

## Report of the Checklist Committee

In presenting this Eighth Supplement to the *Official Checklist of the Birds of Australia*, 2nd edn., the committee follows the procedure adopted in previous supplements of—

- (a) bringing the Australian List up to date by adding records of further species,
- (b) correcting or amending details of occurrence and distribution,
- (c) making nomenclatural changes in the light of recent published findings,
- (d) adopting taxonomic recommendations by different workers wherever these have gained the approval of Australian ornithologists,
- (e) avoiding any changes which may be of a controversial nature.

It will be noted that four additional species have been added and that each has been given a number to indicate its place in the List, ten casual visitors are indicated by an asterisk, twelve forms previously regarded as full species have been reduced to subspecies, and one additional form has been given specific status. The total number of species, excluding casual visitors, recognized on the Australian List, has therefore been further reduced from 702 to 695. Foreign birds which have become established are not included in this number.

Dr. J. A. Keast was appointed a member of the Committee by Council in 1956 (Council minutes, 17/1/1956); Dr. D. L. Serventy has accepted an invitation to rejoin the Committee (minutes, 17/2/1959); Mr. W. B. Hitchcock has resigned.

The Hon. General Secretary has announced that stocks of the second edition of the Checklist were exhausted last November, and that publication is now out of print. The Checklist Committee is considering suggestions as to the form the new edition should take. No definite date can be given for the appearance of the third edition, but it is expected that at least two years will be needed to complete the work.

The Seventh Supplement appeared in *The Emu*, vol. 55, pp. 187-190.

H. T. CONDON,  
Convener and Secretary.

Other members of Committee: C. E. Bryant, R. A. Falla, J. A. Keast, A. R. McGill, D. L. Serventy.