

The member of the staff of the Queensland Museum, who accompanied the party from the Archbold 'Expedition,' in Cape York Peninsula, returned to Brisbane in September, 1949. He was away for about four and a half months, and returned with one of the finest single collections ever obtained in the time for an Australian museum. It contained a number of the birds restricted to Cape York Peninsula, and a number of distinct northern forms of well-known birds of the area.

A report from P. V. Maloney shows that the Rockhampton Association is carrying out a vigorous policy of bird protection. Shooting and trapping in the close season are being kept down. The government extended the close season for wild fowl, etc., to July 31 this year in no. 2 district. The cyclone rains in March brought about an early breeding season, and an extension of the close season saved hundreds of young birds from being destroyed. The Association now receives a small government subsidy for advertising purposes, which enables it to advertise more frequently. The Association is as keen as ever in fostering bird protection and has some good honorary rangers. The government has no fauna protector now stationed in Rockhampton, so all the work is done in an honorary capacity.

G. H. BARKER,

Branch Secretary.

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**A Flightless Australian Dotterel.**—Birds having some serious physical abnormality may be expected to be eliminated early in the struggle for survival. Yet a few such individuals may possibly grow to maturity, judging from the somewhat comparable cases of wild birds known to have survived the loss of flight through injury to a wing.

Wilhelm Meise (*Mitteilungen des Vereins Sächsischer Ornithologen*, 5 (4), 166, 1937) writing on a flightless Moorhen (*Gallinula chloropus*), describes a bird which had evidently lost one wing through an accident, probably a gun-shot wound, there being only a stub of the left humerus present. An adult Australian Dotterel (*Peltohyas australis*) captured by me east of Sutherlands, S.A., possessed only one wing. The right wing was absent, there being merely a tiny stub in place of the humerus. It seemed that the bird was born so, for there was no scar to indicate that some form of amputation had occurred. The bird seemed quite healthy, and my attention was drawn to it by its remaining on the ground when a flock of the same species flew away from the spot.—E. F. BOEHM, Sutherlands, S.A., 1/2/50.