

DR. CASEY WOOD,
ZOOLOGICAL LIBRARY,
BRITISH MUSEUM, [NATURAL HISTORY]
CROMWELL ROAD,
LONDON, S.W.7.

September 27, 1929

Dr. J. A. Leach,
Education Department,
Melbourne, Australia,

Dear Dr. Leach:-

Your very welcome letter of 1.4.29 should have been answered long ago but I have been so deeply engaged in the British Museum, where I have a research room, on the large task of whipping into shape the 15,000 titles involved in the enclosed program that I have, I fear, greatly neglected my correspondents. However, after four years work on it, I hope to publish a 1000 page quarto during 1930.

Your news re Cayley is interesting to me as I supposed he would have gone to press with his illustrated work on Australian Birds ere this, although apart from colored plates (that always assist identification if they are well done) printed descriptions of your birds have been pretty well carried out--don't you think so?

I have, for instance, been reading A.H. Chisholm's 'Birds and Green Places' and, though it is here and there rather too discursive and "popular", is remarkably well written and in excellent English. It ought to sell well and help to spread the glory that is Australia's. I note that a number of Cayley's drawings are reproduced as illustrations.

Please notify me (to the above address) if there is any chance of seeing you in London during 1930. As this Introduction & Catalogue will probably occupy my whole time for another year I intend to stick at it in London during that time.

Our A.O.U. meets in Philadelphia next month with many gaps in its fellowship. A large percentage have passed away--Ridgway, Dwight, et al--but others come along to fill their places.

Do not fail to attend the 1931 meeting; you do not know how many good American friends you have! Perhaps I may join you there--if alive and well.

I am sorry to hear that you are retiring from the "Emu". My copy goes regularly to McGill, I hope, but of course I see it at the Natural History (British) Museum here where I work daily with my assistants on annotating and arranging the Introduction & Catalogue. Is my subscription to the "Emu" regularly paid? This matter is in the hands of my McGill Fund but sometimes it is neglected.

Have you seen the 3 parts of the (48) "Coloured Plates of the Birds of Geylon", from paintings contributed by myself and published by the Government of Ceylon? The last number is now in press.

How is Dr. A. J. Campbell? Better, I hope.

Do you ever see Tom Ireland and the other Sydney friends?

My best wishes to all the Melbourne folks of the R.A.O.U.

My wife joins me in kindest regards to Mrs. Leach and yourself and I remain,

Cordially yours,

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Dr. J. A. Leach

Education Department

Melbourne, Australia

1.4.29

Dear Dr. Casey Wood

On my 60th birthday ^{in March 1930} I retire from the service of the Education Department & leave on a trip abroad. During this I hope to visit each continent. I must to see you as I pass through California & promise to attend the 1931 stated meeting of the R.A.U.

Matters have moved slowly in Australia since your well remembered visit. Cayley is back in the Bird Book Scheme, but I fancy it will never see the light of day. Publication in some form or other has been delayed & deferred & one gets sceptical.

Cayley attended the R.A.U. congress & campout at Canberra & Port Stephens north of Newcastle. He still haunts Australian birds.

For 12 months I have been acting unannounced editor of The Emu but cannot continue much longer in view of above. It at any rate has been out twice each quarter, being ready to post tomorrow.

Mr. A. J. Campbell is making a slow recovery from a serious illness; he was elected President of the R.A.U. last Nov. He goes to leave a second term of office.

Mrs. Leach is well though still deaf. She sends greetings to Mrs. Wood.

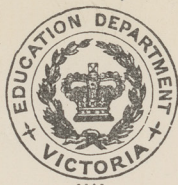
Kind regards,

Yours faithfully,

J. A. Leach

Dr. Seeto

No. T/



EDUCATION DEPARTMENT,
MELBOURNE.

6th Jan. 1928.

Dear Dr. Wood,

I was very pleased to receive yours of Nov. 19th on my return from a motor trip across the Australian Alps during the Christmas Vacation. I was glad to hear of your success with Mathews, and to note that you propose to settle down in California. As you say, it is not very far from us, especially in these days of the aeroplane and wireless.

I was fortunate in having a trip to New Caledonia and I thought much of you and your interesting time with the birds of Fiji. Your notes are interesting and valuable to me in connection with my notes on the birds of New Caledonia. I had only three weeks there, so of course I was not able to do anything of value.

