

REFERENCES

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Concerning the Golden Bower-bird.—When preparing a bibliography of writings on the Golden Bower-bird for the paper by Norman Chaffer and myself (*Emu*, vol. 56, pt. 1, 1956), I was not aware that S. W. Jackson had written on the species in the *Sydney Morning Herald*, under date February 13, 1932. However, since Jackson had little personal knowledge of the subject (when visiting the Atherton Tableland in 1908 he failed to see the living bird, and his experience of the bower was limited to one example which George Sharp showed him), it was not to be expected that his newspaper item would be of any importance.

Examination recently showed that the article is in fact merely sketchy, but that it contains one note additional to what its author wrote in the *Emu* in June 1909. After stating that the bower which he saw carried lichen, berries, and open pods with black seeds, he mentions that near the structure, and in other places in the jungle, he observed numerous sticks and leaves firmly cemented together, and he adds that this was brought about by a peculiar glutinous fungus, which "runs and grows over everything" and when dry has the effect of sticking objects together.

It may be recalled that reference to this curious occurrence was made by Chaffer on p. 21 of our article. He said there that when visiting a Golden Bower-bird's bower he saw many sticks stuck together, both at the base of the structure and on trees, and, after first getting the impression that the bird had deliberately used some adhesive substance, he found on close inspection that an inconspicuous fungus was responsible.

It is rather odd that Jackson did not allude to the 'cementing' fungus in his *Emu* article, and yet had it still in mind over twenty years later. Had he mentioned the matter at the proper time the reference would have been useful.—A. H. CHISHOLM, Sydney, N.S.W., 26/1/57.