McLACHLAN—This Budgerygah or Shell-Parrot.

## The Budgerygah or Shell-Parrot.

(Melopsittacus undulatus).

Mr. Byron McLachlan, of "Paratoo," wrote to Dr. A. M. Morgan under date of 2/1/1932, as follows:—"I think that the largest flight of Shell-Parrots that you could possibly imagine went over here a couple of weeks ago; flying from the Siding-direction through the gully (roughly north). I was awakened at 5 a.m. by a whirring noise, and looked out of the sleep-out to see Shellies in millions. They went on with hardly a break until about 8 a.m. They were like clouds at times, and actually darkened the sky, a very wonderful sight. An estimate of the number would be impossible, but I could say that they were passing for three hours, and any number from one to ten millions must have passed every ten minutes. It is really impossible to estimate at all."

Mrs. Daisy Bates, of Ooldea, S.A., in her letter of 12th November, 1931, stated that this species, native name Gil-gil-ga; had come in numbers to Ooldea district that year, and had not been there since 1920. Many were being killed through striking the telegraph wires.