I was glad to hear of Mathews' success at the A.O.U. meeting in Washington. Have you seen his "Systema Avium Australavium, Part I, (^{Manarum} Emu and Lyrebird)"? I reviewed it for the "Emu" and also reviewed the concluding volume of his great book on Australian birds. I felt very much being placed in a difficult position with regard to the review of his Australian list. He used excessively fine split genera, and I had to point out the difference in names in Sclater's list and Mathews' list for birds common to Africa and Australia. I did not like it, but had to say plainly that two diverging official lists of names of the same birds ~~were~~ a misfortune, ~~and out of all meanings~~. I shall send you a reprint as soon as it is available.

Mrs Leach is well - much better than she was, though her deafness does not improve. She went with me on the motor trip and enjoyed it very much. I hope Mrs Wood is well.

Kind regards and best wishes for a Happy
New Year,

Dr. Casey Wood,
Stanford University P.O.
CALIFORNIA, U.S.A.

Yours faithfully,

J. A. Leach

Eyrecourt
Canterbury
13/10/17

Dear Dr. Wood

I thank you sincerely
for the fine volume you sent me. It is
indeed a valuable monograph should do
much to assist in settling the present
unsatisfactory position concerning the
classification of birds.

When Dr. Barrett asked me to
assist in obtaining some Australian birds
I had no idea I was to be connected with
such a fine piece of work.

Again thanking you,
I remain

Yours sincerely
J. A. Leach
(Editor The Emu)

Write Mathews
when I hear of
Oct. 1921
BOP
Write Mathews
care
BOP

Education Dept.
Melbourne
Australia
27.7.27

Ans Nov. 20. 27.

Dear Dr. Wood

I was very pleased to receive yours of June 6th. to hear of your successful time in Ceylon. I received a copy of your coloured plate; it is very fine. You must have much good material. Your birds of Fiji interested me much.

I was interested to read of your reference to Mathews especially as I received a letter from him two days ago. We have deputed him to represent the R.A.O.U. at the A.O.U. Congress. Please see that he does so even if the official notification be delayed. Our Council does not meet until the second week. We may just miss a mail. I should much like to visit America & meet the many men I have corresponded with, but not yet. Though some day I hope.

Mr. Leach has, apart from deafness, made a good recovery & sends kind regards to Mr. Wood & yourself.

Trusting that the A.O.U. Congress will be a great success.
I am,

Yours faithfully,

J. A. Leach
We leave on Oct 13 for Perth for the Annual R.A.O.U. Congress. J.A. (J. A. Leach)

+ Leach J. A. +

Casey A. Wood Collection

Education Dept.
Melbourne

ans. June 7. 27

9.1.1927

Dear Dr. Wood

Best wishes for a very happy & successful
1927.

At last our Checklist is available to all. I asked
that a copy be sent to you. Have you received it? I hope so.
So far there has not been much criticism.

Apart from genera splitting, Mathews & the Committee
agree as to $\frac{19}{20}$ of the list I think. Our large committee
was difficult. Some members wished to retain every
name of the old list; some thought Anshahai should
shake off the shackles that affected workers in other countries
& take any name we pleased.

However, the list will bear close scrutiny. Wherever the
evidence was quite definite I think we have chosen the
name that would be chosen by your committee. A few cases
of doubt still require consideration.

Mathews agreed to a compromise re genera & dam
in hopes that the position will be quite satisfactory to
all concerned. He is now preparing the bird list of the
Anshahai region with apparently a free hand. I hope that

when the six lists have been published I trust that the A.O.U. & B.O.U. will issue one authoritative list that will at last secure finality.

I enjoyed much your article on Tigris birds. You did very good work there. I hope your Ceylon visit was equally satisfactory to you.

Mrs. Leach after a bad year has made a very good recovery & is now practically free from rheumatism. She listens in & hears well. She is at present listening to the Pleasant Sunday Afternoon address at Wesley Church. She sends kind remembrances to Mr. Wood & yourself.

Kind regards,

Yours faithfully,
J. A. Leach

aus. Nov. 11. 24

Education Dept.
Melbourne

14.9.24

Dear D. Wood

Thank you for your kindly interest & your successful efforts on behalf of a uniform bird list. Matthews has now sent such proposals re subgenera, some-letterism & apart from a few trifling differences as to specific or subspecific standing there is nothing between us.

The B.D.M. list as soon following Solters, settled genera on our side & Matthews subgeneric proposals ~~are~~ so generous that I feel now we can achieve the much desired uniformity of name & standard.

Private re Cayley's Birds. - two conflicting reports reached us

1. That A.R.R. suddenly realised a £50,000 expenditure & resolved to be out at any cost.
2. That Cayley had done only 2 plates in 6 months. That the firm was dissatisfied.

