

TRUST ACCOUNT AS

LIABILITIES

Nil.

Balance, being surplus of Assets over Liabilities . . .	£1,076	0	6
	<u>£1,076</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>6</u>

Estimates of Assets set out on the basis of previous year have been accepted by us; the Bank Pass Books have been examined; the certificates of the Inscribed Stock registered in the name of the Union and in the names of the Trustees received by us direct from the Registrar of the Commonwealth Inscribed Stock have been examined by us and are in agreement with the face value figure shown in the Balance Sheet and Trust Account. We have accepted a certificate from the Bank in respect of bonds to face value of £200 shown in Balance Sheet.

(Signed) HUGH C. E. STEWART.

(Signed) PHIL. LAIRD.

Hon. Auditors.

Report of Convener Checklist Committee to Congress, 1949

During the past year no further amending Supplements have been published.

However, Supplement no. 6 is now in circulation among members of the Committee and it is likely to be published in 1950. This Supplement includes a number of minor alterations to the *Checklist* which have not previously been adjusted, as it was hoped that a third edition of the *Checklist* would be published reasonably soon. As, in view of the present-day costs of publication of *The Emu*, it appears unlikely that a further edition of the *Checklist* will be possible for some considerable period, these minor adjustments may be included in the next Supplement.

Little or no work is being done by Australian ornithologists in systematics and, were it not for the work of overseas workers such as E. Stresemann, E. Mayr, D. Amadon and others, the systematics of Australian ornithology would be stagnant. As it is, Australian ornithologists owe a debt of gratitude to overseas workers for the light that is being thrown on the taxonomy of Australian birds.

It is hoped that some of the younger ornithologists in Australia—those who are so situated as to have access to museum collection—will take up the review of those genera of Australian birds which are badly in need of revisionary criticism. Among such may be mentioned the *Porphyrio* group, the White and Yellow-tailed Cockatoos, the *Platy-*

AT JUNE 30, 1949

ASSETS

Commonwealth Government Inscribed Stock and Bonds (face value)	£1,070	0	0
Balance in State Savings Bank	6	0	6
	£1,076	0	6

(Signed) A. S. CHALK,
Hon. Treasurer.Audited and found correct,
(Signed) HUGH C. E. STEWART,
(Signed) PHIL. LAIRD,
Hon. Auditors.

cercus group of parrots, the *Eopsaltria* and *Colluricincla* genera, the Singing Honeyeater and the Currawongs.

H. M. WHITTELL.

Congregation of Swifts over Geelong, Vic.—Whilst bird observing at Princes' Bridge, Geelong, on February 25, 1950, I noted six Fork-tailed Swifts (*Micropus pacificus*) flying northwards within twenty feet of the ground, the white rumps showing plainly to the naked eye. A thunder-storm was working up from the south at the time (1.45 p.m. to 2 p.m.). I endeavoured to count the birds but gave up at 100 when I began to realize that the sky was like a pepper pot with the birds, all making in the same direction, with little circling. At 2.40 p.m. a heavy 'blow,' with rain, sprang up and continued for ten minutes, and at 3 p.m. I noted these birds, again in great numbers, at Newtown and over Geelong City proper, all low down and flying in a westerly direction. The storm centre was by now gradually working around to the east. The wind, which was still in the north, had abated considerably by this time. At 3.15 p.m. I noted odd birds flying between palms growing in Johnstone's Park. The large flocks gradually broke down to twos and threes passing over low down, with the last birds noted at 4.02 p.m.

At 3.23 p.m. two Spine-tailed Swifts (*Hirundapus caudacutus*) passed over, also low down, and the difference in size was easy to assess after watching the other species. Although the sky was searched constantly from 4.02 p.m. until 7.25 p.m., when another violent storm struck the city, no more birds were noticed.—HAROLD E. TARR, Middle Park, Vic., 25/2/50.