

Range of the Turquoise Parrot.—In a paragraph headed "Extension of the range of the Turquoise Parrot, *Neophema pulchella*" (*Emu*, 66: 120), A. C. Hunt mentions an occurrence which, he says, "extends the range some hundreds of miles from Stanthorpe Queensland" to the Gayndah area. (Gayndah is about 230 miles north of Brisbane and is the district where, in the company of the late Cyril Jerrard, I saw a pair of Paradise Parrots in 1922).

Actually, however, the "extension" claimed is not an extension, the fact being that the Turquoise Parrot has been recorded much farther north. As stated in *The Emu* of January 1945 (44: 183), the species was once common in the valley of the Isaac River, north-west of Rockhampton, and even extended above the ridgy source of that stream into the valley of the Suttor, in the latitude of Mackay. Whether it still occurs there—perhaps 350 miles north of Gayndah—is an open question, but in such an area a sprinkling of birds of the kind could easily pass unnoticed.

Mr Hunt declares also that "it is exciting to know that from Windsor, just north of Sydney", this formerly rare species extends well into Queensland. In fact, whether or not the bird occurs near Windsor (which lies about 30 miles north-west of Sydney), it has been found much closer to the city at frequent intervals during almost 30 years past. Favourite spots are the outer suburbs of Castle Hill and Dural. Another in Glenorie, where in 1945 Norman Chaffer photographed a female at its nest-hollow—see illustrated article in *The Emu*, 46: 161-67.

Personally, from among numerous contacts with the pretty "Turqs" near Sydney in recent years I retain two particular recollections. One is of a flock of about twenty birds which presented a beautiful sight as they exploded from a grassy patch at Castle Hill in April 1962. The other concerns a nest inspected at Glenorie in December 1964. Situated in a deep hollow of a charred tree on a sandstone ridge, with the entrance at about 9 feet above ground, this nest contained an addled egg and four downy young—an impressive sight for me because I had only once previously seen, in the wild, a nest of the charming Turquoise Parrot.—A. H. CHISHOLM, Sydney.