Private H.L. White thought the firm was justified in its action. Cayley assured me he was in no way to blame. However, the work was cancelled. Coloured plates belong to Angus & Robertson & Co. Melbourne.

In its place is "Australian Bird Biography" developed by A.F. Campbell (father) & Campbell (son) & C.L. Barnett. The 3 Melbourne men will use all the field material & plates except the coloured plates of the bird themselves; & eggs will be used. During month to the 3 Melbourne men taking over

This work there has been feeling aroused against the
R.S.D.W. amongst some Sydney men at least. One (Barrel Hull)
Private used it as an excuse to resign. He said he resented the treatment
of Cayley. Cayley is being re-elected State Secretary of the
R.S.D.W. for N.S.W. We know nothing had nothing to do
with the matter. Interstate jealousy has always been strong ^{by how much} intensified
Private I have a feeling of doubt as to whether Bird Biographies
will ever see the light of day.

We are ^{hope} to satisfy Mathews with a better method
of showing subgenera than the one he has asked us to
accept.

Before you return to California those slides will be
there waiting for you. I greatly regret the delay.

Ms. Selater & Stone wrote re Checklist. A pity Selater's
list did not conform to B.O.U. standard names. He
used different names for the Fringillid group. However, it
provides material for the Committee to work on.

I shall let Stone to act as umpire on our two
disputed points. (1) to alter the name of *Dacelo*
gigas on Koolahura to *Dacelo novae-humiae*
when it is not found in New Guinea ^{or} a very doubtful
priority of weeks in 1883. In fact the reference of
Mathews for *novae-humiae* is to the plate of *gigas*.

The second is the transference of the name *Cicadion*
from the N.Z. saddleback to our warble-bird. a virtual
type description of Vigors & Horsfield being upset by that of
Lesson.

Ms. Leach joins me in kind regards to Mr. Wood
yourself.
Yours faithfully J. A. Leach

aus. Mar 7th. 24

St. Armand

99 Para St

South Yarra

5/1/24

Dear Mr. Wood

I think your coloured plate will look very well. We expect to publish on Wed 9/1/24 & are very pleased to have your plate & article.

If you are back in California settling down to work at the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology. We shall expect to hear much from you.

How interesting to pick up a day at the 180th meridian! You will feel ahead of yourself for a time. That is certainly much better than feeling hopelessly behind.

The Tjirian position is most interesting and we are considering our reply to the Tjirian request re introduction of Australian insectivorous birds. It certainly needs careful consideration. The willow warbler & the harmonious thrush are two birds that should not change pod.

I am sure you have done permanent good there in the cause of bird protection in Tji as well as causing them to appreciate their own fauna & flora.

Met Dr. R. B. R. in Melbourne & arranged to visit next Dublin in Sydney & see the Bower birds in the National

11. 2. 1904
Park. This he did as Nubling mentions in a Gray
Feather in the Jan 1904 Enn

Our Tasmanian Congress was a great success & the camp out
was even better. 14 of us had a very good time at Adventure
Bay well to the South. 7 came over from South Australia
& Tasmanian ornithologists were well to the fore. The Pan-Pacific
kept Sydney & Brisbane men away as they could not do a
second trip South.

Our Checklist is coming on well & we are now preparing
the draft for printing, leaving ample opportunity for
adjustment to enable us to reach finality & uniformity

Had a letter recently from Dr. Whitman Stone enabling us
to clear up some of the disputed matter. Apart from several
splitting we have not much outstanding now & there
Mathews has offered us the compromise that if we permit his
outgeneric names he will accept large genera; we certainly
accept that.

So you are home before those lantern slides after all.
Am writing Cayley to get the exact position. We had
expected to have the slides waiting for you but you have
expedited your return.

Our printer sends proof to every author as if too late to
not trouble. I did the best I could with your article.

W. Leach joins me in kind regards to Mr. Wood & yourself.

Yours faithfully,
J. A. Leach

Returned

29/7/24. G.M. Mathews

Pls. return to

DR. CASEY WOOD,
AUTHOR'S CLUB,
2, WHITEHALL COURT,
LONDON, ENGLAND.

R. A. O. U. Room

376 Flinders St

Melbourne

June 7. 24 7.6.24

Aug 1. 24 Pls. let me know about Cayley. What will be done? the paintings etc.?

Send slides to Berkeley.

Wrote or saw Palmer, Stone, Selah & Mathews.

