

Didier. This pamphlet is a supplement to No. 82, and contains much information about this bird.

Bulletin of the National Acclimatization Society of France, 1914, 1915.

The Ibis (tenth series), vol. iv., Nos. 2, 3.

No. 2 contains a valuable article by our member, Launcelot Harrison, on bird parasites and bird phylogeny. Also, among other articles, notes "On Some New Guinea Bird Names," by G. M. Mathews, and a reply thereto by W. R. Ogilvie-Grant. In No. 3 C. P. Conigrave gives an account of the bird-life on Houtman's Abrolhos Islands, Western Australia.

The Zoologist (fourth series), vol. xx., Nos. 231-234.

Many interesting notes on European birds are in these numbers.

British Birds, vol. x., Nos. 1, 2.

An especially interesting and well-illustrated article on "The Habits of the Sparrow-Hawk" is in both these numbers.

The Journal of the South African Ornithologists' Union, vol. xi., No. 1.

A most interesting article by C. and M. Swynnerton, entitled "Birds in Relation to Their Prey," appears in this number.

Correspondence.

To the Editor of "The Emu."

SIR,—For some years I have been corresponding with a station-owner on the Lachlan River. Upon this station I knew there was a lake which in a good season was a wonderful place for water-fowl, many kinds breeding there in hundreds. In one of my letters I asked for any information of the breeding of the Blue-billed Duck (*Erismatura australis*), but received no notes upon it till March last, when the owner wrote informing me that, owing to a flood in the Lachlan last year, the lake became full, and that all sorts of water-birds bred there in hundreds. He found twenty nests of the Blue-billed Duck, some of which were placed in lignum bushes, and were composed of sticks and grass; others were placed in long grass upon islands. The nests contained from eight to fifteen eggs—mostly twelve. I thought he must have made some mistake in the identification of the bird, in spite of his having stated that he watched one nest for three hours until the owner returned and sat on the eggs. When the eggs reached me there was no further room for any doubt about their being authentic. This is another case in which that wonderful early-days ornithologist, John Gould, made a statement which many years after proved to be correct.

THOS. P. AUSTIN.

Cobbora (N.S.W.), 8th July, 1916.