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*Bird Notes.*

By the late J. W. Mellor.

September, 1931.—The White-backed Magpies (*Gymnorhina hypoleuca*) have been breeding freely during this month and part of August. Several broods of young ones have left the nests, but persons are too prone to be after them to keep in captivity, with a result that when one's back is turned the young ones are at times taken away. It needs great vigilance on the part of the police to prevent these violations of the law.

Several Pardalotes of the two species, viz., the Red-tipped (*Pardalotus ornatus*) and the Spotted (*P. punctatus*) have been

about the old gum trees at Mellor Park during the month, also throughout August.

The Pallid Cuckoos (*Cuculus pallidus*) have been about Lockleys throughout the month, calling loudly as they fly about in the timbered parts. While in the hills at the end of the month I heard the calls of the Golden Bronze-Cuckoo (*Lamprococcyx plagosus*) at Mylor, where these birds seemed numerous along the banks of the Onkaparinga River. I also noted there the Golden Whistlers (*Pachycephala pectoralis*). They were calling loudly their well-known notes of "sweet sweet," which sounded extremely musical in the dewy morning. Towards the end of the month a White Ibis (*Threskiornis molucca*) was seen at Fulham in the swamps, and it stayed about for a time. I was pleased to see during the month a pair of Murray Magpies (*Grallina cyanoleuca*) had built their nest right above the thick traffic on the Henley Beach Road in that suburb. It was placed on the cross arm of one of the electric tram poles, quite near to the electric cables, and there, where thousands of people were walking, and hundreds of trams were buzzing to and fro beneath, the birds were sitting serenely and hatching out their little family as though they were in the quiet shade of some stately gum tree in the backwoods.

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