

## A Trip to the South-East of South Australia.

By F. E. Parsons.

The following notes were taken during a trip, lasting ten days, from Adelaide to the South-East of South Australia and back to Adelaide again. The trip was undertaken by Dr. Morgan and Messrs. J. N. McGilp and F. E. Parsons, who left Adelaide on the 22nd October, 1927.

An idea of the route taken can be formed by the following places, which are given in the order of the tour:—Adelaide, Wellington, Meningie, Coorong, Kingston, Robe, Naracoorte, Joanna, Naracoorte, Lucindale, Kingston, Coorong, Meningie, Adelaide. The total mileage covered was 760 miles, so that it can be seen that a considerable portion of the ten days was occupied in travelling.

The party was considerably handicapped by the absence of Mr. J. Sutton, who was unable through illness to take the trip. Mr. Sutton specializes when on these trips in taking a thorough bird census of the country visited. This entails a very considerable amount of time each day and evening, and could not be undertaken in his absence, as the time of the members of the party was well occupied in preparing the specimens collected.

However, a careful note was made of all the different species identified on the various sections of the route. Before giving a list of the birds noted, it might be interesting to make a few comments and comparisons with the birds listed in the "S.A. Ornithologist," Vol. IX, page 5, which gives an account of a trip to Robe during October, 1926, just twelve months earlier. In the 1926 trip several thousands of the Banded Stilts were seen, but this time not a single individual was noted.

At Robe we were very pleased to again come across the Orange-breasted Parrot (*Neophema chrysogaster*) in precisely the same patch of country where they were seen the previous year. This time about 30 birds were there, most of them mature birds with bright plumage, but there were a few immature, dull-plumaged ones. A specimen of the latter was collected for the Adelaide Museum.

The Bristle-Birds were very much in evidence from Kingston on. Their loud whistle could be heard from all sides. Several of their nests were found with both eggs and young. This time we found that a favourite position for their nest was in the centre of a clump of sword-grass. This knowledge enabled us to find quite a number of nests with much less fatigue than is required in forcing one's way through thick scrub.

Although there were large numbers of Ducks, Pelicans, and Swans on the Coorong, especially the latter, yet they were not as plentiful as in the previous year. This is probably accounted for by the fact that good falls of rain had been recorded in parts of Central Australia, and also that the water in the Coorong was much lower than the previous year.

A very striking fact was the few migratory wading birds that were to be seen. At this time of the year the shores of the Coorong are generally thronged with Stints and occasional colonies of Curlew-Sandpipers, with here and there a Green-shank, but this year we only saw occasionally a very few Stints.

The main object of the trip was to find the water-birds nesting, and consequently our objective was to spend as much time as possible at Bool Lagoon. This is a large lagoon about 14 miles south of Naracoorte, and at the time of our visit was mostly covered with from one to two feet of water. At the north end a long strip of teatree grows, and affords nesting-places for Cormorants, Spoonbills, Herons, and such birds.

The most interesting part of the trip was experienced at this lagoon, and, in fact, we all agreed that the sight we observed of a rookery of about 400 nests of White and Straw-necked Ibis was in itself well worth the long trip and time spent. The colony of Ibis made their presence known by their squawking when we were quite a fair distance away, and the sight of these many birds hovering over their nests when we approached them was wonderful. The nests were built on stumps of trampled-down clumps of reeds, and were spaced about 18 inches apart. The average height of the nests above the water was about two feet, and the water was about two feet deep. As we approached, and the sitting birds left their nests, we noticed that with only two exceptions the White birds were all clustered at one end of the rookery. There were very many more Straw-necked species than the White. The first nests reached were all empty; a little further in they contained one egg, and in the centre of the rookery all nests had either two or three eggs.

A day spent searching along the belt of teatree was also very interesting. Small lots of Little Black and Little Pied Cormorants' nests were observed, but were either empty or contained young birds. We were evidently too late to find them sitting. Several nests of the Yellow-billed Spoonbills were found containing either eggs or young. These birds did not nest close together as do the Cormorants, but generally occupied adjacent trees. Some nests contained two partly-incubated eggs, and others three eggs. The Musk Duck was the only Duck found

nesting, and it was interesting to note that in some cases incubated eggs were in a nest lined only with the trampled-down reeds of the bush, whilst other nests contained the eggs encased in a ball of down, much in the same way as a Black Duck covers its eggs.

