

tell, *Handbook of Birds of Western Australia*). Since then, there has been a number of records, but this is the most southerly occurrence.

NOISY SCRUB-BIRD EXCURSION

On the completion of the Camp-out certain members returned to Perth via Harvey to examine the country where recent reports of a 'noisy' bird had revived hopes that the Scrub-bird had reappeared. The morning of September 20 was spent searching the Willowdale area (north-east of Harvey). The only item of outstanding interest occurred when three members (D. L. Serventy, E. H. Sedgwick and S. R. White) heard calls which they could not place but thought may have been that of the Bristle-bird (*Dasyornis brachypterus*). The whole area appears to be still in the virgin state, much as it must have been in the days of John Gilbert.

On leaving Willowdale the party visited the Gilbert Memorial seat at Drakesbrook. They then visited the property of Mr. Angus Robinson and returned to Perth via Mandurah.

Wild Duck Banding.—A banding scheme to assist in studying the habits and migrations of wild ducks in Queensland has been commenced by officers of the Department of Agriculture and Stock. This work is part of a long-range programme for the assessment of Queensland's wild life. The objective is to conserve beneficial species and to restrict the damage to agriculture caused by others.

Recently, some hundreds of Maned Geese (Wood Duck) (*Chenonetta jubata*) from swamp land near Beenleigh were banded, and at present Grey (Black) Duck (*Anas superciliosa*) are being banded at a dam near 17-Mile Rocks. Each band bears a serial number and the inscription: 'Notify Ag. and S. Dept., Qld.'

During open seasons for wild duck in Queensland shooters, including those in other States, are likely to bring down banded birds. The success of this study depends on the return of bands to the Department, and therefore shooters and others are asked to forward bands from dead wild ducks and information on the time and place of the find to the Fauna Officer, Department of Agriculture and Stock, Brisbane. If a banded duck is captured alive and then released, the band should not be removed, but relevant information on the captive would be appreciated. Five Queensland bands have already been returned from the Clarence River area of New South Wales. The Department of Agriculture and Stock, which is responsible for fauna conservation in the State, asks all bird enthusiasts and duck shooters for their help in mapping the migration of Queensland wild ducks.—C. ROFF, Fauna Officer, Dept. of Agric. and Stock, Qld., 12/11/57.