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[PART 1.

The South Australian Ornithological Association.

On 29th September, 1916, a monthly meeting was held at the Royal Society Rooms, North Terrace, Adelaide, at which Dr. A. M. Morgan presided.

Mr. H. A. Behrens, of Flinders Street, Adelaide, was duly elected a member.

The Secretary read a letter from the Secretary of the Hon. Commissioner of Crown Lands, intimating that vigorous efforts were being made to put a stop to the destruction of Swans on the lower Murray and Lakes, and for this purpose it was intended to appoint a caretaker in the district to prevent trespassing or shooting on the holdings adjoining the River.

Mr. T. P. Bellechambers, of Humbug Scrub, exhibited an interesting series of ducks' eggs, showing results of experiments made by him in the hybridisation of the Black Duck (*Anas superciliosa rogersi*) and Indian Pekin Domestic Ducks.

The same gentleman also reported having observed the following birds at Humbug Scrub during the month of September, which are unusual for the locality.

White Cockatoo (*Cacatoes galerita rosinae*).

Black Cockatoos (*Calyptorhynchus funereus whiteae*).

Black-fronted Dotterels (*Elseya melanops*).

Nests of—

Hooded Robin (*Melanodryas cucullata vigorsii*).

Southern White-throated Tree Creeper (*Olimactertis leucophaea grisescens*).

Bearded Honey-eater (*Meliornis novae-hollandiae subassimilis*).

Greenie (*Ptilotula penicillata whitei*).

Babbler (*Morganornis superciliosus*).
were also observed near his homestead.

Dr. A. M. Morgan noted the Bottle Martin (*Lagenoplastes arid*), nesting at Coromandel Valley on September 18th, Wood Swallow (*Pseudartamus cyanopterus*), Yellow-rumped Diamond Bird (*Pardalotus punctatus xanthopygus*), and the Restless Flycatcher (*Seisura inquieta*) building, and the Shrike Thrush (*Colluricincla harmonica*) flying with young.

The birds for discussion for the evening were Flycatchers, (Mathews List, No. 493/502), and the specimens were exhibited by Mr. F. R. Zietz from the S.A. Museum collection.

. OCTOBER 27TH, 1916.

A monthly meeting was held at which Dr. A. M. Morgan presided.

Bird protection matters came under discussion, and were referred to the Fauna and Flora Protection Society. Mr. J. W. Mellor reported having seen several young broods of the Noisy Minah (*Myzantha garrula*) at Lockleys lately. Messrs. E. Ashby and F. Parsons exhibited a small collection of skins taken at Port Germein and Nackara during the previous month. Some of the birds exhibited were *Malurus melanotus whitei* (White's turquoise wren), *Leggeornis lamberti assimilis* (Southern blue-breasted wren), *Poodytes gramineus dubius* (Southern Grass bird), *Myzantha flavigula* (Yellow-throated Minah), *Lichenostomus plumulus ethelae* (Southern yellow-plumed honey eater), *Falcunculus frontatus flavigulis* (Shrike Tit), *Geopelia placida tranquilla* (Eastern ground dove), *Psephotus varius rosinae* (Southern many-coloured parrot), *Ovenavis osculans* (Black-eared cuckoo), *Lewiniornis rufiventris inornatus* (Southern rufous breasted thickhead), *Zonifer tricolor* (Black-breasted plover), *Spiloglaux boobook* (Boobook Owl), *Barnardius barnardi whitei* (South Australian Mallee Parrot).

NOVEMBER 24th, 1916.

A monthly meeting was held, at which Mr. A. G. Edquist presided. Mr. F. R. Zietz reported having seen some of our native birds feeding their young in the Botanic Gardens this season, among others the Boobook Owl (*Spiloglaux boobook*), Black-tailed Native Hen (*Microtribonyx neutralis whitei*), Grey Shrike Thrush (*Colluricincla harmonica*). A communication was tabled by Dr. Morgan as to the likelihood of the imported sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) following the East-West Railway line into Western Australia from Port Augusta. Mr. Weidenbach remarked that he had seen the sparrows about 200 miles west of Port Augusta, on the line of construction. The matter was allowed to stand over till next meeting. Mr. J. W. Mellor reported having seen several flocks of Shell parrots (*Melopsittacus undulatus*) at Lockleys during the month, the same member exhibited a skin each of the Mallee parrot (*Barnardius barnardi*) and the pale yellow parrot (*Platyercus flaveolus innominatus*), both specimens from the River Murray above Morgan. A large collection of bird skins from the Cooper's Creek district, was exhibited by Capt. S. A. White.

An outline of the country collected over by the Museum Expedition was given, then a list of the birds observed, the speaker stated that one new bird at least would be the outcome of the trip, but on the whole he was disappointed with the few species of birds met with, about 107. Emus were not met with although their tracks were seen in the swampy ground. Quail were only represented by the little quail (*Austrotornix velox*), the spotted-shouldered dove (*Stictopeleia cuneata*) was met with, the crested pigeon (*Ocyphaps lophotes*) was not nearly so numerous as further north.

The native hen (*Microtribonyx ventralis*) was only seen upon two occasions, hoary headed grebe (*Poliiocephalus poliocephalus*), and the Caspian tern (*Hydroprogne tschgrava strenua*) were seen upon the Cooper. The Crested Tern (*Thalasseus bergii pelecanoides*) was observed at Lake Harry, and the Silver Gull (*Bruchigavia novaehollandiae*) was also seen. Dotterels of several species were met with, White-headed Stilts (*Himantopus leucocephalus*) as well as the red-necked Avocets (*Recurvi-*

rostra novahollandiæ) were met with upon the swamps. Cranes of several species were seen, including the fine "Native" companion or Australian Crane (*Mátheusia rubicúnda*). Ducks were scarce. The common grey teal, the pink-eared duck, and Tennant's maned goose, were all of this family met with. The wedge-tailed eagle (the largest in the world) was unfortunately being destroyed very fast by poison, and very few living examples were seen. Little eagles and whistling eagles were numerous, besides other members of the hawk family. Boobook, winking and masked owls, were met with, the pink cockatoo was only met with once, but the bare-eyed and rose-breasted variety were very plentiful, parrots were not numerous with the exception of shell parrots, which were in thousands, swallows of three or four species were plentiful. The rare desert-chat (*Ashbyia lovensis*) was taken as well as its eggs, which are new to science. It was stated that there were several items new to the science of ornithology to be described. The chairman congratulated the speaker upon the work accomplished, and upon his safe return.
