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A Problem Warbler.—Whilst bird-banding on November 16, 1966 on the shores of Moreton Bay, a warbler of unknown identity was netted. The bird much resembled a Mangrove Warbler, *Gerygone cantator*, which is a common bird in the area; but it was strikingly different in that it had much yellow about the face. Full details were recorded from the bird in the hand before release.

Reference later to Mathews' *Birds of Australia* Volume 8 showed, on Plate 84, a good illustration of the Mangrove Warbler, with a full description of the adult made on page 162. This is followed by the statements "Adult Female. Similar to Adult Male" and "Immature. Practically the same as Adult". Nowhere in these illustrations and descriptions is there any mention of yellow. It seemed that the likeness to the Mangrove Warbler might be mere coincidence.

However, on checking back further it was found that in *Emu* 9: 26, Weatherill, who first described the Mangrove Warbler, sets out particulars of *Pseudogerygone cantator* sp. nov. He there gives a seventeen line description of the Adult, then goes on "Young have the eyering, a line above the eye, lores, feathers below the eye, and the edges of the primaries and secondaries sulphur yellow."

Mr Don Vernon of the Queensland Museum kindly looked out for me the relevant skins put into that Museum by Weatherill about the time of his *Emu* publication. One of these skins, labelled Juvenile Male, shows the yellow face as described by him; its length was measured as 110 mm. and its tarsus 17 mm. Consideration of these facts, together with my Field Notes, made it clear that the unidentified bird netted was simply another example of the Mangrove Warbler in juvenile plumage. My Field Book shows for my 1966 specimen, length 115 mm., wingspan 180; tarsus 18, bill 8; weight 7 grammes.

It is difficult to understand why Mathews, who refers to Weatherill's *Emu* article, makes no mention of the yellow of the juvenile plumage of the Mangrove Warbler.

The confusing yellow of this juvenile is reminiscent of that of the Little Friar-bird, *Philemon citreogularis*. In this latter case the juvenile yellow throat has left a lasting confusion in the "citreogularis" of the specific name. North in his *Nests and Eggs* Volume 2, on page 174, states "The original description of *Philemon citreogularis* was taken from a young bird obtained in New South Wales. As Gould pointed out later in his folio edition of *The Birds of*

Australia, "the yellow colouring of the throat is peculiar to the period of immaturity and is entirely absent in the Adult."—J. S. ROBERTSON, Wellington Point, Queensland.

OBITUARY

Mr. R. C. HARVEY

A link with the pioneering days of nature photography in Australia was severed when Robert Christie Harvey died at Blackheath, N.S.W., on September 5, 1966. He was aged 77 years. His brother and co-worker, W. G. Harvey, died in 1961.

The brothers Harvey first came to ornithological notice rather more than fifty years ago, in which period they were living near Mackay, Queensland. Although busy farmers, they had devoted considerable time to the photography of birds and plants, and their results were quite impressive. A little later, when I was Queensland Secretary of the R.A.O.U. and an officer of the Gould League, they assisted me heartily with material for the Bird Day issues of the *State School Paper*, and in 1919 they were persuaded to publish in *The Emu* (vol. 19, pp. 34-42) "Bird Notes from Mackay", an informative article illustrated with fourteen photographs.

Some 25 years ago, R. C. Harvey and his wife moved from North Queensland to the loftiest part of the Blue Mountains of N.S.W. (their son was engaged in engineering at neighbouring Lithgow), and, being philosophic and good-natured, they eventually became reconciled to the sharp contrast in climate. Indeed, Mrs Harvey, herself skilled with a camera, rather enjoyed photographing snow scenes from a household window; and between while she engaged in specialized school-teaching.

All the negatives made in North Queensland, after being carefully safeguarded during wartime, were ultimately transferred to Blackheath. They number about 1400. Such a large figure, for material of quality and historical value, makes them of course a notable collection; and thus (at time of writing) arrangements are being made to have them acquired by the National Library, Canberra, which institution already holds several similar collections, including the negatives of S. W. Jackson.

It is hoped that Mrs Harvey and her son will be, to some extent, solaced for their loss in the knowledge that the admirable work of the Harvey brothers will become and remain a national possession.

A. H. CHISHOLM