

Banded Plover were seen several times throughout the winter but only stayed to feed for an hour or so, then passed on to the west. These birds rarely stay in this district, our common species being the Spur-winged Plover, which is stationary and commences breeding in July. A few Dusky Wood-Swallows were seen about through April-May, but on June 2 a very large flock arrived and fed for several days on grasshoppers, which were in large numbers. The birds disappeared as suddenly as they had arrived and since their departure no Wood-Swallows have been observed.

A general nesting of Yellow-tailed Thornbills began at the end of June and still continues at time of writing (August 10). Miners have bred freely through the winter and wherever one goes the calls of nestlings, or young that have vacated the nest, can be heard. On July 25, I saw a pair of Blue-faced Honeyeaters feeding well-grown young in an old nest of a Babbler.

On July 2 a Squatter Pigeon was seen. I had thought that the Squatter was now not to be found in this district, as none had been recorded for several years. White-throated Warblers may be heard in limited numbers in both open and heavy forest country at the time of writing. Rainbow-birds are about in fair numbers and small flocks may be seen at sunset about their "camp" trees.

Eastern Spinebills returned in full force in May when the mistletoe came out in bloom—another source of attraction was the red tea-tree, which has flowered freely throughout the winter months. The tea-tree was responsible also for bringing Scarlet Honeyeaters in fair numbers and in keeping the Brown Honeyeaters up to normal summer numbers.

A few Crested Hawks are to be found about their favoured haunts, but other raptorial birds are seldom seen, which is surprising as Parrakeets are plentiful about the blossoming blue gums and usually Falcons and Goshawks follow the flocks of those birds. Fan-tailed and Horsfield Bronze-Cuckoos remained throughout the winter.

Eagle Attacking Lambs.—For the second time in my experience—the first was in 1892—I found a Wedge-tailed Eagle facing a ewe with a new-born lamb beneath her. I saw this from some distance and returned home for my brother and the gun. When we both returned, through a patch of tall timber, the Eagle flew to a dead tree, chased by Magpies, and then flew slowly right across the paddock and away.

There had been some damage done to the lamb, and it was three days before it was normal. It seemed hurt about its body, perhaps beaten with wings or held in the talons, although there were no special marks. It was very difficult to get the ewe and the lamb to walk home, even with the rest of the sheep.—C. C. CURRIE, Lardner, Vic., 30/8/37.