

The Collector of Customs, Mr. Bird, has kindly supplied me with the following details concerning bird exports, etc.:

Permits for the export of the undermentioned birds were granted for the year ended June 30, 1936:

Finches—Various 4,057, Gouldian 929, Long-tailed Grass 302, Firetail 22, Bichenos 78, Black-heart 189, Masked 12, Plum-headed 6, Parson 6, Sydney Waxbill 12, Kookaburras 2, Black Swans 21, Crowned Pigeons 4, Bronzewing Pigeons 24; Stanley Parrakeets 12, Major Mitchell Cockatoos 2, Black Cockatoos 2, White Cockatoos 2, Corellas 1, Galahs 4, Parrot (unspecified) 1, Budgerigars 10, Turquoise Parrots 6, Emus 2, Canaries 8, Mountain Ducks 11, Musk Ducks 2.

The great majority of these birds were exported by the Zoological Gardens Committee.

One attempt to smuggle birds into Australia during the period under review was discovered; the birds were subsequently transferred to the Zoological Gardens, Perth.

C. F. H. JENKINS,

Branch Secretary,

14/10/36.

Outings During the Adelaide Congress

By J. M. GRAY, South Yarra, Victoria

Although comparatively little time was available for outings during Congress proceedings in Adelaide, arrangements made by local members provided interstate visitors with splendid opportunities to combine sight-seeing with bird-observing. The surroundings of Adelaide are such that the bushland is easily accessible from the city and following the lunch adjournment on October 30 and 31 visits were made to Morialta Falls and Waterfall Gully respectively, where the party was entertained at lunch on each occasion. Bird life was abundant, particularly at the last-mentioned locality, and these short rambles introduced to visitors a bird peculiar to the State in the Adelaide Rosella.

Victorian members were enabled to reciprocate the spirit of their welcome to South Australia through the medium of Mr. C. E. Bryant, who introduced their South Australian hosts to Victorian scenery and its avifauna in an address given on the evening of October 30. Mr. Bryant's lecture, which was illustrated with coloured lantern slides and was representative of the whole State of Victoria, met with the appreciation of a large gathering of South Australian members and friends.

On October 31 Captain S. A. White entertained the party at his home, "Wetunga," Fulham, and those members who were attending the Camp-out examined his extensive collec-

tion of bird skins in anticipation of the forms expected to be found on Eyre's Peninsula.

One of the highlights of the outings during Congress was the visit paid to the aviaries of Mr. Simon Harvey. Many species of native birds are at home in most impressive enclosures which are 100 feet in length and 12 feet high. Amongst the birds which attracted the attention and admiration of the visitors were Mallee Fowls, Crested Bell-birds, Mistletoe-birds, Golden Whistlers, Spiny-cheeked Honeyeaters, both Brush and Common Bronzewing, Diamond and Peaceful Doves, and numerous Finches, and many Australian Parrots.

On Sunday, November 1, an all-day excursion to Buckland Park was arranged under the leadership of Mr. J. Neil McGilp and Captain S. A. White. The morning was spent wading on the margins of an extensive swamp on which large flocks of Grey Teal and Black Duck were seen. In the lignum around the shallows were Grass-birds and Blue and White Wrens. White-headed Stilts were found nesting in this locality. Later in the day the party proceeded to an area of coastal samphire nearby where two species of birds new to Victorians were found. These were the Dark Thornbill and the Spotted Scrub-Wren, the latter with nest and fledged young. Before returning to the city Mr. and Mrs. Brooks, of Buckland Park, entertained the party at afternoon tea, and prior to leaving there was the satisfaction of discovering a pair of Little Cuckoo-Shrikes commencing nesting in a eucalypt within a stone's throw of the homestead—a record for the locality.

The Adelaide Zoological Gardens were also visited on two occasions—the first at a formal luncheon following the opening of the Congress and again on an informal visit under the guidance of the Acting Director.

It is a pleasant duty to record once again appreciation and gratitude to the South Australian members, particularly Captain S. A. White for his capable organization, and to Professor J. B. Cleland for the hospitality and many kindnesses extended to interstate visitors, which made this lighter side of the Congress business in Adelaide so enjoyable.

Vocal Mimicry Amongst Birds.—Mr. A. C. Cameron's note in the October number of *The Emu* on "Vocal Mimicry amongst Birds," sent me to some of my notes of bygone field days. I do not think that I recorded this particular incident at the time. It is one of several interesting experiences of vocal mimicry that I have had. For a week during August we were camped in our little *Navahoe* as far up the Brisbane River as it was possible for our boat to go. We had anchored in a deep green pool on the southern bank of the river. The water edge was overhung with scarlet bottle-