
ANGEL—Birds of River Murray.

Birds of the River Murray.

By F. M. Angel.

The following birds were noted during a trip on the River Murray from 12th to 19th August, 1935. The itinerary was from Morgan, S.A., to Mildura, Victoria, and back. Very little opportunity was afforded for examining the country along the river banks, as the steamer "Ruby" made few calls at townships or to load wood, and these were mostly after dark. The observations were made almost entirely from the deck of the steamer, and consequently comprise chiefly birds frequenting the water front.

On the whole the bird-life along the river was comparatively scarce. This is probably due to many of the species nesting away from the main stream.

Geopelia placida, Peaceful Dove.—Heard calling and occasionally seen.

Phaps chalcoptera, Common Bronzewing.—Flushed on several occasions.

Ocyphaps lophotes, Crested Pigeon.—Several observed.

Tribonyx ventralis, Black-tailed Native Hen.—A number seen on the lignum flats.

Podiceps ruficollis, Little Grebe.—Occasionally seen near the river banks.

Fulica atra, Coot.—Sometimes seen in lagoons.