

Correspondence

To the Editor.

Sir,—The last issue of *The Emu* (Vol. XXIX., 1929, p. 166) contained descriptions of two single eggs of the Dark Thornbill (*Acanthiza hedleyi*) by Messrs. R. W. E. Molesworth and J. N. McGilp. Therein a statement was made that the eggs had remained undiscovered until the R.A.O.U. Camp-out at Salt Creek, S.A., last year. It may therefore be interesting to point out that a clutch of three eggs and a nest of this bird were described by Messrs. A. J. and A. G. Campbell in *The Emu*, Vol. XXIII., p. 221. The eggs are now in the "A. J. Campbell Collection" in the National Museum, Melbourne.—Yours faithfully,

G. MACK.

National Museum, Melbourne.

Report of Bird Observers' Club

During December, by invitation of Mr. Kershaw, Director of the National Museum, Melbourne, the club visited the bird room on two occasions, when a thoroughly detailed examination was made of skins of the Australian Parrot and Cockatoo tribe, one visit being entirely devoted to Victorian species, which number exactly half the total. This innovation was much appreciated by members and friends, as it gave a practical touch in the actual handling of specimens and noting their specific points. It is proposed to repeat these meetings for study during winter months.

At the January meeting Messrs. Favaloro and Mattingley gave some observations (illustrated) on the condition of the Murray Valley after prolonged dry seasons, and the adverse effect on bird life. The February meeting was devoted to "Experiences of a Photographer" by Mr. Tregellas, when some magnificent pictures of the Lyre-bird displaying were screened.

Attendance lately has not been as good as expected. Union members should remember that the B.O.C. was organised entirely for their benefit, to give the practical and personal touch to the Union's work amongst members living in and around Melbourne. It rests entirely with those members to carry on this work, whereby it is hoped to interest others in popular bird lore, and so add to the circle of influence. Many of the lantern lecturettes have been worthy of an attendance of 1000 persons. The annual subscription is 5/- (juniors 1/), beginning in March, and the ordinary meetings are held at the Union rooms on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7.30 p.m.

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