

plentiful. What an adept is this honeyeater at catching insects on the wing!

The Australian Pipit (*Anthus australis*) was common. One nest, in a short wheat crop, held the usual set of four eggs. A few Horsfield Bush-Larks (*Mirafra javanica*) were noted. The species is a good songster on the wing. A solitary Diamond Firetail (*Zonæginthus guttatus*) was identified at Bolton's Crabhole.

The Australian Raven (*Corvus coronoides*) was plentiful, but was not recorded as breeding. We saw no evidence of the presence of the Little Crow (*C. bennetti*). Quite a number of Black-winged Currawongs (*Strepera melanoptera*) were recorded. One nest, containing eggs, was built in a mallee tree right on the road. Grey Butcher-birds (*Cracticus torquatus*) were noted. One nest was found and, on investigation, it proved to hold the usual four eggs. The Black-backed Magpie (*Gymnorhina tibicen*) was common and nesting. The White-backed Magpie (*G. hypoleuca*) was also seen. "This identification undoubted" (Burgess). The White-winged Chough (*Corcorax melanocephalus*) was common in the northern Mallee, but was not seen in the Desert.

Quail Flying at Night.—I have just received an interesting report from one of my honorary inspectors, Mr. Frank Gloury, of Jeparit, who writes under date August 14, as follows:

"We were awakened last Monday night (10th August) between 12 and 1 o'clock by something striking the electric light wires and thudding on the roof. Next morning I found three quail on the lawn and one in the spout. On an allotment adjoining us I found two more quail. Some had a wing off, another a leg. They were all badly knocked about. The wires are about 30 feet up from the ground so there is no doubt about quail flying at night at a fair height. They were going south. This is the first time I have known quail to strike wires. In times past it was common to find bronzewing pigeons and ducks that had hit the telegraph wires along the railway line."

This item will no doubt be of interest to many readers of *The Emu*.—F. LEWIS, Chief Inspector of Fisheries and Game, Melbourne, Vic., 17/8/42.

The Annual Meeting will be held at 170 Latrobe Street, Melbourne, on Tuesday, October 20, 1942, at 8 p.m.