

"To a Wood-Swallow." These lines are very descriptive and commence with—

Blue-black, swing-tail summer-bird

Then there is "The Friar Bird"—

Gaunt and sombre, with queer ebon poll.

There is a distinct lament connected with the stanzas "To A Lorikeet"—

Once more I am a boy of ten—
I roam about the bush again,
And mark, with pleased and curious eye
How birds build nests, and feed and fly.

But sometimes other moods hold sway—
My spirit finds another way ;
Strange a destroying thought could spring
Towards so beautiful a thing !

How many of thy joyous race
On guilty sunny holidays
Have fallen to my fatal aim !—
And yet e'en then I felt the shame.

O bird I would not shoot thee now ;
Safe art thou on the lowest bough—
Only with pleased and curious eye
I'll watch thee swing and feed and fly.

The booklet is artistically printed by Edward A. Vidler, 189 Little Collins St., Melbourne. Price 2/6.—A.J.C.

Notes and Comments.

Mr. Mark Cohn, convenor of the Migration Committee, informs us that since the annual report of the Committee was published in the October number of *the Emu*, two more members have promised to furnish reports on their observations, viz., Mr. A. S. Le Souef of Sydney and Mr. J. F. Gogerley of Wallis Lake, N.S. Wales. We would again urge members to send reports of their observations on migratory birds to Mr. Cohn.

Mr. H. L. White of Belltrees, Scone, N.S.W., has offered to the Council of the Union the sum of £50 for two years to provide suitable accommodation for the Union's headquarters in Melbourne, provided that Victorian members subscribe a like amount during a similar period.

Several members of the Union resident in N.S. Wales and Queensland took part in a camping expedition to the Capricorn Islands organised by Mr. E. F. Pollock, Hon. Sec. of the Royal Zoological Society of N.S. Wales. The party of 15 left Brisbane on Nov. 23rd for Gladstone, the nearest port to these islands. It will be interesting to learn whether any changes have occurred in the bird life of the group since the avifauna was investigated by the R.A.O.U. in October, 1910. (*Emu* X, pp. 181-204.)

The following have been enrolled as members of the R.A.O.U. since August, 1925 :—In New South Wales : Mrs. Gilchrist, Mrs. K. Cameron, Miss J. Martin and Messrs. R. Abbot, A. Borthwick, F. Buckle, Chalmers, C. W. Hook, A. F. Jones, J. Hudson, N. Laughlan, G. W. Richmond, and G. A. Smith ; in Victoria : Messrs. H. W. Bunn and F. Meyer ; in Queensland : Mrs. T. W. Bouchard, Mr. J. J. Kileen ; in New Zealand : Mr. L. W. McCaskill ; in Belgium : Dr. Bruno Luig. The following members have resigned : In N.S. Wales : Mr. G. H. Hardie ; in Victoria : Mr. E. A. Harber ; in the United States : Mr. L. L. Redick.

The *Norsk Ornithologisk Tidsskrift* published by the Stavanger Museum, Norway, has been added to the list of ornithological journals received by the Union in exchange for *the Emu*.

Mr. P. A. Gilbert resigned his membership of the Council in August. This left the State of New South Wales without any direct representative until the Annual Meeting when new members of Council from that State were elected.

A letter has been forwarded to the Hon. the Chief Secretary of Victoria informing him that the Victorian members of the Council of the R.A.O.U. approve of the Amending Game Bill recently introduced into Parliament and urging its speedy passage.

The following motion, proposed by Mr. R. T. Littlejohns and seconded by Mr. A. H. E. Mattingley has been carried by the Council: "That the Council of this Union urges the Governments of all the States to introduce legislation prohibiting the use of live birds for trap shooting."

The editor intends to visit England during the present year and has been granted leave of absence by the Council. Mr. A. H. Chisholm will act as editor during his absence, and until further notice all contributions for *The Emu* should be addressed to him at the "Daily Telegraph" Office, Sydney.

Contributors are requested where possible to send articles in type or at least to write clearly and to print all scientific names.

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