The following is a detailed list of the birds seen:—

1. Emu, *Dromaius novae-hollandiae*.

These fine birds are often met with in the South-East of South Australia. We noticed fresh tracks of several Emus near Robe, and saw seven in a swamp 10 miles from Lucindale.

2. Little Penguin, *Eudyptula minor*.

Two or three dead birds were noted on the beach in the Robe district. They breed on the rocky islands along the South-East coast.

3. Stubble-Quail, *Coturnix pectoralis*.

Only one bird was noticed. This was near Naracoorte, but at certain seasons they are very numerous.

4. Peaceful Dove, *Geopelia placida*.

Many birds seen and heard a few miles south of Naracoorte.

5. Common Bronzewing, *Phaps chalcoptera*.

A few of this species were seen in the Robe district, but we found that they were not nearly so plentiful as the Brush Bronzewing.

6. Brush Bronzewing, *Phaps elegans*.

These birds were to be seen along all the routes taken. The rich colour of the plumage is very conspicuous when first the bird takes to the wing.

7. Black-tailed Native Hen, *Tribonyx ventralis*.

A few birds seen among the cutting-grass clumps on the edge of swamps at Robe, Lucindale, and Kingston.

8. Dusky Moorhen, *Gallinula tenebrosa*.

Only noticed on a small swamp near to Robe, where a nest was found containing nine eggs. The nest was placed at the base of a teatree growing in shallow water, and was built of broad strips of the teatree-bark.

9. Eastern Swamphen (Bald Coot), *Porphyrio melanotus*.

These birds were seen or heard on most of the reedy swamps visited. Many nests were found, but only in two instances did they contain eggs. Both of these nests were found on Bool Lagoon, and were situated in a clump of bulrushes growing in about 18 inches of water—the nest being eight inches above water. The birds do not construct the nest of trampled-down

reeds, but use short pieces for that purpose. In one instance there were five eggs, and in the other four eggs.

10. Australian Coot, *Fulica atra*.

These birds were not in very large numbers anywhere, but were noticed in the swamps at Wellington, Robe, Naracoorte, and at Bool Lagoon.

11. Little Grebe (Dabchick), *Podiceps ruficollis*.

12. Hoary-headed Grebe, *Podiceps poliocephalus*.

These two species of Grebe were occasionally seen on the swamps, usually in pairs. An old nest was seen on a small waterhole not more than a chain in diameter. The birds had left, but from the description given us of the birds it was probably a nest of the Little Grebe.

13. Great Crested Grebe, *Podiceps cristatus*.

Two pairs were noticed on a large secluded swamp near Lucindale. These four birds were the only ones of this species that we could identify.

14. Black Cormorant, *Phalacrocorax carbo*.

These birds were almost conspicuous by their absence. Two were seen flying overhead at Robe, and two more were seen on a swamp between Naracoorte and Lucindale.

15. White-breasted Cormorant, *Phalacrocorax fuscescens*.

This dark-faced species of Black-and-White Cormorant was seen in great numbers on the islands about the Robe district, where they are known to nest.

16. Little Pied Cormorant, *Microcarbo melanoleucus*.

A few odd birds were noticed on the swamps when approaching Naracoorte, but on Bool Lagoon many were seen in small flocks, and nests were found in the teatree. Two half-fledged young noticed in one nest; most of the other nests close by were all empty, the young birds evidently having discarded them.

17. Little Black Cormorant, *Phalacrocorax ater*.

Were only noticed about the teatree growing in Bool Lagoon. They were fairly plentiful, and no doubt some of the small clusters of 'empty Cormorants' nests were referable to this species.

18. Pelican, *Pelecanus conspicillatus*.

Several birds were seen on the River Murray while we were crossing on the punt, and great numbers were scattered about on Lake Albert at Meningie and along the Coorong.

