

again sitting within a few feet of the bird so she had lost little of her docility, despite her departure with her mate previously.

A short walk around the ridge caused us to disturb the male again, some twenty yards from the nest. On the way home from the ridge we again walked within two feet of the sitting bird and it remained still and flattened as ever. That is our last memory of one of our most intriguing birds.

In retrospect it is unfortunate that it did not occur to us to make a search for the male bird, but it seems likely that he was never far away on the same ridge.

On Sunday, Monday and Tuesday nights we were out at dusk to hear the calls of Nightjars on the various ridges but only one was heard close at hand. On Saturday night Watts was out alone and heard one bird give four calls within one hundred yards. However, birds were observed each night as they skimmed over the eucalyptus bushes and scrub, usually a single bird only being noted in the one area. Watts continued his nocturnal wanderings for some evenings. His notes conclude this account.

"We were able to visit the nest from my parents' home in the town in twenty minutes' brisk walking pace so we estimated the distance at approximately one and a half miles.

"It is my opinion that the birds were not calling as freely as they had called in the spring months of 1946, when individual birds would give a dozen or more calls when it was still twilight. On one occasion I was within eight yards of a bird calling on the ground and it was interesting to see its white throat moving rapidly as the unusual notes were emitted.

"Thus our story ends at, we realize, only the beginning, for a constant check on the chick during the ensuing days until it was capable of flight would surely lead to some valuable information. Banding would prove of value in the study of this bird."

Shy Ground-Wren Hops.—An interesting point raised many years ago by Mr. F. E. Howe (*Emu*, vol. 17, 1917, p. 92) concerning the mode of progression of the Shy Ground-Wren (*Hylacola cauta*) when on the ground, does not appear to have been settled as yet. Howe disagreed with the late A. J. Campbell, who stated that the bird hops. The 'half running and flying' method mentioned by Howe is employed only rarely. Campbell was right in saying that the species hops, as I proved to my satisfaction during half an hour specially devoted to observing a pair of Shy Ground-Wrens for the purpose of studying their mode of progression when feeding undisturbed in their haunts. The birds hopped along as House Sparrows (*Passer domesticus*) do. E. F. BOEHM, Sutherlands, S.A., 9/2/48.