

for sharks, which are not particularly voracious in New Zealand waters, and perhaps barracouta, they seem to have few enemies.

Throughout the year they may be seen disporting themselves in small parties on the surface of the sea, with little

more than the head showing. By some process of inflation they can also float with about half the body exposed and in this position apparently go to sleep. From this position, however, they cannot dive suddenly, and must deflate before they can submerge.

## Sins of "Collectors"

Even ardent bird-lovers, who also happen to be "collectors," have been known to break the law in their zeal for the acquisition of specimens, however rare the species may be. Indeed, their eagerness is usually intensified by the scarcity of a species.

Lack of effective supervision on the mainland of New Zealand leaves the way easy for poachers. Even when permits are granted to certain collectors there is not a strict control of their toll of birds.

On the outlying islands, particularly far down in the south, unscrupulous "collectors" may do much mischief. The Whitney Expedition, which worked under a permit to obtain limited numbers of certain species of birds on islands of New

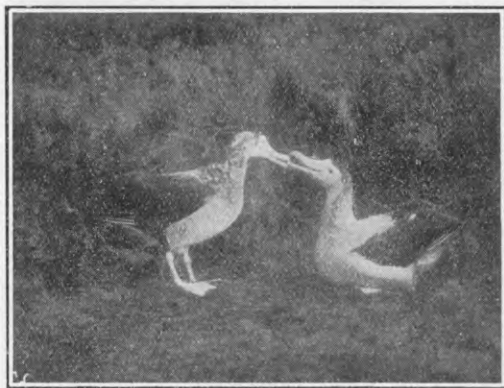


Photo by H. Guthrie-Smith.  
Courtship of wandering albatross, Enderby Island,  
Antipodes.

Zealand, some years ago, exceeded the authorised figures.

The time is long overdue for a checking of the abuses of "collecting".



Hair-seals on Enderby Island, Antipodes.

Photo by H. Guthrie-Smith.