

handsome lotus lily flourished here, and formed good shelter for the smaller water-fowl, as well as turtles, which were always in evidence. Coconut-palms and mangoes grew to a large size. When the fruit of the latter trees is ripe they are usually frequented by flying foxes.

I left here on the 22nd, and lectured in Townsville the same evening, leaving next day for Brisbane, where I lectured before the Field Naturalists' Club.

When passing through Sydney I noticed in an aviary in the Taronga Zoological Park the Grey Jumper had built the usual mud nest and laid in it, but no one bird seemed to sit long on the eggs, and one often sat alongside the sitting bird. A White-breasted Sea-Eagle was noticed soaring over the harbour, and Cormorants were plentiful there also.

REPORT ON THE RINGING OF WILD BIRDS.

SINCE the last annual report the following wild birds have been ringed by Union members:—31 adult *Pelagodroma marina* (White-faced Storm-Petrels), on 29th November, 1919, at Mud Island, Port Phillip Bay, Victoria, by Drs. G. Horne and C. Sutton and Messrs. L. G. Chandler, S. A. Lawrence, and A. Chas. Stone.

So far the Union has ringed 259 wild birds.

A. CHAS. STONE, *Recorder*.

A Rare Cuckoo Combination—Rufous Bristle-Bird and Fan-tailed Cuckoo.

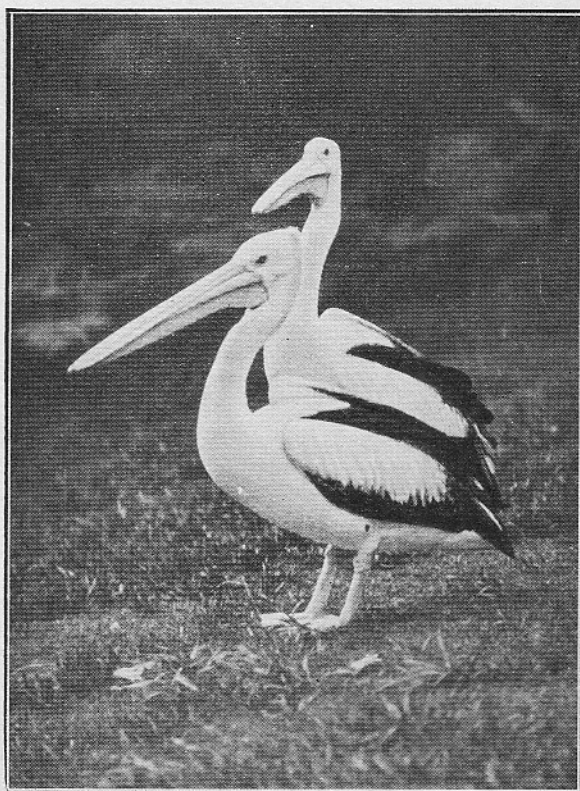
BY HERBERT A. PURNELL, R.A.O.U., GEELONG (VIC.)

DURING the present season I have been giving some considerable time to studying the habits of one of our rare ground-birds—namely, the Rufous Bristle-Bird (*Maccoyornis broadbenti broadbenti*). Having an enforced holiday through ill-health, I decided to spend a month at Anglesea, and, as the haunts of this bird were within a mile of my week-end cottage, I decided to visit their haunts nearly every morning, and there listen to their most peculiar call. When once the call is heard you are sure to locate a nest within a hundred yards of the call. Sometimes the search is strenuous, for it means a careful search amongst the low bushes and herbage which grow on the landslips and headlands which run out into the sea. The landslip between Anglesea and Point Roadknight is a favourite breeding-ground of this bird, and a peculiar thing about it is that where you find the Bristle-Bird no other birds are seen about, and I have often wondered at this loneliness, and also noted that very little food is about. This makes the find most interesting, for, although the Fan-tailed Cuckoos were fairly numerous on the hills around Anglesea, I only heard them calling on two or three days prior to the finding