19. Whiskered (Marsh) Tern, *Chlidonias leucopareia*.  
 This was a very common bird, and was noticed flying in small companies almost every day. They hover about over the swamps, but as often as not are hawking for their food over the grassy paddocks perhaps a mile or more from water.
20. Caspian Tern, *Hydroprogne caspia*.  
 Not a common bird in the districts we visited, and only odd birds were seen at Meningie and near Robe.
21. Gull-billed Tern (?).  
 Three or four birds were seen flying backwards and forwards along the margin of Bool Lagoon, but we could not, with the aid of field-glasses, accurately identify the species. We felt sure they were Gull-billed Terns, but as no specimen was taken it cannot be recorded with certainty.
22. Fairy Tern, *Sterna nereis*.  
 Not nearly so plentiful as the Marsh Tern, and they were only noticed along the Coorong and at Boatswain Point, near Robe.
23. Silver Gull, *Larus novae-hollandiae*.  
 Always to be met with along the Coorong and coast, and less frequently on the inland waters.
24. Turnstone, *Arenaria interpres*.  
 Although a good look-out was kept for this species, especially on the coast about Robe, where they are generally to be seen at this time of the year, no examples were seen until nearing Meningie on the homeward stretch, and then two birds were observed.
25. Sooty Oyster-catcher, *Haematopus unicolor*.  
 Only saw one pair of birds on the rocky coast south of Robe. The previous year the nest was found, but this time the birds were either not nesting or were nesting on the adjacent island, which could not be reached.
26. Pied Oyster-catcher, *Haematopus ostralegus*.  
 Only one bird was seen. This was on the shore of the Coorong, and by its actions we thought the bird to be near its nest, which a careful search failed to locate.
27. Spur-winged Plover, *Lobibyx novae-hollandiae*.  
 A very common bird, as would be expected in swampy situations. It was met with each day, but we did not find any nests with eggs, nor did we see any young birds.

28. Banded (Black-breasted) Plover, *Zonifer tricolor*.

Also a very common bird. One nest containing three eggs was inspected at Joanna. The eggs were deposited in a slight depression scratched out in the centre of some old manure.

29. Eastern Golden Plover, *Pluvialis dominicus*.

A small flock was seen on the beach at Boatswain Point, near Robe.

30. Hooded Dotterel, *Charadrius cucullatus*.

Several pairs on the beach at Boatswain Point. Two sets of eggs were found. They were laid in a slight depression in the sand, well above high-water mark.

31. Red-capped Dotterel, *Charadrius ruficapillus*.

A very common bird, especially along the Coorong. Two nests containing two eggs each were found at Boatswain Point, near to Robe.

32. Black-fronted Dotterel, *Charadrius melanops*.

Many birds were seen on the edges of the swamps.

33. White-headed Stilt, *Himantopus leucocephalus*.

A flock of about 1,000 birds was met with on the Coorong, and odd birds were seen at Bool Lagoon and Lucindale.

34. Red-necked Avocet, *Recurvirostra novae-hollandiae*.

Many birds were seen on Lake Albert at Meningie.

35. Greenshank, *Tringa nebularia*.

We were evidently too early to see many of the migratory birds, but only two or three Greenshanks were seen along the shore of the Coorong. They are usually seen standing in the water a little from the edge.

36. Sharp-tailed Sandpiper, *Erolia acuminata*.

Although a great many birds were seen, yet they were not nearly so plentiful as is usually the case at this season of the year.

37. Red-necked (Little) Stint, *Erolia ruficollis*.

Little bands of this small Stint were met with frequently along the Coorong, but they were not nearly as numerous as the Sharp-tailed Sandpiper.

38. Australian Snipe, *Gallinago hardwicki*.

We only met with these birds about a secluded swamp in the Lucindale district, but here they must have been in fair number, as we flushed a good many as we drove along in a spring-cart.

39. Brolga (Native Companion), *Megalornis rubicundus*.

A rare bird in this locality, but we were told they are occasionally seen. We noticed one bird flying very high overhead.

40. Straw-necked Ibis, *Threskiornis spinicollis*.

Usually these birds could be seen feeding in the paddocks almost anywhere in the South-East of South Australia, but this time we noticed only a few birds between Robe and Naracoorte, and the large colony on Bool Lagoon to which I have made previous reference in this article.

41. White Ibis, *Threskiornis molucca*.

These birds were also seen only between Robe and Naracoorte in isolated twos and threes, and a colony of about 30 birds were found nesting at Bool Lagoon, as previously stated in this article.

42. Yellow-billed Spoonbill, *Platalea flavipes*.

It was very interesting to meet with these birds nesting in the teatree growing in Bool Lagoon. Many nests were examined, most of which contained either two or three partially-incubated eggs or else two or three young birds. When we were near the nest the owners usually circled overhead, when the colour of the long bill was conspicuous. We were anxious to find the black-billed species (*P. regia*), but I do not think any were about. The height of the nest from the surface of the water varied from four feet to about 16 feet. They were fairly flat platforms of coarse sticks lined with broad strips of teatree-bark; some were unlined.

