

Report of Annual General Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the R.A.O.U. was held on Tuesday, October 15, at 8 p.m.

The President, Mr. A. H. Chisholm, who occupied the chair, explained that owing to the war situation it had been considered inadvisable to hold a camp-out and the meeting was being held merely to transact the annual business of the Union.

Mr. G. H. Barker, President-elect, was present from Queensland and there was a satisfactory attendance of Victorian members. Apologies were received from Messrs. Edwin Ashby and H. T. Condon (S.A.), V. E. Ebbott and R. T. Littlejohns (Vic.), and J. A. Tubb (N.S.W.).

The Minutes of the previous Congress having been printed in *The Emu*, were taken as read and confirmed.

SECRETARY'S REPORT AND BALANCE SHEET

The Hon. General Secretary's Report was read and adopted. A brief discussion ensued as to the best means of increasing membership, although the report revealed that there had been practically no falling off in the membership since the commencement of the war.

The Balance Sheet was read by the Hon. Treasurer, who moved its adoption. A comment was made on the increasing cost of reprints.

OFFICERS

Office-bearers and members of the Council, whose names were set out on the Annual Notice paper, were declared elected by the meeting. See inside back cover of this issue of *The Emu* for details.

Mr. Barker then took the chair.

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

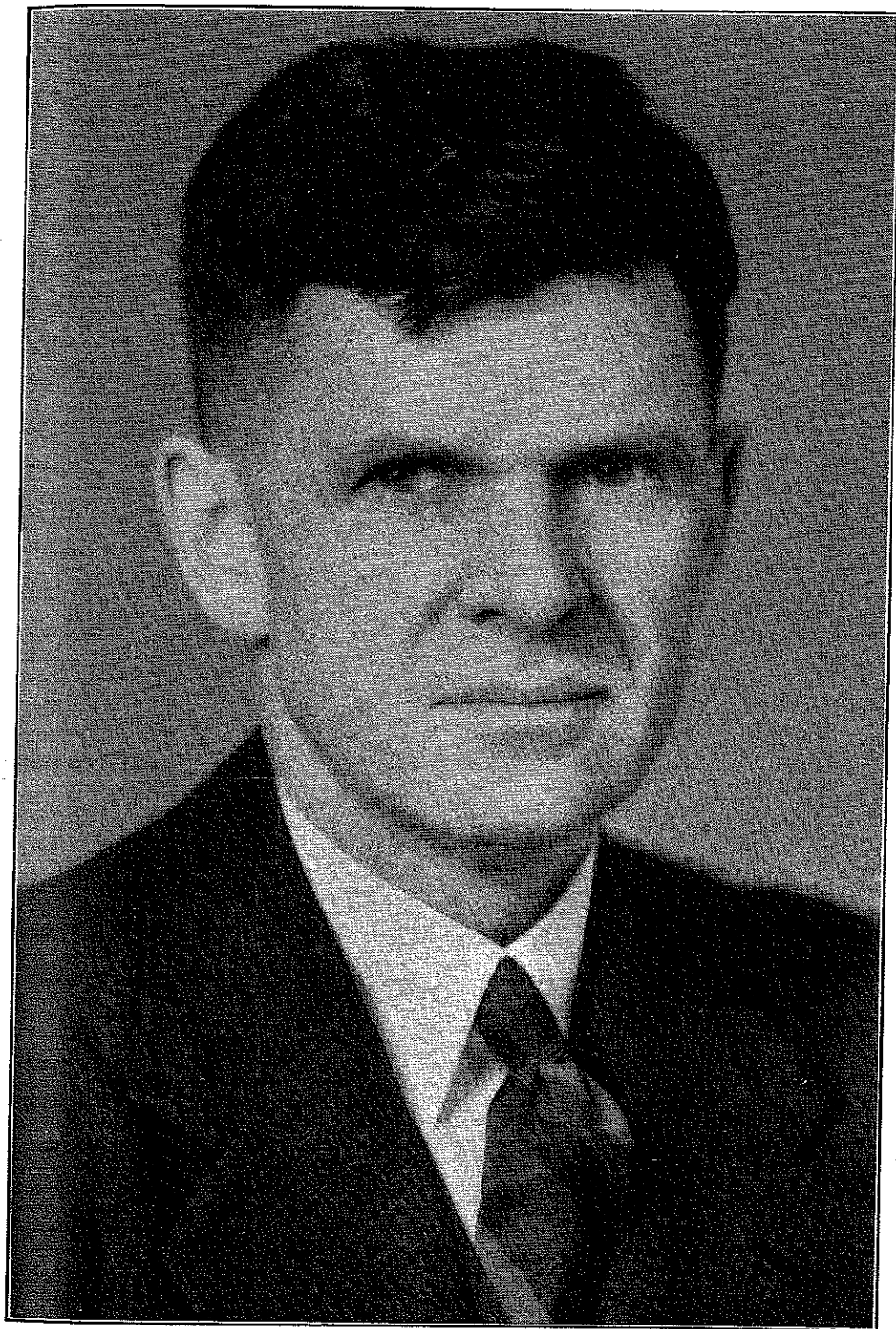
The past-President took for his subject "Mrs. John Gould and Her Relatives." Working on material gathered in England he dealt briefly with Mrs. Gould's antecedents, and with her two brothers and nephew, who were amongst the early pioneers in New South Wales and southern Queensland.

