

The accompanying photograph is of a vertical half-section of a nest from Macksville (collected 1/11/45), with the nesting chamber outlined. The nest measured approximately $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches in depth by $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches in width externally; the nesting chamber being 2 inches \times 2 inches.

My sincere thanks are expressed to Mervyn Goddard for permission to use his field notes. His ability and enthusiasm as a field worker have added considerably to our knowledge of the habits of the Tawny Grass-bird.

REFERENCES

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4. Jackson, S. W. *Catalogue Jacksonian Oological Collection*, 1907, p. 68.
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6. Lord, E. A. R. 'Migratory Notes (1941-2) from the Murphy's Creek District, Queensland', *The Emu*, vol. 43, pt. 1, July 1943, p. 22.

Death of 'Old Tom'.—My female Great Palm Cockatoo, 'Old Tom', dealt with in *The Emu*, vol. 33, p. 114, by my late father, and in vol. 45, p. 308, by me, died on May 9, 1947, at the age of 36 years. 'Tom' had been ill for some months and had developed a large cyst on the side of the vent. About six months ago she lost her characteristic shrill whistle, the whistle that has often greeted me at night when I have been returning home late from some bird outing or other excursion. This was first cut short to one or two of the first notes and then, at last, as she got worse, ceased altogether. I had a vet. over and he opened the cyst and gave her injections of penicillin but the cyst came back again.

Last Friday I took her out and spoke to her and she seemed a very sick bird, not eating her usual seed and being very quiet. After a walk about on the lawn I put her back into the cage in special winter quarters I was having built this year to keep her warm. She climbed up very quickly and I was surprised at the strength she had. Five minutes later when I came out she was dead in a heap on the floor of the cage. I think there was something wrong with her breathing as she often shook her head and coughed a fair bit.

For the sake of keeping the body as fresh as possible we opened up the skin and about a cupful of heavy greenish fluid came away from a bag in the abdomen. This must have had some bearing on the trouble but I doubt if it was the actual cause of her death.—A. F. D'OMBRAIN, Newcastle, N.S.W., 12/5/47.