

the development of public opinion in this regard. Through this development, as well as through his writings and pictures, his work will live on indefinitely.

As noted earlier, Ray Littlejohns married Doris Lawrence in 1919. His wife survives him, together with a daughter, Nancy, and to both of them the R.A.O.U. extends its warmest sympathy.

D. J. D.—A. H. C.

## Review

**Some Bush Birds of Australia**, by Allen Keast, pp. 131, five coloured plates, numerous black and white illustrations, 1960, Jacaranda Press, price 12/6.

This is one of a series of seventeen or more small (5½ x 4 in.) pocket guides to be issued by the publishers, Elizabeth St., Brisbane, Queensland, all dealing with various branches of Natural History. Five have already been published, and among those contemplated is one covering "Birds of the Sea and Swamps". Dr. Keast has succeeded in condensing much information covering as many species as permissible within the covers of this small pocket field guide. The general arrangement is to give a current outline of a genus, group or family, followed by the range, general notes, breeding and description of usually the most prominent species of that group, which is mostly illustrated, and a brief summary of related species. As the author states, the book is "slightly biased towards eastern Australia".

Introductory Notes (included in which is some sound advice in "Steps to Bird Identification") covers the first eleven pages, and a "Brief Colour Key" occupies the final eleven pages. Although primarily written to aid those requiring assistance in the earlier stages of ornithological field-study, this small book contains much valuable information and is recommended to all.—A. R. M.

## News and Notes

### REVIEW POLICY

For some time the question of reviewing books in *The Emu* has been under discussion by the Council and the matter was finally referred to the Library Committee.

The following extracts from the minutes of the Council are given for the information of members.

The Library Committee submitted a report and a recommendation regarding the reviewing of books in *The Emu*.

"Review Policy: The Library Committee (Messrs. R. P. Cooper, D. J. Dickison and A. R. McEvey) has considered the various aspects of reviews of books and journals dealing with ornithology for publication in *The Emu*. Briefly there are two main angles to be considered.

1. Review all books and journals, irrespective of ownership of the books, so as to acquaint members with the literature which is being published.

2. Review only those books and journals that are sent to the Union, or one of its Officers on its behalf, for review and which are finally placed in the Union's library.

"When considering these two angles the Committee was of the opinion that, although it may be desirable to review all literature on the subject matter, it would not be practicable. No person or persons could expect to see that all publications were reviewed, thus at the very best the list would be only partly comprehensive. At the same time the cost of printing would be out of all proportion to the benefit gained by the general members. The publishers of the various books would soon become aware that their publications would be automatically reviewed in *The Emu*, and thus refrain from sending a copy of their book to the Union. Consequently we would be obliged to purchase a copy of the book if it was wanted for the library although we had already incurred the cost of the review.

"The Committee accordingly submits the following recommendation to Council:—

"Books and journals that are sent to the Union for review, and which are to be retained by the Union and placed in its library, are to be the only reviews that are published in *The Emu*, with the exception of books and journals, or extracts therefrom, that are written in a foreign language, and which contain items of interest to Australian ornithology, and which would be of little value, due to the language, to members generally.—R. P. Cooper."

A motion that the recommendation of the Library Committee be adopted was then moved and, after one of the largest polls that has been recorded from interstate and local members, it was carried with only one dissenter.

Accordingly all books that are reviewed in *The Emu* will subsequently be placed in the library and will be available to members on loan.—R.P.C.

#### NEW APPOINTMENT — C.S.I.R.O.

Mr. H. J. Frith, one of our members, has been appointed recently as Officer-in-Charge, Wildlife Survey Section of the C.S.I.R.O.

Mr. Frith, who has been associated with the C.S.I.R.O. for many years, is well known in wildlife circles, especially for his work on the Mallee-Fowl and the ducks. An article written by him in collaboration with Mr. S. J. J. F. Davies on the "Breeding Season of Ducks in Subcoastal Northern Territory", appears in this issue.

