

— THE —

South Australian Ornithologist.

VOL. VII.]

1st APRIL, 1923.

[PART 2.

The South Australian Ornithological Association.

MONTHLY PROCEEDINGS.

—December, 1922.—

Minutes of meeting held at Royal Society's Rooms at 8 p.m. on Friday, 22nd December, 1922. There were present the President (Professor J. B. Cleland), in the chair, and Messrs. F. M. Angel, J. W. Goodale, A. Lendon, J. W. Mellor, J. Neil McGilp, F. E. Parsons, J. Sutton, W. W. Weidenbach, and Capt. C. H. A. Lienau. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Dr. A. M. Morgan and Capt. S. A. White.

The following gentlemen were duly proposed for membership:—Mr. Spencer A. Hall, of McLaren Vale, and Mr. J. Meehan, of Mile End.

A further letter on the subject of Australian Science Abstracts was received from the Editor-in-Chief of the Australian National Research Council, and, after discussion, it was decided to supply copies of "The S.A. Ornithologist" from 1st January next, gratis, to the Linnean Society of New South Wales.

It was decided that the Hon. Secretary should send the Association's condolence to the relatives of the late Mrs. John Playford, of The Willows, Mitcham. The deceased lady was a great bird-lover, and had done a great amount of work in furthering the object of bird protection.

The Hon. Secretary was instructed to send to the Minister of Industry a letter advising that it was the opinion of the members of the S.A.O. Association that the Coorong should remain closed with regard to duck-shooting, and that on no portion of the Coorong should such shooting be permitted. Our attention was drawn to this matter by letters in the public press of Adelaide.

The subject of Bird Maps was gone into at some length, and it was finally decided to ask members to supply particulars of the habitat of *Myzantha garrula*, as a beginning. Cards were distributed amongst the members present, and it was requested that they be returned completed by next month's (January) meeting.

The Vice-President (Mr. F. E. Parsons) then gave a description of his recent trip to Western Australia (reported elsewhere in this number), and exhibited skins of the birds observed. At the conclusion, the President thanked the lecturer on behalf of the members for the very interesting address, and at the same time took the opportunity of wishing those present the compliments of the season.

The President reported the finding of *Eopsaltria australis* (Yellow Robin), with nest and one egg, on a visit to Lake Bonney, near Millicent, S.A., on 7th December, 1922.

—January, 1923.—

Minutes of meeting held at the Royal Society's Rooms on Friday, 26th January, 1923. Mr. Edwin Ashby was voted to the chair, and there were present Messrs. K. Ashby, R. Crompton, A. G. Edquist, J. W. Mellor, J. Neil McGilp, S. Sanders, J. Sutton, Dr. A. M. Morgan, and Capt. S. A. White. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Professor J. B. Cleland and Mr. F. E. Parsons.

Messrs. Spencer A. Hall and J. Meehan were duly elected as members of the Association.

Coorong.—With regard to the letter sent to the Minister of Industry in terms of the resolution passed at the December, 1922, meeting, it was now proposed by Capt. White, and seconded by Dr. Morgan—"That a further letter be sent to the Minister of Industry advising that, failing the closure of the whole of the Coorong to feathered game-shooting, this Association is in favour of the eastern side being opened, but that the western side should be totally closed to shooting." Carried.

Export of Feathered Game from South Australia.—It was proposed by Capt. White and seconded by Mr. R. Crompton—"That this Association should heartily support the Field Shooters' Association in the latter's proposal to prevent the export of feathered game from the State of South Australia, and that a letter be written to the Minister of Industry advising our concurrence." Carried. On the motion of Capt. White, seconded by Mr. J. Neil McGilp, it was

decided to place on record this Association's approval of the action of the Field Shooters' Association in endeavouring to have the close season for Quail extended to 1st February.

Exhibits.—Dr. Morgan exhibited the following skins taken by his son recently in the South-East of South Australia:—*Strepera versicolor*, *Hylacola pyrrhopygia*, *Sericornis frontalis*, *Pardalotus xanthopygius*, *Demiegretta sacra*, *Calyptorhynchus funereus*, *Erythrogonyx cinctus*, *Charadrius melanops*, *Charadrius cucullatus*, *Plurialis dominicus*, *Porzana pusilla*, *Pomatostomus temporalis*, *Psephotus haematonotus*. Capt. White exhibited three skins of *Cuculus pallidus*, one of which was very white in colour.

Cuckoos.—Mr. J. W. Mellor then gave a very interesting address on the subject of the Cuckoos of Australia, exhibiting some specimens from his own collection, and aided by some very fine specimens brought by Mr. Edwin Ashby. The Cuckoos described were—*Cuculus pallidus* (Pallid Cuckoo), *Cacomantis flabelliformis* (Fantailed Cuckoo), *Cacomantis pyrrhophanus* (Square-tailed Cuckoo), *Cacomantis castaneiventris* (Chestnut-breasted Cuckoo), *Mesocobius osculans* (Black-eared Cuckoo), *Chalcites basalis* (Narrow-billed Bronze Cuckoo), *Lamprococcyx lucidus* (Broad-billed Bronze Cuckoo), *Lamprococcyx plagusus* (Bronze Cuckoo), *Lamprococcyx minutillus* (Little Bronze Cuckoo), *Lamprococcyx russatus* (Rufous-breasted Bronze Cuckoo), *Eudynamis orientalis* (Koel), *Scythrops novae-hollandiae* (Channel-bill), *Centropus phasianinus* (Pheasant Coucal). At the close of the address the Chairman thanked Mr. Mellor on behalf of the members.

A letter was received from the Director of the Institute of Science and Industry intimating that the October, 1921, number was wanting in their file of "The South Australian Ornithologist." It was decided by the meeting to supply the missing number gratis.

—February, 1923.—

The usual monthly meeting was held at the Royal Society's Rooms on Friday, 23rd February, 1923, at 8 p.m. The President (Professor J. B. Cleland) was in the chair, and there were present Messrs. F. M. Angel, J. W. Mellor, F. E. Parsons, J. Sutton, W. W. Weidenbach, and Dr. A. M. Morgan. An apology for non-attendance was received from Mr. J. Neil McGilp.

The matter of the amount of subscription for a Life Membership of the Association was discussed, but consideration was postponed until the next meeting.

The subject of Bird Maps was further gone into, and Mr. Weidenbach produced some specimen maps, one of which was selected, and sanction was granted for the purchase of the necessary supplies.

Owing to the season of Easter occurring at the end of March, it was decided to hold the next annual meeting on Friday, 23rd March.

Correspondence.—Two letters from the Minister of Industry were placed on the table. One, dated 31st January, acknowledged receipt of our letter of 27th January with regard to duck-shooting on the Coorong; the other letter, dated 5th February, in acknowledging our letter of 27th January re export of feathered game from South Australia, advised that the matter would receive attention. A return postcard, dated 13th January, 1923, was received from Dr. Smets-Monder, Hon. Secretary the Belgian League for the Protection of Birds, Genval, Belgium, asking the amount of subscription to "The S.A. Ornithologist," and requesting that a specimen copy be sent. It was decided to comply with the request and supply the needed information.

Dr. Morgan then gave an address on the Grass Wrens, specimens of the following species being exhibited:—*Diaphorillas modesta*, *D. textilis*, *D. striata*, *D. purnelli*, and *Magnamytis woodwardi*. The habitat and manners of each species were described. The Chairman thanked the lecturer at the conclusion of the address.