43. White Egret, *Egretta alba*.

A few birds in breeding plumage were noted at Bool Lagoon.

44. White-faced Heron, *Notophoxyx novae-hollandiae*.

Isolated birds were seen along our route, but were not observed at Bool Lagoon.

45. White-necked (Pacific) Heron, *Notophoxyx pacifica*.

A few examples were seen along our route, but were not observed at Bool Lagoon.

46. Reef-Heron, *Demigretta sacra*.

One bird was seen on the rocks at Boatswain Point, near to Robe.

47. Nankeen Night-Heron, *Nycticorax caledonicus*.

A number of birds of this species were disturbed from their roots in the teatree at Bool Lagoon, and a good search was made for their nests, but we were not successful in finding any new nests.

48. Brown Bittern, *Botaurus poiciloptilus*.

These birds could be heard making their peculiar booming call from a number of the swamps that we visited, especially at Bool Lagoon. Several birds were flushed from the reeds, and

one or two empty but new nests were found which were probably referable to this species.

49. Black Swan, *Chenopsis atrata*.

Were very numerous and were observed in every district we visited, especially on the Coorong, where they were in large flocks. Many pairs of birds were seen swimming out from the shore, followed by six or eight young.

50. Mountain Duck, *Casarca tadornoides*.

These Ducks were very plentiful on the Coorong, and on Lake Albert at Meningie.

51. Black Duck, *Anas superciliosa*.

Were seen on most of the larger swamps, but would not be described as numerous.

52. Grey Teal, *Querquedula gibberifrons*.

One or two large flocks were seen at Meningie on Lake Albert, also along the Coorong, but were not as numerous as usual for the locality.

53. Chestnut Teal, *Querquedula castanea*.

A few birds were identified, with the aid of field-glasses, between Lucindale and Kingston.

54. Hardhead (White-eyed) Duck, *Nyroca australis*.

This species of Duck was in very large flocks on Lake Albert at Meningie, quite close to the houses in the township.

55. Musk Duck, *Biziura lobata*.

Were seen on most of the swamps, and many nests were found, several of which contained either two or three eggs. As stated previously, some of the nests had no lining, except flags of bush in which the nest was situated, while others had the eggs encased in a ball of down, very much in the same manner as the Black Duck.

56. Swamp-Harrier, *Circus approximans*.

This is a very common Hawk in the South-East of South Australia. Several nests were found, and contained from one to three eggs. One nest contained a newly-hatched young bird and two eggs, one of which was chipping; another contained one egg and three young.

57. Australian Goshawk, *Astur fasciatus*.

Only four birds were noted during our trip.

58. Collared Sparrowhawk, *Accipiter cirrocephalus*.

It is not easy to identify these birds, even when the birds are handled, but the previous year several pairs of Sparrow-hawks were identified by members of this party by seeing both

the birds and their eggs. This year we again visited two of the nesting positions of the previous year, and at Mount Benson we found a pair of birds in the pines and a new nest, but nothing in it. At Konetta Station we found that the birds had constructed a new nest very near to the house in a tall pinetree. The female was sitting on four eggs and did not leave the nest until a hand was placed about one foot from her. The eggs were beautifully blotched, and presented a handsome picture in the flat platform nest, which was lined with small sprigs of gum-leaves.

59. Wedge-tailed Eagle, *Uroaetus audax*.

Are not often met with. We saw an old nest in a gumtree near Lucindale, and a single bird on the wing about half-way along the Coorong.

60. Whistling Eagle, *Haliastur sphenurus*.

Although scarce in the districts we visited, they were far more prevalent than the Wedge-tailed Eagle. A bird was seen to fly from off a nest, which no doubt contained eggs, but it was not climbed to.

61. Black-shouldered Kite, *Elanus axillaris*.

One example of this beautiful Hawk flew low down over the car when we were near Naracoorte.

62. Brown Hawk, *Falco berigora*.

Were only seen about Bool Lagoon.

63. Nankeen Kestrel, *Falco cenchroides*.

A very common bird, and was met with every few miles along the whole of the route taken.

64. Boobook Owl, *Ninox boobook*.

No examples of this bird were seen, but they were heard calling during the evening about 12 miles from Naracoorte.

65. Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo, *Calyptorhynchus funereus*.

A pair was seen flying when we were between Robe and Naracoorte, and, strange to say, four Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoos flew from the small pines in the Kingston Cemetery!

66. White Cockatoo, *Kakatoe galerita*.

Several birds were seen and heard calling in the Naracoorte district.

67. Blue Mountain Lorikeet, *Trichoglossus moluccanus*.

Small lots of these honey-eating Parrots were seen in the Robe and Naracoorte districts feeding in flowering gums.

68. Musk Lorikeet, *Glossopsitta concinna*.

Were often seen in the timber belts in company with the Purple-crowned Lorikeet.

69. Purple-crowned Lorikeet, *Glossopsitta porphyrocephala*.

A common bird in the country where the gumtrees were growing, especially if they were flowering.

70. Crimson Rosella, *Platycercus elegans*.

We did not notice very many of these beautiful Parrots, but they appear to increase in numbers as one goes further south. A nest was found in a hollow of a gumtree near Joanna, containing four eggs. The bird was seen perched on the outlet from the nest when we were approaching.

71. Eastern Rosella, *Platycercus eximius*.

Were met with about as frequently as was the Crimson Rosella.

72. Red-backed Parrot, *Psephotus haematonotus*.

Were not seen until we got as far south as Robe and Naracoorte, but this only goes to show that a correct idea of the birds in a district cannot be formed by flying visits, as we know that this species is very common in almost all the settled districts of South Australia.

73. Orange-breasted Parrot, *Neophema chrysogaster*.

This beautiful little Grass-Parrot has been referred to already in this article. It is strange that this small patch of a few acres is the only location where these little Parrots have been seen in South Australia during recent years, and they do not remain there for long. Even this year, when the spot was visited again about six weeks later, they had all cleared out. Where?

74. Owllet-Nightjar, *Aegotheles cristata*.

While we were chopping at the tree near Joanna in which we found a Crimson Rosella's nest, we noticed one of these little Nightjars flying from a hollow spout higher up the tree. It may have been nesting there, or it may have been only a roosting-place.

75. Laughing Kookaburra, *Dacelo gigas*.

Numbers of these birds are to be found in the large timber areas of the South-East of South Australia.

76. Sacred Kingfisher, *Halcyon sanctus*.

Only a single bird was seen and heard calling when we were near Joanna.

77. Pallid Cuckoo, *Cuculus pallidus*.

Was only met with once in the timber near Joanna.

78. Fantailed Cuckoo, *Cacomantis flabelliformis*.

Was seen near Robe.

79. Narrow-billed Bronze-Cuckoo, *Chalcites basalis*.  
Several were seen, and a nest of the Striated Thornbill contained an egg of this Cuckoo.
80. Welcome Swallow, *Hirundo neoxena*.  
Very common. We found five nests, containing either eggs or young, under a bridge near Kingston.
81. White-backed Swallow, *Cheramoeca leucosterna*.  
Two birds were seen while travelling along the Coorong.
82. Tree-Martin, *Hylochelidon nigricans*.  
Very common birds; often we met with little colonies which had taken possession of a large tree and appeared to be nesting in every available hollow.
83. Grey Fantail, *Rhipidura flabellifera*.  
Often met with. A nest was found containing three eggs.
84. Willie-Wagtail, *Rhipidura leucophrys*.  
Common throughout the area visited. One nest was seen about six feet from the ground, and contained three large young birds.
85. Restless Flycatcher, *Seisura inquieta*.  
Not a very common bird, although one never does come across very many of these birds in a day's ramble. One nest was found fairly high up in a gumtree, and the birds were seen to feed the young in the nest.
86. Brown Flycatcher, *Microeca fascinans*.  
Rarely met with. We only noted them at Joanna, near Naracoorte.
87. Scarlet Robin, *Petroica multicolor*.  
Were occasionally seen about Robe and Lucindale.
88. Hooded Robin, *Melanodryas cucullata*.  
Odd birds were seen every few miles along the road. They appear to keep to the more open country, and when disturbed fly to the fence, telephone wires, or dry boughs, where they are very conspicuous, and so are apt to give one the impression that they are more numerous than some of the birds that keep more to the seclusion of the bushes.
89. Rufous Whistler, *Pachycephala rufiventris*.  
We only came across this bird about Joanna in the stringy-bark country. One nest was seen built in a mistletoe, with the male bird on the nest.
90. Grey Shrike-Thrush, *Colluricincla harmonica*.  
Were often seen in the scrub in all the parts visited.

