

## Obituary

JOHN CROSS, B.A., Hon. Sec., R.A.O.U.

The R.A.O.U. has suffered a sad loss in the unexpected death of the Hon. Gen. Sec., Mr. John Cross, B.A. Mr. Cross, a true lover of nature, birds, and all that was pure and good, though a member of some years' standing, took office only last year, on his retirement from the position of Senior Inspector of schools. He conducted the business of the Tasmanian Annual Congress in fine style.

He took ill in church on Sunday, was operated on at midnight, but sank and died at 7 a.m. on Monday, June 23rd. His place will indeed be difficult to fill.

One of the best and most lovable of men.

## Notes

Latest advice from Queensland members, in whose hands the arrangements have been placed, fixes the week beginning October 13th for the Congress. The party will leave Brisbane on Monday, October 13th. The Congress will begin at Rockhampton on October 15th, the chair being taken by His Excellency the Governor of Queensland, Sir Matthew Nathan. Members who intend to be present should notify the Secretary in order that notice of the final arrangements may be sent to them later. The camp-out is proposed for Keppel Island and Yeppoon.

"Journey to Central Australia," by F. L. Whitlock, *The Emu*, XXIII., page 248. Specimens of the following species, not indicated by a dagger (see footnote, page 254) were obtained:—*Lophophaps plumifera leucogaster*, *Barnardius zonarius occidentalis*, *Psephotus varius*, *Aphelocephala castaneiventris*, *Megalurus gramineus*, *Lacustroica whitei*, *Stigmatops indistincta*, *Meliphaga penicillata*, *Chlamydera guttata*, and *Corvus cecillae*.

The suggestion has been made and approved by the Council of the R.A.O.U., that the Lyre-bird should be introduced into Tasmania, where it would be free from molestation by foxes. It is also thought desirable that Victorian birds be obtained, as the difficulties of transport and acclimatisation would be less serious. Members suitably situated are asked to communicate with the Secretary if they consider that they would be able to procure a pair or two of the birds, unharmed, for the purpose mentioned.

We are pleased to note the election of Gregory M. Mathews, R.A.O.U. as Vice-President, British Ornithologists' Union.

Mr. Robert Hall, C.M.B.O.U., Sometime President R.A.O.U., has been elected an Honorary Fellow of the American Ornithologists' Union, and Mr. W. R. Oliver, of Wellington, N.Z., has been elected a Corresponding Fellow.

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