

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