

Protection of Pelicans in South Australia.

A DEPUTATION, organized by the South Australian Ornithological Association, waited on the Commissioner of Crown Lands (Hon. C. Vaughan) on Tuesday, the 9th May, and asked that the name of the Pelican should be removed from the schedule of unprotected birds and placed on the second schedule, of birds protected from 1st July to 20th December. The Pelican had at one time been on the second schedule, but had been removed, and was now being exterminated quickly. The deputation consisted of Mr. J. W. Mellor (secretary of the South Australian Ornithological Association), Captain S. A. White (local secretary of the Royal Australasian Ornithologists' Union), Mr. M. Symonds Clark (secretary Fauna and Flora Protection Society), Mr. E. Ashby (member of the Royal Society), and Mr. F. R. Zietz (ornithologist at the Adelaide Museum). After these gentlemen had fully and forcibly put the case for the birds, Mr. Vaughan, in reply, said he had been thinking of establishing on the Coorong a sanctuary for birds. There would, he knew, be an outcry from sportsmen, who had enjoyed indiscriminate shooting there. When the Government had closed American River against fishermen the latter had loudly complained that their grounds had been taken, but now there was hardly a fisherman who would not oppose anyone who tried to net fish in American River, because it was recognized that the sanctuary there was replenishing the supplies. The Government were thinking of taking similar action at Port Lincoln. The necessity for having a defined area on the Coorong of absolute protection for birds in the breeding season was becoming essential. Too many sportsmen went down there to shoot and "accidentally" hit the protected birds. He sympathized with the request of the deputation, and fully recognized that the Government had a duty to do in trying to protect the fauna and flora in South Australia, as Australia had the most peculiar fauna and flora in the world. He would bring the matter before the Government, and get a report by his officers, and see if a certain part of the Coorong could not be set aside as a sanctuary.

Another New Book on "The Birds of Australia."—A new book by A. H. S. Lucas, M.A., and W. H. Dudley Le Souëf, C.M.Z.S., has just been received at the time of going to press, and will therefore be reviewed in the following issue of *The Emu*.

"Oologia Neerlandica."—Old countries as well as new, like Australia, need works on oology. There will be ready shortly "Eggs of Birds Breeding in the Netherlands," by A. A. Van Pelt Lechner (Netherlands Ornithological Society), with coloured plates of specimens in the author's collection. The price by subscription is seven guineas net for the complete work.