

sea Island, the numbers in each being respectively 2, 4, 6, and 25. All were swimming in the water. When the boat was off the south-east end of the Archipelago an immature bird came up and circled the boat.

Sterna bergii. Crested Tern.—This species was often encountered when the vessel was in the near vicinity of the Archipelago, sometimes fair-sized flocks being seen. At the fishing grounds, about fifty miles from the mainland, odd pairs continued to be noticed. The species has not been reported on the main steamer route between Albany and Adelaide, which is further south.

Sterna nereis. Fairy Tern.—A few individuals were noted in King George's Sound.

Larus novæ-hollandiæ. Silver Gull.—A common bird in King George's Sound.

Gabianus pacificus. Pacific Gull.—A single bird, in mature plumage, was noted in Princess Royal Harbour.

Red Wattle-bird.—The Red Wattle-bird (*Anthochaera carunculata*) is by no means a timid subject to photograph, particularly if there are young ones in the nest. In many instances the nests are built in such thin branches as to be quite impossible to photograph. Near Melbourne these birds are generally common throughout the whole year, but when the box trees and banksias are in flower their numbers become extremely plentiful. They seem to subsist chiefly on nectar and the insect life which abounds in the higher branches of the eucalypts. They are very adept at creeping through the branchlets amongst the foliage, which is, apparently, responsible for their tail feathers being so much worn at the tips. The nesting season in southern Victoria commences early in September and continues up till the end of December; most young birds, however, are hatched out during October and November. The materials used in nest building do not vary to any great extent, and although thin threads of stringy bark generally constitute the lining a number of nests are lined with fur and hair. Two eggs are usually the clutch, but in my experience fully 30 per cent. of the nests that have come under my notice have contained three eggs.

Owing to their destruction in orchards these birds are afforded little protection in Victoria and large numbers are destroyed annually.—D. J. DICKISON, Melbourne, Vic., 13. 6. 35.

Mr. C. L. Lang has been appointed Treasurer of the Union in the place of Mr. Z. Gray, who recently resigned. Mr. George Mack has been Acting-Treasurer for some months. Mr. W. Burgess has been appointed Assistant Secretary.