

of Mrs. Gould's eldest brother, Henry Holman Coxen. Young Henry Coxen (who was aged 14 years when he reached Tasmania with the Goulds) became, in later years, a prosperous pastoralist in Queensland, intermittently spending several years in England, and lived on until he reached the age of 92 years in 1915.

Major-General Coxen began his career with the Department of Railways in Queensland, but joined the permanent forces, R.A.A., in 1895. During World War I he served with the A.I.F. and in the battle that began on August 8, 1915, he commanded the greatest aggregation of artillery in the history of war. Later (1930-31) he was Chief of the General Staff in Australia. Throughout his life he retained interest in ornithology and pride in the achievements of his ancestral relatives.—A.H.C.

Mr. Neville W. Cayley died on March 17, 1950. An obituary notice will appear later.

Correspondence

THE SENEGAL DOVE

To the Editor,
Sir,

In the January issue of *The Emu*, page 191, Mr. Harold Tarr refers to my report, some time ago, that the Senegal Dove (*Streptopelia senegalensis*) was in the Toowoomba district. I find that I have to correct the previous information that I had of the identity of the Toowoomba bird.

In a letter from Mr. George Mack dated July 29, 1949, he describes the Java Dove (*Streptopelia chinensis tigrina*) and its call, 'coorpooroo-kuk.' I am satisfied that the bird so common about Toowoomba is the Java Dove.

Yours, etc.,

Murphy's Creek, Q'land.
March 11, 1950.

E. A. R. LORD.

A MATTER OF ACKNOWLEDGMENT

To the Editor,
Sir,

In his article on 'The Distribution of Foreign Birds in Australia' (*The Emu*, vol. 49, p. 189), Mr. H. E. Tarr expresses his gratitude to me, among others, for the use of my field notes. Lest there be any misunderstanding, I wish to inform your readers that I have never supplied Mr. Tarr with any field notes on the subject, and therefore

cannot qualify for his gratitude. The matter he attributes to me personally appears to have been copied by him out of the *Handbook of the Birds of Western Australia* by Major Whittell and myself. It is to this work that rightful acknowledgment should have been made.

Yours, etc.,

D. L. SERVENTY.

Nedlands, W.A.

March 3, 1950.

ORNITHOLOGY IN AUSTRALIA

To the Editor,

Sir,

Bearing upon the review in *The Emu* (vol. 49, p. 67) of a book on the parasitic cuckoos of Africa, the N.S.W. Section of the R.A.O.U. wishes to place on record its opinion of two statements—(a) "I shall be criticized by some for reviewing at all a book on African birds in our Australian journal," and (b) "Ignorance, thy name is Australian ornithology!"

Regarding (a) it is thought to be extremely improbable that any member of the R.A.O.U. would object to the publishing of a review of any book on a subject of such broad general interest as avian parasitism; and regarding (b) this Section does not subscribe, on a basis of either fact or taste, to the use of the word 'ignorance' in relation to Australian ornithology.

It is considered that the pages of *The Emu* itself, as well as other publications, testify that, having regard to national age, population, area, and financial resources, relative to those of most other countries, Australian students as a whole have done meritorious work in various aspects of ornithology, parasitism included, during a considerable number of years.

By direction of the N.S.W. Section, R.A.O.U.,

Yours, etc.,

ARNOLD R. MCGILL,

Hon. Branch Secretary.

EDITOR'S NOTE

In the circumstances the particular reviewer can scarcely reply with a letter to the Editor. That some members closely associated with Union affairs *do* object to the reviewing of 'non-Australian' bird literature—a strange outlook—effectively disposes of the first comment. As to the other, those members of the Section who supported it have failed to realize that, despite Dr. Friedmann's call to 'the ornithologists of Australia,' the criticism was directed at the lack of knowledge concerning many aspects of Australian *ornithology*, not against 'Australian students as a whole' or individually.

The date of publication was April 26, 1950.