

the ordinary individual was almost destitute of bird life. The Chairman reported that the arrangements connected with the sixth annual congress of the Australasian Ornithologists' Union, to be held in Tasmania this month, were now completed, and that the undertaking promised to be of an entertaining and instructive nature, occupying between a fortnight and three weeks. Many subjects relating to birds in the various States would be dealt with by experienced scientists and bird-observers. Mr. J. W. Mellor and Capt. S. A. White were appointed delegates to the congress. An expression of regret was manifested at the wanton destruction of native birds from time to time, and it was thought that more stringent means should be exercised by the authorities in dealing with cases. Strong remarks of indignation were expressed in reference to the report in *The Register* of the molestation and destruction of the Pelicans on the Coorong by Government officials, and Messrs. J. W. Mellor and M. Symonds Clark were appointed delegates to interview the Chief Inspector of Fisheries to ascertain under whose authority these depredations had been committed, and take the necessary steps to prevent a recurrence. Mr. J. W. Mellor and Capt. S. A. White recorded a large increase of the useful little Blue Wren (*Malurus cyaneus*) at the Reedbeds this season. The former noted that the young males (hatched early in the year) were already assuming their blue uniform. Dr. Morgan exhibited a clutch of eggs of the Rock-Warbler (*Origma rubricata*), from New South Wales, in whose nest the single egg of the Fan-tailed Cuckoo (*Cacomantis flabelliformis*) was found, and eggs of the Striated Tit (*Acanthiza lineata*). Mr. J. W. Mellor exhibited several birds which had died in captivity, and which at one time were numerous at the Reedbeds, notably the Cockatoo-Parrakeet (*Calopsittacus novæ-hollandiæ*), the Warbling Grass-Parrakeet (*Melopsittacus undulatus*), and the Red-rumped Parrakeet (*Psephotus hæmatonotus*).

Publications Received.

Geelong Naturalist, The, III., No. 1, Oct., 1906.

Linnean Society N.S.W., Proc., XXXI., Part 3.

Victorian Naturalist, The, XXIII., Nos. 6, 7, 8, 1906.

Hawkesbury Agricultural College Journal, The, III., Part 12.

Zoologist, The, X., No. 118, Oct., 1906.

Biological Survey, U.S.A. Bulletin No. 26. Distribution and Migration of North American Ducks, Geese, and Swans.

Biological Survey, U.S.A. Circular No. 54.

National Association of Audubon Societies. Leaflet No. 22. The Blue Jay.

Bird, The : its Form and Function, by C. W. Beebe, Curator of Ornithology of New York Zoological Park.