

Additions to *Systema Avium Australasianarum*

By GREGORY M. MATHEWS, St. Cross, Winchester,
England

P. 621, add a synonym of **Malurus splendens riordani** Mathews

Malurus splendens aridus Mack, *Mem. Nat. Mus.*,
Melbourne, No. 8, p. 108, Sept., 1934. Lake Way,
Western Australia.

P. 625, put *Leggeornis lamberti eyrei* Mellor, as a synonym
of

Leggeornis lamberti mastersi (Mathews), p. 624,
thus leaving **Leggeornis pulcherrimus** with no
subspecies.

P. 625, admit **Leggeornis amabilis barroni** (Mathews), *Nov.*
Zool., xviii, 361, 1912,

and add as synonym

Malurus amabilis clarus Mack, *Mem. Nat. Mus.*,
Melbourne, No. 8, p. 114, Sept., 1934. Cardwell,
north-east Queensland.

P. 627, add as synonym of **Rosina coronata macgillivrayi**
(Mathews)

Malurus (Rosina) coronatus caeruleus Mack,
Mem. Nat. Mus., Melbourne, No. 8, p. 124, Sept.
1934. Borroloola, McArthur River, Northern
Territory.

For former additions see *The Ibis*, 1931, pp. 44-57; 1932,
pp. 132-161; 1933, pp. 87-97; and *The Emu*, Vol. xxxii,
1933, pp. 282-287; Vol. xxxiii, 1933, p. 60; Vol. xxxiv, 1935,
pp. 238-239 and 305-306.

Obituary

ZACH GRAY

Zach Gray died at Thornbury, Victoria, on July 9, 1935, after a long illness. He became a member of the Union in the year 1905, was elected Hon. Treasurer at an annual meeting held in Sydney in 1912, and held that office almost continuously until failing health caused him to resign on February 12, 1935. He was born at Park Street, Emerald Hill (now South Melbourne), Victoria, on October 17, 1865. Shortly afterwards his family moved to Albert Road nearby, close to a large swamp which is now known as the Albert Park lake. It was while living there that he obtained his first knowledge of bird life, for at that time the swamp was noted for its water birds. His memory went back to the time when there were toll gates in Albert Road and St. Kilda Road, and bullock teams were to be seen in Melbourne transporting stores, and he told of flocks of Parrots and Loriekeets which, during his youth, frequented blossoming

eucalypts on St. Kilda Road. A prize was awarded to him for a collection of birds' eggs at the International Juvenile Industrial Exhibition in 1879-80.

He was educated at St. Paul's High School, Melbourne, which stood on the site now occupied by St. Paul's Cathedral. In 1882 he became a gunner in the Emerald Hill Volunteer Garrison Artillery, and on its disbandment he joined C Battery of the Victorian Field Artillery Brigade, where he became a corporal. Later he transferred to the Victorian Horse Artillery, which was quartered at Werribee. He held a certificate as auditor under the Local Government Act, and was frequently engaged in auditing accounts of municipalities. His association with ornithology was not considerable but his services to the Union as its Treasurer for many years were most valuable.—J.A.R.

News and Notes

A recent publication, *Bird Stamps of All Countries, with a Natural History of Each Bird*, contains interesting and usually accurate accounts of various birds appearing on postage stamps, but the Kookaburra stamp of this country is accompanied by a note which refers the bird to the Cuckoo family and adds that it is "the only Cuckoo to reach Australia."

The Council has approved of a contemplated Camp-out to be held at Marlo, at the mouth of the Snowy River, Victoria, from October 21 to October 29. The holding of the Camp depends on the attendance of a substantial number of members. Sea-birds and water-birds abound at Marlo, and the Ground Parrot occurs in heathy country nearby. The Camp will probably be in huts and under canvas, but for those preferring it accommodation may be had in the township near the Camp site. Further details, as available, may be obtained from the Hon. Editor. Members contemplating attendance are requested to notify their intention immediately.

The Annual Meeting of the Union will be held early in November. Members will be apprised of the date and details by the Notice of the Meeting required by the Articles to be sent to members 21 days before the date thereof.

Meetings of the R.A.O.U. are to be held at the Union's Room on the evening of the first Tuesday of every *second month*, two having already been held—in July and September. As the first Tuesday in November is a public holiday the meeting in that month will be held on the following evening. Members are invited to attend the meetings and also to forward suggestions for items for discussion.