowned Penguin would have befitted him much better.

For 6 weeks after the breeding season these birds congregate in the rookeries, eat nothing and wait for the moult to be completed, and then disperse over the South Atlantic. Of the accipitress and carnivores we saw many Turkey Vultures—a handsome bird with his Red Head. He is the enemy of Shepherds, kills lambs and will, it is said, kill a full grown sheep if he can get it on its back.

A pair of Peregrines, or the exact image thereof, with young flew out from the cliffs, and the Blue Falkland Buzzard, about completed our day.

The Falkland Bird List by Gilbertson claims some 110 birds but few can ever have studied the bird life there, and considering that the Islands are not en route, from the migration point of view, to anything more interesting than the Antarctic and the South Pole, it is surprising that so much can be seen.

One most interesting Gull, which is local to the Cape Horn area, we came on near the Penguin rookeries was the Magellan Gull. W. B. Alexander describes it in "Birds of the Ocean" as largely terrestrial in habits, and that it certainly appears to be, and unlike any other Gull, with bright red legs and bill which is thick and rather bulbous at the tip.

THE R.N.B.W.S. WORLDWIDE BOOK AND CONTACT LIST

Section A.—List of ornithological reference books, authors and publishers.

Section B.—List of ornithologists and books covering places likely to be visited by members.

SECTION A.

LIST OF BOOKS.

Serial Number	Title	Author	Publisher
1.	A Manual of Palaearctic Birds	H. E. Dresser	The author (now dead) London 1902-3
2.	A Handbook of European Birds	J. Backhouse	Gurney & Jackson; London 1890
3.	Guide to the Birds of Europe and North Africa	R. G. Wardlaw Ramsay	Gurney & Jackson; London & Edinburgh 1923
4.	The Ornithology of the Straits of Gibraltar	L. H. Irby	R. H. Porter; London 2nd Edition 1895
5.	Ornithology of Cape Verde Islands	R. C. Murphy	Bulletin of the American Museum of Natural History, New York 3, July 1924
6.	The Canary Islands	D. Bannerman	Gurney & Jackson
7.	Egyptian Birds	G. Whympers	A. & C. Black London 1909
8.	Sixty Common Birds of the Nile Delta	R. H. & M. Greaves	The Amalgamated Press of Egypt, Cairo 1936
9.	Die Vögel Madagascars	G. Hartlaub	H. W. Schmidt, Halle 1877
10.	A First Guide to South African Birds	E. L. Gill	Maskew Miller Ltd., Cape Town 1936
11.	The Birds of South Africa	A. Roberts	H. F. & G. Witherby Ltd., London and Johannesburg 1942
12.	Popular Handbook of Indian Birds	H. Whistler	Gurney & Jackson London & Edinburgh 3rd Edition 1941
13.	The Book of Indian Birds	S. Ali	Bombay Natural History Society; Bombay, 3rd Edition 1944
14.	Manual of the Birds of Ceylon	Colombo Museum	Colombo Museum and Dulau & Co. Ltd.,
15.	A Handbook of the Birds of Eastern China (2 vols.)	J. D. D. La Touche	Taylor & Francis London 1925-1934
16.	The Birds of Borneo (Sarawak Museum Guide)	J. C. Moutton	Sarawak Museum; Sarawak 1914

Serial Number	Title	Author	Publisher
17.	Birds of the Philippines	J. Delacour and E. Mayr	The Macmillan Company; New York 1946
18.	An Australian Bird Book	J. A. Leach	Whitcombe and Tombs Ltd. Melbourne 5th Edn. 1923
19.	What Bird is That? (A Guide to the Birds of Australia)	N. W. Cayley	Angus & Robertson Ltd., Sydney 1931
20.	New Zealand Birds	W. R. B. Oliver	Fine Arts (N.Z.) Ltd. Wellington 1930
21.	New Zealand Birds and how to identify them	P. Moncrieff	Whitcombe & Tombs Ltd., Auckland 1926
22.	Handbook of the Birds of West Africa	G. L. Bates	John Bole, Sons and Daniels Ltd. London 1930
23.	Field Book of Birds of the Panama Canal Zone	B. B. Sturgis	G. P. Putnam's Sons New York 1928
24.	Birds of the West Indies	J. Bond	The Academy of Natural Science of Philadelphia; Philadelphia 1936
25.	Handbook of Birds of Eastern North America	F. M. Chapman	D. Appleton & Co. New York 1919
26.	Handbook of Birds of the Western United States	F. M. Bailey	Houghton Mifflin Co. Boston, 3rd Edition 1903
26.A	The Audubon Water Bird Guide	Richard H. Pough	Doubleday (U.S.A.) \$3.50
27.	A Field Guide to the Birds	R. T. Peterson	Houghton Mifflin Co. Boston 1939
28.	A Field Guide to the Western Birds	R. T. Peterson	Houghton Mifflin Co. Boston 1941
29.	Birds of Canada	P. A. Taverner	National Museum of Canada, Ottawa 1934
30.	Norges Fuglefauna	H. T. L. Schaning	J. W. Cappelen's Forlag Kristiania 1916
31.	A Handbook of the Birds of Iceland	M. V. Hachisuka	Taylor & Francis; London 1927
32.	FUGLARNIR (Aves Islandiae)	B. Soemundsson	Bokaverslun Sig Eymundssonar; Reykjavik, 1936
33.	The Birds of British Somaliland and the Gulf of Aden (2 vols.)	G. Archer and E. M. Godman	Gurney & Jackson London & Edinburgh 1937
34.	The Fauna of Rio Janeria in Western Brazil	Nils Gyldenstolpe	
35.	The Birds of Kenya Colony and the Uganda Protectorate (3 vols.)	Sir John Jackson K.C.M.G., O.B.	Gurney & Jackson London & Edinburgh 1938
36.	The Birds of Nyasaland	Sir Charles Belcher	Cosby, Lockwood and Son. Ludgate Hill 1930
37.	The Birds of Portugal	W. C. Tait	Witherby & Co. 1924