91. Magpie-Lark, *Grallina cyanoleuca*.

Were far more numerous about these parts than they appear to be nearer Adelaide.

92. Crested Bellbird, *Oreoica gutturalis*.

We heard the call of these birds, and saw two during our run from Lucindale to Kingston.

93. Black-faced Cuckoo-Shrike, *Coracina novae-hollandiae*.

Were often seen flying and uttering their distinctive call. One nest was found built in a horizontal fork of a dwarfed species of gumtree, containing three young birds.

94. Little Cuckoo-Shrike, *Coracina robusta*.

We only saw one of these birds, which was near Joanna, and, as records of this small Cuckoo-Shrike in South Australia are few, the specimen was collected.

95. White-browed Babbler, *Pomatostomus superciliosus*.

Little lots were often met, but not south of Kingston.

96. Grey-crowned Babbler, *Pomatostomus temporalis*.

A small "family" of these birds was noticed close to Robe in the sandhills, and we again met with these birds between Lucindale and Kingston, where many of their old nests were seen.

97. Ground-Thrush, *Oreocincla lunulata*.

Although no bird was seen, Dr. Morgan found an unoccupied nest in the teatree at Robe which was undoubtedly referable to the Ground-Thrush.

98. White-fronted Chat, *Epthianura albifrons*.

A common bird in all the open bush country. Nests were found containing eggs.

99. Eastern Whiteface, *Aphelocephala leucopsis*.

Was very often seen along all the routes taken.

100. Striated Thornbill, *Acanthiza lineata*.

Several pairs were seen in the stringy-bark country about Joanna. One nest was found suspended to the small twigs and leaves of a sapling, and contained one egg of the Narrow-billed Bronze-Cuckoo.

101. Brown Thornbill, *Acanthiza pusilla*.

Is a common bird, especially near the coast. A nest was found at Robe containing three eggs.

102. Buff-tailed Thornbill, *Acanthiza reguloides*.

Two or three were seen in stringy-bark scrub along the road between Robe and Naracoorte.

103. Yellow-tailed Thornbill, *Acanthiza chrysorrhoa*.

Were very common.

104. White-browed Scrub-Wren, *Sericornis frontalis*.

Common near the coast. Two nests with incubating eggs and many nests which the young had left were found.

105. Ground-Wren, *Hylacola* sp. (?).

Two pairs were seen in the bush-clad hills between Lucindale and Kingston, but as no specimen was taken the particular species cannot be given.

106. Striated Field-Wren, *Calamanthus fuliginosus*.

Were often seen, especially near the coast.

107. Brown Songlark, *Cinclorhamphus cruralis*.

Odd birds were seen, but they were not plentiful.

108. Rufous Songlark, *Cinclorhamphus mathewsi*.

Were met with near Joanna, where their actions indicated that they were nesting, but two or three searches did not reveal any nests.

109. Rufous Bristle-Bird, *Dasyornis broadbenti*.

Were very numerous along the coast from Kingston to Robe, but they did not go more than two or three miles inland. Several nests were found, mention of which has been made at the beginning of this article.

110. Little Grassbird, *Megalurus gramineus*.

A bird was heard calling from the rushes in a swamp at Robe, and many birds were seen and heard in the rushes growing in St. Helena Swamp near to Lucindale. A nest containing three eggs was found at Bool Lagoon.

111. Reed-Warbler, *Acrocephalus australis*.

This bird was heard whistling in the reeds at three locations: (a) on the banks of the River Murray at Wellington, (b) at Bool Lagoon, (c) in a swamp midway between Lucindale and Kingston. Empty nests were found at Bool Lagoon.

112. Golden-headed Fantail-Warbler, *Cisticola exilis*.

We only came across this little bird at Bool Lagoon and in a patch of reeds about five miles from Bool Lagoon. It was very interesting searching for their nests, which was done by watching the birds. Our previous experience of finding their nests had shown their partiality for placing the nest between broad leaves of "dock" or "thistle," but at Bool Lagoon a nest containing three eggs was found in a clump of swordgrass. It was in a similar position to that usually chosen by the Little Grassbird. The birds had suspended the nest to about ten or

twelve vertical stems of the swordgrass. Another nest, which contained three young, was difficult to locate; it was touching the ground, and built hidden from view in some grass growing at the base of a small clump of swordgrass.

