

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE AUSTRALIAN PSITTACINES

(Order PSITTACIFORMES: Parrots, Cockatoos, etc.)

by ALAN LENDON, Adelaide

This paper is the culmination of many years of documentation of personal observations and of published records, especially those in *The Emu* and *The South Australian Ornithologist*, of the distribution of the Australian members of the order Psittaciformes. An attempt has been made to collate this information with the records of the specimens in the various Australian Museums, thanks to the courtesy of their Directors, and with the communicated observations of numerous field workers, far too numerous to mention individually. Great reliance has been placed on the various regional textbooks of Australian birds, particularly *Birds of Western Australia* by Serventy and Whittell, *Tasmanian Birds* by Sharland, *A Handlist of the Birds of Victoria* by Wheeler, *A Handlist of the Birds of New South Wales* by McGill, *List of Northern Territory Birds* by Storr, and the papers appearing in *The South Australian Ornithologist* by Terrill and Rix and by Condon.

* The R.A.O.U. *Checklist*, 2nd edition, 1926, prior to its various amendments, has been taken as the basis upon which to work. The distribution of each species, as therein recorded, has been quoted, corrected when necessary and in most instances amplified considerably. It is probable that many statements made will be inaccurate in some respects and the author hopes that readers will not hesitate to inform him of mistakes in distribution and of extensions of range. Many of the older records have been ignored when there is no confirmation of the continued existence of the species in the area concerned: notable amongst these being Gilbert's records of the occurrence of the Turquoise Parrot in

* Because of the nature of this paper, the nomenclature used has, at the author's request, been that of *The Official Checklist of the Birds of Australia*, 2nd Edn., 1926. Changes in the *Checklist* affecting this group may be found in Supplements 1, 2, 4, 6 and 8, published in *The Emu*, vol. 41 (1941), 87-88; vol. 41 (1941), 213; vol. 46 (1946), 70; vol. 50 (1950), 187-190; and vol. 60 (1960), 140-145 respectively.

east-central Queensland and of the Paradise Parrot in the vicinity of the Mitchell River.

**ORDER: PSITTACIFORMES: PARROTS,
COCKATOOS, ETC.**
FAMILY TRICHOGLOSSIDAE: LORIKEETS
254 TRICHOGLOSSUS MOLUCCANUS
RAINBOW (BLUE MOUNTAIN) LORIKEET

Checklist distribution—E.A., S.A., T.

Eastern Australia is best divided into States. In Queensland, there are records from some Torres Strait islands and from all of Cape York Peninsula and thence down the whole of eastern Queensland without ever going much further west than the limits of the Great Dividing Range. It is appreciated that there is considerable overlap of the range of this and the next species at the base of Cape York Peninsula.

In New South Wales, the recorded distribution is again limited to the Great Dividing Range and to the east thereof and but rarely to the west whilst in Victoria, the only notable exception is the absence from the whole of the north-western corner and indeed from much of the northern half of the State.

In South Australia, it appears to be predominantly found in the south-east and the Mount Lofty Ranges with northern-most recordings at Sutherlands and Melrose in the southern Flinders Range and with further extensions to Yorke Peninsula, Kangaroo Island and southern Eyre Peninsula.

According to Sharland, it is a rare visitor to Tasmania.

255 TRICHOGLOSSUS RUBRITORQUIS
RED-COLLARED LORIKEET

Checklist distribution — N.W.A. (Kimberley), N.T.

N.W.A. (Kimberley) implies the whole of the Kimberley division of Western Australia and the records extend as far west as Broome.

Northern Territory records cover the whole of 'The Top End' and are all north of the sixteenth parallel of latitude from Port Keats in the west through Daly Waters on the Stuart Highway to Borroloola on the Mc-

Arthur River in the east and include Melville and Grootte Islands.

The *Checklist* makes no mention of the Queensland records which extend along the Gulf Country from the lower Gregory River and Burketown in the west to Normanton and Georgetown at the base of Cape York Peninsula.

**256 TRICHOGLOSSUS (EUTELIPSITTA)
CHLOROLEPIDOTUS**

SCALY-BREADED LORIKEET

Checklist distribution — N.Q., E.Q., E.N.S.W.

The Queensland distribution is best amplified by stating that it occurs as far north as Cooktown and then follows the coastal belt down to the New South Wales border. Eastern New South Wales should read north-eastern New South Wales, east of the Dividing Range; according to Hindwood (pers. comm.) it is always around Sydney but is comparatively rare and this is apparently its southern limit. Recent sightings in the vicinity of Melbourne are almost certainly the result of accidental liberations.

**257 PSITTEUTELES VERSICOLOR
VARIED LORIKEET**

Checklist distribution — Tropical N.A.

The foregoing requires considerable amplification. In Western Australia it occurs only in the Kimberley Division and it does not appear to have been recorded west of the Fitzroy River.

In the Northern Territory, it is found throughout 'The Top End,' the most southerly recordings being at Elliott on the Stuart Highway.

In North Queensland it has been recorded from much of the northern and western part of Cape York Peninsula and further west as far south as Richmond, Cloncurry and Camooweal.

**258 GLOSSOPSITTA CONCINNA
MUSK LORIKEET**

Checklist distribution — S.Q. — V. — S.A., T.

The foregoing is reasonably adequate. In Queensland, there are relatively few recordings, all being from the south-eastern corner of the State.

In New South Wales, most recordings are from the Great Dividing Range or to the

east thereof; there being relatively few occurrences to the west of the range. In Victoria, it appears to occur practically everywhere from east to west, including the north-west corner on occasions. In South Australia, it occurs throughout the south-east, on Kangaroo Island, in the Mount Lofty Ranges and as far north as Orroroo and along the Murray eastward from Morgan to the border. There are also a few records from southern Eyre Peninsula. In Tasmania, it is plentiful and widely distributed.

**259 GLOSSOPSITTA
PORPHYROCEPHALA**

PURPLE-CROWNED LORIKEET

Checklist distribution—Southern Australia.

The foregoing is most uninformative. In Western Australia, where it is the only lorikeet, other than in the Kimberley division, it is found in the south and south-west, south of the mulga-eucalypt line and in the Great Victoria Desert and along the coastal mallee fringe to Eucla when the eucalypts are in flower. This latter probably implies a more or less continuous distribution across into South Australia, where it occurs from southern Eyre Peninsula north to the Gawler Range. East of Spencer Gulf, there are records from Yorke Peninsula, Kangaroo Island and from most of the remainder of the south-eastern part of the State, north as far as Wilmington in the lower Flinders Range.

In Victoria, it is widely distributed, especially in the western part of the State but there is also a suspect record from Mallacoota. The New South Wales records are few and far between and mainly southern viz. Euston, Rand, Albury and Bega.

