

- The Australian Naturalist*, Vol. III., part 12.
The South Australian Ornithologist, Vol. II., part 8.
Tasmanian Field Naturalists' Club.
The Agricultural Gazette of New South Wales, Vol. XXVII., part 4.
The Proceedings of the Linnean Society of New South Wales, Vol. XLII., part 2.
The Ibis (10th series), Vol. IV., No. 4.
The *Ibis* Index from 1895-1912 has also come to hand; it is a bulky volume, and must have entailed much work in its preparation.
Avicultural Magazine (3rd series), Vol. VII., Nos. 10, 11, 12.
The Zoologist (4th series), Vol. XX., Nos. 901, 902, 903.
British Birds, Vol. X., No. 5.
Revue Francaise d'Ornithologie (8e), Nos. 88, 89, 90.
Bird Lore, Vol. XVIII., Nos. 4, 5.
The Condor, Vol. XVIII., No. 5.
University of California Publications in Zoology, Vol. XI., No. 17; Vol. XVI., No. 16; Vol. XVII., Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.
Proceedings of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, Vol. LXVIII., parts 1 and 2.
Birds of North and Middle America. By Robert Ridgway. Part 7.
The Auk, Vol. XXXIII., No. 4.
Transactions of the Royal Society of South Africa, Vol. V., part 5.
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Ourselfs.

THE generous donor who has insisted on being anonymous for 18 months has now given permission for his name to be revealed. He is no other than the chief benefactor of the Union, Mr. Henry L. White, of Belltrees, Scone, N.S.W. For services rendered, Mr. White was years ago elected a life member. Far from taking advantage of this position to reduce contributions, Mr. White suggested the scheme whereby *The Emu* has been improved by the addition of a coloured plate in each issue, and still pays half the total cost (which amounts to about £36 a year).

His gift of £1,000, invested in the War Loan, is now providing the Union with its own centrally-situated room, where the Council regularly meets, and members gather to discuss ornithological problems and welcome visiting ornithologists and members.

The special meeting of the R.A.O.U. on 18th April is likely to become as memorable in the history of the Union as that famous inaugural meeting at Adelaide in 1901. A unanimous vote of the members completed the legal business, and established our Union as a legal entity capable of suing for just debts and owning property. It afforded the necessary opportunity for Mr. White to complete the transfer of his gift. The room contains as one of its chief articles of furniture a beautiful specially-constructed book-

case, designed on Mr. White's suggestions to hold John Gould's great work, "The Birds of Australia." The volumes are in beautiful order, and are valued at £300.

Further obligations are laid on the Union by the gift of Mr. White's famous collection of Australian birds to the National Museum, Melbourne. This carries, as well as the privilege of inspection in common with the general public during official hours, the special privilege of a monthly meeting in the Bird-room of the National Museum, with Mr. White's collection available for inspection and illustration of papers, discussions, &c.

Working ornithologists again are indebted to Mr. White for the gift of his duplicate specimens to the Union. These are now at the Union's room, and are always available for examination and study.

For years, Mr. White, by sending and maintaining field ornithologists in distant parts of the Commonwealth, has been the sharer with Gregory M. Mathews and Captain White of the honour of chief workers in Australian ornithology. Mr. White has now consummated the work by placing his priceless collection in safe custody, where it is available for scientific workers, and by placing the members of the R.A.O.U. in the fortunate position of having a central meeting room, John Gould's "Birds of Australia" in the library, and a working collection of skins for young students desirous of learning Australian birds. Mr. White, in addition, has announced his intention of making the R.A.O.U. room second to none in the world. Other members of our Union are also assisting, but there is still room for contributions of furniture, eggs, skins, books, and other ornithological publications. The hon. secretary would be pleased to hear from those desirous of contributing at this historic juncture.

Notes.

OWING to financial stringency consequent on the war and the increase in cost of printing, paper, &c., the Council of the R.A.O.U. was reluctantly compelled to reduce the size of the current issue. It is hoped that the next issue will be of normal size.

THE well-known and old-established natural history monthly, *The Zoologist*, having been acquired by Messrs. Witherby and Co., will in future be incorporated with the illustrated monthly magazine, *British Birds*, published by the same firm at 326 High Holborn.

MESSRS. Witherby and Co. have been appointed European agents for the "Journal of the Natural History Society of Siam." The work is illustrated with plates and figures, and deals with all branches of the natural history of that country.