STATE REPORTS

Various State reports were then read. In connection with the efforts now being made in South Australia to have Bool Lagoon declared a sanctuary Mr. C. Bryant moved that the State Secretary be asked for the name of the Government Department handling the matter so that a letter supporting the movement may be forwarded from the Union. Carried.

NOTICE OF MOTION

A Notice of Motion, submitted by Major H. M. Whittell, O.B.E., for an amendment to Article 34, had appeared on the notice paper. As there was no response to the Chairman's invitation for a seconder the motion lapsed.



Mr. A. H. Chisholm, President R.A.O.U., 1939-40.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Bryant moved "that as it is necessary for practical reasons to establish the seniority of Vice-Presidents *inter se*, Dr. Oliver be treated as the senior of the two newly-elected Vice-Presidents." Carried.

Mr. Barker moved "that it be a recommendation to the new Council that all financial members who enlist in the Forces be declared honorary members for the period of the war and for six months thereafter." Carried. [At the November meeting of Council it was resolved that all financial members at the outbreak of the war who enlist in the Forces shall be relieved from their obligation to pay subscriptions during the war and until the end of the financial year in which the war ends.]

Prior to the closing of the meeting Mr. A. G. Campbell announced that he had two reports, one dealing with the League of Youth and the other on a proposed extension of the National Park at Wyperfeld, Victoria, but he decided to refer both reports to the Council.

It was resolved that the location of the next Congress be left to Council.

The Fifty-eighth Annual Meeting of the American Ornithologists Union was held at the New England Museum of Natural History in Boston, and at the Institute of Geographical Exploration at Harvard University, September 9-15, 1940, with a registered attendance of 310. A total of thirty-nine scientific papers were read—many illustrated by colour slides or films. The three days of programme sessions included a like number of evening entertainments, Open House at the New England Museum, the Annual Dinner and business meetings of various sections. On Friday ornithologists in attendance took a field trip to favourable localities along the coast north of Boston. On Saturday and Sunday many visitors travelled to Chatham and Cape Cod, with a trip to Monomoy Point to observe pelagic birds.

Officers elected for the new year were as follows: President, Dr. James P. Chapin, New York City; Vice-Presidents, George Willett, Los Angeles, California, and Dr. J. L. Peters, Cambridge, Massachusetts; Secretary, Dr. Lawrence E. Hicks, Columbus, Ohio; Treasurer, Rudyerd Boulton, Chicago, Illinois; Council: James Savage, Buffalo, New York, Dr. Josselyn Van Tyne, Ann Arbor, Michigan, and Dr. Ira N. Gabrielson, Washington, D.C.

The Brewster Medal Award was awarded to Dr. James L. Peters, of Cambridge, for his four volumes published to date on "*The Birds of the World*." Two Fellows—Stanley G. Jewett, Portland, Oregon, and Robert T. Moore, Pasadena, California; one Corresponding Fellow—Dr. Oliveirio Pinto, of Brazil, were elected.

The 1941 meeting will be held in Denver in September. —LAWRENCE E. HICKS, Secretary, A.O.U., Columbus, Ohio.