Quoted Mathews's letter in part.

Getting out B. of Fiji & Welmar who does best of job.

Dear W. Wood

(Sydney)

[①] We have had an upset in Australia in ornithological circles & have lost Cayley's Birds - a great misfortune. One of the matters caught up with this is the set of slides we offered to send you. Cayley took the matter up enthusiastically & was to send them boxes to incorporate ours & then ^{we} send on to you. In spite of writing & enquiries we still await those Sydney slides. I am sorry to say.

I am writing again to Chisholm & Cayley concerning them.

[②] Our checklist is nearing completion but though I have sent copies of the draft to many people Whitmer Stone, J. S. Palmer, Selah, Hartshorn &c we seem unable to draw any acknowledgment or comment from A.O.U. or B.O.U. Why?

Sad to say! One of our leading members thinks it more important to save a name of the old list than to produce the best list possible but we progress slowly.

Mathews made us an offer in genera but he is tacitly accepting our genera for he has not criticized us there nor has he sent his proposed subgenera which we agreed to print in proper order.

I thank you for your reprints. Reprints are a problem with us. Whitlock's article in last Emu reprints cost us ^{4/6} each. This seems very high. Blocks just increased 20% for halftone & about 33% for a coloured plate now £10/0/- for the blocks only 7 years ago £7/4/-.

Mr. Leach joins me in kind regards to Mr. Wood yourself
Yours faithfully
G. A. Leach

This is
B. Chisholm
elderly
think

ans. Nov 17. 23

Bird Room
376 Flinders Lane
Melbourne

25/10/23

Dear Mr Wood

I was pleased indeed to receive yours of 10th inst. to find you were sending us a coloured plate. We shall give the best job possible.

I am pleased too that you are considering the matter of a paper for the Emu. We shall be glad to publish what you read as far as we can.

We saved our fro on the last pair by a change of printers. Of course he is not up to our standard yet but I think we shall be able to maintain the Emu at its best saving or within our income. May appreciate your kind remembrance of him.

As soon as a Revised Checklist is heard of I'll post one on to you.

We leave for Tasmania on Nov 2 from our Annual Congress & campout. I fear the party will be rather small but some good men are going over so we shall have a successful meeting.

Our committee controlling export of bushland animals is getting down to the work. We have allowed very little

so far. Will bring up the question of export of insectivorous birds to Fiji
our mappie, mappie-lark, & black & white fantail would probably prove
most valuable & least harmful.

Tomorrow is Bird Day. We have a celebration throughout the
State & several members of the World League of Bird-Lovers New South
Wales & Queensland also celebrate Bird Day tomorrow.

You have evidently had a most successful stay in Fiji & have been able
to do valuable and interesting work.

Mr. Leach joins me in kind regards to Mrs. Wood & yourself.

Kind regards

Yours faithfully

J. P. Leach

17/1/1900

Recd Oct 10. 23
 with send paper to the
 drawing by post mail 8W. and by
 by registered mail
 Oct 23. 23. wrote again, with
 send picture of
 Smother's Parrot delay
 M.S. by P. H. Wood
 on 5 p. H. Wood
 Macaulay
 St Arnaud
 99 Park St
 South Yarra
 19/9/23

We were delighted to have your article; it is already in type & will appear in Oct Emu.

We like a coloured plate in each issue of the Emu & prefer to figure a bird not previously depicted. We shall be pleased to publish one of your plates in the January Emu especially if you can manage to let us have it at an early date.

Each plate costs us £11 for plate & printing. If you cared to contribute half this cost we might manage perhaps more than one in an issue. Meanwhile we are prepared to publish one in the Jan issue without cost to you.

We should like to assist you with the publication of your Fijian bird article. We could take a paper of say 50 pages & publish it in three parts or take self-contained sections. Parrots Honeyeaters & Pigeons appeal to us though we are interested in all birds of the Australian Region.

I shall read your proof carefully & hope for no errors but publication to your full satisfaction.

Temple Court is being demolished with a view to a

large modern building. At present we are housed at 376 Flinders Lane (not Flinders St.) Melbourne

We are preparing for Congress in the beginning of November at Hobart. Each mail we are expecting Matthews' proposals re "Seneca" expect to reach full agreement.

I shall post you ^{about 4 or 5 weeks} an up-to-date draft of our Checklist showing revised order of families, genera, etc. I appreciate your remarks re advisability of reaching agreement & quite expect it. Further I shall do everything possible to see that we do reach final agreement.

