

It is hoped that if any of the ringed birds are picked up dead in any part of the world information will be forwarded to Mr. L. G. Chandler, the hon. secretary of the B.O.C., 56 Dixon-street, Malvern, Victoria.

South Australian Ornithological Association.

A MEETING of the South Australian Ornithological Association was held on the evening of 23rd February, Mr. M. Symonds Clark presiding. Mr. J. W. Mellor reported having noted the Ground-Thrush (*Oreocichla lunulata*) at the Reedbeds lately, where it had not previously been seen. He thought perhaps the fires in the Mount Lofty Ranges had something to do with its appearance on the plains. Mr. F. R. Zietz showed a collection of Finches, the property of the Museum, 19 species in all. Mr. J. W. Mellor gave an account of the re-discovery of the Spotted-throated Scrub-Wren (*Sericornis osculans*) in the Mount Lofty Ranges in September last. He also gave an account of his securing a specimen of the Darker Turquoise Wren (*Malurus whitei*), which had not been shown since it was named by Mr. A. J. Campbell, of Melbourne, after the late Mr. Samuel White, of the Reedbeds (S.A.)

The thirteenth annual meeting of the Association was held at the Institute, North-terrace, on the evening of 29th March, Captain S. A. White presiding. There was a good attendance. The honorary secretary (Mr. J. W. Mellor), in his annual report, stated that exceptionally good work had been carried out by the Association during the past year, notably the lease to the Association of the islands in the Coorong for the purpose of protecting the native birds and allowing them to breed there. For the purpose of preventing them being molested by so called sportsmen and other visitors, a custodian had been appointed, who knew the locality thoroughly. Another notable work had been the placing of Mallee-Fowl (*Lipoa ocellata*) on the National Reserve at Cape Borda, Kangaroo Island, where they were free from the ravages of the fox, which was fast exterminating these remarkable birds on the mainland. It was hoped that the residents of the island would all act as special custodians to see that the birds were rigidly protected wherever they might roam, as in years to come, when the birds were extinct on the mainland, the island would be a novelty to the world, and a place of exceptional interest to visitors. New members had joined the Association, and the general interest now displayed in the study and protection of native birds was on the increase. Amounts in connection with the Mallee-Fowl fund, to place them on Kangaroo Island, had come in satisfactorily, and donations were still welcomed. The honorary secretary read a letter from Mr. A. H. Anderson, of Kingscote, Kangaroo Island, urging the protection of the much-abused Cormorant, and giving interesting details relative to his observations upon the habits of these birds, whose chief food consisted of many of the enemies of the fishes' spawn. It was resolved to move in the matter, and the honorary secretary was deputed to interview the authorities. The sudden death of Dr. W. T. Angove, of Tea-tree Gully, which occurred in London, was referred to, and it was decided to write a letter of condolence to his widow and family, and also place on record his good work done during his connection with the Association. Mr. F. E. Parsons, of Adelaide, was elected a member. Mr. J. W. Mellor tabled a specimen copy of a work entitled "The Game-Birds and Water-Fowl of South Africa," now being written by Major B. Horsbrugh. The work was favourably commented upon by those present, the coloured plates being excellent. Captain S. A. White drew attention to the first issue of a new periodical being published in England upon Australian bird-life, and edited by Mr. G. M. Mathews, F.R.S.E., ornithologist, and entitled *The Austral Avian Record*. Captain White also showed several birds secured near Meningie,

Lake Albert, notably a pied Raven, which was deemed to be a "sport" of the common kind (*Corone australis*), the Elegant Grass-Parrot (*Neophema elegans*), the Black-throated Grebe (*Podiceps poliocephalus*), the Hoary-headed Grebe (*P. novæ-hollandiæ*), and several small Water-Crakes. Mr. E. Ashby made some interesting and instructive remarks upon the Northern Territory birds, a number of which he displayed to illustrate the various species, notably the Pigmy Goose (*Nettion albigularis*), Boat-billed Flycatcher (*Myiagra latirostris*), Yellow White-eye (*Zosterops lutea*), White-breasted Honey-eater (*Glycyphila fasciata*), Varied Lorikeet (*Ptilosclera versicolor*), Great Bower-bird (*Chlamydodera nuchalis*), and others. A vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Ashby for his remarks and exhibition of specimens. The following members were elected as officers for the ensuing year:—President, Mr. E. Ashby; vice-president, Mr. F. R. Zietz; hon. secretary, Mr. J. W. Mellor; these to form the general committee of management.

The monthly meeting of the Association was held on the evening of 26th April, at the Royal Society's rooms, North-terrace. Mr. E. Ashby presided. The secretary read a letter from Mr. Crawford Vaughan, in which that gentleman stated his pleasure in being able to assist in the protection of the native fauna and flora. A letter was received from Mr. Anderson, of Kingscote, concerning the birds nesting on the Spit. The secretary stated that action was being taken in the matter. Mr. J. W. Mellor described his recent trip to Yorke Peninsula, and exhibited a specimen of the Greenshank (*Glottis nebularius*) and Grey Plover (*Squatarola helvetica*), the latter a rare bird; also the Curlew-Sandpiper (*Ancylochilus subarquatus*), in breeding plumage, a novel occurrence. Captain S. A. White, by the aid of a sketch map, gave an interesting description of his two ornithological trips to Kangaroo Island, which he made in the interests of Mr. Mathews' work. He described the birds, animals, and flora met with there. He made a strong appeal for the protection of the native fauna and flora of the island, which are being rapidly wiped out. In conjunction with the description some birds' skins were exhibited. Among them were the Kangaroo Island Scrub-Wren (*Sericornis halmaturina*), lately named by Mr. A. J. Campbell, of Melbourne; the Scarlet-breasted Robin (*Petroica leegii*), which seems very much smaller than the mainland variety; and the Blue Wren (*Malurus cyaneus*), which is undoubtedly larger than the mainland bird. Captain White showed a Sparrow-Hawk (*Accipiter*) from Kangaroo Island, which differs in size and colouration from any found on the mainland.

Notes and Notices.

Corrections.—*Emu*, vol. xi., page 247, 12th line from bottom, "44 mm." should read "14 mm."; and on page 249—nest of *Pseudogerygone jacksoni*—"1 inch in circumference" should read "1 inch in diameter."

Useful Members.—Mr. Edwin Ashby, Adelaide, has been elected president of the South Australian Ornithological Association, and Mr. J. A. Leach, M.Sc., Melbourne, has been elected president of the Field Naturalists' Club of Victoria.

Treasurer's Note.—The hon. treasurer R.A.O.U. announces that he will be glad to receive subscriptions for the current year, and desires to remind members that it is as necessary for him to find payment for the first part of *The Emu*, when published, as it is for the fourth part.