

diagnostic for whole sections of the family Anatidae. Unfortunately these organs are still undescribed in several species of Australian ducks, for example (if I am not mistaken) in the Maned Goose and the Pink-eared Duck. In some ducks, for example most *Oxyura*, the oesophagus is also modified.

Collectors of specimens of Australian ducks should save the vocal organs of all the specimens (both males and females) to which they have access. The method of preservation is extremely simple. It consists in cutting off the bronchi from the lungs (below the last bronchial ring) and severing the larynx from the throat. The structure should then be submerged in alcohol or some other preserving fluid and if possible bleached with a solution of peroxide. Finally it is mounted (by glueing or wiring) against a cardboard. This will protect the structure against breaking after it has dried.

#### REFERENCES

- Delacour, J., and E. Mayr. 1945. 'The Family Anatidae,' *Wilson Bulletin*, vol. 57, pp. 3-55.  
Hochbaum, A. 1944. 'The Canvasback on a Prairie Marsh,' *Amer. Wildlife Institute*, Washington.

**The Striped Honeyeater.**—Since the publication of the late A. J. Elliott's article on coastal records of the Striped Honeyeater (*Plectorhyncha lanceolata*) (*Emu*, vol. 44, pp. 44-47), other observations have been given of occurrences from additional areas adjacent to the coast. As there still remains a gap of over a hundred miles, according to present-day published knowledge, in eastern New South Wales, between the Woy Woy/Gosford district and Wallis Lake, the following notes may be helpful in charting the complete known coastal movements of the species.

On June 18, 1945, whilst on a short visit to Raymond Terrace, in the lower Hunter River district, New South Wales, I saw a solitary Striped Honeyeater and watched it for some time through a telescope as it quietly investigated the flowers of a coral tree (*Erythrina corallodendron*) growing on the outskirts of the town. Judging by the call-notes, other birds were in the vicinity, but I only secured a clear view of the one described.

The following extract is from a letter received a short time ago from Sgt. R. M. Virtue (a fellow member)—"I saw some birds of this species [Striped Honeyeater] at the Entrance to Tuggerah Lakes in March, 1942. . . . Apparently this bird has until recently escaped the notice of coastal observers." Tuggerah Lakes are a short distance north of the Gosford district and adjacent to the coast.—A. R. MCGILL, Arncliffe, N.S.W., 25/8/45.