

Notes

EXPORT OF AUSTRALIAN ANIMALS.

Recently a deputation from the National Parks Section of the Town-Planning Association of Victoria waited on the Minister for Customs (Hon. Austin Chapman).

On the lines of the resolutions carried at the R.A.O.U. Congress in Adelaide last October, the deputation asked—

- (a) That import of any foreign animal into Australia be prohibited pending investigation and recommendation by an advisory committee;
- (b) That export of native animals for private profit be prohibited;
- (c) That export of native animals for scientific and educational purposes be permitted only after inspection, and through recognised zoological societies;
- (d) That a committee to advise the Customs Department be formed in each State of the Commonwealth; and

- (c) That strict inspection of collections formed by scientific expeditions be made to ensure the carrying out of the Prime Minister's decision that type specimens must be lodged in an Australian Museum, and duplicates of rare animals collected must be presented to the Museum of the State in which they were collected.

The Minister, in reply, declared his interest in, and sympathy with, the wishes of the deputation. He promised investigation, inspection and a considerable tightening up. He also invited the deputation to make suggestions as to the personnel of the advisory committee.

The National Parks section, acting on the lines proposed at the R.A.O.U. Congress last year, has suggested a committee of seven, with a substitute delegate for each, so that a quick decision can be reached. The representatives suggested are:--

1. Representing University and learned societies, *e.g.*, Royal Society: Sir Baldwin Spencer and Professor Agar.
2. Museum: Messrs. J. A. Kershaw and G. F. Hill.
3. Zoological Society: Messrs. A. H. Wilkie and A. Currie.
4. Field Naturalists' Club and Natural History Societies: Mr. F. G. A. Barnard and Dr. G. Horne.
5. Wild Life Preservation Societies and Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals: Messrs. A. Latham and J. L. Menzies.
6. Nat. Parks Section: Messrs. W. F. Gates and R. H. Croll.
7. The R.A.O.U.: Dr. J. A. Leach and A. J. Campbell.

It is expected that an advisory committee will be appointed in each State. * * *

RETENTION OF TYPES IN AUSTRALIA.

One of the resolutions adopted by the Congress of the Royal Australasian Ornithologists Union in October, 1921, related to the desirability of retaining the types of any new species of birds collected in Australia.

The extension of the principle to all classes of Australian Fauna has since been advocated, both in the press, and by learned Societies. It is therefore gratifying to know that the Prime Minister of the Commonwealth has intimated that in future scientific collectors will be required to deposit the types of new species collected in an Australian museum, and that specimens of any rare species collected (already named) are likewise to be so deposited. An expedition of British scientists is now operating under these conditions. * * *

On account of financial stringency causing a change of printers, *all* standing matter had to be used in the present part. This has necessitated the holding over of important articles, reviews of ornithological works, correspondence, obituaries, and other matter. * * *

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