**260 GLOSSOPSITTA PUSILLA
LITTLE LORIKEET**

Checklist distribution — E.A. (Cairns — Vic.), S.A., T.

The foregoing appears to be reasonably accurate but bears elaboration.

Queensland records extend as far north as Cairns and are all from the coastal strip and dividing range.

Those from New South Wales extend from the north to the south of the State but there appear to be few from further inland than the western slopes of the Great Dividing Range.

In Victoria, the species is widely distributed but there are no certain records from the north-west corner.

In South Australia, it is commonest in the south-east, with occasional sightings in the Mount Lofty Ranges and on the Adelaide Plains. The northernmost recording is from Sutherlands, and westernmost from Yorke Peninsula.

In Tasmania, it appears to be relatively uncommon.

FAMILY OPOPSITTIDAE: FIG-PARROTS

261 OPOPSITTA COXENI

RED-FACED LORILET

Checklist distribution—S.E.Q., N.E.N.S.W.

Records of this species, which are remarkably few, do not alter the above with the exception of one from Blackall in central Queensland. The southernmost record is that from the Macleay River.

262 OPOPSITTA LEADBEATERI

BLUE-FACED LORILET

Checklist distribution—N.Q.

The foregoing requires elaboration as it is far too vague. All records suggest that the species is confined to an area bounded by Cairns in the north and Cardwell in the south.

— OPOPSITTA DIOPHTHALMA

DOUBLE-EYED LORILET

Checklist distribution—not given as not described by Marshall until 1946. Its range is probably limited to the eastern side of Cape York Peninsula from the Claudie River south to Princess Charlotte Bay. A record of *leadbeateri* from the Jardine River seems likely to be referable to this species.

FAMILY: KAKATOEIDAE: COCKATOOS

263 PROBOSCIGER ATERRIMUS

PALM-COCKATOO

Checklist distribution—Aru. Is., N.G., N.Q., C. York district only.

The description "Cape York district only" is rather indefinite and can be expressed more explicitly as from the extreme tip of Cape York Peninsula and extending, according to Thomson, as far south as Massey Creek at the northern end of Princess Charlotte Bay on the east coast and to the Pennefather River on the west coast.

264 CALYPTORHYNCHUS BANKSI

RED-TAILED BLACK COCKATOO

Checklist distribution—A., King I.

The distribution, although admittedly very wide-spread, is not nearly as extensive as implied above, particularly as regards the southern part of the Continent.

Serventy and Whittell state. "This species is distributed throughout the State, but is now rare in the south-west." Published records, however, show that the small race *stellatus* (= *naso*) occurs from the extreme south-west as far north as the Murchison River. Thereafter there appear to be no records whatever until the vicinity of Broome is reached and it then occurs eastward throughout the Kimberley division. In the Northern Territory the species is widely distributed throughout "the Top End" and also in Central Australia and it seems probable that *fitzroyi* of the north-west and *samuelyi* of the centre are confluent with and indistinguishable from *macrorhynchus* of the Northern Territory. In Queensland, again the species is widely distributed, being continuous with both the northern and central populations. The range includes Cape York Peninsula but it is probably absent, according to Mack (pers. comm.) from south-eastern Queensland, although it occurs at Gayndah on the Burnett River. It is almost certain that the race *northi* is invalid. In New South Wales, the species is widely spread throughout the north-western portion of the State, extending down the Darling as far as Menindee. Coastal records are few and far between, e.g., Macleay River, Williams River, Illawarra and Australian Capital Territory and none of these are recent. Suspicions must always exist in regard to mistaken identification of the Glossy Black Cockatoo.

In Victoria, there is a small distinct but unnamed population occurring over the western part of the western district and transgressing into parts of the south-east of South Australia. The record from Mallacoota has been shown to be erroneous; the skins collected at the R.A.O.U. camp-out there having been examined and found to be examples of the Glossy Black Cockatoo.

The record from King Island has not been traced but there seems little doubt that the species no longer exists there, if in fact it ever did.

265 CALYPTORHYNCHUS
(HARRISORNIS) **LATHAMI**
GLOSSY BLACK COCKATOO

Checklist distribution — C.Q. — Vic. — S.A. (Kangaroo I.).

There are surprisingly few records of the occurrence of this species but they conform substantially with the above.

In Queensland, the northernmost records are from Yeppoon and Duarina. Reliable recent ones are from Gympie, Condamine River and Toowoomba and Warwick districts.

In New South Wales records are from Tenterfield, Bellinger and Macleay Rivers, Cobbora; Dubbo, Barrington and Leeton, whilst in Victoria, it certainly occurs at Malacoota and has been recorded from Strathbogie and Wangaratta.

In South Australia, there is a small isolated population on Kangaroo Island and specimens were seen (and taken) in the southern Mount Lofty Ranges towards the end of the last century.

266 CALYPTORHYNCHUS (ZANDA)
BAUDINI

WHITE-TAILED BLACK COCKATOO

Checklist distribution — S.W.A. — Murchison R.

Serventy and Whittell state "confined to the south-west corner, from the lower Murchison River to the eastward of Esperance (recorded to Mississippi Bay). It extends inland as far as Wongan Hills, Kellerberrin and Norseman." No extensions of this range have been found and the validity of *latirostris*, said to be an inland race, seems rather doubtful.

267 CALYPTORHYNCHUS (ZANDA)
FUNEREUS

YELLOW-TAILED BLACK COCKATOO

Checklist distribution—C.Q.-V., S.A., King Is., T.

The above can be elaborated considerably.

In Queensland, apart from a record from Duarina, the northern limits appear to be in the vicinity of Gin Gin and Gympie. From this point, there is a relatively unbroken distribution southward along the Great Dividing Range throughout New South Wales into eastern Victoria, where it extends throughout most of that State, with the exception of the north-western and mid-northern portions.

In South Australia, it is widely spread

through the south-east and through the Coorong into the Mount Lofty Ranges. It is plentiful on Kangaroo Island and is also, rather surprisingly, found on southern Eyre Peninsula.

In Tasmania, it is widely spread and also occurs in King, Flinders and Cape Barren Islands.

268 CALLOCEPHALON FIMBRIATUM
GANG-GANG COCKATOO

Checklist distribution—N.S.W., Vic., T., King I., S.A.

In New South Wales, this species probably does not occur north of the Hawkesbury River and the Blue Mountains (Lithgow area) but is widely spread throughout the mountainous parts of the south-east of the State.

In Victoria it occurs throughout the State with the exception of the north western and mid northern portions but is much more plentiful in the eastern than in the western part; it occasionally transgresses the border into the south-east of South Australia.

