

*P. strigoides* and *P. cuvieri* are distinct species, but adds that more skins are needed, as the difference can only be discovered by carefully sexing the birds.

The quarterly dinner was held on the evening of 22nd May. At the meeting afterwards there was a large attendance of members and friends. The chairman (Mr. A. J. Campbell) bade a hearty welcome to Mr. Isaac Batey, who had the honour of being the oldest bird observer present, and whose observations and field notes (to be published in *The Emu*) went back 60 years, to the time when the illustrious John Gould was in Australia collecting material for his great coloured work, "The Birds of Australia." Mr. Mattingley then entertained the company with a lecturette on "The Murray Swamps," illustrated with some of his unique lantern views of bird life, depicting, among other things, White Egrets in their nests at a height of 50 feet from the ground, where the photographer could only reach them at some risk by the aid of rope ladders and climbing irons.

### South Australian Ornithological Association.

THE annual meeting of the above was held at the residence of Dr. A. M. Morgan on Friday evening, 8th March, 1907. Mr. J. W. Mellor presided over a good attendance. The hon. secretary (Capt. S. A. White) read the eighth annual report, which showed that good work had been accomplished during the year. Six general meetings had been held, at which the attendance was good. Exhibits were always plentiful, which, combined with field notes, formed valuable groundwork for discussions and dissemination of useful knowledge relative to the habits and identification of native birds. The association had ever been watchful to bring under the notice of the authorities any breach of the law connected with birds, and it was thought that the work in this direction was beginning already to bear fruit. There seemed to be an awakening interest on the part of the public generally to protect the useful native birds, and it was trusted that by the study of the habits of our feathered friends the rising generation would become more interested, and eventually the spirit of destruction among the young would be stamped out. Two delegates (Mr. J. W. Mellor and Capt. S. A. White) attended the annual congress of the Australasian Ornithologists' Union in Tasmania at the close of last year. At these meetings they advocated the introduction of the Lyre-Bird (*Menura victoriæ*) into Tasmania and the mound-raising Pheasant or Mallee-Fowl (*Lipoa ocellata*) into Kangaroo Island. Both places were ideal localities for these birds, as there they would be free from the ravages of the fox, which threatened to exterminate them on the mainland. The indebtedness of the association to Dr. Morgan for the use of his rooms for meetings and generous hospitality always shown to the members was placed on record, and a hearty vote of thanks was carried by acclamation. The secretary reported upon the visit to Tasmania and work done at the various meetings, excursions held in Hobart and Launceston, and gave extended notes of the birds found on Mount Wellington, showing several skins procured there, including the Black Cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus funereus*), Small-billed Cuckoo-Shrike (*Graucalus parvirostris*), and the Bronze-Cuckoo (*Chalcococcyx plagosus*). The chairman in his annual address dealt with the natural history aspects of Mount Barrow, which was visited by the ornithologists while in Tasmania. The ascent of Mount Barrow by the party was graphically described, and the peculiar plant life seen in these elevated parts—4,644 feet above the sea, or 500 feet higher than Mount Wellington—was described. Mr. R. Crompton showed a peculiar albino Crow from Lake Frome (S.A.) Mr. F. R. Zietz reported having a pair of the Yellow-rumped Finches (*Munia flaviprymna*) in captivity. Mr. A. H. C. Zietz, F.L.S., recorded the

near completion of the restoration of the skeleton of the long-extinct mammoth bird of Central Australia (*Genyornis newtonii*), the remains of which had been discovered at Lake Calabonna. This giant bird was considerably larger than the Cassowary. No known bird had such a large pelvis, the one in question being over 2 feet long. The sternum bone was also proportionately large. Dr. A. M. Morgan was elected president, Mr. A. H. C. Zietz, F.L.S., vice-president, and Mr. J. W. Mellor hon. secretary and treasurer, these to form the general committee of management.

### Publications Received.

- Auk, The*, XXII., Part 4, Oct., 1906 ; Part 5, Jan., 1907.  
*Academy of Natural Sciences*, 1906.  
*Australian Naturalist, The*, I., Part 4, Oct., 1906.  
*Avicultural Magazine, The*, Oct., Nov., Dec., 1906 ; Jan., Feb., March, 1907.  
*Bird-Lore*, VIII., Nos. 4-6 ; IX., No. 1.  
*Hawkesbury Agricultural College Journal, The*, IV., Parts 1, 2, 3, 4.  
*Geelong Naturalist, The*, Jan., 1907.  
*Ibis, The*, July-Oct., 1906 ; Jan., 1907.  
*Royal Society of Victoria, Proceedings*, XIX., Parts 1 and 2.  
*Records of Canterbury Museum* (Christchurch, N.Z.), I., Part 1.  
*Linnean Society N.S.W., Proceedings of*, No. 120, April, 1906 ; No. 122, Oct., 1906 ; No. 124, March, 1907.  
*South African Ornithologists' Union, The Journal of the*, Dec., 1906.  
*Victorian Naturalist, The*, Oct., Nov., Dec., 1906 ; Jan., Feb., Mar., April, 1907.  
*Zoologist, The*, July, Aug., Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec., 1906 ; Jan., Feb., Mar., 1907.  
 Beebe, C. W., The Swans ; Spring Moults of *Larus atricilla*.  
 Whitman, C. O., The Problem of Origin of Species.  
 Palmer, T. S., Federal Game Protection, U.S.A.  
*National Association of Audubon Societies*. Leaflet No. 24 : The Bluebird. Leaflet No. 21 : The Scarlet Tanager. Leaflet No. 6 : The Bartramian Sandpiper.  
*U.S. Department of Agriculture*. Bulletin No. 19. Hunting Licences.

TREASURER'S NOTE.—Consequent upon the voluntary resignation of Mr. E. Brooke Nicholls, the Council of the A.O.U. has appointed as hon. treasurer Mr. J. A. Ross, Crown Solicitor's Office, Lonsdale-street, Melbourne. Mr. Ross requests that members, when making payments, will kindly forward cheques drawn to order or postal money orders, payable to the *Australasian Ornithologists' Union*, and not to an official or individual ; to add exchange to cheques, if subject thereto ; and to cross all cheques and postal orders.