out three young. The young birds do not remain about the home-
stead for any length of time.

With a desire to experiment with some of the smaller birds, I
robbed a pair of Blue Wrens (*Malurus cyanus*) that have, until
recently, been "at home" in my garden at King's Park, Adelaide.
In 1920 I took their first eggs but they built again and successfully
hatched out three young. In 1921 I even went further, and took the
eggs of their first and second nest; the birds only built again within
a few yards of the other two nests and brought out three young.
This pair of wrens have only had one brood each year since I have
lived here. I regret to say that this year, when they were putting the
final touches to their nest they disappeared, having, I think, the
misfortune to meet with death by cats which had until then escaped
my attention, but have now been interred with 32 other cats (gathered
during the last six years) under my fruit trees. Though I missed the
wrens in October I have not yet seen any other wrens in my garden,
but as my neighbour's wrens have a brood with them, I fully expect
some of them later. I have never found more than one pair of wrens
in my garden except when they had their young with them; they
have always hunted out the young birds.

A pair of Silver-eyes (*Zosterops lateralis*) have for the last five
years nested in fruit trees in my garden. I have only found them
with one brood each year, though in 1922 I took their first set of
three eggs; their second nest was built in the same tree and the
young hatched out. In 1923 I took two sets from the little birds,
but again they hatched out three young in a tree not twenty yards
away; the first set was of three eggs and the second two eggs, but
these were quite fresh and may have been taken before the set was
complete.

Some readers may think that I have been hard on the birds. My
experiments have been done with a desire to gain some knowledge
of our birds and their habits and I have from my observations proved
to my satisfaction that birds seldom bring forth a second family.
This is quite contrary to what I hoped to prove, I have always
thought that the birds produced offspring a second time in a season,
especially in the interior. I know that birds in the interior always
lay larger clutches of eggs in a good season. In this way I suppose
they endeavour to make up for the previous bad time.

This is a subject that is well worth working out and I should like
other members of the Union to quote from their observations when
they have an opportunity to study the same pair of birds for a few
seasons.

Grey Teal (*Virago gibberifrons*) in the Riverina.—The adult
birds left here in December, 1924, but the fledged young were
not able to fly (in some cases) till the middle of March, 1925, when
they too left. This is our commonest duck, but, although still
common, it is not as plentiful as it was some years back. The whole-
sale slaughter of our wild ducks, carried on each year, under the title
of "sport," is rapidly thinning out all the species.—F. V. McMicking,
R.A.O.U., Kincora, Tootool, N.S.W.