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The South Australian Ornithological Association.

MONTHLY PROCEEDINGS.

—August, 1931.—

The monthly meeting was held at the Royal Society's Rooms on Friday, 28th August, 1931, at 8 p.m. The Vice-President (Mr. Alfred Crompton) was in the chair.

Rare Parrots.—It was reported that three pairs of the Scarlet-chested Parrot (*Neophema splendida*) had been secured near Oodnadatta during the month and were now in the possession of two aviculturists in Adelaide who have hopes of their breeding. After discussion it was proposed and carried, as a suggestion to the State authorities, that "permits be issued for the taking of a limited number of such parrots to supply orders from reputable aviculturists, such orders to be approved before the permit is granted." A deputation, consisting of Messrs. J. Neil McGilp, S. Harvey, and J. Sutton were appointed to interview the Chief Inspector of Fisheries and Game on the subject.

Bird Notes were supplied by Messrs. Alfred Crompton, James T. Gray, J. W. Mellor, J. Neil McGilp, F. E. Parsons, H. Simpson, and W. W. Weidenbach.

Subject.—The article in "The Condor," vol. xxxiii., 1931, p. 137, entitled "Birds and Eucalyptus Trees," by John McB. Robertson, was read to the meeting and discussed by members.

—September, 1931.—

The monthly meeting was held at the usual place and time on Friday, 25th September, 1931. The Vice-President (Mr. Alfred Crompton) was in the chair.

The Hon. Secretary announced that Mr. Samuel Sanders, of Warradale, Sturt, had died on 9th August last, aged 89 years. He was a member of the R.A.O.U. and had been a visitor at our meetings on many occasions. A letter of condolence on behalf of the President and members had been sent to his widow and family.

Rare Parrots.—The Hon. Secretary reported that the deputation of members appointed at the last meeting had interviewed the Chief Inspector of Fisheries and Game and placed before him the views expressed by our Association as to the taking of Scarlet-chested Parrots. He stated that they would be laid before the Minister in due course.

Collecting.—The following resolution was proposed by Professor Cleland, seconded by Mr. Edwin Ashby, and carried—“With regard to the taking of specimens of birds in this State that Professor T. Harvey Johnston be interviewed with a view of the Board of the Public Library (Museum, etc.) approaching the Minister to ascertain to whom permits have been given and to require that data as regards the localities from which specimens were taken should be supplied to the South Australian Museum from time to time, such information not to be released by the Museum authorities until a year after the taking.”

It was proposed by Professor Cleland, seconded by Mr. J. W. Mellor, and carried—“In the case of any scientific expedition visiting this State, or any other State or Territory or Mandated Territory of the Commonwealth, the expedition should be accompanied by a responsible officer, representing the Natural History Museum or any similar body in each State, whose duty it should be to see that sufficient control is exercised over the nature and number of the specimens collected—the expenses of such officer to be borne by the expedition concerned.”

Subject.—Professor Cleland gave an account of the Birds met with in the recent trip to Cockatoo Creek, C.A., specimens from the collection of the S.A. Museum being exhibited.

October, 1931.—

The monthly meeting was held at the usual place and time on Friday, 30th October, 1931. The President (Dr. A. M. Morgan) was in the chair.

Exhibits.—Mr. S. Harvey exhibited the following clutches laid by birds in his aviaries—*Polytelis alexandrae*, Princess Parrot, 4 eggs; and *Sericulus chrysocephalus*, Regent Bower-Bird, 2 eggs. In both instances the eggs were infertile.

Dr. A. M. Morgan exhibited specimens of Sun-Birds from the collection of the South Australian Museum.

Bird Notes were handed in by Mr. W. W. Weidenbach.

The Hon. Secretary reported that Mr. J. W. Mellor, of Lockleys, had died suddenly on 10th October, 1931, aged 63 years. He was a foundation member, as well as a past-President, of this Association. A letter of condolence on behalf of the President and Members had been sent to the widow and family.

Subject.—Dr. A. M. Morgan gave an account of his recent visit to Paratoo, S.A.

—November, 1931.—

The monthly meeting was held at the usual place and time on Friday, 27th November, 1931. The President (Dr. A. M. Morgan) was in the chair.

The death of Mr. William White, of Fulham, occurred on 11th November, 1931, in his 95th year. He was one of the foundation members of this Association, but had ceased to be a member some years ago. In 1921 he donated his collections of birdskins, birds' eggs, insects, and butterflies to the South Australian Museum.

Dr. A. M. Morgan and Mr. J. Neil McGilp were appointed to adjudicate upon the diaries of bird observations, by school children of this State, which had been sent in to compete for the prizes offered by Mr. F. B. Shoobridge.

Birds Notes were supplied by Mr. James T. Gray.

Expeditions to Australia.—The article in "Nature." of September 12, 1931, pp. 425-426, and the letter on pp. 457-458 were read to Members.

Subject.—The Birds of Central Australia was given by the Hon. Secretary, and exhibits of some of the species were shown from the collection of the South Australian Museum. The data was obtained from reports of expeditions into the area between the 20th and 26th parallels of South latitude. 184 species have been recorded, but some of them seemed very questionable.