

Parrot (*P. hæmatonotus*), and the Many-coloured Parrot (*P. multicolor*). Mr. J. W. Mellor exhibited a freak of nature—a domestic chicken that had been hatched with four well-developed legs. It was resolved to study a portion of the Hawk family at the next monthly meeting.

Notes and Notices.

Erratum.—Launceston Session, second day (*Emu*, vol. xii., p. 143).—Obviously "17th November" should read "18th November," the former date being Sunday.

Treasurer's Note.—The hon. treasurer again desires to remind members that subscriptions, being payable in advance, are now due, and he will be glad to receive any for the current year; also payment for the extra part last year ("Check-list," 2s. 6d.) where still owing.

Honours for Members of the R.A.O.U.—Dr. T. Harvey Johnston, Lecturer in Biology in the University of Brisbane, for his work on the animal parasites of Australia, has been awarded the David Syme Research Prize by the Council of the University of Melbourne. Dr. Johnston has published a number of papers on different parasites, and before his removal to Brisbane last year was on the staff of the New South Wales Bureau of Microbiology. The prize is open, with a few reservations, to Australia, and is for the encouragement of original research.

Mr. C. Fenner, amongst other distinctions, at the University of Melbourne, was awarded the Kernot Research Prize for Geology.

Mr. Brooke Nicholls, the hon. press correspondent of the Union, has passed his examinations for the Doctrate of Dental Science (D.D.Sc.) This is the first occasion this degree has been granted by the University of Melbourne. Dr. Nicholls is congratulated accordingly, and is deserving of every success.

Mock-Latin Names.—The following is taken from *The Yorkshire Weekly Post*, 11/1/13, and, if the word "ornithological" be substituted for "entomological," the subject may possibly apply, in these latter days, to any enlightened country, save, of course, to the Commonwealth:—

"Mr. H. B. Brown gave a lecture 'On Entomological Names.' He characterized his address as 'a jeremiad'—a tale of lamentation and of woe—concerning the dire confusion and chaos into which men who call themselves Scientists (with a capital S) have brought the study of insect-life by their ill-considered and unrestrained invention of countless mock-Latin names. An obvious disadvantage in the use of vernacular names is their instability. A second and greater disadvantage in the use of all such names is their uselessness in all countries except that which gave them birth. Many, in fact most, of our English popular names are untranslatable. The invention of a convenient method of naming insects constitutes our debt to the great Swedish scientist, Karl Linné. The Linnean system was a binomial system. On many of the absurdities which certain entomologists have introduced the lecturer made a brilliant onslaught, and gave examples of the most extravagant instances. Here, in the industrial north, we have for our keenest field-workers men of the so-called 'working class,' men who are splendid observers in the field and keen lovers of nature, but men to

whom the long, meaningless, mock-Latin names that are now hourly invented must be anathema. If in our day the science of entomology can be advanced only by the invention of names for every freak that is found to exist naturally, or that can be manufactured in our breeding-cages, then the simple pleasure that our forefathers derived from its pursuit cannot be ours, and the day will surely come when entomology, as a hobby for the jaded 'men of toil,' will be a thing of the past."

The Wild Life Preservation Society of Australia.—A society formed four years ago, which has done active work since its inception towards securing protection for the native fauna, has recently endeavoured to secure the entire protection of the Black Swans, as has been done in the case of the Brush and Plain Turkeys in New South Wales; but this object has not yet been attained. After repeated representations to the State authorities, the opossum has been entirely protected up to 1924. Notwithstanding such protection, the export of opossum skins still goes on. Representations have therefore been made to the State authorities and to the Minister for Trade and Customs with the object of stopping the exportation of these skins. It is believed were it not for the export trade the destruction of these animals would cease. The Society has reason to believe that its representations in this direction will shortly have a satisfactory result. Already the exportation of Emu skins is prohibited, although the Emu is not, like the opossum, entirely protected. Whether other States will fall into line with New South Wales remains to be seen. In Queensland a very systematic and inhuman slaughter goes on in the interest of the opossum skin trade, the methods of trapping being very barbarous.

The prohibition of the importation of certain plumage appears to be inequitably enforced in the various States, every case of these goods being opened by the New South Wales Customs, whilst there is every indication that in some of the States great laxity in this respect exists. This fact has been brought directly under the notice of the Minister for Trade and Customs, who has been good enough to intimate that inquiries are being made. The question of the close season for Wild Ducks has been raised by a correspondent of the Society, and the desirability of having a different season in the various localities has been (not for the first time) discussed.

In a Consular report received from the late Vice Consul-General in New South Wales for the U.S.A., Mr. Baker, prominence is given to the closing of the market in Australia to imported plumage of certain kinds. Mr. H. D. Baker, who is now Consul for U.S.A. at Nassau, the Bahamas, is a member of the Wild Life Preservation Society of Australia, and an enthusiast on bird protection. The Wild Life Preservation Society of Australia at its last two functions employed cinematograph pictures of a very interesting and instructive character, which have been much appreciated by all present.

The annual subscription of the Society is 5s., and the hon. secretary is Mr. Arthur W. Atkinson, "Whare-Ona," Manly, New South Wales.