

The data compare well with those taken from the series in the American Museum of Natural History, as shown by the following summary:

*Haliastur sphenurus*.—Mr. Mack sent in the following dimensions of skins from New South Wales and Victoria: Wing—♂ 396, 396, 397, 401, *413*, *415*; ♀ *393*, 412, 415, 416, 428, 428 (♀?), 438. Tail—♂ 237 (w), 250, 252, *252* (w), *255* (w), 258; ♀ *249*, 252 (w), 259, 260 (?♀), 260 (w), 268 (w), 275, 293. (w = worn.)

The overlap in size between males and females, which is indicated by the foregoing measurements, disappears if it is assumed that three birds (measurements in italics) are incorrectly sexed.

A comparison of this series from southern Australia with one from northern Australia in the American Museum of Natural History (wing 380-435, tail 225-275) listed above supports the conclusion that the two groups cannot be separated on the basis of size. On the contrary, it now appears doubtful if there is any geographical size variation at all in *Haliastur sphenurus*. Mr. Mack, moreover, added that he had measured a few skins from northern Australia and found them the same size.

*Pandion haliaëtus cristatus*.—A male from Broken Bay, New South Wales, measured wing 429, tail 190, according to Mr. Mack. This equals almost exactly the dimensions of the two males in the American Museum of Natural History, and so further substantiates the larger size of the race *cristatus*.

## Two New Subspecies of Birds collected by Dr. Scott at Cape York

By GREGORY MATHEWS, C.B.E.

### *Ailuroedus melanotis joanae* subsp. nov.

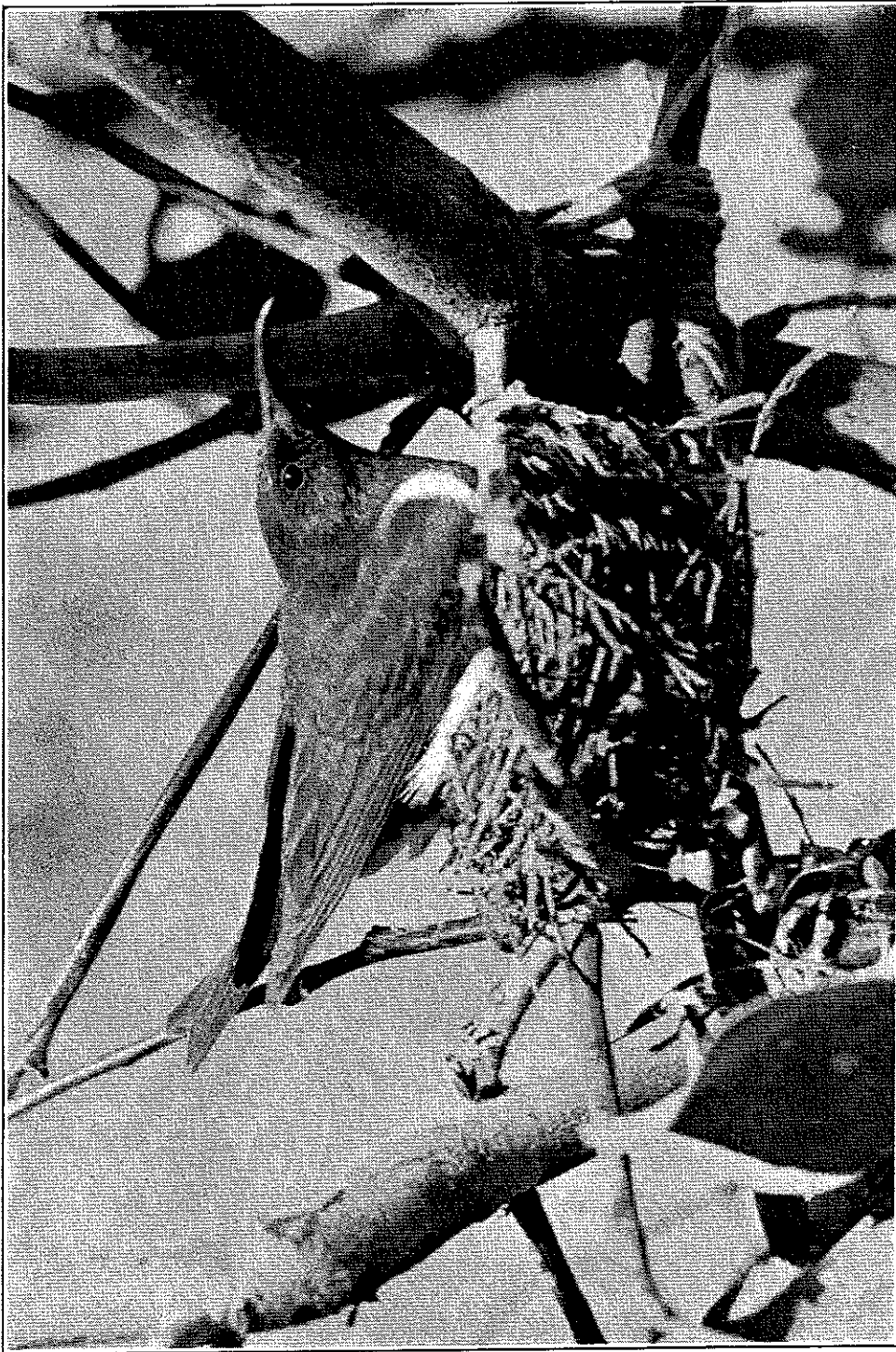
Differs from *A. m. fairfaxi* from Bellenden Ker Range in being smaller. Wing 133 mm., bill 26, tarsus 42, tail 92.

*Type*: A male collected at Cape York on June 23, 1938, by Dr. G. Scott.

### *Sericornis magnirostris capensis* subsp. nov.

Differs from *S. m. viridior* from Cairns in lacking altogether the greenish tinge on the back, that part being uniform brown. This bird resembles *S. kerri* in the large bill, and probably should be called *Megathira kerri capensis*.

*Type*: A male collected at Cape York on July 13, 1938, by Dr. G. Scott.



Male Black Honeyeater sitting on young birds.

Photo. by J. D. Waterhouse.