AGGRESSION IN MAGPIES — Like Hanna (Bird Observer, Dec. 1975) I have seen Magpies Gymnorhina tibicen chasing pipits Anthus novaeseelandiae. This has been on several occasions in the Mt. Mary area of South Australia. For example, in June 1972, a pipit when noticed was flying high for this species (about 15-20 m.) and with much shallower undulations than is usual, chirruping as it flew. The Magpie flew two to three metres behind it, and after about 300-400 m it had neither gained nor lost ground. It then veered off and the pipit dropped to the ground. I can think of no explanation for such behaviour. — J. B. PATON.

Accepted August, 1976.