The King Island records almost certainly belong to a past era before the island was extensively cleared, whilst those from the north-west coast of Tasmania are almost certainly accidental.

269 KAKATOE GALERITA
WHITE COCKATOO

Checklist distribution—Mol., N.G., A., exc. W.A. (S. of Fitzroy R.), King I., T.

The extralimital distribution is grossly incorrect, the cockatoos of the Moluccas being *K. alba* and *K. moluccensis* which are not closely related.

In New Guinea, the valid subspecies *triton*, with a larger crest and pale blue periorbital skin, occurs and this closely resembles *fitzroyi* of the north-west and Northern Territory. This subspecies occurs in Western Australia only as far south and west as the Fitzroy River.

In the Northern Territory, it is widely distributed throughout "the Top End," coming as far south as latitude 16° in the region of the McArthur River.

In Queensland, the species may be said to occur in almost all localities, including Cape York, the islands of the Barrier Reef and the far south-west; it is probably relatively infrequent in the south-eastern corner of the State.

In New South Wales, it is again widely distributed both on the western plains and, to a lesser extent, to the east of the Divide.

In Victoria it occurs throughout most of the State, with the exception of the extreme eastern portion.

In South Australia, it is found throughout the south-east, is scattered through the Mount Lofty Ranges, follows the Murray Valley and extends north at least as far as Wilmington. It also occurs on Kangaroo Island but does not spread west of St. Vincent Gulf.

In Tasmania, it is widely but unevenly distributed and it also occurs on King Island.

270 KAKATOE (LOPHOCHROA)

LEADBEATERI

PINK COCKATOO (MAJOR MITCHELL)

Checklist distribution—N.W.A., W.A., S.A., int. V., N.S.W., Q.

For Western Australia, Serventy and Whittell state that the species avoids the south-west corner, i.e., south and west of a line through Jurien Bay, Toodyay and thence to Esperance. This accords with records from such places as Fitzroy River, Pilbara, Wiluna, Leonora, and east of Kalgoorlie.

The Northern Territory, though not mentioned in the *Checklist*, yields records from Tanami, Central Mount Stuart, Macdonald Downs, Alice Springs, Ayers Rock road and Finke.

In South Australia, it occurs almost everywhere north and west of Spencer Gulf and the Flinders Ranges and also in the north-east of the State as far south as the Murray River between Morgan and the border and also in the Murray Mallee.

In Queensland it is confined to the south-west corner, extending as far east as St. George, whilst in New South Wales it is scattered over most of the western half of the State.

In Victoria, it is confined to the north western corner, apart from occasional records farther south.

271 KAKATOE (DUCORPSIUS)

SANGUINEA

LITTLE CORELLA

(BARE-EYED COCKATOO)

Checklist distribution—N.A., C.A., N.W.A., S.A., N.S.W. (int.).

Commencing with Queensland (not mentioned in the *Checklist*) the species extends

as far north as the Archer River on Cape York Peninsula and is found throughout the western portion of the State but apparently does not transgress the Great Dividing Range.

Similarly, in New South Wales it is confined to the far western plains and in Victoria it is restricted to the north-west corner of the State with a record from the You Yangs.

In South Australia, isolated populations occur as far south as Langhorne Creek and Ashbourne. Proceeding north, it becomes more common and extends throughout the north-eastern part of the State but is infrequently found to the west of Spencer Gulf and in the north-west of the State.

In the Northern Territory, it is widespread from the South Australian border right up to "the Top End" and extending thence into and covering the whole of the north-west of Western Australia reaching as far south as a line drawn through Dongara, Mullewa and Morawa. Here, it comes in contact with and slightly overlaps the range of *pastinator*, formerly considered the western race of *tenuirostris*, but better treated as a well defined race of *sanguinea*. *K.s. pastinator* continues southward to roughly a line from the coast at Jurien Bay through Danrangan, Moora, Wongan Hills and Kalannie, with isolated populations surviving in the far south-west, most notably that in the vicinity of Lake Muir.

272 KAKATOE (LICMETIS)

TENUIROSTRIS

CORELLA (LONG-BILLED COCKATOO)

Checklist distribution — Sn.A., W.A. — N.W.A.

As noted under the preceding species, the alleged distribution in the W.A.-N.W.A. is accounted for by the relegation of *pastinator* (and *derbyi*) to a sub-species of *sanguinea*.

The true Corella has therefore a comparatively restricted range in Southern Australia from the south-east of South Australia in the vicinity of Naracoorte and Penola across the border into its main stronghold in the western district of Victoria, extending as far east as Port Philip Bay on occasions. Although not mentioned in the *Checklist* the species undoubtedly occurs in New South Wales, mainly in the Riverina district—e.g., between Mathoura and Koondrook, between Moulamein and Deniliquin, at Euston and along the Lachlan and Murrumbidgee Rivers

There is also a surprising skin in the H. L. White collection from Byrock in northern New South Wales.

273 KAKATOE (EOLOPHUS)

ROSEICAPILLA

GALAH (ROSE-BREADED COCKATOO)

Checklist distribution—A. (more Inland), T.*

The foregoing is fairly comprehensive but the species is rapidly increasing its range and tending to become more southern and more coastal.

In Western Australia, it occurs throughout the State except south and west of a line through Dongara, Moora and Kellerberrin (Serventy and Whittell), though intrusions beyond this line are not infrequently recorded. The Western Australian race is distinguished by its larger crest, which is of a deeper pink shade than that of the eastern birds.

In the Northern Territory and in South Australia it is widely distributed although in the latter State it has only come south in the last thirty-five or forty years and is now rapidly increasing in the south-east.

In Victoria it has rapidly extended southward and eastward to cover most of the State, whilst in New South Wales and Queensland it is widely distributed west of the Great Dividing Range and seems to be spreading east of this in many places, though possibly to a lesser extent in Queensland than in New South Wales. It also occurs over much of Cape York Peninsula.

It appears to have been introduced to Tasmania in the Huon River district but with what success is uncertain.

FAMILY LORIIDAE: LORIES

274 LEPTOLOPHUS HOLLANDICUS

COCKATIEL (COCKATOO PARROT)

Checklist distribution—A., T. (once).

Amplification of the foregoing would best read Australia generally, mainly inland and only occasionally coastal.

In Western Australia it occurs "all over the State except the south-west jarrah forest area. Occasionally wandering birds penetrate as far as Bridgetown" according to Serventy and Whittell.

In South Australia it is widely distributed but there are only a few records from the south-east of the State, viz Kingston and Penola.

