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The South Australian Ornithological Association.

There has been a good average attendance for the last three monthly meetings. The proceedings are as follows:—

September 24th, 1915.

Mr. Samuel Sanders exhibited a small case of mounted birds, consisting of three species, and was highly complimented upon his excellent work.

Mr. Bellchambers gave interesting notes upon the pelican, describing their flight, food, and habits.

Mr. R. Zietz stated that several little pied cormorants had been procured from the River Murray for scientific purposes, and on the examination of stomach contents, it was found that these birds were living entirely upon carp (often called goldfish) and "yabbies" (or crayfish).

The birds discussed during the evening were of the genus *Wilsonavis*, *Ethelornis*, *Heteromyias*, *Quoyornis*, and *Tregellasia*. A good collection of these birds was exhibited from the Museum collection by Mr. Zietz.

October 29th, 1915.

A letter was read from the Secretary to the Commissioner for Crown Lands, confirming the appointment of Mr. Applecamp as Custodian of the islands in the Coorong leased to this Association.

Mr. Bellchambers, of Humbug Scrub, forwarded interesting notes upon bird life in his district. Amongst others, he

stated that the black-throated grebes (*Tachybaptus ruficollis novae-hollandiae*) had constructed their floating nest upon the waters of a large dam, which he had enclosed to protect the wild fowl and other native birds.

Mr. Arthur M. Lea, F.E.S., exhibited a case of tabulated stomach contents of the English starling (*Sturnis vulgaris*). These stomachs had been sent in by Capt. White and Mr. Ashby. One of the leading features was the great quantity of African boxthorn seeds found in the stomachs of these birds, and the great harm done by the birds distributing this thorny plant. It was shown that many seeds and remains of insects and caterpillars were found in the stomachs. A very important item was the discovery of maggots, or larvae, of the blow-fly.

The evening was set apart for the examination of material collected during a recent excursion made to Moolooloo, Flinders Ranges North. The trip was made under the auspices of the Field Naturalists' Section of the Royal Society of South Australia. Capt. S. A. White (President of the Section) gave a brief outline of the trip and the country worked, also field notes, with specimens collected, and described a new sub-species of *Barnardius barnardi* as *Barnardius barnardi lindoi* (Lindo's Ring-neck Parrot).

Mr. J. W. Mellor showed a few specimens collected upon the same excursion, amongst them *Pomatostomus ruficeps*.

Both Mr. Zietz (from Museum collection) and Mr. Ashby showed a fine lot of material for comparison.

November 26th, 1915.

Mr. Belchambers gave some further notes upon the black-throated grebe, and described how the young are covered over in the nest for several days, and that they are then protected under either wing of the adult bird. In this way the young are conveyed about in the water and fed.

Mr. E. Ashby exhibited a collection of skins lately procured in the Illewarra district, N.S.W. A description of the country collected in, and the flora, was given, also field notes upon the following specimens:—

Monarcha melanopsis (Vicillot).—Black-faced Flycatcher.
Howeavis rufifrons (Latham).—Rufous Fantail.

Rhipidura flabellifera alestri (Mathews).—White-shafted Fantail.

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- Belchera rosea* (Gould).—Rose-breasted Robin.
Petroica multicolor coccinea (Peale).—Eastern Scarlet-breasted Robin.
Eopsaltria australis (White).—Yellow-breasted Shrike Robin.
Pachycephala pectoralis (Latham).—White-throated Thick-head.
Zosterops lateralis (Latham).—White-eye.
Wilsonavis fusca (Gould).—Brown Fly-eater.
Climacteris leucophaea (Latham).—White-throated Tree-creeper.
Acanthiza lineata goulburni (Mathews).—Striated Tit.
Lamprococcya plagosus (Latham).—Bronze Cuckoo.
Meliphaga lewini (Swainson).—Yellow-eared Honey-eater.
Sericornis longirostris parvulus (Gould).—White-browed Scrub Wren.
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