

*Zosterops australasica*. Western Silvereye.—Very numerous and unpopular with orchardists. I was told of a nest with eggs in a cabbage in a garden, but was just too late to rescue it. November seems to be its chief breeding month.

*Melithreptus lunatus*, White-naped Honeyeater; *Acanthorhynchus superciliosus*, Western Spinebill; *Gliciphila indistincta*, Brown Honeyeater; *Meliornis novae-hollandiae*, Yellow-winged Honeyeater; and *Anthochaera carunculata*, Red Wattle-bird.—These are the Honeyeaters of the district, with the Brown less common than the rest. Young "Yellow-wings" were seen on the wing early in October. On one occasion, in October, I was much interested in watching a pair of Wattle-birds mobbing a cat. The cat was rubbing itself against my legs and the Wattle-birds were diving at it. Every now and then one bird would, after a dive at the cat, sit on the fence beside me, lift up its head skywards, open its mouth, and let out a single "quok".

*Anthus australis*. Australian Pipit.—A common bird, nesting freely in clover paddocks in September.

*Zonæginthus oculatus*. Red-eared Firetail.—Usually to be found in favourable places along the river and in gullies running down in it. Feeds a lot on the ground.

*Corvus coronoides*. Australian Raven.—Not common, and does not, I think, breed in the district.

*Strepera versicolor*. Grey Currawong.—Common, and disliked by orchardists.

*Gymnorhina dorsalis*. Western Magpie.—Ubiquitous.

## Annual Report of the Hon. General Secretary

I have much pleasure in presenting to members of the Union the thirty-first annual report. During the twelve months ending June 30, 1932, twenty-eight new members have been enrolled, whilst deaths and resignations have been responsible for the removal of forty names. The total membership is now only 414, made up as follows:—Victoria 112, New South Wales 109, Queensland 52, South Australia 24, Western Australia 21, Tasmania 14, New Zealand 12, British 32, foreign 38, and exchanges 6. The total number of copies of *The Emu* distributed each quarter is 420, while the number printed is 550. With a margin of 130 copies per issue, ample stock for future requirements is ensured. It is anticipated that there will be a demand for many of these volumes when better times arrive.

No fewer than twenty names were removed from the roll through members failing to pay their subscriptions. Before taking any action in the matter, the Council directed that a notice be forwarded to each member, asking for payment of arrears, but in nearly every case there was no response. It would be very gratifying to both the Hon. Secretary and the Hon. Treasurer if members, finding themselves unable to meet their obligation, would make that fact known in-

stead of ignoring the repeated reminders that are forwarded throughout the year.

It is with much regret that I have to report the death of two original members of the Union—J. W. Mellor and Geo. Savidge. The late J. W. Mellor passed away at his home in Locksley, South Australia, last November. For many years he was one of the leading ornithologists in that State, and took part in many of the Union camps-out that have been held over there. Geo. Savidge, whose observations appear so frequently throughout the four bulky volumes on the nests and eggs of Australian birds, by the late A. J. North, joined the Union as far back as 1901, and has retained his association with it ever since. He was a keen collector, and lived in a locality which is noted for its diversity of bird life. The list of members who joined the Union in 1901 is beginning to decrease rapidly. There are now only twenty-seven left on the roll, though quite a number who joined that year and resigned in later years are still alive.

The Council is grateful to several members for contributions to the Illustration Fund. The cost of maintaining a colour plate in each number of *The Emu* is a heavy burden on our depleted funds, and donations, no matter how small, are always appreciated. In spite of the loss of membership, the Council has, by stringent economy, been able to maintain *The Emu* at its usual size. That *The Emu* has lost none of its attractiveness is borne out by the editor of *The Auk*, who, in reviewing a recent issue, says: "This issue of *The Emu*, like others, is notable for the beauty of its half-tone illustrations, and demonstrates the high quality of ornithological photography in Australia. In this respect it leads the bird journals of the world, unless it be *Bird Lore*." It may also be mentioned that the colour plates, the work of Mr. Neville Cayley, have few equals in the bird journals overseas. The work of this Australian artist seems to be held in such high appreciation in England that during the last twelve months several copies of the *Avicultural Magazine* have contained some of his beautifully-coloured pictures of Australian Parrots and Finches.

D. J. DICKISON,

Hon. General Secretary.

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The following new members have been enrolled:—Public Library, Adelaide, S.A.; P. M. Maresi, 36 West 44th Street, New York, U.S.A.; J. A. Falkiner, Boonoke North, Widgiewa, N.S.W.; Walter Voigt, Feodorastrasse 13, Jena, Germany.