

## Obituary

A. G. KILPATRICK

Mr. Alan G. Kilpatrick, a Western Australian member of the Union, died under tragic circumstances on February 18, 1943. In 1939 he joined up in the 2nd/11th Battalion, and left for the Middle East as a sergeant in the 1st W.A. Contingent in April, 1940, serving in Libya, Greece and Crete. He was severely injured and reported missing during the fighting in Crete, but afterwards reached Egypt in a small boat. He returned to Perth in April, 1942, where he remained in a military hospital for some time, eventually being transferred to the intelligence branch. When the 9th Division returned from overseas he volunteered for despatch riding and was fatally injured the same day in a collision with another motor cyclist on the Fremantle wharf.

He was born on February 28, 1916, and from a small lad had been interested in natural history, particularly birds. He was 13 when he published his first article on the subject and was only 16 when his paper on Rottneest Island birds appeared in *The Emu* (vol. xxxii, 1932, p. 30). He continued his ornithological studies whilst overseas with the A.I.F. and was engaged in an investigation on the birds of King's Park at the time of his death.—D.L.S.

## Correspondence

THE LAMBERT DRAWINGS AND *Turdus volitans*

To the Editor,

Sir,

With reference to Dr. Serventy's letter in *The Emu*, XLII, pt. 4, 1943, p. 254, one point raised is—Is an opinion a Rule or merely an opinion? They are, I think, Opinions not Rules, and many apply to a particular case and as such apply to that particular case only.

Opinion 88 is definitely an opinion on *Otarion diffractum* vs. *Cyphaspis burmeisteri* only, and therefore has no general application as given to it by Dr. Serventy.

Most ornithologists have by usage decided that where an ornithological name is based on more than one species it shall be considered as indeterminate.

That is undoubtedly the correct procedure: otherwise there can be no end to arguments as to which of the characters given are to be adopted and *vice versa*, but each case must be considered on the available evidence.

Yours, etc.

London,  
July 14, 1943.

C. H. B. GRANT.

The date of publication was January 6, 1944.