
Retiring Chairman's Address.

The retiring chairman gave a brief address upon the work accomplished during his term of office covering the last two years. He said, "Ornithologists could congratulate themselves upon much which had been accomplished. First of all an Act called the "Animals and Birds Protection Act" was drafted owing to the want of better protection for our wild animals and birds. The bill lapsed in the first session of this Parliament, but was brought in again in the second session as a lapsed bill, and, after being much mutilated became law. Although several strong measures were cut out still it is a great improvement upon the old Act, and all must look for amendments in

the future. Your chairman was successful in arranging for numbers to be placed before the name of each protected bird in the Act which corresponds with the number in Dr. Leach's "Australian Bird Book" and now the Government has supplied each Police Station with one of these books, so there will not be any mistake in identifying the bird. One of the most important happenings in the history of the State of South Australia (from a Biological and Botanical point of view) was the constituting of Flinders Chase, Kangaroo Island, because within this great reserve many species of the fast disappearing avifauna on the mainland can be introduced and saved for all time." The retiring president said "In company with Mr. G. R. Laffer, M.P., a representative for the district (the Premier being prevented from going at the last moment) visited Kangaroo Island. The whole question was discussed with the Kingscote District Council. After a long discussion the Council agreed that they would no longer oppose the fixing of the boundaries of the Chase. This action was closely followed up by your president who had frequent interviews with the Hons. the Premier, Attorney General, and Mr. Laffer, M.P., to ensure having the reserve properly constituted by Act of Parliament. Members of the Ministry gave a promise to that effect, and later on these promises were right royally carried out, for the Bill passed both Houses practically without alteration. After twelve years of fighting the great Reserve is now a reality. The Board of Governors controlling Flinders Chase has been formed and is now hard at work in the management of this fine sanctuary. 200 square miles of country is really not large enough, but the Act provides for extension.

The protection of the Association's Islands in the Coorong is maintained and your President during term of office made numerous visits to the birds breeding grounds. Both swan and pelicans reared a fair number of young birds the last three nesting seasons. Good sound work has been put in by many members of the Association. Dr. Morgan has made several trips, which he has written up in his usual very thorough manner for "The South Australian Ornithologist." Mr. F. Parsons made a good discovery in a new sub species of Emu Wren on Kangaroo Island. Mr. L. K. McGilp's meeting with the scarlet-chested grass parrot (*N. splendida*) in the country north of Lake Frome, September, 1919. Last but not least your retiring President is deeply indebted to the loyal backing of the Association, especially to the Hon. Secretary (Mr. F. M. Angel) who has rendered such valuable assistance to the Association and Ornithologists in general, and it is with greatest regret that I hear of his resignation as Secretary.