

determine whether or not the bulk of them sojourn further north for a few months. Last year I found many nesting in August throughout the Bendigo district.—J. V. RYAN, Bendigo, Vic., 12/6/51.

## News and Notes

### TESTIMONIAL FOR MR. D. J. DICKISON

In appreciation of his services as Hon. General Secretary for more than 25 years, the Council has decided to present Mr. Dickison with a testimonial and has appropriated an amount to start a fund. Any member wishing to subscribe (on a purely voluntary basis) is asked to communicate with the present Hon. General Secretary, Mr. W. B. Hitchcock.

### EXTRA PART OF *The Emu*

This present part is an extra, free part, issued in order to make the total contents of vol. 51, which will be completed in three parts, approximately of the same amount as usual for *Emu* volumes. It has been made possible by donations, some considerable, from members and from another source.

### HONOURS FOR ORNITHOLOGISTS

The highest scientific distinction in the British Empire, Fellowship of the Royal Society of London, has been bestowed on two eminent ornithologists in Great Britain. Dr. David Lack, director of the Edward Grey Institute of Field Ornithology at Oxford, has been honoured for his work on behaviour and evolution of birds and his studies on the formation of species and races of the finches of the Galapagos Islands. Dr. W. H. Thorpe, of Cambridge, who is primarily an entomologist, has earned his distinction for his investigations on insect physiology and animal behaviour.

### STANDING COMMITTEE ON CONSERVATION

By a resolution passed at its meeting on June 20, 1950, the Council established a Standing Committee on Conservation to deal with matters of bird life conservation and protection on behalf of the Union.

State representatives appointed to this committee to date are as follows—

South Australia.—H. E. Jarman, 43 West Parkway, Reade Park, S.A.

Tasmania.—M. S. R. Sharland, 353 Sandy Bay Rd., Hobart, Tas.

Victoria.—F. G. Elford, 76 New St., Brighton, S.5, Vic.; J. Jones, 26 Warleigh Rd., Footscray West, Vic.; H. M. Wilson (chairman), 14 Torrington Place, Camberwell, E.7, Vic.

Western Australia.—E. H. Sedgwick, Wooroloo, W.A.

New South Wales and Queensland have not yet made appointments.

The committee submitted its first quarterly report to Council at the April, 1951, meeting. This contained details of action that had been taken, with some degree of success, concerning such matters as the control of traffic in native birds, the protection of Gannets on Cat Island, the revision of the Game Law in Victoria relating to the protection of birds, and the proposed alienation of portion of the Kulkynne State Forest, Victoria.

It is anticipated that the work of this committee will arise as a result of matters referred to it by Council, matters coming to the notice of members and requiring action, and projects initiated by the committee. The constitution of the committee is such that each member is an officer for carrying out work in his State in accordance with Union policy.

All members of the Union may participate in the protection and conservation activities being administered by the committee. Apart from reporting matters for attention, volunteers are required to assist with surveys and to advise on conservation matters in their particular districts. Those willing to take an active part in this important phase of the Union's work are asked to submit their names to their State representative on the Standing Committee.

## Obituaries

MRS. A. S. WILKINSON

By the death of Mrs. (Amy) Wilkinson on December 1, 1950, the Union has lost a former active New Zealand member. Mrs. Wilkinson lived on Kapiti Island, the well-known bird sanctuary off the Wellington coast, during the years that her husband, Mr. A. S. Wilkinson, was caretaker. There she shared with her husband a keen and lasting interest in the native birds. She encouraged them to come about the house, some becoming so tame that they came into the kitchen. Others fed out of her hands, including three wild Kakas. Mrs. Wilkinson was an accomplished photographer and took many beautiful and interesting photographs of the native life on Kapiti Island—plants, birds, insects, mollusca, and so on. She sent some of her photographs to the International Exhibition of Nature Photography, 1935-1936, organized by *Country Life*, in the British Museum (Natural History), London, and for these was awarded a Certificate of Merit. Mrs. Wilkinson contributed two papers to *The Emu*, one on the Silvereye and the other on the North Island Tomtit.—W.R.B.O.

KNUT DAHL

Dr. Leif R. Natvig, of the Zoological Museum, Oslo, Norway, has conveyed the news of the death, on June 11, 1951, of Professor Dr. Knut Dahl, the noted naturalist, who col-