In Victoria, it is seldom recorded south or east of the Wimmera, although there are records from the You Yangs, Terang, Coleraine, Skipton and Beaufort; it has not been recorded from the extreme south-west or from Gippsland.

In New South Wales it is rarely coastal, but widely distributed over the inland parts of the State west of the Dividing Range.

In Queensland it is found in almost all parts with still a preference for the inland areas. Officer (pers. comm.) observed it as far north as Princess Charlotte Bay.

In the Northern Territory it has been recorded in all parts.

275 LORIUS PECTORALIS

RED-SIDED (ECLECTUS) PARROT

Checklist distribution — Aru Is., N.G., N.Q. (Pascoe R. district).

The limited Australian distribution given above is extended by Thomson to read "in the Pascoe, Claudie, Lockhart, Hayes, Nesbit and Rocky Rivers and in the Massey Creek districts—the last named is apparently its southern limit." However, Austin has dramatically extended its range by his observations in the vicinity of Lake Barrine (*Emu*, Vol. 56, pt. 1, p. 80).

276 GEOFFROYUS GEOFFROYI

RED-CHEEKED PARROT

Checklist distribution — Timor — N.G., N.Q. (Pascoe R. district).

As with the previous species, Thomson has recorded it as "numerous in its special and restricted habitat in dense tropical jungles of the Lockhart, Hayes, Nesbit and Rocky Rivers, but never seen in open forest." Mack (in litt.) stated that it was confined to rain forest north-east of Coen in the Iron Range and Peach River area. Forshaw states that "it is restricted to that area on the east coast of Cape York Peninsula bounded by the Pascoe River in the north and the Rocky River in the south. It does not occur west of the Dividing Range."

277 POLYTELIS SWAINSONI

SUPERB PARROT (GREEN LEEK)

Checklist distribution—Riverina, Murray Basin, N.S.W., V.

Frith and Calaby (*Emu* 53, pt. 4, p. 327), have elaborated on the range of this species in New South Wales and others have ex-

tended it somewhat. It may be summarized as the Murrumbidgee River from Hay in the west to the northern part of the Australian Capital Territory in the east. To the northward, it is unusual along the lower Lachlan River but is well known along the upper reaches of the river, e.g., at Cowra. More recently, there have been surprising observations as far north as Gunnedah and Gilgandra, although Keartland stated that it occurred on the Warrega and Condamine Rivers much further northward. Southward in New South Wales there are records from the vicinity of Mathoura, Deniliquin, Jerilderie and Finley. In Victoria, all records apart from a few along the Murray Valley seem to belong to a past era and include such places as Wangaratta, Mooroopna, Black Rock, Pine Plains (in the mallee and therefore highly suspect), Keilor and Yarra River.

278 POLYTELIS ANTHOPEPLUS
REGENT PARROT (SMOKER)

Checklist distribution—Int. V., N.S.W., S.A., W.A.

The north-western corner of Victoria is presumably implied by the *Checklist's* Int. V. as the records include the area west of Euston and Lake Albacutya and thence towards the South Australian border. Somewhat surprising is the Victorian record for Lake Boga and even more so and very suspect are those for north-eastern Victoria which include Wangaratta, Shepparton and Tatura. The only New South Wales record discovered is that for Lake Victoria but there must surely be other records for the far south-west of the State in the vicinity of the River Murray. The Victorian range is continued directly into South Australia, forming a roughly triangular area of which the corners are Renmark, Morgan and Pinnaroo; records of extensions southward are few and irregular. It will be appreciated that this species, in the east, has a relatively limited range, like the previous one and they may be considered to be mutually exclusive. In Western Australia there is a good subspecies (*westralis*) in which the males are more greenish-yellow than the eastern birds. It is a much commoner bird in this part of its range. Serventy and Whittell give it as "the south-west portion of the State, north to Ajana, east to the Kalgoorlie area, the Dundas district, Esperance and Israelite Bay. It does not usually occur in the jarrah forest area and

the extreme south-west corner." There have been recent records from Laverton, Leonora and 243 miles east of Norseman.

279 POLYTELIS (SPATHOPTERUS)
ALEXANDRAE
PRINCESS PARROT

Checklist distribution—C.A.-W.A., N.W.A.

There have been so few observations of this species that its range is extremely difficult to determine as, like many other desert forms, it is presumably nomadic.

In Central Australia, the records are all from places on or about the 24th parallel (Ellery Creek, Todd, Hugh and Hale Rivers) extending southward to places near the South Australian border (e.g., Tomkinson Ranges, Finke, Abminga and Lambijina) and further south to the vicinity of Alberga and Oodnadatta.

In Western Australia, Serventy and Whittell state "An inhabitant of the arid interior, occurring north-almost to the Fitzroy River and south to Wiluna, Sandstone and occasionally Menzies. It occurs eastwards through the Great Victoria and Gibson Deserts to the central Australian range country." There is, however, a specimen in the H. L. White collection from Coolgardie, which is still further south; the record from Three Springs, not far from the coast, is difficult to accept.

For the Northern Territory, as distinct from Central Australia, there is a record from Newcastle Waters.

280 APROSMICTUS ERYTHROTUS
RED-WINGED PARROT

Checklist distribution — N.A., Q.-S.A., N.S.W.

The Northern Australia above should read north-western Australia and Northern Territory. This range, which extends as far west as Broome in the Kimberley Division of Western Australia and over the whole of the northern part of the Northern Territory (at least as far south as the latitude of Elliott and Newcastle Waters) is that of the subspecies *coccineopterus* which is smaller and has the red colouration more of a scarlet shade rather than the crimson of the eastern birds. The typical bird extends over practically the whole of Queensland from Cape York Peninsula to the New South Wales border, being only absent from some of the

east coast, especially in the south. It extends into the interior of northern New South Wales, where the vicinity of Oakwood may be its eastern limit and reaches as far south as Scone, Dunedoo and Narromine. It also reaches the north-eastern corner of South Australia and extends southward along the eastern border as far as Mootooroo. The *Checklist* makes no mention of the occurrence of the species in the Merauke district of West Irian.

**281 APROSMICTUS (ALISTERUS)
SCAPULARIS
KING PARROT**

Checklist distribution — E.A., — Cairns — Vic.

The foregoing needs elaboration and extension. Storr found the species at Helenvale, near Cooktown, which extends the range northward. From this point, it probably extends along most of the high country of the Great Dividing Range, throughout Queensland, New South Wales and eastern Victoria and with occasional, rather surprising, extensions down the western slopes, e.g., Blackall (Queensland) and Bingara (New South Wales). One also suspects that there may be considerable gaps in parts of this range, e.g., between Cardwell and the Eungella Range west of Mackay and again between this area and the Tropic of Capricorn.

