

5. *ib.*, vol. XXVI, 1927, p. 272.

6. *ib.*, vol. XXVIII, 1928, p. 71. I regret that the name *Corvus cecilæ* was used in that paper in error for *C. coronoides*.—D.L.S.

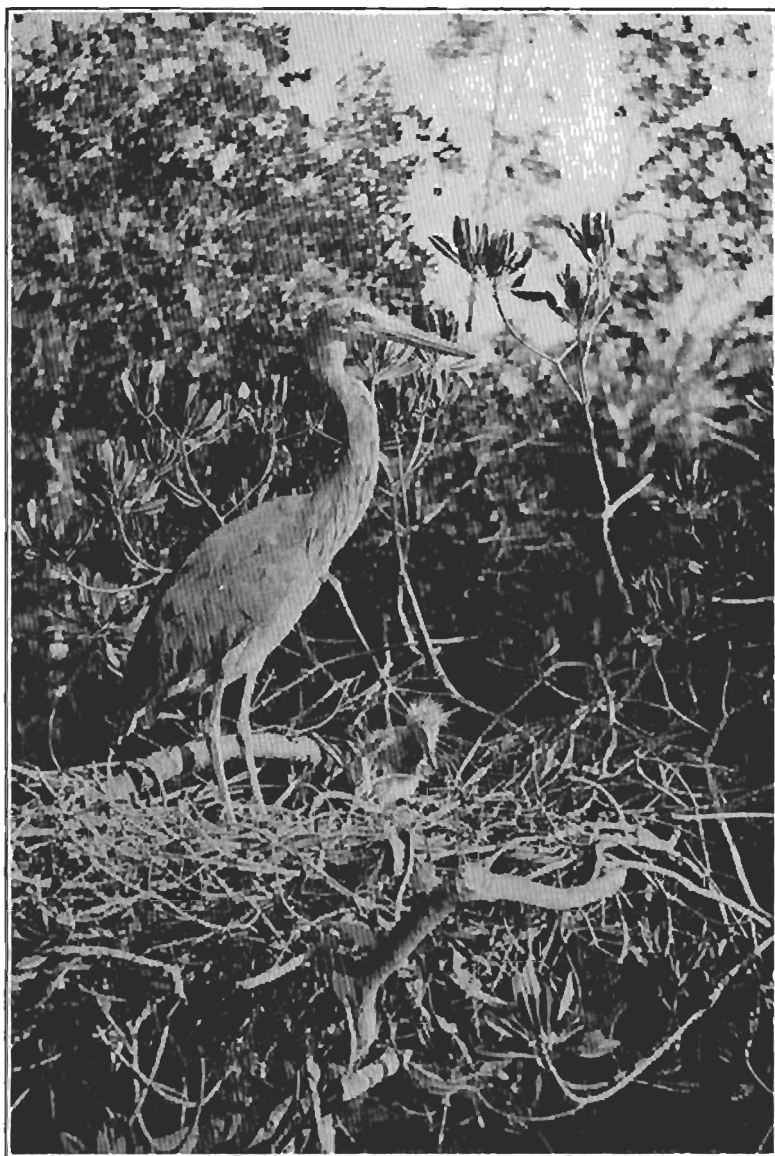
Dr. Serventy writes to say that in his paper, "Notes on Western Australian Petrels" (*Emu*, vol. XXXVII, p. 56), the distance 2.6 miles in the first paragraph should read 3.6—a small matter but one needing correction in case someone wishes, later, to utilize the data.

Notes on Mangrove Photography.—As so many Australian birds nest mainly or entirely in mangroves, it is unfortunate that photography there has special difficulties. The chief difficulty, of course, is light. The brightest day in the tropics has only about two-thirds of the light value of a clear day in the south. Mangroves also are usually very thick, and the patchy light that does find its way through is largely absorbed by the dark green leaves. Camera positions are usually not hard to find, but it is often necessary to be fairly ruthless in clearing a view of the nest.

The zealous bird photographer has no regard, of course, for his own comfort, but in the mangroves he must be very zealous indeed to be able to forget his surroundings. It is a trivial inconvenience that he is always working in thick grey mud, which he has to be careful not to plaster over everything. His chief trouble comes from insects. In the wet season mosquitoes of unbelievable ferocity attack him in dense swarms; in the dry he is enveloped in a cloud of sandflies. Opinions differ as to which has the more distressing bite, but in either case his only remedy is to cover himself up, leaving only a blow-hole and peep-hole in front of his face. Clothing must be thick if the mosquitoes are not to bite through, and the atmosphere in mangroves is invariably hot and damp. Good photographs would not be worth having, however, if they were easily obtained.

According to the books the nesting season of almost every northern species ends in January or February, but here in the Crocodile Islands off the coast of Arnhem Land I have had a continuous supply of nests to photograph during March, April and May. At present, in the middle of June, the Bar-shouldered Dove (*Geopelia humeralis*), Peaceful Dove (*Geopelia placida*), Brown Honeyeater (*Gliciphila indistincta*) and Red-headed Honeyeater (*Myzomela erythrocephala*) are nesting in numbers. No doubt, there are others the nests of which I have not found. The list of birds that are reasonably common here is a very long one.

The accompanying photograph shows the typical nest of a Great-billed Heron (*Ardea sumatrana*).—J. B. PONDER, Milingimbi, via Darwin, N.T., 25/7/37.



Great-billed Heron at nest.

Photo. by J. R. Ponder.