

**A nesting record of the Forty-spotted Pardalote.**—On October 30, 1965, Dr F. W. Roberts told me that he had found a nest of this species, which has been considered to be a very rare one for many years past. I therefore visited the site in great expectation the next day, and this was not in vain.

Dr Roberts owns a weekend cottage near the old pilot station at Pierson's Point on the western side of the entrance to the Derwent estuary, and he had found the nest in a small Blue Gum *Eucalyptus globulus*, at an altitude of about 500 feet, in open bush country. The parent birds were feeding young in the nest, which was situated in a knot hole about four feet from the ground.

During my visit the adults visited the nest frequently and were little disturbed by our presence, so that we were able to photograph them from a distance of five feet without the use of a tripod. Later the same day I revisited the nest and was able to take further photographs from a distance of three feet, again without the need of a tripod. Several good exposures were made with colour film and then with black-and-white, but the latter were unsatisfactory because of the deteriorating weather conditions. I did not investigate the nesting hollow, fearing that this might disturb the birds unnecessarily.

On December 12, 1965, another visit was made to the area but no members of the species could be found. An inspection of the nesting hollow showed that it had been disturbed but I do not know whether the nestlings had safely left the nest.

The nest itself was composed entirely of bark shreds from Stringy Bark, *Eucalyptus obliqua*, and the material was about two inches deep. The lower layers were in a decomposed state, suggesting that the hole had been used in previous seasons and a little additional material added to the nest on each occasion. Two feathers, a red one (probably from a parrot) and a dark one with yellow on one web (possibly from a Crescent or a New Holland Honeycater) were the only other items in the nesting material.

The nesting material puzzled me at first, but I later discovered a small group of Stringy Barks about 200 yards away. It had seemed in the first place that the birds must have carried this bark for at least a mile.

I did not hear the birds call in the vicinity of the nest, but while leading an outing of the Tasmanian Field Naturalists' Club at Blackman's Bay, about five miles northwards, on February 19, 1966, I found a small party of these birds feeding among small eucalypts of several species in heathy country. Here I was attracted by their calls—a double note in monotone, very similar to one of the calls of the Spotted Pardalote, *P. punctatus*, but somewhat harsher. I suspect that there is another, higher-pitched, trill-like call but I was unable to confirm this.—L. E. WALL, 63 Elphinstone Road, North Hobart, Tasmania.