
News and Notes

Mr. J. H. Reed, R.A.O.U., has written advising of the recent observation by him also of Grey-tailed Tattlers (*Tringa brevipes*) at Mud Island, Victoria, confirming the record contained in *The Emu*, Vol. XXXII, p. 294 (1936).

Members obtaining books from the library are requested to return them as soon as possible. The fact that certain books had been out on loan for some considerable time necessitated at least three attendances at the Public Library by the Editor in connection with the editing of the current *Emu*.

The death has occurred of Dr. W. D. K. MacGillivray. An extended obituary notice will appear in the October issue.

From a newspaper cutting received from Major H. M. Whittell, R.A.O.U., it appears that following the introduction of fifty "cattle egret birds"* from India into England to combat flies and ticks at Whipsnade Zoo, numbers of the birds are to be liberated in the West Kimberley district of north-west Australia, in the hope that they will prove useful to cattle owners in the eradication of ticks and buffalo flies.

A pair is to be confined in the South Perth Zoo. The Curator of the Museum (Mr. L. Glauert), whilst cautiously urging care in connection with all introductions, suggested that nothing but good should result from the above proposal.

**Bubulcus coromandus*.—Ed.

The death occurred in England on October 27, 1932, of Dr. Henry Ogg Forbes, who during the years 1890-1893 held the post of Director of the Canterbury Museum in New Zealand. During his stay in New Zealand he devoted a good deal of attention to the avifauna of the Chatham Islands, and the results of his researches are embodied in a paper in *The Ibis* for 1893.

The following new members have been enrolled:--Albert Scott, 70 Dunlaven Road, Mitcham, Vic.; Mt. Eliza Bird Club, c/o Miss H. Bright, Humphrey's Road, Frankston, Victoria; J. Dinsdale, Pakula Siding, Owens Creek, via Mackay, Qld.; F. Fraser, Ingham, Qld.; Mrs. Ronald Robertson, Ruthven Station, Isisford, Qld.; K. B. Livingstone, Kooragang, Moree, N.S.W.; A. H. Robinson, Ullawarra Station, Onslow, W.A.; E. De Santos, Box 213, Los Banos, California, U.S.A.; Edward Schroeder, 811 S. 16th Street, Manitowoc, Wis., U.S.A.; F. B. Madrazo, Lista 20, Madrid, Spain.

Mr. G. M. Mathews is monographing the Tubinares, and has little Australian material upon which to work now that his collection has gone to America. He would appreciate the despatch to him (Meadway, St. Cross, Winchester) of skins or portions (particularly heads and feet) of Petrels, Albatrosses, etc. Mr. Mathews has a permit to import skins into England, and doubtless if specimens are lent to him for an unstated time the difficulty in regard to their leaving Australia can be overcome.

Capt. S. A. White has been appointed as State Secretary for South Australia, and Mr. T. G. Souter as an additional member of Council for that State.

Report of Bird Observers Club

At the annual meeting held on March 27 much discussion centred around the recent exhibition, which proved a success financially, as well as in the general interest it aroused. It was decided to make the exhibition an annual institution, and to use the funds so obtained for the furtherance of this movement.

The Leach Memorial Club continues to function in co-operation with the Bird Observers by arranging the monthly outings. Last year's itinerary covered over 700 miles.

The attractions of Anthony's Crossing, on Djerriwarrah Creek, Bacchus Marsh road, drew a large attendance. The picturesque valley, 150 feet below the plain, has the makings of a fine park. Upstream, still in unspoiled condition, is the area which a writer described, some years ago, as the best all-round collecting ground near Melbourne for the naturalist. The country varies from rich basaltic soil to tertiary gravels and the poorest reef-bearing shales. The vegetation has not yet been properly investigated, but there are to be seen large clumps of mallee eucalypt and small-leaved tea-tree, known as "moonah", with several members of the saltbush family, all indicating