In Victoria, there is a further extension into the Otway Ranges.

**282 PLATYCERCUS ELEGANS
CRIMSON ROSELLA**

Checklist distribution — C. York — Vic. — Kangaroo I., King I., Norfolk I.

The implied continuous distribution from Cape York to Victoria is almost certainly incorrect. The well marked subspecies *nigrescens* is recorded from such places as Cairns, Bellenden-Ker Range, Cardwell, Lake Barrine, Herberton, and Georgetown but is not documented as occurring farther north on Cape York proper. Moving southward, there is an apparently isolated population in the Eungella Ranges west of Mackay and the species is not encountered again until southern Queensland is reached where it occurs from such places as Nambour, Tamborine Mountain, Cunningham's Gap and the Macpherson Range. There would then appear to be an unbroken distribution south-

ward along the highlands and parts of the western slopes of the Great Dividing Range in New South Wales and throughout suitable habitat in most of Victoria, the north-western corner being excepted.

South Australia, with the exception of Kangaroo Island, is not included in the *Checklist* distribution and yet the species is plentiful throughout much of the south-east of the State, extending as far north as Bordertown and as far west as the vicinity of Kingston. The subspecies *melanoptera*, occurring on Kangaroo Island, particularly at the western end, is not very common and is of doubtful validity.

There seems little doubt that the species is, or was, on Norfolk Island and the authority for its alleged introduction there is Salvadori.

The original authority for King Island is not manifest but Courtney (in litt.) informs me that this is correct and that it is mainly found in the north-eastern corner of the island.

**283 PLATYCERCUS ADELAIDAE
ADELAIDE ROSELLA**

Checklist distribution — S.A. Mt. Lofty and Flinders Ranges.

The above distribution does not call for much discussion, the species extending continuously, in suitable habitat, from Cape Jervis in the south to the vicinity of Bungaree, Clare and Burra in the north. The subspecies, *fleuriensis* is almost certainly unworthy of retention because pale birds occur frequently amongst the predominantly brighter coloured population of Fleurieu Peninsula. On the eastern limits of its range, the species straggles down along some of the creeks towards the River Murray where it meets *P. flaveolus* — e.g., on the River Marne west of Wongulla, but apparently does not interbreed. The subspecies *subadelaidae*, which was confused with *flaveolus* by authorities in the past, occurs in the southern Flinders Range with a gap between its southern limit somewhere about Caltowie and Gladstone and the northernmost typical *adelaidae*. The northern limit has not been accurately defined but it is probably the vicinity of Warren Gorge and Patacoona. This race is characterized by the paler colouration, especially of the males, which superficially resemble *P. flaveolus*; in addition, the call note is materially different.

284 PLATYCERCUS FLAVEOLUS YELLOW ROSELLA

Checklist distribution — Murray R. Valley (S.A., Vic., and N.S.W., int.).

The foregoing is broadly correct but requires considerable elaboration. In South Australia the southern limit is given as Mannum, where Mathews' subspecies *innominatus*, which is not accepted, was collected. It probably does not occur as far south as this point at the present time; the southernmost recent record being on the Marne near Wongulla. From this point, it follows the Murray Valley upstream at least as far as Albury. In New South Wales it extends up the Darling as far as Pooncarie, along the Murrumbidgee as far as Wagga and eastward from there as far as Tumut. It is widely distributed throughout most of the Riverina and reaches as far as Booligal on the Lachlan. The distribution along the Victorian tributaries is not well documented but there are records for Wangaratta and Lower Evert on the Ovens.

285 PLATYCERCUS CALEDONICUS GREEN ROSELLA

Checklist distribution — T., Is. of Bass Strait.

The foregoing seems to be adequate as there appears to be a generalized distribution over most of Tasmania as well as the larger islands of Bass Strait. According to Courtney (in litt) it is very rare on King Island and occurs mainly in the south-eastern part.

286 PLATYCERCUS ADSCITUS PALE-HEADED ROSELLA

Checklist distribution — Q., N.S.W.

The foregoing requires considerable elaboration. The well known race, which is the subspecies *palliceps*, extends as far south in inland New South Wales as a line about 100 miles south of the Queensland border, starting at Inverell and running through Delungra, Bingara, Warialda and Moree. From the Queensland border there is probably an unbroken distribution northward, the Westernmost recordings being successively Charleville, Angathella, Blackall, Barcardine and Richmond; this corresponds roughly with the western slopes of the Great Dividing Range. How much farther north it extends along this line is undetermined. The species also occurs on the far north coast of New

South Wales but not south of the Clarence River; from there it extends northward to Rockhampton, Mackay and Townsville and presumably it occurs between the coastal and western limits wherever suitable habitat occurs.

The strikingly different subspecies *P. a. adscitus*, formerly designated *cyanogenys* or *amathusiae*, occurs from the extreme tip of Cape York over the whole peninsula as far south as Mareeba and probably to Cardwell; Thomson states that it is well distributed over the Peninsula, particularly in the central highlands. This range must then include Keast's alleged isolate of the Cairns-Atherton area, but further reference to his isolate of the Bowen area has not been found.

287 PLATYCERCUS VENUSTUS NORTHERN ROSELLA

Checklist distribution — N.W.A., N.T.

The above distribution is probably best elaborated as occupying the coastal belt of up to three hundred miles in depth from the western end of the Kimberley division of Western Australia (approximately longitude 122°) across to the vicinity of the Northern Territory — Queensland border (approximately longitude 138°). On the Stuart Highway it is recorded as far south as Katherine (latitude 15°) and eastward on the Queensland border (latitude 17°). However, Austin et al. have strikingly extended the range by observing the species throughout the Gulf country from the McArthur River to as far east as the Gilbert River at the base of Cape York Peninsula.

288 PLATYCERCUS EXIMIUS EASTERN ROSELLA

Checklist distribution — S.Q. — Vic. — S.A. (Adelaide Hills), T.

If the isolated pocket in the southern Mount Lofty Ranges, which may well be an introduction as Ashby thought, be overlooked, the range in South Australia is the whole of the south-eastern portion of the State coming as far north as Culburra and Salt Creek. To the east, it extends over most of Victoria, although sparsely distributed in the north-western corner and missing from far eastern Gippsland, and thence into southern and south-eastern New South Wales, the limits on the west being roughly Euston, Hay, West Wyalong, Parkes and in the north,

Cobbora, Merriwa and Muswellbrook. About the 32nd parallel sees the quite sudden transition to the Golden-mantled race, *P.e. ceciliae* (= *splendidus*) of which Scone is the southern limit and the old New South Wales — Queensland railway line the approximate western limit. This subspecies extends northward, being found on the Manning, Bellinger and Clarence Rivers, and thence into Queensland where it is recorded from Toowoomba, Warwick and Cunningham's Gap. Its northernmost limit is uncertain although there are suggestions that it extends as far as Maryborough and Bundaberg: the specimen in the Queensland Museum from Gympie is definitely not *ceciliae* and is presumably a cagebird.

