

### Breeding under Difficulty.

By J. NEIL MCGILP, KING'S PARK.

When at Moolawatana (Lake Frome district) recently I was shown a nest of *Uroactus audax* (Eaglehawk), the owners of which must have had rather an unpleasant experience when rearing their young.

The nest was originally built upon the top of what is locally known as a Tar Bush, a fuchsia-like flowering bush. It was not more than four feet up from the ground.

During a heavy storm the supporting branches of the bush gave way, and the nest was carried a distance of eight feet, landing on the ground the right way up. Some days afterwards one of my employees, when passing the nest, was surprised to find two young which were in the snow-white downy stage (under a fortnight old). These young were successfully reared in this nest.

It is not uncommon to see Eaglehawks nesting close to the ground. I knew of one built in the lowest forks of a Needle

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Bush, and the bottom of the nest was not more than eighteen inches from the ground. A large gum creek is within two miles of this nest.

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