

the "Land-Fowls . . . (were) all singing with great variety of fine shrill notes." Cook's reference to "some Bustards, such as we have in England," preceded only by 60 odd years the total disappearance from England of the bird he knew and referred to. Flinders tells how a "white eagle" (evidently *Haliaeetus leucogaster*) "discovered himself by making a motion to pounce down upon us as we passed underneath, and it seemed evident that they took us for kangaroos. Should a kangaroo come out to feed in the day-time it is seized and torn to pieces by these voracious creatures." The book also contains Tasman's account of the discovery of Pedra Blanca and other islands south of Tasmania, rocky islets frequented by seabirds for nidification.†

"The lover of Nature," it has been said, "has the highest art in his soul." An interest in nature should instil in its possessors an appreciation of *all* art, an appreciation which will enable an interesting and beneficial perusal of Prof. Scott's book.—C.E.B.

†*Emu*, Vol. XXVII., p. 16.

News and Notes

Lack of space necessitated the holding over of much matter. Several of the reports of State Secretaries and the report of the Migration Committee are yet to appear. Will Messrs. Mathews, Chisholm, McGilp, Hanks and Cohn, and Mrs. Linton and Miss Irby please accept this as an acknowledgment of papers written or communicated by them, and an intimation that they will be published as soon as possible.

Many members are in arrears with their subscriptions. The prompt payment of subscriptions is necessary if the Union is going to carry on successfully. The cost of printing *The Emu* alone is approximately £100 each quarter, and with that liability to meet, and other expenses, the Union requires its members to assist in keeping it on a sound financial basis.

Members are invited to forward photographs for publication. Even if unaccompanied by letterpress they might serve to illustrate other contributors' articles.

Library Notes

The following publications have been received since the issue of the October *Emu*:—

Avicultural Magazine, Nos. 9, 10 and 11. No. 9 contains "The breeding of the 'Turquoise' " (*Neophema pulchella*), by the Marquis of Tavistock. No. 10 includes an article

on colour-breeding in Budgerigars and "The breeding of the Southern Stone Curlew in captivity."

British Birds, Vol. XXIII., Nos. 4, 5 and 6. No. 5 contains an interesting record of the recovery of marked birds.

The Victorian Naturalist, Vol. XLVI., Nos. 6, 7 and 8.

The South Australian Ornithologist, Vol. X., Part 4. Contains "Additional records for Encounter Bay," "Birds seen between Penong and Adelaide," "Birds of Yorke's Peninsula"—all by J. B. Cleland, M.B.; "Birds of Western District, Vic.," by Dr. C. Sullivan.

Australian Discovery, by Prof. Ernest Scott, Vol. 1. See review in this part.

The Auk, Vol. XLVI., No. 4.

Field Museum of Natural History, Vol. XVIII., No. 3. "Birds of the James Simpson-Roosevelt's Asiatic Expedition," by Charles E. Hellmayr.

The Food of Some British Wild Birds (2nd Edit.), by Walter E. Collinge, D.Sc., etc. This volume has been donated by Mr. F. L. Berney, R.A.O.U., Longreach, Qld., whose frequent gifts are enhancing the library.

The Field-book of a Jungle-Wallah, by Charles Hose. See review in this part.

The Proceedings of the Linnean Society of N.S.W. for 1929. Vol. LIV., Part 4. No. 224.

Report of Chief Inspector of Fisheries and Game (Vic.) on an investigation into the feeding habits of seals in Victorian waters.

Republica Argentina—*Boletin del Ministerio de Agricultura de la Nacion*, Vol. XXVIII., No. 2.

Report of Bird Observers' Club, Victoria

Regular meetings have been held at the Union rooms, Latrobe Street, on the fourth Tuesday of each month, and it is expressly notified that all members of the Union and friends are heartily invited. Especially would we like to see any visiting members from distant parts who may happen to be in Melbourne at the time.

Mr. Mattingley gave a fine series of slides of Bass Straits Islands, describing the ocean scenery and remarkable seabird rookeries that lie at our doors. Mr. Littlejohns gave an evening with wonderful pictures of four kinds of Victorian Dotterells, depicting the family life of these little birds. Mr. Hanks and Mr. O'Neill gave an account of the Camp-out on the Coorong, describing its fascinating bird-life. An open night brought forth many interesting bird notes of the season, particularly about Bell-Miners, Flame-breasted Robins, Cuckoos and Ibis. It is hoped that members will consider it their duty and pleasure to write up bird notes they come across, and after reading them at the club they can be handed on to the "Stray Feather" column of *The Emu*.

Regret was recorded at the passing of two prominent ornithologists, Mr. A. J. Campbell and Dr. J. A. Leach, but the work they did amongst us still lives on, an inspiration to bird lovers and nature students generally.