

3. If point 2 be true, there may be in this territory a section sufficiently used for song-flight to be called a song area, and some, at least, of the manifestations of territory occupation established in other species (defence, display, etc.) may accompany the possession of the territory.

During April, May, and June, 1949, Pipits were seen only occasionally in or near the territory area. The flocking notes suggest that flocking began to break up late in July, whilst the observations show that courtship in the territory area was under way at this time.

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Incidentally, on page 37 of my previous article the caption under the song flight diagram should read 'Pattern of flight referred to under date Aug. ?'. Under the entry for Sep. 13 the words in parentheses should be '(see above)', referring to possible nest site under date Sep. 12, 4.30 p.m. On page 42, line 46, the words 'one probably abandoned nest' should read 'one abandoned nest (probably this species)'.

#### REFERENCE

McEvey, Allan. 'Notes on the Australian Pipit and its Territory.' Map of 1948 territory with song area, total territory, and possible true territory figured. *The Emu*, vol. 49, August 1949, p. 35.

**Nest Piracy.**—In the light of the report by N. L. Roberts, Sydney, N.S.W. (*Emu*, vol. 52, 1952, p. 67), regarding the use, by a pair of birds, of the nest of another species, the following may be of interest.

In October 1944 a pair of Black-faced Cuckoo-Shrikes (*Coracina novæ-hollandiæ*) commandeered a previous season's nest of a Magpie-Lark (*Grallina cyanoleuca*) in the grounds of Ivanhoe Grammar School, Ivanhoe, Vic. The nest was in a Norfolk Island pine (*Araucaria excelsa*). By November 11 it had been re-lined with grass stalks, and contained the normal clutch of three eggs. Despite the continued noise and movement of school boys in the immediate vicinity, the chicks duly hatched and were well on the way to being reared when school 'broke up' for Christmas.

It is also recalled what my father and I observed at a nest of the Yellow-throated Miner (*Myzantha flavigula*) in a mallee eucalypt at Box Tank, 4 miles east of Ouyen on the Kulwin Road. When first inspected the nest contained two eggs. On a subsequent visit, the eggs were still present, but the fabric of the nest had much deteriorated. It was watched and a pair of White-plumed Honeyeaters (*Meliphaga penicillata*) was detected systematically removing the material from the inside. The eggs, stone cold, were obviously abandoned.—GREGORY W. BINNS, Mildura, Vic., 23/3/52.