

unknown. So closely does the area, in regard to type of vegetation and food, resemble districts inhabited by the species in Victoria, however, that conditions would appear to be most favourable for breeding.

If any additional birds should be imported, it would be wise to liberate them in the same neighbourhood or in localities adjacent thereto so that the pairs may become intermixed as freely as possible, thus providing a better chance of successful mating. To release them in widely-separated districts might tend to jeopardize the acclimatization experiment. A few years ago residents of Northern Tasmania, perhaps a little envious because the South was receiving all the birds, suggested that a pair be released in a wooded area known as Notley's Gorge, a few miles out of Launceston, but the locality was inspected by members of the Animals and Birds Protection Board and found to be unsuitable, its disadvantages being its restricted size and its isolation in the centre of open, settled country. These factors do not apply to the Hastings area, which has been proposed as another place in which to liberate it, since there the country is heavily-wooded and contains secluded gullies; nevertheless, isolated as the bird would be, the chances of its survival and reproduction would be much less favourable than if it were able to make contact with others of its kind.

I am indebted to Mr. A. R. McGill, Sydney, for the drawing of the accompanying map of Tasmania, which shows the location of National Park and of the Hastings area.

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**Gull Notes.**—In the *Bulletin of the American Museum of Natural History*, vol. 52, pp. 63-401, December 31, 1925, Dwight has an article on the Gulls of the World. On p. 78 he uses the genus *Hydrocoloeus* to include four subgenera. One of them is *Cirrhocephala* and in it is *Larus novæ-hollandiæ* Stephens 1826. In *Hydrocoloeus* he placed *Larus bulleri* Hutton 1871 or *Bruchigavia melanorhyncha* Buller 1869. Wing and tail figured p. 389, bill p. 80.

If this is accepted we must introduce a new subgenus for this latter bird as it differs from the genotype of *Hydrocoloeus* (*Larus minutus* Linné, wing and tail figured p. 395, bill p. 80) in having the mirrors of quite a distinctive pattern: the bill long and straight; thus also differing from *L. novæ-hollandiæ* with a short bill. In *Emu*, vol. 43, April 1944, p. 244, I introduced the subgenus *Astogavia* for Buller's bird and we then have *Astogavia melanorhyncha* (Buller 1869) or *Astogavia bulleri* (Hutton 1871).—GREGORY MATHEWS, Canberra, 19/5/44.