

'Chip-chip.'—This expression is hard to distinguish from the call of the Red-tipped Pardalote (*Pardalotus ornatus*). Other sounds are more frequent and general than this one, which may be given by an odd bird or two in the flock. Mr. K. A. Hindwood, who listened to this call with me, agreed that if it is not mimicry of the Red-tipped Pardalote's call, the similarity is at least a remarkable coincidence.

Sharp boyish whistle.—This, too, is less frequent than the other calls and is given so suddenly at times and with such clarity that one could suspect a human performer.

Chorus.—This may be an auditory social stimulant. It is indulged in only when the birds are in close proximity and is usually accompanied by increased activity, such as hopping or flying over short distances, or both. A few sharp whistling notes sometimes serve as a prelude and then the whole flock utters a medley of noises which becomes deafening in volume. Early morning appears to be a favourite time for indulging in this social stimulant.

Various.—Under this heading are grouped a number of single, variable whistles, which may be combined in different ways and are difficult to classify.

In these notes I have recorded some personal observations of the main activities of a winter flock of Currawongs in the Beecroft district. Many details are incomplete and there is much scope for further study. A team of observers could co-operate effectively in mapping typical daily routes of the flock and in supplementing information regarding roosts and pair-formation. The study of bird assemblies has been neglected and if these notes stimulate some measure of interest in the subject they will fulfil their purpose.

#### REFERENCES

1. H. Friedmann, *Bird Societies. A Handbook of Social Psychology*. Worcester, Mass.: Clark Univ. Press, 1935.
2. F. Fraser Darling, *Bird Flocks and the Breeding Cycle*. University Press, Cambridge, 1938.
3. *Emu*, vol. XL, 1940, p. 94.
4. *Emu*, vol. VI, 1906, p. 64.
5. *Emu*, vol. XVII, 1918, p. 228.
6. "Pair-Formation in Birds," *The Condor*, vol. XLII, Nov.-Dec., 1940, p. 273.

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The death has occurred of Dr. Glover M. Allen, of the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Cambridge, Mass., U.S.A., editor of *The Auk*; and of Dr. Casey A. Wood, of the Library of Ornithology, McGill University, Montreal, Canada.