In Tasmania, the distinct subspecies *diemenensis* is widespread and it is said to occur also on King Island.

289 PLATYCERCUS ICTEROTIS WESTERN ROSELLA

Checklist distribution — S.W.A.

Serventy and Whittell amplify the foregoing by giving the range as being confined to the south-west corner, north to Moora and east to Wongan Hills, Moorine Rock (near Southern Cross) and the Dundas district. The inland form (*xanthogenys*) appears to be reasonably well defined but there does not seem to be a well defined boundary between it and the typical race.

290 PURPUREICEPHALUS SPURIUS RED-CAPPED PARROT

Checklist distribution — S.W.A.

The foregoing is amplified in Serventy and Whittell to read "Found in the south-west corner north to Dandaragan, Gingin and Mooliabeenee and generally west of the Great Southern Railway but in the south extending eastward to Lake Grace (rare) and along the coast to Esperance." The writer has not been able to find any records which extend the foregoing range.

291 BARNARDIUS BARNARDI RINGNECK (MALLEE) PARROT

Checklist distribution — S.A., N.W. Vic., N.S.W., S.Q. (int.).

The foregoing can be elaborated considerably.

In South Australia the range is best defined by saying that the species does not occur

west of the Flinders Ranges and Spencer Gulf and that it avoids the high rainfall areas of the Mount Lofty Ranges and the south-east of the State, where it extends as far south as Kingston and about midway between Keith and Naracoorte.

In Victoria it is confined to the north-western portion, the southernmost recordings being Kaniva and Kerang.

In New South Wales it occurs over most of the western two-thirds of the State, extending as far east as Garah, Warialda, and Pilliga in the north and such places as Dubbo, West Wyalong and Temora in the central portion but apparently avoiding most of the Riverina in the south.

In Queensland, it is widely spread in the south-western corner being roughly enclosed by a line running through St. George, Mitchell, Angathella, Blackall and Windorah and becoming continuous with the South Australian population in the north-eastern corner of that State.

Records from Barcaldine and Longreach appear to be well beyond the accepted distribution and raise the possibility of an extension of *B. macgillivrayi* in this direction (q.v.).

292 BARNARDIUS MACGILLIVRAYI CLONCURRY PARROT

Checklist distribution — N.Q. (int.).

The sparse records available suggest that this species is confined to the Selwyn Range of north-western Queensland and to the creeks and rivers emerging therefrom. Bearing this in mind, the distribution would be a roughly diamond shaped area bounded by Burketown in the north, Camooweal to the west, Boulia to the south and Kynuna to the east, all records falling within the foregoing boundaries.

293 BARNARDIUS SEMITORQUATUS TWENTY-EIGHT PARROT

Checklist distribution — S.W.A., (Albany to Perth).

Serventy and Whittell elaborate the above to read "In the wetter areas of the south-west corner occurs the all-green form with a prominent red forehead. Almost all birds south-west of a line from just north of Perth, through the Darling Range country to just west of Albany belong to this colour type." To the east of this line and occupying most

of the Wheatbelt, there occurs a hybrid population which comprises various stages intermediate between the true *semitorquatus* and *B. zonarius* (q.v.).

294 BARNARDIUS ZONARIUS

PORT LINCOLN PARROT

Checklist distribution — S.A. (Spencer Gulf) — C.A. — W.A. (Murchison R.), N.W.A.

As can be seen from the foregoing, this species has an extremely wide range.

In South Australia it occurs over practically all of the western two-thirds of the State — i.e. over the whole of Eyre Peninsula and the West Coast and everywhere that suitable habitat occurs west of the Flinders Ranges and the north-south railway line. Similarly, in the Northern Territory, it has been recorded as far north as Banka Banka and in many areas to the west of the Stuart Highway.

In Western Australia it is extremely widespread and is presumably continued from the South Australian population westward as far as a line running from Moora, through Goomalling, Wickpin and Nyabing, (Serventy and Whittell). West of this line, the hybrid population of the Wheatbelt, mentioned under *B. semitorquatus*, is encountered. Elsewhere in Western Australia, *B. zonarius* is probably indistinguishable from the birds occurring on Eyre Peninsula or in Central Australia with the exception of the northernmost pale race (*occidentalis*) which occurs as far north as the Pilbara district.

295 PSEPHOTUS HAEMATONOTUS

RED-BACKED PARROT

Checklist distribution — S.W.Q., N.S.W., Vic., S.A.

The foregoing is reasonably accurate but is capable of some amplification.

In south-western Queensland, there are recordings as far north as Charleville, Quilpie, and Toowoomba.

In New South Wales, the species can be said to occur almost everywhere with the possible exception of some of the northern part of the coastal strip to which it appears to be extending.

In Victoria it is present over most, if not all, of the State but is rare in Gippsland.

In South Australia, it occurs over most of the eastern portion of the State, extending

as far as the north-eastern corner where the pale, bluish race, *coeruleus*, occurs. However, the species does not occur west of Spencer Gulf and the Flinders Range.

296 PSEPHOTUS VARIUS

MULGA PARROT

Checklist distribution — Inland S.Q. — Vic. — W.A., C.A.

The foregoing is by no means precise enough. The records for inland south Queensland are few and far between; the only ones that I have been able to obtain are those for Quilpie, Charleville and Moonie River.

In New South Wales it is entirely a bird of the western two-thirds of the State; not reaching the western slopes of the Great Dividing Range; the easternmost records that I have obtained are from Collarene in the north and Griffith in the south.

In Victoria it is confined to the north-western corner of the State with an extension as far south as Ararat and an extremely doubtful record from Wangaratta to the east.

In South Australia, it is extremely widely distributed avoiding only the high rainfall areas of the Mount Lofty Ranges and the south-east, and extending to the far north-east of the State, in continuity with the New South Wales and Queensland populations and also into the far north-west. This range continues on into Central Australia where the northernmost recordings are from Macdonald Downs and Missionary Plain. Similarly, there is a continuous distribution from the western parts of South Australia on into Western Australia, where again it is widely spread, extending, according to Serventy and Whittell north to the Pilbara district and again avoiding only the higher rainfall area of the south-west, i.e., west and south of a line joining Moora, Grass Valley, Quairading, Kweda and Dundas.

297 PSEPHOTUS (NORTHIELLA)

HAEMATOGASTER

BLUE BONNET

Checklist distribution — Inland S.Q. — Vic., S.A.

