

It would thus appear reasonable to expect the presence of some factor in the Turkey egg, either as a variant of construction or of function, which is lacking from the eggs of other birds.

Perhaps the factor will be found to be a simple one such as a variation from the normal yolk-albumen-density ratio. Such would have the effect of lessening the upward thrust of the yolk in the early stages of incubation. Or perhaps the explanation will be found to lie in a higher amniotic pulse rate. That would minimize the risk of adhesions between membranes in the later stages. A combination of the yolk-albumen and pulse theories might prove the solution.

But there remains another explanation, though disturbing in its implications. It is that the factor which operates for the Turtle and for some snakes, the eggs of which do not hatch if moved during incubation, operates also for the Brush-Turkey.

Is it possible that the Brush-Turkey embryo, whilst following the developmental curve ultimately leading to bird, has, owing to peculiarities of incubation, not so much adapted itself as clung tenaciously to the ancestral factors of non-turning? Lack of material has prevented further investigation by this department. Perhaps those more fortunately placed may eventually find an answer to what is perhaps the greatest enigma of all connected with the Brush-Turkey.

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**Cuckoos in Queensland and Tasmania.**—In Mr. E. A. R. Lord's interesting notes on Queensland migrants in *The Emu* for January, he mentions (p. 375) that, although Pallid Cuckoos were plentiful, and suitable foster-parents were nesting freely, no young Cuckoos were seen. If the species breeds in the northern portion of its range (Queensland) as prolifically as in the southern (Tasmania), the non-appearance of young birds in the summer of 1937 may have some connection with the scarcity of Pallids here during the summer of 1938-39, for I have never known so few to arrive as during the present season.—H. STUART DOVE, Devonport, Tas., 3/2/39.