

BIRD NOTES

Black-and-White Fantail capturing a Mosquito.—Lea and Gray in "The Food of Australian Birds" (*The Emu*, XXXV, 1936) record 8 species in which mosquitoes were found in the stomach contents. There are probably few records of birds being seen capturing mosquitoes. Some mosquitoes are purely nocturnal, some are crepuscular, and some are day-biters. In Adelaide, a little black mosquito with lyre-shaped white markings on the thorax and white bands on the proboscis and legs, *Aedes notoscripta*, breeds in water, liquid manure, etc., round houses, and bites usually between dawn and day-break. In late summer, several are usually to be seen flying round the mosquito curtains of my sleepout on the balcony. Just before sunrise on March 21 I had seen several of these insects in their usual situation and was dozing off again when a close fluttering of wings right up against the mosquito-curtains made me sit up to see a Willy Wagtail beating a quick retreat. I think its objective must have been one of these mosquitoes, and that it did not see me at all till I sat up.—J. B. Cleland.