

## Bird Notes.

—June, 1924.—

By Mr. L. Reese, Minnie Downs, via Marree (Hergott Springs).

The regular bird inhabitants of this district keep their numbers well up. I have noted during the month, in thousands, *Cacatua roseicapilla* (Galahs) and *Cacatua sanguinea* (Bare-eyed Cockatoos), and hundreds of *Geopelia cuneata* (Diamond Doves), *Taeniopygia castanotis* (Zebra Finches), *Corvus ceciliae* (Crows), and *Virago gibberifrons* (Gray Teal)—of this last species I found about a dozen nests with eight to nine eggs in each—all small clutches this year. At night I have heard the Stone-Plovers (*Burhinus magnirostris*) calling and the Water-Fowl still continue to pass overhead, and I have recognized the calls of the following as they fly northwards:—Red-necked Avocets (*Recurvirostra novae-hollandiae*), White-headed Stilts (*Himantopus leucocephalus*), Wood Duck (*Chenonetta jubata*), Black Duck (*Anas superciliosa*), Pink-eared Ducks (*Malacorhynchus membranaceus*), and Black Swans. The other species of birds noted were:—Emu (*Dromaius novae-hollandiae*)—(100). I have seen five nests, and in one was a clutch of 10 eggs. This species is the only one that does not nest when the rain comes. They lay exclusively during the winter. Bustards (*Eupodotis australis*)—About 100 seen. Straw-necked Ibis (*Threskiornis spinicollis*)—From 200 to 300 nested in one spot in trees, about 15 feet high., which were surrounded by the flood-waters. Crested Pigeon (*Ocyphaps lophotes*) are fairly numerous. About 30 Terns were seen, and I think they were the Caspian (*Hydroprogne caspia*). Twenty Spur-winged Plover were seen, and although I did not find any nests I judged they were nesting from the noise they made as I approached them. Cormorants (*Phalacrocorax* sp.), White-backed Swallows (*Cheramoeca leucosternum*), Willie-Wagtails (*Rhipidura leucophrys*), White-winged Wrens (*Malurus leuconotus*), Dusky Wood-Swallows (*Artamus cyanopterus*), Magpie-Larks (*Grallina cyanoleuca*), Red-tipped Pardalotes (*Pardalotus ornatus*), Yellow-throated Miners (*Myzantha flavigula*), Black-backed Magpies (*Gymnorhina tibicen*), Wedge-tailed Eagle (*Uroaetus audax*) (6), Fork-tailed Kites (*Milvus migrans*).

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There is no water within 20 miles of the station homestead, so all the birds come to the trough for water, and that gives me a splendid opportunity to see what species are about here.

Correction.—Page 229 July No.—Read “*Haliaeetus spheerurus* (Whistling Eagles)” for “Square-tailed Kites (*Lophoictinia isura*).”