



Grey Thrush feeding young.

Photo, by A. D. Selby, R.A.O.U.

Chlamydera nuchalis. Great Bower Bird.—Several were seen at our first camp on the Gregory River where they came to water at a stony crossing. At Gregory Downs we were told that they were a nuisance in the vegetable gardens, pulling up and eating the young plants, and that in consequence four had been shot on the previous day. Mr. Watson guided us to a bower placed in the centre of a clump of currant bushes, about a mile from the house in open forest country. A bird was seen to leave the bower as we approached it. The bower was very compactly built and decorated at either end with a litter of shells and pebbles.

Corvus coronoides. Australian Raven.—Ravens were seen on the Gregory, fully one hundred; with an equal number of Black Kites and a few Whistling Eagles; all were disturbed from a dead bullock. They came about our camp on the Gregory and were the earliest at any carcass. The Whistling Eagles, however, disputed possession but the Ravens obtained their share by stealth. On the Leichhardt River Ravens were seen.

C. bennettii. Little Crow.—After South Queensland this bird was seen only near Headingly Station on the Georgina River.

Corcorax melanorhamphus. White-winged Cough.—Numbers seen at a camp on the Nive River, where a nest was being built by a party of them.

Cracticus nigrogularis. Pied Butcher Bird. — These fine birds were first seen at the Long Waterhole on the Wilson River; afterwards they were met with on Kyabra Creek, and, after the dry stretch from Windorah we did not see them until the hilly country near Dajarra. Often seen in the Gulf country coming about our camps to see what they could pick up. Their fine flute-like calling was our reveille on many a morning. They were in attendance on our camps at Barcaldine, Longreach and on the Warrego.

Cracticus torquatus. Grey Butcher Bird.—Seen occasionally on our return journey on the Warrego and Bulloo.

Gymnorhina tibicen. Black-backed Magpie. — None in drought-stricken area or on the Gregory River. Seen occasionally along the Leichhardt, both in open forest and in the hilly country. Near Cloncurry they were paired, but not nesting. Three came about our camp looking for scraps. Seen all the way back. On the Warrego near Charleville a pair was feeding young above our camp.

Nest of Grey Thrush.—The Grey Thrush (*Colluricincla harmonica*) is not as a rule an easy subject for the nature photographer, but during the 1926-27 season I was pleasantly surprised to find a pair of very quiet ones. The nest was between a loose piece of bark and the trunk of a Red Gum tree by the Wimmera River. The birds returned to the nest as soon as I had finished erecting the camera, and at once proceeded to inspect it, hopping over the tripod legs and the body of the camera, and finally alighting on the bellows and looking over the front at the lens. The hen then hopped on to the nest, and shortly afterwards started to feed the chicks. The female was the bolder of the two parent birds and did most of the feeding, but the male also turned up occasionally, at long intervals, and was photographed. Four chicks were reared from the nest.

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