

Stray Feathers.

The Rufous Bristle-Bird (*Sphenura broadbenti*).—With regard to this bird in the Otways, what is the extent of its range? From personal observations I find this bird at Anglesea, extending round the coast past Airey's Inlet, from there on to Lorne, and as far as the Jamieson River, 10 miles from Lorne. At the back of Mount Defiance, near the Cumberland River, I have seen and heard numbers of these birds. Again, along the Lorne coach road these birds are plentiful, extending over the top of the range to within a few miles of Dean's Marsh. In nearly every gully along the coast-line mentioned several pairs can be found, and I fancy they are increasing in numbers.—J. K. RUSSELL. Barunah Plains, Hesse.

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Habits of Cockatoos.—Lately, when staying at Tallarook, I noticed that a flock of about 200 Sulphur-crested Cockatoos and Corellas that lived in the neighbourhood always seemed to have their regular beat, which they go over every day, and roost in the same place at night. They also visit other places during the day in search of food. My father, W. H. D. Le Souëf, noticed the same thing with Crows in Queensland, and also that the same individual bird acted as leader every time; as it had two or three white feathers on one wing it was easily identified. It is probable that the Cockatoos and other birds, when flying in companies, have their recognized leader. I know it occurs in mobs of cattle, sheep, &c., and the leader may be either a male or female.—CECIL J. LE SOUËF. Melbourne.

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Gang-Gang Cockatoos.—During a few weeks' stay at Lorne I was surprised at the number of Gang-Gang Cockatoos (*Callocephalon galeatum*) close to the township. Every morning numbers of these birds could be heard, and also seen feeding, among the gum-trees along the foreshore. I have been at Lorne for every summer for many years past, but never remember these birds being so plentiful. My brother also mentions seeing a flock along the Barwon River, at Geelong. Another note I have from Whoorel, near Birregurra, saying that the birds were very numerous, feeding among the sugar-gum plantations. The birds had never been in that locality before. While at Inverleigh some days ago I noticed four birds flying over the cricket ground, and I also saw a single bird here on the plains. Has the food supply in the Otway Ranges anything to do with the birds appearing in these unusual places?—J. K. RUSSELL, R.A.O.U. Hesse.

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Osprey Aerie, Cape Mentelle, W.A.—I was interested in this "historic nest" (*vide Emu, ante*, p. 126) and Mr. Hurst's picture on the opposite page (pl. xv.), and, being further inland at the time, I was not with the R.A.O.U. party. Thirty-one years



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