The Council has written to Mr. Frith conveying to him the congratulations of the Union on his appointment.

#### G. M. MATHEWS *Birds of Australia*

A complete set of G. M. Mathews *Birds of Australia*, unbound, is available for sale. Any member desirous of purchasing this set should contact Mr. J. R. Officer, 3 Avenel Road, Kooyong, Victoria.

## HOLDERS OF OVERSEAS HONOURS

Following the death of Mr. C. E. Bryant, the number of Australian residents holding an honour from the American Ornithologists' Union is five and from the British Ornithologists' Union one. Those possessing the award of Corresponding Fellow of the A.O.U. are Messrs. T. Iredale (1918), A. H. Chisholm (1922), K. A. Hindwood (1938), Dr. D. L. Serventy (1949), and Prof. A. J. Marshall (1955). The sole Australian holder of the C.M.B.O.U. is Mr. Chisholm (1939). These figures are somewhat below those of other years, when senior Australian ornithologists—among them A. J. Campbell, R. Hall, A. J. North, W. V. Legge, J. A. Leach, H. L. White, S. A. White, E. A. Ashby, A. H. Mattingley, and W. D. Macgillivray—were on the honours list of either the A.O.U. or the B.O.U., or (in some instances) both lists.—A.H.C.

## ANNUAL CONGRESS AND FIELD-OUTING, 1961

Members are reminded that the Annual Congress and Field-outing for 1961 will be held at Grafton, New South Wales, from Sunday, October 1 to Saturday, October 14, 1961. Full details of the area and accommodation were given in Part I.

Those members who propose to attend the Field-outing and who have not booked are advised to do so as soon as possible, as accommodation will be reserved in strict order of booking, and late-comers may have to accept alternative accommodation.

It would be advisable to make your arrangements direct with Mr. Noel Burnett, 11 Kelly Street, South Grafton, 3.C., New South Wales, enclosing a deposit of £5 for each person with your application.

HONORARY EDITOR OF *The Emu*

During the early part of 1960, the rapid decline in the health of the late Honorary Editor, after 30 years in office, created an emergency regarding the publication of *The Emu*.

While this state existed every effort was made to maintain a regular issue of the journal, until the problem could be overcome by the appointment of a new Honorary Editor who could act for many years to come. A nomination has now been received from one who is capable of fulfilling this position, and it will be placed before the 1961 Congress for acceptance.

This part, therefore, will be the last issue with which I will be actively associated and I would like to record my thanks to those members of the Union who helped me to maintain the publication of *The Emu* during the past 12 months.

—Roy P. Cooper.

## PRICES OF THE BACK ISSUES OF "THE EMU" IN STOCK

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18	×	×	×	3/-	—
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28	×	4/-	4/-	4/-	—
31	×	4/-	5/-	3/-	—
32	3/-	3/-	2/-	2/-	—
33	2/-	2/-	2/-	2/-	—
34	3/-	7/6	4/-	3/-	—
35	3/-	4/-	4/-	4/-	—
38	×	6/-	×	×	×
40	×	×	×	4/-	4/-
41	×	×	4/-	3/-	—
42	4/-	3/-	3/-	3/-	—
43	7/6	3/-	7/6	5/-	—
44	×	×	×	4/-	—
46	×	×	×	×	3/-
47	5/-	×	5/-	×	×
48	4/-	4/-	2/-	5/-	—
49	×	6/-	×	3/-	—
50	4/-	3/-	4/-	3/-	—
51	×	×	2/-	—	—
52	×	3/-	3/-	3/-	—
53	4/-	×	×	2/-	—
54	×	2/-	2/-	5/-	—
55	6/-	2/-	2/-	2/-	—
56	2/-	3/-	2/-	3/-	2/-
57	7/6	7/6	7/6	7/6	7/6
58	7/6	7/6	7/6	7/6	7/6
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