

tion is the result of five ornithological trips by the authors to the localities dealt with, during which 20,000 specimens were collected.

Maps are included, and from these also the importance of the area, in its relation to the Australian region and in connecting Malaysia and China, is apparent. An historical account of the exploration of Indo-China, geographical notes and a bibliography precede the ornithological treatise. Each bird is dealt with under the headings of description, measurements, habits and distribution. Synonymy is included. When it is considered that the authors claim to have discovered 125 forms new to science and 205 new to the avifauna of the locality, it will be recognized that this publication under review is indeed a notable contribution to ornithological literature and knowledge.

The work was published in connection with the Exposition Coloniale Internationale, Paris, 1931.—C.E.B.

Report of Bird Observers Club

The Club visited Toolern Vale on September 4. Nests were numerous, and members had a good day's outing in pleasant surroundings. Stubble Quail were noted with young chicks.

The October outing was held at Castlemaine. Two old pupils of the Barker's Creek State School, formerly under the control of Mr. H. A. C. Leach, R.A.O.U., showed the members where a number of species were nesting, and proved that they had a good knowledge of the local birds.

On November 6 the outing was to South Morang. Amongst other nests the Rufous Whistler's was observed, and the change of shifts between the sexes for incubating was watched. The leader had prepared his route so that objects of interest were found without being sought by the other members. Although the weather was uncertain, the day ended with the calling of a good list of species.

The October meeting was an open night, six members reading short papers, which proved successful in providing an interesting evening. The innovation of encouraging younger writers (with a sprinkling of more experienced observers) should result in further similar efforts being included in the syllabus.

At the November meeting the "Birds of Wilson's Promontory" were reviewed by Mrs. Blanche E. Miller, R.A.O.U. The published lists from various sources were critically examined and combined with her own observations during four visits. The result was a graceful contribution to our knowledge of the National Park. The census now stands at 132 species, besides a doubtful list.

At the Museum meeting for November Mr. Campbell dealt with the related birds of eastern and western Australia, and with various other groups such as those found in east and west and not in Tasmania. Mr. Campbell pointed out that only three of the birds common to Australia and Tasmania had no representative in the west; no reference to their ancestors had been traced. The meetings for the season were duly concluded with hearty appreciation of Mr. Campbell's painstaking lectures and his preparation of species keys. The courtesy of the Director in making special provision for Club visits was also acknowledged.