

insects, fruit, and honey. Insects and honey are not sufficient to support a large population, and much of the fruit which is eaten by the Starlings and Bulbuls is unavailable to the Silvereye. His numbers are, therefore, in the Gardens, below that of the other two species which I have mentioned. But in the Bush he is able to occupy, by reason of his food supply, territory which these other birds cannot inhabit.

A corresponding analysis can be made for each species of bird if one collects sufficient data, and it can generally be shown that the number of birds is governed by their food supply. In the Gardens natural checks to an increase in population do not occur to any great extent, but in the field they sometimes play an important part. In another article I intend to deal with some of these checks.

The area which I have dealt with comprises 101 acres, and to the general public is known as the Sydney Botanical Gardens, although to the authorities this includes portion of the Inner Domain.

The late Mr. G. Weindorfer.—It was with deep regret that I heard of the untimely decease of Mr. G. Weindorfer, of Cradle Valley, Tas. A friend of many years' standing, he generally called on me for a chat on subjects of mutual interest when he came down from the highlands, and I had been expecting to see him this month, before he went over to Melbourne on a lecturing tour. Although botany and geology were Mr. Weindorfer's main studies, he yet took a great interest in native birds of his domain, and was very pleased with the "Glimpses of Bird-life in Cradle Valley," which appeared in *The Emu* in 1929. I shall not readily forget the entertainment afforded by a pair of Black "Jays" (*Strepera fuliginosa*), which used to come foraging, in their quaint way, about the kitchen-door at "Waldheim" for any scraps thrown out, and which were as tame as domestic fowls. These "Jays" used to nest in the forest adjoining "Waldheim," and their ringing calls at dawn were the first sounds to break upon the ear. I feel sure that they will miss their friend and protector as much as we shall. It is only a little over two months ago that I met Mr. Weindorfer on the hill above the junction of the Forth and Wilmot Rivers, and thought that he had never looked in more robust health during the many years of friendship. His place, both as genial host and protector of wild life, will be exceptionally hard to replace.—H. STUART DOVE, R.A.O.U., West Devonport, Tas.