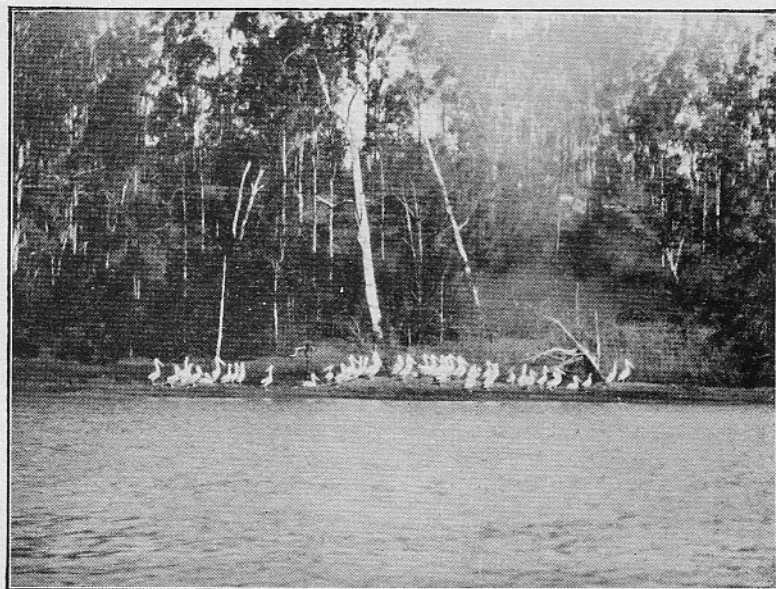
Grey Jumpers—one sitting on nest, the other sitting alongside, Taronga Park, Sydney.

PHOTO. BY D. LE SOUTHE, C.M.Z.S.



Young Pelicans.

PHOTO. BY R. G. JOHNSTON.



Pelicans on Pelican Island, Brisbane River.

PHOTO. BY E. F. D'ARCY.

of the nest, which contained two eggs of the Bristle-Bird with one egg of the Fan-tailed Cuckoo. The three eggs were fresh, and I am inclined to think that the Cuckoo's egg was laid after the first egg of the Bristle-Bird, for in most cases the Cuckoo removes one egg of the foster-parent.

The birds around Point Roadknight are seldom disturbed, and I am glad to observe that the old "Cartwheel-Bird," as it is often known as on account of its peculiar call, is beginning to get fairly plentiful again, for during the months of October and November I observed many nests containing eggs and young.

Camera Craft Notes.

Pelicans on Brisbane River.—The accompanying photograph by E. F. D'Arcy shows a number of Pelicans on a gravel bank on the Brisbane River, about 20 miles above the city. This flock of Pelicans is quite accustomed to come down to the Hamilton Reach, which is almost in the city, and do a bit of hunting. These Pelicans also interested our party very greatly because about a dozen of the big birds were observed perched or roosting on the more powerful branches of a great gum-tree fully 80 feet above the water. This is the first time I have noticed these birds utilizing a tree for a camping-ground.—R. H. LA B. CUMMINS. Brisbane (Q.), 15/10/19.

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Pelicans.—The accompanying photograph by Mr. R. G. Johnston is of birds bred on Lake Cowal, Wyalong, N.S.W., and was taken in March, 1918, when about half-grown. They have got their full plumage and size in the spring of 1919. About 50 Pelicans were breeding in the lake last year. The young were being fed chiefly on common carp. The lake is now nearly dry, and unless rain falls will be gone in January. It is interesting to find Pelicans breeding about water not strictly permanent. The drought, Crows, Hawks, and foxes are preventing the increase of bird-life in the district very considerably, and it is very noticeable that insect pests are more numerous and a great nuisance. A terrific moth plague is just ending, and pumpkin bugs are all over the fields.—A. S. LE SOUËF. Taronga Park, Sydney, 4/11/19.

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The Ground-Thrush.—In my early bird-observing days I made acquaintance with the Australian Ground-Thrush (*Oreocincla lunulata*), and found many of its beautiful nests in the tea-tree scrub along Port Phillip Bay, from Sandringham to Mordialloc and beyond. In the nineties there were still great areas of uncultivated land, and, except on public holidays, one could ramble day-long without meeting half a dozen persons. Birds