

stayed longer. I heard a Pallid Cuckoo (*Cuculus pallidus*) calling on the afternoon of 29th April, very late for this species, and on 9th May no less than three Fantailed Cuckoos (*C. flabelliformis*) were trilling and whistling in the White Gums at the back of my cottage, just as in the spring. On 31st May one of this kind was again calling in the same trees, using both varieties of note.

The Bronze Cuckoos (*plagosus* and *basalis*) are seldom heard here now, and then only after arrival in spring, as they appear to like inland resorts better than coastal localities. The young of these are often quite late in leaving, although the adults seem to go about the end of February, I have noted the immature birds feeding about in short grass until well on in April. They seem to stay here a week or two, where it is less dry than inland, and capture many caterpillars and small insects on the ground; they are no doubt gaining strength for the flight across the Strait.—H. STUART DOVE, W. Devonport, Tas.

Library Notes.

By F. ERASMUS WILSON, Hon. Librarian.

The following publications have been received since the beginning of the year :—

Royal Society of Tasmania. Proceedings, 1924.

Annual Report of Smithsonian Institution, 1922.

Condor, Vol. 27 (1). "The nest and eggs of the Black Rosy Finch," by Frederic W. Miller. Even in the United States with its large band of active oologists, the nesting habits of some birds are unknown. The account of the finding of the first nest and eggs of this species on the Wapite Ridge in Wyoming at an altitude of 11,000 to 12,000 feet makes interesting reading. This bird breeds in rock crevices in very inaccessible places, and the author and his collecting companion were fortunate in securing three sets of eggs.

"A Report on the Birds of North-western Alaska and Regions Adjacent to Behring Strait." Part I., by Alfred M. Bailey.

Victorian Naturalist, Vol. 41, Nos. 9, 10, 11.

Proceedings of the Linnean Society of N.S.W., Vol. 49, Nos. 4, 5.

Queensland Naturalist, Vol. 4, No. 6. "The Blue-faced Lorileet, also called Coxen's Fig Parrakeet," by R. Illidge. Some notes on this extremely rare bird about which so very little is known.

El Hornero, Vol. III., No. 5.

Avicultural Magazine, 4th series, Vol. II., Nos. 11, 12, Vol. III., No. 1. Part 11 contains a fine coloured plate of an Indian Yellow-naped Woodpecker by Gronvold. The following items, taken from dealers price lists may be of interest as showing the value placed by British Aviculturists upon some of our aviforms :—King Parrots £10 pair, Rosellas 40s. each, Pennants Parrakeets 50s. each, Bare-eyed Cockatoos 70s. each. One dealer advertises Laughing Jackasses but does not quote prices. Part 12, "Honeyeaters," by J. Delacour.

The author notes the various species of our *Meliphagidae* that have been imported into Britain from time to time as cage birds. He enumerates sixteen species and states that *Myzantha garrula* is by far the best known in captivity. Its habitat is not confined however to South Australia, as stated by the author. A charming coloured plate accompanies this issue depicting six species of Sunbirds.

A Chapter in the History of Zoological Nomenclature, by Leonhard Stejneger (Smithsonian Miscellaneous Collections, Vol. 77, No. 1.)

South Australian Ornithologist, Vol. 8, No. 1. A most interesting number containing amongst other things the following articles of note. "Nest and eggs of *Geobasileus hedleyi rosinae*," by J. Neil McGilp. An account of the finding of the first nest and eggs of this species and descriptions of same. "Notes on the Birds of Groote Eylandt, Gulf of Carpentaria," by N. B. Tindale. Mr. Tindale gives a list accompanied by copious notes of the birds met with in this large though little known island. Many rare forms are dealt with and the paper is generally full of interest. "Birds observed at the Roper River, Northern Territory," by N. B. Tindale.

Revue Francaise d' Ornithologie, Nos. 188, 189.

Bird Lore, Vol. 26, No. 6. The Golden Doves of Fiji, by Casey A. Wood. Dr. Casey Wood, of Chicago, U.S.A., who recently spent some time amongst us, contributes an interesting paper on this beautiful species, *Chrysaena luteovirens*.

