

On August 22, in conditions quite the reverse of pleasant, members visited, by invitation of Dr. Leon Jona, his log cabin on Olinda Creek. Nature was in a weeping and defiant mood; the creek was full to overflowing; conditions were so bleak that the flowering wattles hung their heads, and the Bell Miners forgot their tinkling notes. But the warring elements merely served to emphasise the solidity and picturesqueness of this unique cabin, with its immense logs, naturally-figured native woods and cobblestones, worked into the scheme with artistic thoroughness. Two acacia trees of improved strain were planted to mark the occasion of the visit.

Library Notes

The receipt is acknowledged of the following publications:—

The Avicultural Magazine, Fourth Series, Vol. IX, Nos. 5, 6, 7, and 8. No. 6 contains "A Few Facts About the Elegant Parrakeet," by Dr. Wm. Hamilton.

The Victorian Naturalist, Vol. XLVIII, Nos. 3, 4, and 5.

The Science Society of China—Its History, Origin and Activities.

Rivista Italiana di Ornithologia, March, 1931.

Field Museum of Natural History. Publication No. 271—"Annual Report of the Director of the Board of Trustees for 1929." Publication No. 290—"Birds of the Kelly-Roosevelt's Expedition to French Indo-China."

Annals of the Transvaal Museum, Vol. XIV, Parts 2 and 3.

The Australian Zoologist, Vol. 7, Part I.

Australian Science Abstracts, Vol. 10, No. 3.

Social Parasitism in Birds, by Herbert Friedmann. From the Smithsonian Report for 1929 (pages 363-82).

Contributions from the Biological Laboratory of the Science Society of China, Vol. VI, Nos. 8, 9 and 10. No. 8 contains "On a Triple Embryo of the Chick," by Hsi-Fan Hsii.

Records of the South Australian Museum, Vol. IV, No. 3.

The Proceedings of the Linnean Society of N.S.W., Vol. LVI, Part 3, No. 235.

Whaling in the Antarctic. By A. G. Bennett, R.A.O.U. See review in this part.

Linnean Society of N.S.W. Abstracts of Proceedings. Nos. 444, 445, and 446.

L'Oiseau et la Revue Française D'Ornithologie, Vol. I, Nos. 3, 4, 5 and 6.

The Ibis, Vol. I (13th series), No. 3. Contains "John Latham, an Early English Ornithologist." By G. M. Mathews.

Mitteilungen des Vereins Sächsischer Ornithologen, Vol. III, No. 2.

Bird-Lore, Vol. XXXIII, Nos. 3 and 4.

The Condor, Vol. XXXIII, No. 3.

Smithsonian Miscellaneous Collections, Vol. 73, No. 7—Opinions 115 to 123 by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature. Vol. 85, No. 2—"The Avifauna of the Pleistocene in Florida." By Alexander Wetmore.

Album of Abyssinian Birds and Mammals. By Louis Agassiz Fuertes. Special Publication of the Field Museum of Natural History. See review in this part.

Occasional Papers of the California Academy of Sciences, Vol. XVIII. The Avifauna of the Galapagos Islands.

Boletín del Ministerio de Agricultura de la Nación, Vol. XXIX, No. 4, and Vol. XXX, No. 1.

The South Australian Ornithologist, Vol. XI, Part 3. Contains "*Geopsittacus occidentalis*." By J. Neil McGilp, and "A Trip to Bool Lagoon," by J. Sutton.

Annual Report of the Smithsonian Institute, 1929.

Educational Films.—Some recent developments in the motion picture industry in Australia will be of interest to members of natural history societies in the Commonwealth, and probably throughout the world. It would appear that, through the formation of an Australian company to produce news-reel, educational and advertising sound pictures, the varied and interesting fauna of this country will obtain that publicity which it has lacked in the past. The initial productions of Australian Sound Films, of which our old friend, Mr. C. R. Herschell, is managing director, are of interest to the members of the Union in that the subjects have been principally birds. The first educational sound picture produced by the company was "The Life and Song of the Lyrebird." This has been very well received by the public, and incorporates the first permanent record of the incomparable song and mimicry of the unique creature. The dense forest where the Lyrebird is found imposes such difficulties as regards lighting that it is unlikely that any other film of the life story of the species will be obtained for many years. The Lyrebird has so interested dwellers in other countries that there will probably be considerable demand for the picture. Then there is a fine picture of the life of the Black Swan, in which the photography is truly beautiful and the descriptive talk most interesting. This is another bird which has aroused much interest overseas. A third picture has the giant earthworms of Gippsland as its subject. The company has the plant and the organisation necessary to undertake the production of any class of educational sound film, and within a very short time there will be complete programmes of such subjects available for hire either on standard theatre size film or on the 16 mm. size for home or school purposes.