

**Storm Casualties.**—Sea birds off the Portland coast have been experiencing a bad time in this year's winter gales. At Nelson a White-capped Albatross (*Diomedea cauta*) was found dead on the beach and sent to the National Museum. Later a Wandering Albatross (*D. exulans*) also came ashore. In Bridgewater Bay, another Wandering Albatross was picked up, and close to the Portland Town boundary a Giant Petrel (*Macronectes giganteus*). With the exception of one Albatross which was very 'ripe' these birds were sent to the Museum. One of the prions (*Pachyptila* sp.) was found two miles inland but the identifying bill had been destroyed—probably by foxes. Those animals account for most storm-washed birds unless collected very soon after being beached.

On the Bridgewater beach late in July, Mr. C. Beauglehole and I saw twenty-one Red-capped Dotterels (*Charadrius alexandrinus*), four Hooded Dotterels (*C. cucullatus*), and four Double-banded Dotterels (*C. bicinctus*) feeding together, though after being disturbed the Hooded birds went off on their own. On three of the Double-banded species the black and chestnut bars were particularly clear and distinct. Close to the Dotterels were five Pied Oystercatchers (*Haematopus ostralegus*) and a Restless Flycatcher (*Seisura inquieta*), the latter a real surprise in such company.—NOEL F. LEARMONTH, Portland, Vic., 5/9/51.

## News and Notes

### PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION

The following dates have been arranged with Kodaks for the interstate showings of the Photographic Exhibition.

Hobart—January 14-26, 1952.

Launceston—February 5-16.

Adelaide—March 3-15.

Perth—April 7-19.

The Exhibition was shown in Melbourne, Brisbane and Sydney during October-November, and before the publication of this issue.

### UNION'S FINANCIAL YEAR

Consequent on the adoption of the new Articles of Association, at the Congress in Melbourne, in October, 1951, the Union's financial year now commences on January 1 in each year, not July 1, as previously. New members will commence membership as from the beginning of the calendar year in future. The dates of issue of parts of *The Emu* will be in keeping with the calendar year and part 1 of volume 52 will be issued early in 1952. Volume 51 will conclude with this present part, but subscriptions already

paid for the 1951-52 year will run till June 30, 1952. It is hoped, however, that members will adjust their subscriptions, at the first opportunity, to accord with the Union's year, and it is suggested that members whose dues are paid up to June 30, 1952, will pay 45/- instead of 30/- when renewing their subscriptions—to cover the remainder of 1952 and the whole of 1953.

#### ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION

A reminder is given that the annual subscription is now 30/-. A few members who paid only 25/- for the period commencing July 1, 1951, are requested to make the necessary adjustment at the first opportunity.

#### TESTIMONIAL FOR MR. DICKISON

Attention is drawn to the paragraph on page 176 of *The Emu* for October, 1951, containing an invitation to members to subscribe to a fund to provide a testimonial to the former Hon. General Secretary, Mr. D. J. Dickison.

#### ADDRESS OF DR. WILHELM MEISE

After the paper on the ornithological collections of Dr. Ludwig Preiss in the Swan River District, appearing in *The Emu* for October 1951, at page 148 *et seq.*, was written, and before it was published, Dr. Meise changed his address from Berlin to Hamburg. This explains his references to D. L. Serventy's having supplied him with information regarding specimens in the museum of which he was later in charge.

#### *The Emu* FOR SALE

Mr. James Potter, of 81 Kensington Road, Summer Hill, Sydney, N.S.W., has a 'run' of *The Emu* for sale. There are 126 parts, commencing with part 1 of volume 4 and continuing to part 4 of volume 35 inclusive, and including all issued during that period, except vol. 10, parts 1 and 2; vol. 25, part 1; vol. 28, parts 3 and 4; and vol. 29, parts 1, 2 and 4. Included is an interleaved copy of the 2nd edition of the *Official Checklist*. The parts are unbound. The price is £20 cased and F.O.R. Sydney. The owner is not willing to break the set. Persons interested should communicate with Mr. Potter direct.

#### DONATIONS TO THE UNION

Miss A. J. Fletcher, of Eaglehawk Neck, Tas., has forwarded a cheque for £10/10/- as a 'jubilee gesture' donation, and has suggested that the completion of fifty years' ornithological activity might well be recognized by members as a fitting occasion to make a donation to Union funds. The Union is always willing to accept donations and particularly needs financial assistance at present.

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