In South Australia, the yellow vented race of this species extends as far west as Kingoonya on the trans-Continental railway and Kimba on Eyre Peninsula. From these

limits, it extends over most of the north-eastern parts of the State, reaching as far north as Innamincka and south as far as Two Wells and Wellington East. It is widely spread through the Murray Mallee and on into Victoria where it occurs throughout the north-western corner of the State and the Wimmera and as far to the east as Bendigo and Rochester.

Similarly there is a direct spread eastwards into western New South Wales to the Riverina in the south and up through central New South Wales into south-western Queensland as far north as Nappamerrie, Bulloo, Quilpie, Eulo and Cunnamulla. To the north-east of this range, with a rather narrow zone of intermediate forms in the vicinity of Borellan and Rankin's Springs, there occurs the strikingly distinct red-vented subspecies which is recorded from St. George in southern Queensland down through Moree, Garah, Warialda, Cobbora, Wellington and West Wyalong to Grenfell.

298 PSEPHOTUS (NORTHIELLA)

NARETHAE

LITTLE BLUE BONNET

Checklist distribution — S.E. of W.A., about Trans-Continental railway.

Serventy and Whittell state "a very restricted distribution in Western Australia being confined to the myall country that fringes the north-western edge of the Nullarbor Plain. It has been proved to occur from a point 20 miles west of Naretha to the myall belt 80 miles north of Loongara, a zone some 180 miles in length and probably not more than 20 miles in width. It may extend even further east but it does not occur north in the mallee and mulga country of the Great Victoria Desert." More recently it has been stated to extend much further west towards Kalgoorlie and also south to about halfway between Cocklebidy and Rawlinna, and from Mundrabilla to Eucla. Ford (*Emu* Vol. 67, part 2, p. 122), has suggested a possible intergradation with *Ps. haematogaster* on the eastern side of the Nullarbor Plain but specimens from Kingoonya (the westernmost recording) are absolutely typical of the yellow-vented race (*xanthorrhous*).

299 PSEPHOTUS (PSEPHOTELLUS) PULCHERRIMUS

PARADISE PARROT

Checklist distribution — Q. (approaching extinction).

Perusal of available records suggests a former distribution from the Nogoa River (lat. 23°) in central Queensland southward along a strip roughly one hundred miles wide to the Queensland-New South Wales border and thence into north-eastern New South Wales as far south as the vicinity of Inverell to the west and Casino to the east. The forecast in 1926 of approaching extinction may well have become a fact.

300 PSEPHOTUS (PSEPHOTELLUS) CHRYSOPTERYGIUS

GOLDEN-WINGED PARROT

Checklist distribution — N.Q. (Normanton — Watson R.).

Available records suggest that the foregoing is reasonably accurate; there may well be seasonal movements within Cape York Peninsula. It seems unlikely that the species occurs north of 13° or on the eastern side south of about 15°.

301 PSEPHOTUS (PSEPHOTELLUS) DISSIMILIS

HOODED PARROT

Checklist distribution — N.T.

The few records available suggest that this species has a very limited range in the Northern Territory; nearly all records are from the vicinity of Pine Creek and Katherine but there are specimens taken at Borroloola on the McArthur River, suggesting that there may be a more or less continuous distribution between the two areas. The R.A.O.U. Field-outing in July 1967 observed the species at the Elsey turnoff, the southernmost record.

302 NEOPHEMA PULCHELLA TURQUOISE PARROT

Checklist distribution — S.Q., N.S.W., Vic., S.A., extremely rare.

The foregoing is in need of considerable revision. The only recent records from southern Queensland that I have obtained are those from Stanthorpe which is close to the New South Wales border, and from Gayndah. As far as New South Wales is concerned, there is no doubt that the north-

eastern corner of the State is the stronghold of the species. Inverell, Narrabri and Bingara being areas of comparatively frequent occurrence. Other records are from the outer western suburbs of Sydney, the Upper Hunter, Illawarra and Griffith districts. The only recent Victorian records are from Bendigo and East Gippsland and the surprising discovery of a small breeding population in 1967 in the vicinity of Warby Range, near Benalla.

The South Australian record has long since been rejected being due to faulty identification of a female of *N. splendida*.

The statement 'extremely rare' is undoubtedly inaccurate if only in the light of the frequently occurrence of the species in captivity. Perhaps the present-day distribution would be best expressed as eastern, especially north-eastern, New South Wales and central Victoria.

303 NEOPHEMA SPLENDIDA SCARLET-CHESTED PARROT

Checklist distribution — Sn. A. (Moore R., W.A. — Darling R., N.S.W.), very rare.

Serventy and Whittell give fairly numerous recent scattered recordings of the species in Western Australia, the westernmost being between Pingelly and Corrigin and the northernmost at Laverton.

In South Australia it is not infrequently recorded on the west coast and in the Gawler Ranges and more recently, large parties have been seen in the country north of the River Murray, between Morgan and the border. North-west Victoria is given as an early record, and a pair nested at Manya in 1941 but I can find nothing recent to justify the extension eastward in New South Wales to the Darling River. Early records from Gilgandra and Lismore almost certainly refer to *N. pulchella*. The statement 'very rare' is almost certainly due to the sparse settlement of, and observation in the areas in which the species occurs. A modern assessment of distribution might well be given as inland Western Australia south of latitude 29° and inland South Australia as far east as the New South Wales border.

304 NEOPHEMA (NEOPSEPHOTUS) BOURKI BOURKE PARROT

Checklist distribution — Int. Q., N.S.W., V. — W.A., G.A.

The foregoing warrants considerable re-

vision in as much as no records from Queensland or from Victoria can be discovered whilst in New South Wales, the only reliable comparatively recent ones are from the Barrier Range in the Broken Hill district.

In Western Australia, Ford has shown that the species is widespread and common throughout the pastoral districts, i.e., between the mulga-spinifex line to the north and the mulga-eucalypt line in the south. The range possibly extends in continuity into South Australia, where it occurs between Lake Eyre and the northern border of the State and westward to the Everard and Musgrave Ranges and in Central Australia, where it has been recorded from Finke, Ernabella, Palm Valley and the vicinity of Alice Springs. The R.A.O.U. Field-outing in 1967 observed it as far north as the Devil's Marbles on the Stuart Highway.

305 NEOPHEMA (NEONANODES) CHRYSOGASTER

ORANGE-BREASTED PARROT

Checklist distribution — N.S.W., Vic., S.A., T.