113. Southern Emu-Wren, *Stipiturus malachurus*.

We came across these little birds on only two occasions. Once we saw a pair with their brood of young birds on the wing in a swordgrass swamp about three miles from Robe. And again we met the Emu-Wren among the low bushes in a swamp midway between Lucindale and Kingston. On searching we found the nest, which was just ready for the eggs.

114. Superb Blue-Wren, *Malurus cyaneus*.

Were always in evidence.

115. Dusky Wood-Swallow, *Artamus cyanopterus*.

Were scattered over all the districts visited. A nest with three eggs was found near Robe, built in a niche in a tree in which a Whistling Eagle had its nest.

116. White-browed Wood-Swallow, *Artamus superciliosus*.

A few were seen on our outward trip as we came near Meningie, and just after leaving Naracoorte we came across a great number perched on the wire fence along the road.

117. Masked Wood-Swallow, *Artamus personatus*.

Were often met with, but not so plentiful as the preceding two species.

118. Black-capped Sittella, *Neositta pileata*.

A Sittella was seen near Robe, which was most likely referable to this species, and a specimen was taken near Lucindale.

119. Brown Tree-creeper, *Climacteris picumnus*.

We saw very few of these birds.

120. White-throated Tree-creeper, *Climacteris leucophaea*.

Were only noticed in the Joanna district. One nest was found which contained two just-hatched young.

121. Mistletoe-Bird, *Dicaeum hirundinaceum*.

Was only seen on one occasion, and that in the Joanna district, where we noticed the mistletoe was very plentiful on trees.

122. Red-tipped Pardalote, *Pardalotus ornatus*.

We only met this species of Pardalote in the Joanna district.

123. Grey-backed Silvereye, *Zosterops halmaturina*.

Was seen in every district. Very plentiful in coastal sand-hills. A nest with two eggs was found at Robe.

124. Black-chinned Honeyeater, *Melithreptus gularis*.  
Only noticed in Joanna district.
125. Eastern Spinebill, *Acanthorhynchus tenuirostris*.  
One bird was seen near Naracoorte.
126. Tawny-crowned Honeyeater, *Gliciphila melanops*.  
Two birds were seen near Kingston.
127. Singing Honeyeater, *Meliphaga virescens*.  
A common bird, especially near the coast.
128. White-eared Honeyeater, *Meliphaga leucotis*.  
One bird only was noticed near Joanna.
129. White-plumed Honeyeater, *Meliphaga penicillata*.  
Was only noticed near Lucindale.
130. Yellow-faced Honeyeater, *Meliphaga chrysops*.  
Were in evidence in Joanna district.
131. Yellow-winged Honeyeater, *Meliornis novae-hollandiae*.  
Was seen in every district.
132. Noisy Miner, *Myzantha melanocephala*.  
Was seen in "tobacco" trees along the Coorong; also in the timber about Lucindale.
133. Little Wattle-Bird, *Anthochaera chrysoptera*.  
A few were seen about Robe.
134. Red Wattle-Bird, *Anthochaera carunculata*.  
A common bird; was observed every day.
135. Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater, *Acanthagenys rufogularis*.  
Was plentiful along the Coorong and along the coast, but was not noticed inland.
136. Pipit, *Anthus australis*.  
Was seen every day.
137. Horsfield Bushlark, *Mirafra javanica*.  
Two or three birds were seen about a crop of wheat near Bool Lagoon.
138. Beautiful Firetail, *Zonaeginthus bellus*.  
Fairly numerous in the teatree about Robe.
139. Diamond-Firetail, *Zonaeginthus guttatus*.  
Only noticed in the Naracoorte district.
140. Australian Crow, *Corvus ceciliae*.  
Very plentiful.
141. White-winged Chough, *Corcorax melanorhamphus*.  
Several noticed in Joanna district, where several of their mud nests were seen.

142. Black-winged Currawong, *Strepera melanoptera*.  
Were seen at Naracoorte, Kingston, and along the Coorong.
143. Grey Butcher-Bird, *Cracticus torquatus*.  
A few birds were seen along the Coorong.
144. White-backed Magpie, *Gymnorhina hypoleuca*.  
Very plentiful in every district.
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