



The Sarawak Museum Journal

Vol. XXIX No. 50

December 1981



ISSN: 0375-3050

E-ISSN: 3036-0188

Citation: Earl of Cranbrook. (1981). "Birds of Borneo" by B. E. Smythies: Editorial Notes on the Third Edition. The Sarawak Museum Journal, XXIX (50): 167-170

"BIRDS OF BORNEO" BY B.E. SMYTHIES: EDITORIAL NOTES ON THE THIRD EDITION.

Earl of Cranbrook

(Great Glemham, Saxmundham, Suffolk, U.K.)

The following points have no connecting theme, other than the fact that they arose during or after the preparation of the text for the third edition of Smythies' 'Birds of Borneo', published jointly by the Malayan Nature Society and the Sabah Society in 1981*. For convenience, systematic order is followed.

I am grateful to Mr. E.C. Dickinson and Mr. C.F. Mann for drawing my attention to certain oversights and omissions.

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GREAT BITTERN, *Botaurus stellaris* (Linnaeus) 1758

A sight record at Papar, Sabah, reported by Gore (1968), has been withdrawn by its originator, Mr. K.V. Thompson, who wrote: 'I was not aware at the time of the immature plumage of *Ardea purpurea* which is of almost identical size' (ms., 4 August 1980). There has been no other record of the species from Borneo and it was accordingly omitted.

LAPWING, *Vanellus vanellus* (Linnaeus) 1758

I missed Smith's (1976) short note reporting his sighting of a single bird on 11 Jan. 1976 on flooded grassland at Seria, Brunei: 'The bird was in typical winter plumage, and had a large crest'. The species should be added to the Borneo list as a vagrant.

PALE-HEADED FROGMOUTH, *Batrachostomus poliophilus* Hartert 1892

Since *B. cornutus* is recognised as a distinct species, the word '*javensis*' should be deleted at the end of the sixth line of this entry.

SUNDA FROGMOUTH, *Batrachostomus cornutus* (Temminck) 1823

The reference to Burgess's work, at lines 13–15 of page 181, is a misplaced sentence (appearing in its correct place on page 190) copied from the second edition. It must be deleted.

MOSSY-NEST SWIFTLET, *Collocalia salangana* (Streubel) 1848

The reference cited (Medway, 1975) was inadvertently omitted from the additional bibliography. It is given below.

BLUE-BANDED PITTA, *Pitta arquata* Gould 1871

Previous editions of 'Birds of Borneo' used the spelling *arcuata* (proposed on grounds that are largely philological** by Salvadori, 1874), while wrongly

* Residents in East Malaysia can buy the book from the Sabah Society, P.O. Box 547, Kota Kinabalu.

** Mi pare che il nome specifico so debba scrivere *arcuata* e non *arquata*. *Arquata* è il nome che i Romani davano al Chiurlo maggiore, *Numenius arquata* (Linn.); quindi la parola *Arquata* non è aggettivo, ma un sostantivo.