Mr. Leach joins me in kind regards to Mr. Wood & yourself.

Mr. Campbell & Mr. Gray join me also in best wishes.

Looking forward to your article & thanking you for the current most interesting contribution. (125 reprints ordered as requested).

I am

Yours faithfully,
J. A. Leach

It was good of you to enclose Sclater's note. I am glad to know his attitude. We saw much of Sedgwick during the Pan Pacific Congress & are glad to have him in Australia. We shall use him. J.A.L.

Aug 28/23. If I submit part of my paper on Birds
of Fiji, shot with col. plates ext? Sept. 2. 23. Sending a paper with
illus. photo. on *Pyrrhuloxia splendens*.
ROYAL AUSTRALASIAN ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION.

Incorporated under Companies Act 1915 Victoria.

All Communications
to be Addressed to
Secretary.

2 TEMPLE COURT.

Melbourne,

3/8/1923

Memo.

Dear D. Wood

I passed the letter from you
on to Gray who posted the order to Fiji as you
requested.

Sad to say we have had no article on
the Birds of Fiji. If you have not already
arranged for publication we shall be very
glad to publish it for you & send on 25
reprints to your address.

Your stay feather will appear in the
October Emu. Committee

Mathews has ~~just~~ written the Checklist a
long letter true hope to reach full agreement.
Mr. Campbell a sturdy old warrior still
holds out on preoccupied names, but we are

near to agreement.

The Minister of Customs has adopted our suggestion for the appointment of a committee re exports in each state. We expect to get control of the matter of exporting live birds directly.

Mr. Leach joins me in thanking Mr. Wood & yourself for your kind words & trust that you will have many pleasant memories of your very hurried visit to Australia.

Kind regards

Yours faithfully.

J. A. Leach

aus. May 21. 23.

Lettie J. Smith

ROYAL AUSTRALASIAN ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION.

Incorporated under Companies Act 1905 Permanent forwarding address

Pls. return to:-

DR. CASEY WOOD

7 West Madison St.

2 TEMPLE COURT. CHICAGO, U. S. A.

All Communications
to be Addressed to
Secretary.

Melbourne,

4/5/1923

Memo.

Dear Dr. Wood

Yours of 28/4/23 reached me today.

The Supplement is to be included in the new edition of my Bird Book. It will make it complete for Australian birds as in the Checklist.

The Checklist I gave you has the numbers for the Book along the margin & the numbers for the Supplement as do you can place any Australian Bird you desire

The Queen City are the Printers - Queen City Printing Co. The linotypist heads his fallows thus for convenience

A copy of the book will be sent to you as soon as it is available in "about 3 weeks." but as that has held since last Oct. I am not sure of the actual date.

I am glad your program was well filled in Sydney. I trust Knibling was able to show you a hybrid which we failed to do.

We had a record attendance for
Campbell's Rehearsal & Albatross evening at the
National Museum round the H. L. White
Collection on Wed May 2.

I trust that you were able to meet H. L. White
our chief person inspiration in all
matters ornithological. We owe him much.

I am sorry your stay was so short that we
saw so little of you. Your experience would have
been invaluable to us in several matters. You noted
the divided outlook concerning collections & possibly
also concerning subgenera, subspecies, preoccupied
names & bedrock priority.

We are determined to have our list on exactly
parallel lines to the list of the B.O.U. & A.O.U.
Whatever principles they adopt we shall adopt the
same. Please tell the ornithologists of
America that.

We are delighted to have seen you & hope to
see several more of you America ornithologists
in Antiochia before long.

Mr. Leach joins me in kind regards to
Mrs Wood.

Yours faithfully,
J. A. Leach

recd. Apr. 7. 23

ROYAL AUSTRALASIAN ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION.

Incorporated under Companies Act 1915 Victoria.

All Communications
to be Addressed to
Secretary.

2 TEMPLE COURT.

Memo.

*noted
address*

Melbourne,

16/3/1923

Dear Dr. Wood

We shall be very pleased
indeed to see you in Melbourne & shall
endeavour to show you some of our birds.

||| Giffams Barrett I know has been in
touch with you. The Bird people working
with the National Parks Association is
arranging a public lecture for you in
Melbourne.

We shall arrange to show you lyrebirds
in their native haunts. If your visit
had been in Oct we should have shown you
some rare ~~parrots~~ cockatoos nesting; in
April our birds are scattered somewhat.

Kind regards,

Yours faithfully,

J. A. Leach
Pres. R.A.O.U.