

and ruled with the above columns, with the exception of that for the result. Upon the back of the sheet would be printed instructions as to procedure, the sheets to be returned when all the rings are used. As opportunities for ringing birds are not afforded every day, it was suggested that workers should notify the central body from time to time as to what rings they had utilized, with the various data required.

All people interested, whether members of the R.A.O.U. or not, who are willing to take an active part in this movement will be supplied with rings of different sizes to suit small and large birds, but it is hoped that members of the Union especially will help.

Most birds will probably be ringed as nestlings, but opportunities are sometimes afforded for ringing adult specimens. Occasionally birds find their way into houses; some may be found caught in rabbit traps; and, again, some tight sitters may often be caught upon the nest. Various other methods of capturing birds will suggest themselves. I caught a Brown Tit-Warbler (*Acanthiza pusilla*) that was held fast in a large spider's web.

It is particularly desired that all opportunities for ringing birds be availed of, whether the species be known wanderers or not. I would especially recommend the following birds as worthy of attention:—Wood-Swallows, Cuckoos, Kingfishers (*Halcyonidae*), Caterpillar-eaters, Leaden and Satin Flycatchers, Orioles, and Quail. Naturally, many rings will never be recovered.

Some rings will be available shortly, and all who are willing to help are requested to send their names and addresses to Mr. A. C. Stone, 71 Tivoli-road, South Yarra, Victoria. Finally, the initiators of the movement earnestly trust that no bird will be killed in order to recover a ring that may have been noticed upon its leg.

## Proposed Second Edition of "Check-list."

RECENTLY a sub-committee was appointed by the Council of the R.A.O.U. to consider the advisability of preparing a second edition of the "Official Check-list of the Birds of Australia." The members were Dr. J. A. Leach and Messrs. D. Le Souëf, C.M.Z.S., A. H. E. Mattingley, C.M.Z.S., and Chas. Barrett, C.M.Z.S. At the meeting of the Council in April, 1915, the sub-committee presented its report, the recommendations being as follows:—

1. That it is deemed advisable to proceed with the preparation of a second edition of the "Official Check-list of the Birds of Australia." The main reason for this is that "A List of British Birds," compiled by a committee of the B.O.U., has just come to hand. It includes over 90 genera, more than one-quarter of the genera represented in Australia. Australian nomenclature must come into line with that used in Britain. The same name must be used for the same bird.

2. That a report be furnished to the next congress, to be held in Brisbane.

3. That only genera and species be dealt with. It is considered that the time is not opportune for a final treatment of sub-species, for much more still remains to be done, and many changes of name of sub-species may still be necessary.

4. That the Council accept without any change the names fixed by the B.O.U. for the 50 species of birds on the Australian list which are also included in the British list, and that the 80 generic names be accepted for birds of those genera common to Britain and Australia.

5. That a Committee to prepare a report be constituted as follows:—Capt. S. A. White, Dr. W. MacGillivray, Dr. J. A. Leach, Colonel W. V. Legge, Messrs. Chas. Barrett, A. J. Campbell, A. F. Basset-Hull, R. Hall, D. Le Souëf, G. M. Mathews, A. H. E. Mattingley, and R. A. Zietz.

6. That the B.O.U. list be taken as a model, and that the same kind of information be supplied about each species, including particulars as to the food, distribution, the pronunciation and derivation of scientific names.

7. That the vernacular names be considered with a view to their simplification. It is suggested that the Education Department of each State be asked to insert a request in the *Education Gazette* asking those interested to send local names to the R.A.O.U.

8. That the measurement of each bird, from tip of beak to tip of tail, be included in the notes on each species; that a bibliography be included.

9. That the only reference in the way of synonymy be to the R.A.O.U. list, Gould's "Birds of Australia," and the original description.

10. That a comprehensive introduction dealing with the principles of nomenclature and the chief characteristics of the Australian avifauna be included.

Suggestions from R.A.O.U. members with regard to the proposed second edition of the "Check-list" will be welcomed by the Council.

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## Camera Craft Notes.

So many members of the Union are interested in bird photography that it has been decided to devote space in each issue of *The Emu* to the subject. It is hoped that members will contribute notes and prints. As many photographs as possible will be published, but those of the rarer birds, nests, and eggs will, of course, be given preference. Notes on the behaviour of birds when faced by a camera, devices used to obtain photographs under difficulties, hints for the field and the dark room, and so forth, will be welcomed.