

The committee submitted its first quarterly report to Council at the April, 1951, meeting. This contained details of action that had been taken, with some degree of success, concerning such matters as the control of traffic in native birds, the protection of Gannets on Cat Island, the revision of the Game Law in Victoria relating to the protection of birds, and the proposed alienation of portion of the Kulkynne State Forest, Victoria.

It is anticipated that the work of this committee will arise as a result of matters referred to it by Council, matters coming to the notice of members and requiring action, and projects initiated by the committee. The constitution of the committee is such that each member is an officer for carrying out work in his State in accordance with Union policy.

All members of the Union may participate in the protection and conservation activities being administered by the committee. Apart from reporting matters for attention, volunteers are required to assist with surveys and to advise on conservation matters in their particular districts. Those willing to take an active part in this important phase of the Union's work are asked to submit their names to their State representative on the Standing Committee.

Obituaries

MRS. A. S. WILKINSON

By the death of Mrs. (Amy) Wilkinson on December 1, 1950, the Union has lost a former active New Zealand member. Mrs. Wilkinson lived on Kapiti Island, the well-known bird sanctuary off the Wellington coast, during the years that her husband, Mr. A. S. Wilkinson, was caretaker. There she shared with her husband a keen and lasting interest in the native birds. She encouraged them to come about the house, some becoming so tame that they came into the kitchen. Others fed out of her hands, including three wild Kakas. Mrs. Wilkinson was an accomplished photographer and took many beautiful and interesting photographs of the native life on Kapiti Island—plants, birds, insects, mollusca, and so on. She sent some of her photographs to the International Exhibition of Nature Photography, 1935-1936, organized by *Country Life*, in the British Museum (Natural History), London, and for these was awarded a Certificate of Merit. Mrs. Wilkinson contributed two papers to *The Emu*, one on the Silvereye and the other on the North Island Tomtit.—W.R.B.O.

KNUT DAHL

Dr. Leif R. Natvig, of the Zoological Museum, Oslo, Norway, has conveyed the news of the death, on June 11, 1951, of Professor Dr. Knut Dahl, the noted naturalist, who col-

lected in the Northern Territory during the early 'nineties.

Knut Dahl was born on October 28, 1871, and was educated at the Oslo University. Imbued with the spirit of adventure of his race, he was big game hunting in South Africa before he had reached his twenty-second birthday. At the end of March, 1894, accompanied by his taxidermist, Ingel Holm, he left Port Natal and proceeded to Adelaide and Sydney and then travelled to Darwin. Within a few days Dahl and his taxidermist were on their way to the Fountainhead railway station, and after purchasing a few horses at the Glencoe Station, they set off to the Uniya Mission Station on the Daly River, where they made their headquarters for some months. From there long trips were made in a dinghy on the Daly River both above and below the mission station. Dahl visited Hermit Hill and named Mt. Rebekka.

Later he made a trip to the mouth of the Adelaide River, and journeyed to the Victoria River and to the South Alligator River, where two new pigeons and a new parrot were collected. After a journey to Batavia and Singapore he returned to Western Australia and proceeded to Roebuck Bay. His stay there was confined to the Hill Station, 20 miles north of Broome and to Loomington. He left Roebuck Bay in the *Saladin* about March, 1896, and arrived back in Norway on May 4.

Dahl afterwards became an eminent authority on fish, and for many years he was stationed at Trondhjem and Bergen. He was the author of two important works on salmon and trout as well as numerous articles on the same subject. After his return from Australia he published two books, one on his South African experiences, and the other entitled *Blandt Australiens Vilde*. In 1926 a translation of the latter book, under the title of *In Savage Australia*, was published, detailing the author's travels and adventures in the Northern Territory. His extensive collections contained many new zoological specimens, including three new birds which were described by Professor R. Collett in the *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London* for 1898, under the names of *Petrophassa rufipennis*, *Ptilopus alligator*, and *Psephotus dissimilis*. *The Zoologist* for 1897-98 also contained several articles on specimens collected by Dahl.—D.J.D.

Reviews

New Zealand Introductions.—About 30 species of birds have been introduced and become established in New Zealand. In a short, but informative article, J. M. Cunningham ('British Birds in New Zealand', *Country-Side*, vol. 15, no. 12, Dec.-Feb., 1950-51, pp. 361-365) records "all the British birds introduced and still surviving". The annotated list contains the records of 16 species. No subspecific discussion is given, so it might be assumed that the list is of species which occur in the British Isles, as there is a belief that some of