The present-day range of this rare species can be summarized as follows:

South Australia from Outer Harbor area (with one record from the opposite side of St. Vincent Gulf) south and east along the coast; coastal Victoria from the South Australian border to the western shores of Port Phillip Bay, King Island and Tasmania, where it has been widely but sporadically reported, mostly along the northern and western coasts. The records from New South Wales appear to relate to an isolated population in the vicinity of Sydney about the turn of the century.

306 NEOPHEMA (NEONANODES) CHRYSOSTOMA

BLUE-WINGED PARROT

Checklist distribution — N.S.W., Vic., S.A., King Is., T., (coastal sandhills and interior).

The distribution for New South Wales would appear to be the western and south-western portion as far north as Broken Hill and east to Deniliquin, with isolated observations at Pilliga and Narran Lake.

In Victoria, there are records from almost the whole of the State, but it is probably commonest in the south-west.

In South Australia, the species is plentiful

in the south-eastern portion of the State, extending as far north as the vicinity of Adelaide, and the Mount Mary Plains. Records further north than this in South Australia must be regarded as suspect and probably related to *N. elegans*.

On King Island and in Tasmania it is plentiful and widely distributed. It is not clear whether 'coastal sandhills and interior' is intended to refer to Tasmania only.

**307 NEOPHEMA (NEONANODES)
ELEGANS**

ELEGANT PARROT

Checklist distribution — N.S.W., Vic. — S.W.A. — N.W.A.

As suggested by McGill, the occurrence of this species in New South Wales is uncertain and if it occurs, it is probably in the western and south-western portions of the State. In Victoria, the records again are fairly unsatisfactory and it would seem likely that those from the north-western corner of the State and the western district are the most credible.

In South Australia, the species is widespread, but avoids the south-east south of the Coorong. It occurs in the lower north, in the Flinders Range and further towards Marree and Lake Callabonna and is present also on Kangaroo Island.

In Western Australia, Serventy and Whittell state 'Until recent years this parrot was known only in the south-west corner, north to Moora and east to Merridin and near Esperance. Formerly it was not found in the jarrah forest belt or the Swan coastal plain but since 1937 the species has been undergoing a cycle of expansion, radially in the south-west and north to the pastoral country.' More recently there have been isolated recordings from as far north as the Gascoyne and Fortescue Rivers.

**308 NEOPHEMA (NEONANODES)
PETROPHILA**

ROCK PARROT

Checklist distribution — S.A. — W.A. (St. Vincent G. — Shark Bay) (coast).

The foregoing is reasonably accurate but in South Australia should be extended in a south-easterly direction as far as Baudin Rocks near Robe and to include Kangaroo Island. To the westward, the distribution

appears to be unbroken right through to Western Australia wherever the coastline affords suitable habitat. In Western Australia, Serventy and Whittell express the distribution clearly by saying that it 'frequents coastal islands and mainland dunes and rocks (both granite and limestone) from the Great Australian Bight to Shark's Bay.'

**309 LATHAMUS DISCOLOR
SWIFT PARROT**

Checklist distribution — T., S.E.A., Adelaide — Dawson R., E.C.Q.

The excellent paper on this species (*Emu* Vol. 63, part 4, pp. 310-326), by Hindwood and Sharland reaches the conclusion that the species breeds in Tasmania and possibly in the islands of the Furneaux group and migrates to spend the winter in southern and eastern Australia.

An amplification of the *Checklist* distribution should read: Tasmania and islands of Furneaux group, but not recorded from King Island, mainly during spring and summer months. Migrates to the mainland where it is found principally in autumn and winter.

In South Australia, it is rare, occurring as far north as the Mount Mary Plains but mainly in the Mount Lofty Ranges and south-east. In Victoria it is widespread but probably rarely occurs in the north-west and in the adjacent south-west of New South Wales. In the latter State, it is widespread along the coast and Dividing Range with occasional westerly records. Extensions to northern New South Wales and Queensland (as far north as Duaringa) are probably few and far between.

**310 MELOPSITTACUS UNDULATUS
BUDGERYGAR (SHELL PARROT)**

Checklist distribution — A., occ. coastal E.A. and S.W.A.

The foregoing probably implies that this highly nomadic species occurs in the interior of Australia with occasional coastal irruptions. In Western Australia, according to Serventy and Whittell, it occurs 'all over the State except in the south-west jarrah forest area.' There are, however, occasional records of penetrations into this region. Storr states that in the Northern Territory it ordinarily occurs 'north to the lower Victoria and upper Roper but at height of dry season sometimes may wander as far north as Pine Creek and in extreme droughts even to Darwin.'

In South Australia it occurs throughout the northern parts of the State and at irregular intervals in the more southern parts: there do not appear to be definite records from the south-east, although it seems likely that it reaches this area on occasions.

In Victoria, it is recorded from all parts of the State with the exception of approximately the eastern one-third and in New South Wales it occurs over the whole of the interior of the State but rarely transgresses the Dividing Range.

In Queensland similarly it occurs over most of the interior of the State but rarely reaches the east coast; it does not appear to occur on Cape York Peninsula, north of 18° latitude.

311 PEZOPORUS WALLICUS

GROUND PARROT

Checklist distribution — T., coastal Sn. A., Champion Bay, W.A. — Fraser I., Q.

The above implies a wide distribution which certainly no longer obtains.

In Tasmania, the species is widely distributed. On the mainland, the distribution is extremely patchy. There have been no further recordings from Fraser Island since that of Chisholm and the only other Queensland record discovered is that in *The Australian Bird Watcher*, Vol. 3 (1967), p. 48. The author of this note, Mrs. Carole Bevege, has amplified this to me, stating that the species occurs in localised areas in coastal heathland from approximately 50 miles north of Brisbane to north-east of Gympie.

In New South Wales there have been records from such widely separated places as Yamba on the north coast, Cape Hawke Peninsula, south of Sydney in the vicinity of Nowra and at Ulladulla. In Victoria it occurs patchily along much of the coast with recordings from Mallacoota, Marlo, Wilson's Promontory, Westernport, Carlisle River, Port Campbell, Port Fairy, Nelson and just across the border to the vicinity of Port Macdonnell, which constitutes the only South Australian record for very many years. In Western Australia, although it originally appears to have extended as far north as Geraldton, the only recordings in this century are from the south coast at such places as Cheyne Beach, Albany, Wilson's Inlet near Denmark, and Irwin Inlet.

312 GEOPSITTACUS OCCIDENTALIS

NIGHT PARROT

Checklist distribution — Inland W.A., S.A., C.A. extinct?

There appears to be nothing that can profitably be added to the above, as there are no certain records of the species for many years. Wilson in *Emu* (Vol. 37, part 2, pp. 79-87), enumerated the history of the species very fully. The occurrence of the species in north-western Victoria has never been substantiated.