

By adding the figures for NSW, ACT, Vic, Tas, and SA, it is found that 150 or 82% of the banders are situated in the south-east quarter of Australia, whilst Qld, WA, NT, and PNG account for only 32 or 18% of the banders. Additionally, it is known that most of the 16 banders listed for Qld operate close to its southern border.

The six maps contained in Table 2 illustrating the movements of five species likewise cover only the south-east quadrant of Australia from southern Queensland to eastern South Australia. This emphasis on the siting of the Scheme's work in the south-east quadrant of Australia is not confined to this 18th Report. It is evident throughout but merely seems more noticeable this year. Of course, the main human population of Australia is likewise in this same south-eastern quadrant. The bird population, however, is spread over the whole of the Australian Continent. This raises the question as to whether some means might be devised for the Banding Scheme to spread its activities more widely in Australia.

There have, of course, been reports of projects for special studies in the outer areas as, for example, the Pied Goose *Anseranas semipalmata* in the NT. Additionally, in Queensland the Government, through its technical officers in the Primary Industries Department carries out investigations by banding studies, mainly of water birds in NQ. Many papers of these results have been published in the Department's *Queensland Agricultural Journal*.

The Moulting Enquiry to 30 June 1972 now has a total of 3178 completed cards returned to the Banding Office. These comprise 1557 on 111 species of non-passerines, and 1621 on 105 species of passerines. Ten species for which 40 or more cards have accrued to date are listed; these are headed by the Spotted Turtle Dove *Streptopelia chinensis* with 1151 cards. Eastern Silvereye with 614, White-browed Scrub-Wren *Sericornis frontalis* with 161, down to Southern Yellow Robin *Eopsaltria australis* with 40. For the present the policy is to accept cards even if the birds for which they were compiled were not moulting or were only undertaking a partial moult of the body feathers. During the year a paper on moult on the Eastern Silvereye was published.

The titles and authors of 23 papers, relating in whole or in part, to these banding studies and published during 1971-72 are listed. This brings the total of such publications, arising from the Scheme since 1953 to 221.

The author of the Report is to be congratulated on the interesting presentation of the vast array of facts shown particularly in Tables 2 and 3. It is refreshing and helpful to have the Report available for use within 12 months of the period it covers.

J. S. ROBERTSON, Wellington Point, Qld.

New Members

Full Members:

- EVANS, Mrs L. M., Beerburrum, Qld.
MEREDITH, C., Timbertop Geelong Grammar School, Mansfield, Vic.
STRONG, Bro. M., St Michaels, Old Toorbul Point Road, Cabulture, Qld.

Associate Members:

- ARCHER, H., 7 Airedale Avenue, East Hawthorn, Vic.
HARRIS, J. G. K., 206 Nelson Road, Mount Nelson, Tas.
KENNETT, B. H., 35 Bambara Crescent, Beecroft, NSW.
MILLER, Mrs J. P., 25 Gregory Terrace, Lapstone, NSW.
MOORE, D. W., 16 Westminster Avenue, Bulleen, Vic.
SMEDLEY, D., 4 Trevone Street, Padstow, NSW.

Junior Members:

- HOGAN, P., "Springvale", Wybong Road, Muswellbrook, NSW.
KELLY, J. G., Dugay's Bridge via Rutherglen, Vic.

Obituary

Brian Stephen Talbot died in a boating accident on 1 January 1973. After graduating from Dookie Agricultural College, Victoria, he commenced service with the Kimberley Research Station, Kununurra, W.A., where he was a Senior Technical Officer at the time of his death.

Keenly interested in natural history, he had an extensive knowledge of the local flora and fauna. He was also interested in bird banding and had been an Associate Member of the Association since 1967.

Our sympathy is extended to his wife and family.

S.G.L.