

Island in a southerly direction between 0900 to 1115 hrs which may possibly be a daily feeding movement. On November 14th 1,000 plus Starlings suddenly appeared in the late afternoon looking for roosting sites and stayed overnight on the Island. From this date to the end of the season birds roosted on the Island in varying number. Before November 13th no Starlings had been seen going to roost although a special watch had been kept.

SHORT NOTES ON APPEARANCES AND BEHAVIOUR

Curlew.

The numbers present during July, August and September 1954, compared to the same months in 1955, show a significant contrast. During these months in 1954 three or less was the normal number seen in any one day, though occasionally as many as five were seen and on two dates in August there were flocks of about ten birds. In 1955 from July to September a flock of between twenty and thirty birds was seen almost daily. The Island was exceptionally hard and dry during this period but there were large numbers of Crane flies (*Tipulidae*) present, and it is believed that the flock of Curlew must have subsisted almost entirely on these insects as they were normally seen feeding on top of the Island, and no other source of abundant food was observed.

Razorbill.

At 0625 hrs on April 20th the following communal mating behaviour of a party of Razorbills was observed on the south coast. A flock of *c.* twenty birds were swimming just offshore. They were in pairs and there was much growling between pairs. The birds swam up to a rock which rose out of the sea at an angle of about forty degrees hopped out on to the rock where most pairs copulated. Five pairs were seen copulating at the same time. After mating, pairs returned to the water and swam off.

Sardinian Warbler.

An adult male was caught in the Terrace Trap on May 10th. It was shown to F. W. Gade and a photograph was taken by Fred Jones of the South Light. This showed the characteristic black cap extending well below the eye. It was first seen not far from the trap and was easily driven in. Its movements were similar to those of a Dartford Warbler, the tail being frequently held upright making an angle of about ninety-five degrees with the line of the back. Slightly smaller than a Whitethroat, its chief characteristics were the glossy black cap extending to below the eye, grey back and rump, blackish-brown wing and tail, white chin and throat with remainder of underparts greyish-white. The orange-red orbital ring and light brown iris was striking at a range of *c.* thirty yards with 9 x 35 binoculars. The full details of plumage and measurements are recorded in the daily log.