

— THE —
South Australian Ornithologist.

VOL. IX.]

1ST JANUARY, 1927.

[PART I.

The South Australian Ornithological Association.

MONTHLY PROCEEDINGS.

—September, 1926.—

The monthly meeting was held in the Royal Society's Rooms on Friday evening, 24th September, 1926, at 8 p.m. Dr. A. M. Morgan was in the chair, in the unavoidable absence of the President and Vice-President.

Correspondence.—A letter from the Secretary for Lands was received, enclosing a copy of Annual Licence No. 662 for certain islands in the Coorong, with Cattle Island excised, as on 14th September, 1926.

A letter was received from the Secretary of No. 360 Bird Club, Angas Plains, notifying the Association that they had won the Cup for this year—the fourth time in succession.

Bird Notes were handed in by Professor Cleland and Messrs. H. M. Hale and J. W. Mellor.

Exhibits.—From the S.A. Museum—*Eudyptes cristatus*, Crested Penguin, from St. Francis Island; S.A., 10/4/1913; *Eudyptes pachyrhynchus*, Thick-billed Penguin, from Cape Banks, S.A., ♂, 8/1/1914; *Eudyptes sclateri*, Big-crested Penguin, from Macquarie Island, ♂ juv., -/11/1912; seven specimens of *Meliphaga virescens*, Singing Honey-eater (one taken at Largs, S.A., and two at Osborne, S.A., were much darker in colouration than specimens taken in the interior and in North-West Australia).

Professor J. B. Cleland showed two specimens of *Polytelis anthopeplus*, Regent Parrot (Smoker), taken at Tammin, W.A., 30/8/1926.

Mr. J. W. Mellor showed some specimens of birds from Tanganyika Territory, British East Africa.

—October, 1926.—

The monthly meeting was held in the Royal Society's Rooms on Friday evening, 29th October, 1926, at 8 p.m. The President (Mr. Alfred Crompton) was in the chair.

Correspondence.—A further letter was received from the Angas Plains Bird Club, notifying the name of the winner of the Association's Cup—Master Alistair Matheson. A letter was received from the Supervisor of Nature Study in the Education Department, giving the conditions of the competition.

Species.—Professor Cleland stated that he thought the Association should go into the matter of the naming of species, which he considered should differ from each other in more than one particular, and also as regards the calls. Members, in discussing the point, drew attention to the naming of species in *Barnardius*, *Corvus*, *Gymnorhina*, and *Platycercus*.

Sir Charles Ryan.—Mr. J. W. Mellor, Dr. A. M. Morgan, and Professor J. B. Cleland referred to the death of Sir Charles Ryan on the Outer Harbour on 23rd instant, on board the incoming steamer, the "Otranto." They pointed out that he had been a great Oologist, and a foundation member and a past President of the R.A.O.U.

Mallee Fowls.—The Secretary reported that he had been informed by Professor F. Wood-Jones that two Mallee Fowls were seen on two different occasions by two different observers in August, 1926, in the fire-break—about three chains wide—about half a mile from the house at Rocky River, in the Flinders Chase. These birds would no doubt be the progeny of some of the 17 birds released at Harvey's Return in 1911. The spot where the two birds were seen is 14 miles in a direct line south-east of Harvey's Return, and 20 miles south-west of Snug Cove. (See the "S.A. Ornithologist," July, 1926, pp. 241-2.)

Bird Notes were handed in by Messrs. J. W. Mellor and J. Sutton.

The subject for the evening was the Genus *Climacteris*, or Tree-creepers. Dr. A. M. Morgan was in charge, and exhibited specimens from the S.A. Museum of the following species:—*C. picumnus*, *C. rufa*, *C. melanura*, *C. leucophaea*, and *C. affinis*.

—November, 1926.—

The monthly meeting was held at the Royal Society's Rooms on Friday evening, 26th November, 1926, at 8 p.m. The Vice-President (Mr. Edwin Ashby) was in the chair.

Exhibits.—Mr. Edwin Ashby exhibited a specimen of a Cape Petrel (*Daption capense*), ♀. It was picked up dead on the beach at Seacliff, S.A., by Mr. R. J. Wilson on 13th October, 1926. This is the first record in the Gulf of St. Vincent. The other four specimens known from S.A. are a pair, ♂, ♀, mounted in the S.A. Museum, taken off Cape Borda, Kangaroo Island, by J. Burke in June, 1891; a skin, ♂, in the S.A. Museum, taken near Wright's Island, Encounter Bay, by Jos. Shannon on 8th July, 1923, and presented to the Museum by Professor J. B. Cleland; an unsexed skin, taken at Encounter Bay by Jos. Shannon, jun., on 16th July, 1926, and now in the possession of Professor J. B. Cleland. There is also a skin in the Wm. White collection in the S.A. Museum, but it is without any data whatever.

Next Meeting.—It was decided to hold the next meeting on Friday, 28th January, 1927, as the last Friday evening in December falls on New Year's Eve, when most of our members are away from the city.

Subject.—The subject for the evening was an Ornithological Trip to Robe. The Secretary read the narrative, whilst Dr. A. M. Morgan and Mr. F. E. Parsons exhibited specimens of some of the species referred to, and which were shown from the latter's collection and that of the S.A. Museum.
