

Mr. C. J. Wilson, a member of the British Ornithologists' Union, was welcomed by the chairman. This is Mr. Wilson's first visit to Australia, and he had, in company with the general hon. secretary, been fortunate enough to witness, at the reserve near Belgrave, a male Lyre-bird performing in the presence of two female birds—a most interesting and rare sight.

Mr. E. Ashby, M.B.O.U., from South Australia, was also present and gave a very instructive address on Humming-Birds, exhibiting about 50 skins. He was anxious to have these useful and beautiful birds, if possible, acclimatized in Australia.

Mr. R. Zietz, R.A.O.U., of the Adelaide Museum, was also present, and showed samples of soft-shelled almonds which had had holes made in them by the imported Goldfinch in order to procure the kernel inside. It is difficult to realize that these small birds should be able to do this. The holes were small and just large enough to enable the bird to secure its food.

The principal item of the evening was the inspection of the interesting collection of birds' skins which had been received from Mr. H. L. White, of New South Wales, to add to the "H. L. White Collection" in the National Museum. Mr. A. J. Campbell kindly had all the skins on the table, and mentioned that "he had had a previous opportunity of examining the skins collected by Mr. W. McLennan, R.A.O.U., on Moa Island, Torres Strait, and that there were specimens (all in prime condition) representing 65 species, of which about 50 were common to both Australia and New Guinea; they were a valuable collection. As a general rule it was observed that some of the birds were slightly smaller in size and lighter coloured than the same species obtained on the mainland of Australia, where the forest growth would be thicker. Especially interesting was a fine pair of Grass-Owls (*Strix candida*), a fine series of Oriental Pratincoles (*Glareola orientalis*), a series of the Northern Cuckoo (*C. optatus*), and a dark phase of the White-rumped Swift (*Cypselus pacificus*)."

Attention was also rivetted on a pair of Scrub-Birds (*Atrichornis rufescens*), collected by Mr. S. W. Jackson in South Queensland, the female being the first ever taken, besides the rare species being for the first time recorded in Queensland. Mr. Jackson also collected the Olive Thickhead (*Pachycephala olivacea*). Both of these birds are described by Mr. H. L. White in the April *Emu* as new sub-species.

Report on the R.A.O.U. Oological Collection.

DURING the last twelve months some fine additions to the Union collection of birds' eggs have been made by Messrs. P. T. Sandlands, C. L. Orton, P. A. Gilbert, and A. F. Basset Hull, with promises of further fine sets to follow. A few photographs have been received, but nothing like what would have been expected. The following blanks (according to the Union "Check-list," 1913) want filling, and it is hoped that members and friends will

endeavour to help the collection by donations of sets and photographs as opportunity serves:—1A, 2, 3, 7A, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19a, 23, 24, 29a, 32, 33, 34, 36, 37, 38a, 45, 54, 63, 64, 66, 67, 70, 73, 74a, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 84, 85, 86, 88, 92, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 104, 105, 108, 121, 122, 127, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 143, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 152c, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 169, 170, 176, 181, 188, 192a, 193, 200, 201, 204, 206, 207, 212, 229, 232, 234, 237, 239, 241, 242, 250, 251, 257, 264, 266, 268, 269, 271, 271a, 272, 273, 274, 276, 277, 278, 281, 282, 285a, 286, 287, 288, 290, 294, 295a, 296, 297, 300, 301, 302a, 303, 304a, 307, 309, 310, 312, 313, 316, 317, 317a, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 325, 326, 329, 330, 331, 332, 334, 334a, 335, 336a, 337a, 337b, 339, 340a, 343, 343a, 344, 345a, 348a, 350, 354, 356, 357, 358, 360, 364, 365, 367, 372, 374, 376, 377, 380, 381, 383, 390, 392a, 395, 397a, 399, 400, 402a, 406, 408, 409, 414, 415, 416, 420, 421, 424, 424, 426, 427, 428a, 428b, 431, 434, 435, 435a, 436b, 437, 438, 439a, 440a, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451a, 452, 454, 455a, 459, 460, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472a, 473, 474, 475a, 477, 480, 481, 482, 482a, 482b, 483, 483a, 483b, 486, 491, 492, 494a, 498, 499, 501, 502, 504, 504a, 505, 506, 507a, 508a, 511, 511a, 512a, 512b, 513, 513a, 513b, 514, 515, 516a, 517, 519a, 520, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 526a, 529, 531, 532, 533, 533a, 534, 535, 536, 538, 538a, 539a, 540, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550a, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 562, 563, 565, 569, 572, 573a, 579, 580, 581, 585, 586a, 587, 587a, 588, 590, 591, 593, 593a, 594, 595, 597, 599a, 600, 601, 604, 611, 613, 613a, 615, 616, 617, 619a, 619b, 623, 625, 626, 627a, 627b, 637, 639a, 640, 645, 646a, 647, 648a, 654, 654a, 657, 658, 661a, 662, 664, 665, 666, 667a, 670, 674a, 678, 679a, 681, 685a, 686, 688, 689, 690, 691, 695, 700, 703a, 704, 708, 710, 712, 718a, 723, 725, 728, 731, 736, 738b, 739, 740, 743, 744, 746, 748. Appendix A.:—All numbers excepting 20, 30, 61, 67, 69, 74. Appendix B.:—All numbers excepting 9, 11, 13, 16, 17, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25.

Donors need not be in doubt in forwarding sets, as, if not new to the collection, they will help to build up series or replace short or damaged sets or those lacking data. The collection is already valuable for purposes of reference. Donations of either egg sets or photos, may be forwarded to No. 2 Temple Court, Collins-street, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia.

A. CHAS. STONE, R.A.O.U., *late Curator*.

Obituary.

It is with great regret we have to record the death of Mr. A. C. Stone, which took place at his residence, "Stroud," Tivoli-road, South Yarra, on 22nd March, 1920. He was born at Stroud, in England, but came to Victoria as a young man and settled at Lake Boga, where for many years he made good use of the splendid