

chick is like finding a 'needle in a haystack'". The bill of the young Jacana itself shows no special adaptation, but is similar to the bills of numerous Plovers, Rails, and even Pigeons. The resemblance to plant shoots, if any, is merely accidental. That the young birds are endowed with the instinct to keep their bodies below the surface for long periods is in itself sufficient indication of a successful protective action.

Before concluding, I wish to emphasize a point with which bird photographers at least are conversant; that is, that actions and re-actions of individual birds of the same species vary considerably. Mr. Potter says that the hen bird is a very close sitter. Nevertheless, only in one case in the eight or nine nests we had under observation last season did the sitting bird fail to manifest fear or alarm when we were near her nest. On all other occasions the sitting birds would leave their eggs when we were 50 yards or more from them.

---

*The Ibis*, 13th Ser., Vol. IV, No. 2 (Apl., 1934), contains a fine appreciation of the late Dr. Ernst Hartert by Lord Rothschild. The author says that "The ornithological world has suffered an irreparable loss . . . through the death of Dr. Ernst Hartert," and the truth of the statement is apparent from the account of the deceased's numerous ornithological journeys and other activities. The interesting details of the appreciation are supplemented by an extensive bibliography of Dr. Hartert's papers and works—some hundreds of ornithological contributions from 1885 up to the time of his death.

---

The reason for delay in publication of this part and for the fact that it is not so copiously illustrated as usual, is that an extensive paper became, at the last minute, unavailable for publication herein.

---

The Council is desirous of avoiding, if possible, the expense of an election of members of Council, etc. As Article 34 provides that existing members shall be deemed to have been duly nominated for re-election unless they notify the Secretary that they do not desire re-election, it will readily be seen that additional nominations will necessitate an election. State Secretaries are urged to endeavour to arrange locally for State representation. Any nominations forwarded should reach the Hon. General Secretary by September 15, 1934.

---

The Harbison-Higginbotham scholarship at the University of Melbourne has been awarded this year to Mr. Donald Thomson, R.A.O.U., for an original thesis on "hero cults" among the northern Queensland aborigines.