

a total of 14 species. No wonder that many are hoping for finality!

We look forward with interest to the continuation of Mr. Mathews's strenuous labours. It seems probable that, in his zeal for the best, he will publish one or more additional lists of Australian birds, ere he succeeds in satisfying himself that his work cannot be further improved, before the completion of his monumental "The Birds of Australia."

Correspondence.

COLOUR PIGMENTS.

To the Editors of "The Emu."

SIRS,—I have been approached by Mr. Wilkinson, Commonwealth Government Analyst, on behalf of Mr. Blunt, one of Britain's foremost chemists, asking us to aid him in his research work amongst the colour pigments of the family *Psittacidae* (Parrots) as regards their plumage. Mr. Blunt asks for skins to further his research—ordinary flat skins should suffice. Doubtless many of our Parrots are poisoned, &c. Specimens of flat skins could be sent to the hon. sec. of the Union or myself. I have suggested that the results be sent to you by Mr. Blunt for publication.

ARTHUR MATTINGLEY.

17 Selborne-road, Kew (Vic.), 11/8/14.

Bird Observers' Club.

MR. D. Le Souëf presided at the monthly meeting of the Club held on 17th June at the residence of Dr. H. W. Bryant, "Tarella," Bruce-street, Toorak. The president drew attention to formation of syllabus, and asked members to promise papers. Messrs. Charles Barrett, L. G. Chandler, and F. E. Wilson were re-elected members of the Gould League committee. A paper by Messrs. F. E. Howe and T. H. Tregellas on "Rarer Birds of the Mallee," illustrated by lantern views, was greatly appreciated.

The monthly meeting of the Club was held on 22nd July at the residence of Dr. E. B. Nicholls, "Mooni," Hotham-street, East St. Kilda. Mr. D. Le Souëf occupied the chair. Dr. Nicholls drew attention to a notice in a London newspaper regarding the sale of Emu and wallaby skins. Mr. Le Souëf stated that he had received a letter from Dr. G. Horne, who had given a lecture on Lyre-Birds before the British Ornithologists' Club. Dr. C. Ryan was unanimously elected an honorary member of the Club. Mr. L. Francis gave a lantern lecture, entitled "The District of Shanghai, with Reference to the Birds of China."

The quarterly meeting of the Bird Observers' Club was held on 17th August at the Olderfleet Tea Rooms, Melbourne. Mr. A. J. Campbell presided. Several oversea members of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, including Mr. A. H. Evans, author of the volume on birds in the Cambridge Natural History, and an editor of *The Ibis* for a number of years, were guests of the Club. Lantern slides were shown by Messrs. T. H. Tregellas, C. Barrett, and L. G. Chandler. Mr. Evans, by request, spoke on the subject of nomenclature.