

Bird Protection in New Zealand.—It is the policy of the Authorities in New Zealand to issue no permits to collectors resident outside the Dominion. Further, no permits are granted to take birds on sanctuaries, except for very special purposes, such as transferring a species to another sanctuary or locality. When any skins are granted to outsiders, it is the policy of the controlling department to collect these themselves for the applicant. This policy has been adopted as most fitting after past experience. Stewart Island is nearly all sanctuary. Fines in New Zealand are very heavy for shooting rare native birds.—E. V. SANDERSON, Hon. Secretary, N.Z. Native Bird Protection Society.

Deception Among Birds. — For the information of your correspondent, Mr. Otho Webb, R.A.O.U., not once only but many times have I been amused by the efforts of a panting oarsman to catch the black duck, which was "moulting, and cannot fly," but which, after floundering along for a few hundred yards just out of reach, rose easily aloft and winged its way back (but never directly, be it noted, always by a round-about way) to its nest. Surely there cannot be any possible doubt of this kind of deception among birds being purposive and protective in object.—J. MURRAY ANDERSON.

Snowy Albatross in Tasmania.—A specimen of the Snowy Albatross (*Diomedea chionoptera*) was forwarded to the Tasmanian Museum on March 27th, 1928. The bird was found dead at Eaglehawk Neck by Miss J. A. Fletcher, R.A.O.U.

News and Notes

Editor of the Emu.—On account of ill-health, Mr. A. H. Chisholm, C.F.A.O.U., tendered his resignation as Hon. Editor. In accepting this with sincere regret, the Council expressed appreciation of the work done by Mr. Chisholm, and hoped that his approaching visit to Queensland will assist in the complete restoration of his health.

Foundation of an Advisory Council for Fauna and Flora.—Those interested in the preservation of the unique fauna and flora of Australia will be pleased to know that, after a long period of agitation, the Chief Secretary, Hon. G. M. Prendergast, M.L.A., has constituted the Victorian Advisory Council for Fauna and Flora. This consists of two representatives from each of the following seven societies:—The Royal Australasian Ornithologists' Union, The Bird Observers' Club of Victoria, The Field Naturalists' Club of Victoria, The Royal Zoological and Acclimatisation Society of Victoria, The Gun Clubs' Association, The Sporting Dogs' Club, and The Game Protection Society of Victoria. Dr. J. A. Leach was elected Chairman and Mr. N. Arnold, Hon. Secretary.

Coloured Plates.—Mr. Neville Cayley, M.B.O.U., after providing many paintings of Australian birds as originals from which the blocks for the coloured plates have been prepared, has been forced by pressure of work to notify the Council that he cannot continue to provide paintings. The Council ordered the inclusion in the minutes of a permanent record of its great appreciation of the high value of the service rendered by Mr. Cayley during many years past.

Meetings of Council of R.A.O.U.

The March meeting was held on Tuesday, the 13th. Mr. J. A. Ross occupied the chair.

In view of the proposal to hold the 1928 Congress in New Zealand, Mr. W. R. B. Oliver wrote supplying information as to a site for camp-out and the tentative arrangements for Congress. Since the previous meeting, however, it had been learned that the Articles provide for the holding of the annual Congress in an Australian State, and it was, therefore, necessary to defer the proposal to meet in New Zealand. In the meantime, Messrs. Chisholm and Wolstenholme will be asked to consider this amongst other matters when submitting proposals for amendment of the Articles. Regret was expressed that disappointment may have been caused to members in the Dominion.

The Chief Inspector of Fisheries and Game (Vic.) wrote acknowledging the valuable report submitted by Mr. A. G. Campbell regarding the Mutton-bird rookeries on Phillip Island. A resolution was carried thanking Mrs. Lambert for the gift of a very fine cabinet of microscopic slides of embryos.

Considerable time was devoted to correspondence in connection with the presidential address and the editorial footnotes published in *The Emu*. A resolution directing that footnotes be devoted, in future, to matters of fact was passed by a large majority. A resolution affirming the Council's opposition to collecting in schools was also passed. It was felt that the incident should be closed, and it was decided, on the advice of a majority of the members of the Printing Committee, not to print a further communication regarding the matter.

At the April meeting Dr. Leach occupied the chair. Further reference was made to the editorial footnotes which appeared in the January *Emu*. Some Interstate members asked that the Council should publish a disclaimer of the footnotes referred to. It was decided that no further action be taken.