British Birds, Vol. 18, Nos. 7, 8, 9. No. 7 contains a splendid series of photographs of rookeries of the Gannet, *Sula bassana*, by H. Morrey Salmon. No. 8, "On the Nesting of the Gull-billed Tern (*Gelochelidon n. nilotica*) in the Camargue," by William E. Glegg. In this article Mr. Glegg describes his visit to a rookery situated on an island in the Rhone delta. Much interesting information is contained in the paper and his photographs are particularly fine.

Auk, Vol. 42, No. 1. "Growth, development, and reactions of young of Great Horned Owls," by Bessie P. Reed. "Ornithological work for Bird Banders," by Alfred O. Gross. A valuable paper that should be read by all who are interested in this useful branch of ornithological study. "Notes on two ground nesting birds of prey," by Chas. A. Urner. The two species dealt with in this paper are the Short-eared Owl, *Asio flammeus*, and the Marsh Hawk, *Circus hudsonius*.

Australian Zoologist, Vol. III., No. 8. "Birds of a Feather Flock . . ?" by A. H. Chisholm, C.F.A.O.U. A paper dealing with the R.A.O.U. Congress held at Rockhampton. Whilst everybody certainly has the right to express his private opinion, articles such as this tend to create bitterness and interstate jealousy amongst members of the R.A.O.U. As a member of the Union, Mr. Chisholm might well have left unsaid many of the things he has done. A considerable portion of the paper is also taken up in expressing Mr. Chisholm's views on the articles dealing with collecting that appeared in the S.A. Ornithologist, Vol. 7, Part 8. "Some Central Queensland Birds," by H. Wolstenholme. An account of the birds met with during the R.A.O.U. congress held at Rockhampton.

Some Notes on the Fregatidae. By Dr. Percy R. Lowe, ex Novitates Zoologicae, Vol. XXXI. Dr. Lowe has treated the Frigate Birds exhaustively in this paper and shows that Mathews was in error in ascribing *F. minor* to the West Indies (Jamaica). He supports Rothchild's contention that *F. minor* is an East Indian form with probable type locality at Christmas Island. A new sub-species from Raine Island is created under the name of *Fregata m. mathewsi*.

Notes and Comments.

In this number we publish a paper by Mr. A. G. Campbell containing the results of his detailed study of the Yellow-tailed Thornbill (*Geobasileus chrysorrhous*). The general results of Mr. Campbell's study of the Thornbills have been summarized by him in two papers which have already appeared in the *Emu*. The first of these entitled "*Acanthizae* or Thornbills" was published in Vol. XXII., pp. 192-199, and the second entitled "Synopsis of Species of Thornbills," in Vol. XXIII., pp. 28-30. Mr. Campbell's views on the number of species and sub-species that should be recognized differ considerably from those of Mr. G. M. Mathews, and as the Checklist Committee has followed Mr. Campbell it is obviously desirable that the facts on which Mr. Campbell bases his classification should be published. In future numbers of the *Emu* we hope to publish articles by Mr. Campbell on the other species of this interesting but perplexing group of little Australian birds.

Mr. C. L. Barrett, R.A.O.U., has been appointed Editor of the *Victorian Naturalist*, the monthly Journal and Magazine of the Field Naturalists' Club of Victoria. The *Victorian Naturalist* has long been recognized as the best journal of its class issued in Australia and we congratulate the Victorian Naturalists' Club on securing such a well-known naturalist and journalist as Mr. Barrett to act as editor. The two numbers issued since Mr. Barrett took control contain a new section entitled, "Notes from Field and Study" in which many interesting observations on natural history are recorded. It is also announced that more illustrations will appear in the journal in future than has been the case in the past.

Dr. Alexander Wetmore, Vice-President of the American Ornithologists' Union and a member of the R.A.O.U., has been appointed an Assistant Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution to have general supervision of Museum activities, including the United States National Museum, the National Gallery of Art and the National Zoological Park. All ornithologists will be gratified to learn that a worker in the science has been selected for such an important position.