

carry out photography at the nest. I was interested to find that the opening of this nest also faced the south-east. What appeared to be the male bird refused to face the camera, in spite of the fact that a hide had been in position for twenty-four hours. On several occasions he swallowed the food that he had brought for the young. Once he passed the food over to the female, but she ate it herself. The female only fed the young twice during the afternoon, but, after the first two hours, she sat in the nest several times, and I did not disturb her for half an hour at a stretch, as the day was cool. When she was on the nest, I heard the male calling from a distance of about ten yards and she immediately answered, but he did not come nearer.

The day was, unfortunately, one of sunshine and heavy cloud and, as every bird-photographer knows, the cloud usually appears at the same time as the bird when the camera lens is stopped down for sunshine.—L. G. CHANDLER, Red Cliffs, Vic., 9/11/39.

Council Meetings of the R.A.O.U.

Recent matters dealt with by the Council include the following:

Protection for the Bustard.—Protection for this species has now been extended to the Northern Territory as a result of the Council's reviving its application. Protection is now Australia-wide.

G. M. Mathews Library.—A request has been made that inter-library loan of books from this collection, when housed at Canberra, be arranged.

Hattah Lakes, Vic.—A full and detailed report, prepared by Mr. Jack Jones who has sponsored the project, urging the proclamation of a National Park, has now been presented to the Minister for Lands.

Field Ornithology.—Dr. Serventy's proposals were circulated to Council members. A permanent committee, with two sub-committees—one in Australia and one in New Zealand—to be formed, to provide assistance to those undertaking research. Field investigation by means of ringing and trapping to be attempted. Other suggestions include investigations on migration, game bird studies, habitat selection surveys, population censuses. The question of the expending of Union funds on these projects has raised some difficulties and a committee of the Council has been formed to consider the matter.

H. L. White Collection.—It appears impracticable to make arrangements to have skins from this collection sent to other museums for inspection.

Uniform Bird Protection.—The report submitted to Council was found to be inaccurate in some details and the Council refused to further the matter until the position in each State was verified.

Duck Season in Victoria.—As it was considered that the attitude of the Advisory Council for Fauna and Flora in so distinctly allying itself with those advocating earlier opening of the duck season could not be supported, the R.A.O.U. withdrew its representation. A request for reconsideration is now being dealt with.