Number Serial	Title	Author	Publisher
38.	The Breeding Birds of Denmark (In English)	Paul Jespersen	Einar Munksgaard Norregade 6 Copenhagen 1946
39.	The Birds of the Riviera	Collingwood Ingram	Witherby & Co. 1926
40.	The Birds of Burma	B. E. Smythies Illustrated by Lt.-Cdr. A. M. Hughes R.N. J. Delacour	American Baptist Mission, Rangoon 1940
41.	Birds of Malaysia	J. Delacour	Kelly and Walsh, Singapore.
42.	Ducks, Bees & Swans of North America	Kortright	Rowland Ward Piccadilly (for U.K.)
43.	Malta	John Gibb	"British Birds" Vol. 39 & 40. H. F. Witherby, 5, Warwick Court, London.
44.	"Wild Spain"	Abel Chapman and W. J. Buck	Gurney & Jackson, London 1893.
45.	"Unexplored Spain"	"	Edward Arnold, London 1910.

SECTION B.
CONTACT LIST.

ORNITHOLOGISTS	PLACE
MALTA	Dr. C. DeLucca, 3, Rigu Street, B'kara (R.N.B.W.S. Local Representative)
GIBRALTAR	Robert Coelho, c/o Colonial Secretariat, Gibraltar.
CYPRUS	G. F. Wilson (Address not known)
EGYPT	(i) D. R. Mackintosh, Shell House, P.O. Box 228, Cairo. (ii) R. H. Greaves, 8, Sharia Mansur, Malnomet Road. Gezira, Cairo.
PALESTINE	Robert Newton, The Secretariat, Jerusalem.
SOUTH AFRICA	Dr. E. L. Gill, South African Museum, Capetown.
INDIA	Salim Ali, Bombay Natural History Society, 114A, Apollo Street, Bombay.
SINGAPORE	M. W. F. Tweedle, Raffles Museum, Singapore.
HONG KONG	Dr. G. A. C. Herklots, The University, Hong Kong.
AUSTRALIA	(i) K. A. Hindwood, Wingello House, Angel Place, Sydney, N.S.W. (ii) Dr. D. L. Serventy, Institute of Agriculture, The University Nedlands, Perth, W. Australia.
NEW ZEALAND	(i) Dr. W. R. B. Oliver, Dominion Museum, Wellington, N.Z. (ii) Dr. R. A. Falla, Canterbury Museum, Christchurch N.Z.
WEST AFRICA (FREETOWN)	(i) Robert R. Glanville, Agricultural Dept., Freetown, Sierra Leone. (ii) Captain W. A. Fairbairn, Forestry Department, Lagos, Nigeria.
JAMAICA	C. Bernard Lewis Esq., Institute of Jamaica, Kingston. (R.N.B.W.S. Local Representative)
U.S.A.	(i) Dr. R. C. Murphy, American Museum, Central Park, New York City. (ii) L. Griscom, Museum of Comparative Zoology, Cambridge Mass.

ORNITHOLOGISTS**PLACE**

	(iii) J. Bond, Academy of Natural Science, Philadelphia, P.A.
	(iv) J. M. Linsdale, Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, Cal.
CANADA	(i) J. P. Anglin, 507, Place D'Armes, Montreal. (ii) R. Meredith, 121, Monckton Av. Quebec. (iii) A. L. Rand, Canadian National Museum, Ottawa.
NEWFOUNDLAND	Dr. W. Templeman, Memorial College, St. Johns.
NOVA SCOTIA	R. W. Tufts, Wolfville, N.S.
BRITISH COLUMBIA	(i) Dr. McT. Cowan, University of British Columbia, ... Vancouver, B.C. (ii) H. M. Laing, Comex. B.C. (iii) J. A. Munro, Okanagan Landing, B.C.
NORWAY & SWEDEN	Count Nils Gylden Stolpe, Royal Natural History Museum, Freskati, Stockholm.
ICELAND	F. Gudmundsson, Natural History Museum, Reykjavik.
SPAIN	Commander John Agnew, R.N., Monte de la Torre, Los Barrios, Provincia de Cadiz, (R.N.B.W.S. Local Representative).

ROYAL NAVAL BIRD-WATCHING SOCIETY

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30TH NOVEMBER, 1950

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
BALANCE 1ST DECEMBER, 1949:							
Cash in Bank	64	5	0				
Cash in Hand		14	10				
Entrance Fees and Subscriptions	33	1	11				
Re-sale of B.T.O. Publications		6	6				
	£98	8	3				
				Postages	7	15	5
				Printing: Annual Report	40	5	9
				Bulletins	4	10	1
				Stationery	4	2	10
				B.T.O. Subscription	2	0	0
				Miscellaneous: Hire of film	2	10	0
				Purchase for re-sale of B.T.O. Publications		1	11
				BALANCE 30TH NOVEMBER, 1950:			
				Cash in Bank	33	19	1
				Cash in Hand	1	14	1
					£98	8	3

I have examined the above account with the books and records of the Society and certify that it is correct and in accordance therewith.

19, Fenchurch Street,
London, E.C.3.

30th January, 1951.

R. G. PEGLER,
Chartered Accountant, Hon. Auditor.