

behaviour at times, it would be interesting to hear of other cases that may have been observed, and also whether there is any definitely proven case of a female bird having been known to incubate the eggs, wholly or in part, and to care for the chickens.

Another query presenting itself concerns the subsequent relations of the male and female Emu. Do the "George" and "Emma" of the outback come together and pair again the following season as life partners, when the chicks are independent, or do they remain apart and strike up new acquaintanceships?

The Oil Menace

Members are requested to give all the notoriety possible to the aims of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds concerning the prevention of pollution of waters by oil and oily waste discharged from ships.

Oil pollution of the sea can be avoided. A small proportion of ships have been fitted with the necessary apparatus, but shipowners as an organized body have always resisted being compelled to take such measures.

For years the Society has voiced public indignation. Its persistence in its campaign has at length brought the opportunity of something effective being done. Repeated Parliamentary discussions induced the British Government to bring the question before the League of Nations, and the League is now investigating the matter. International action is the only remedy because ships under all flags cause pollution. Definite action by the Governments of all maritime countries is needed. That action may be brought about if the matter is pressed now that it is actively being inquired into under the auspices of the League.

Uniform legislation is required in each country declaring that pollution by its national ships is prohibited everywhere, and requiring that effective measures be taken for preventing pollution. These measures should include the fitting of separators on oil-driven and oil-carrying ships.

The problem is not fully soluble by the enforcement of any single requirement, but can be dealt with effectively by the application in varied circumstances of a single principle, namely, that avoidable pollution is everywhere to be checked and prevented.

Members can help by supporting the efforts of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds—by membership of the Society; by asking friends to support the movement—by circulating copies of leaflets which are obtainable from the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, 82 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1; by sending leaflets to Members of Parliament with letters urging them to interest themselves actively in the question.