The Unprecedented Westward Migration of Curlew Sandpipers in Autumn 1969. P. I. Stanley and C. D. T. Minton. 1972. *British Birds,* 65:365-380.

The unprecendented influx of juvenile Curlew Sandpipers *Calidris* (= *Erolia*) *ferruginea* in Britain and Ireland during late August and early September 1969 is analysed with counts from over 250 localities, these amounting to more than 19 000 bird-days. The principal arrivals took place on 23 and 26 August, and at the peak on 31 August at least 3500 were present, over 72% of the records coming from the east coast of Britain. The number trapped and ringed, 407, was more than the previous grand total.

An analysis of all available ringing data indicates a regular autumn migration route through the Baltic and down the continental seaboard to Africa, some taking a more direct line back across the central Mediterranean in spring.

Reasons are given for the influx and weight data showed an increase of up to 7% per day, no doubt in preparation for the next stage of the journey.

The Establishment, Dispersal and Distribution of the Spur-winged Plover in New Zealand. Maida Barlow. 1972. *Notornis* 19:201-211.

The Spur-winged Plover was established in New Zealand from a few self-introduced birds (wind blown) in 1932. The increase is estimated roughly as 1934, 5 birds: 1946, 30-50 birds: 1951, about 100 birds: 1971, about 1240 birds within a 10 mile radius of Invercargill. Numbers have been relatively steady since 1965. Area occupied is increased by a combination of spread from the perimeter of established breeding areas, plus arrival of birds in previously unpopulated areas, in turn followed by perimenter dispersal. The greatest known distance covered by a banded bird is 12 miles. Local movements of eight breeding birds over three years are mapped. The distribution and status of the plover in 1955, 1960, 1965, and 1970 are mapped for the South Island. There seems little doubt that the species will eventually occupy the whole of the South Island, wherever suitable habitat exists.

Breeding Data on the Spur-winged Plover in Southland, New Zealand. Maida L. Barlow, Peter M. Muller and Roger R. Sutton. 1972. *Notornis* 19:212-249.

This paper in the result of a five year co-operation study from 1965 to 1969, with some work continued to 1971. Many aspects of the paper parallel Thomas' study in southern Tasmania (*Emu*: 69:81-102). Both male and female can breed in the second year: first year birds may breed—a male of 10 months was seen attempting copulation, and a female of one year was seen in copulation. There was one record of a double brood. An excellent paper, with a wealth of data.

Recovery Data

Items for Recovery Round-up are obtained from:

1. Secretary, Aust. Bird-banding Scheme
2. Individual banders
3. Miscellaneous sources

The Secretary of the ABBS kindly provides most of the data involving recoveries away from the banding place and these constitute the largest part of Recovery Round-up. However, for a number of reasons, longevity information is not readily available from this source. Most longevity items included in Recovery Round-up are forwarded by a few banders in response to my previous request (see vol. 8, no. 2, page 34).

Banders are asked to forward to me details of longevity items which they consider may be suitable for inclusion in this section. As a guide in deciding suitability, items for the particular species should be checked in recent issues. If in doubt send the details anyway.

Hon. Editor

Obituary

Bertram James Jones died on 20 September 1973 aged 53 years. His sudden death was a great shock to all his friends. With his love for small boats and the sea, it was not surprising that he became interested in seabirds and his active and constructive mind led to his deep interest in their biology. His particular interest was the giant petrel and the results of his work on these birds were published in his article in the September issue of this Journal only shortly before his death.

His support and efforts to further the aims of the Association and the Journal are an example to all. Dedicated in his desire to interest others in this work, he took every opportunity to recruit new members and to publicise the Journal.

We shall greatly miss his enthusiasm, wise counsel and good companionship. To his wife and family we extend our very sincere sympathy.

M.D.M.