

No. 1), found on J. B. Sandiland's place, Roumalla, Uralla, is 5 feet in diameter and 2 to 3 inches in depth, and must have taken months, perhaps years, to form. Others found have not been quite so large, but were just as interesting. Photograph No. 2 shows some fresh pellets before they have broken up with the weather. Photograph No. 3 shows pellets composed mostly of birds' bones, one bird's leg still being intact. Photograph No. 4 is of some large bones picked up from different mounds, showing what large bones, &c., they can swallow. The Crow's jaw in the centre, also pieces of rabbits' jaws and crayfish claws still intact, are easily seen. Photograph No. 5 is siftings washed from a couple of handfuls of pellets from the mound in photograph No. 1, showing the variety of contents. Photograph No. 6 shows the lime pellets ("crabs' eyes") which are found in the heads of "fresh-water crayfish," first swallowed by the Kingfisher, then voided up in the food pellets, and afterwards picked up on the mounds. I have picked up 70 of these on the one mound, showing what great destroyers of "crayfish" these birds are. Photograph No. 7 is a single pellet just breaking up; it contains the whole indigestible remains of a lizard, picked up on the mound shown in photograph No. 1. Photograph No. 8 shows some rabbit bones (chopped up) which I had fed to some birds (tame, about the house), and later collected from the mound over which they sleep. Photograph No. 9 contains pellets of the Red-backed Kingfisher (*Halcyon pyrrhopygius*) and some siftings washed from broken-up pellets, showing how similar, in smaller form, the contents are to that of the Kookaburra (*Dacelo gigas*). Gould mentions in his "Handbook on Australian Birds," vol. i., page 140, concerning the Blue Kingfisher (*Alcyon azurea*), that the hole occupied by this bird when nesting is often almost filled up with the bones of small fish, which are discharged from the throat, and piled up round the young in the form of a nest. I feel sure most of these bones are voided by the young, as the Red-backed Kingfishers do, only the latter drop them out of the nest at the entrance. Pellets shown in photograph No. 9 were found there when the young were only two weeks old. Of course, the old bird may drop some when sitting on the eggs. From this it seems reasonable to suppose that all the Kingfisher family void "food pellets," though as yet I have not found that the Sacred Kingfisher (*Halcyon sanctus*) does so.

The Chestnut-shouldered Grass-Parrot near Sydney.—I am glad to be able to report the appearance of a small flock of Chestnut-shouldered Grass-Parrots (*Euphema pulchella*) in the Camden district, near Sydney. The last bird of this species of which I have record was offered for sale in Sydney about seven years ago; it had then been 22 years in an aviary.—A. S. LE SOUËF. Taronga Park, Sydney, N.S.W., 8/9/20.