

The lists could be sent to each new member for the next few years with his receipt on joining.

For a body which has members so devoted as to produce the second edition of *The Official Checklist* this is not beyond our powers. That it would attract greatly to our Union there can be no doubt. If each and every bird lover feels that he can express his views with the knowledge that, if they are worth it, they will be a link in a strong chain, and if the matter is not made too academic or too technical we will get a fund of information such as has never existed before. The Albert Lyrebird is daily singing what may be his swan song practically on a bus route a few miles from Brisbane. To the R.A.O.U. he is already officially dead. I blame myself for it and many others should feel the same.

Photographing the Grey Currawong.—Bird photography is not without its humorous incidents! I well remember a trip to Madden's Plains, some 40 miles south of Sydney, with Mr. Norman Chaffer, our objective being the nest of a Grey Currawong (*Strepera versicolor*) containing half-fledged young. The large stick nest was built among the outer branches of an Iron-Bark—a difficult tree to climb. After cutting away some of the foliage we lashed our cameras into position, attached a long string to the shutter release, and, after descending, laid concealed underneath a roughly built "hide." Even with such precautions we anticipated a long wait, but the bird soon returned with a small lizard and fed her young. Then without any hesitation it flew to my camera and attempted to remove, with its bill, the green focussing cloth which covered it. Although we climbed the tree to change plates every time a photograph was taken, I believe it would have been quite possible to release the shutter from near the camera.—K. A. HINDWOOD, R.A.O.U.

Grey Butcher Bird.—The Grey Butcher Bird (*Cracticus torquatus*), the range of which extends over eastern and southern Australia—from Queensland to South Australia, prefers for its nest the fork of a eucalyptus sapling or a bunch of mistletoe at a varying height, but most commonly at about 30 feet. The nest, constructed of dead twigs, lined with grass or fine roots, is a fairly well-built structure. The usual clutches are three or four eggs, but occasionally, more especially in the north, five go to a clutch.



Grey Currawong or Bell-Magpie at nest.



Grey Butcher-Bird at nest.

Photos, by K. A. Hindwood, R.A.O.U.