

ago, the birds occurred at Mareeba, where they fed upon ripe mulberries in season, but I do not recall seeing them at Atherton. Certainly we did not encounter them frequently and we did not consider them a pest in maize crops (*cf.* Bourke and Austin, *Emu*, vol. 47, p. 98). It seems possible that these birds have become more frequent with the spread of settlement.

Aprosmictus scapularis. King Parrot.

A flock of four, perhaps five, seen between Millaa-Millaa and Ravenshoe.

Eurystomus orientalis. Dollar-bird.

One seen near Etty Bay.

Merops ornatus. Rainbow-bird.

This was one of the most frequently encountered species on the coastal plain and at Kuranda, but not on the Tablelands.

Machæirhynchus flaviventer. Boat-billed Flycatcher.

Several observed, associated, at Yungaburra.

Psophodes olivaceus. Eastern Whip-bird.

This species, which almost entirely escaped notice prior to 1940, has been recorded by all recent observers in north Queensland. It may therefore be desirable to record that I often encountered this species in the Atherton district round about 1920. Recently I found it at Yungaburra, Lake Barrine and Kuranda.

Artamus leucorhynchus. White-breasted Wood-Swallow.

One of the most frequently encountered species but almost confined to the coast. Except for a few birds at Kuranda, none was seen on the Tableland.

Aplonis metallica. Shining Starling.

S. R. White (*Emu*, vol. 46, p. 120) recorded a colony of these birds at Paronella Park, South Johnstone. I found no evidence of the species there, and on inquiry from the proprietor, J. Paronella, learned that the birds deserted the nesting tree, a red penda, which I estimated at about one hundred feet in height, in 1945, after having persisted for about ten years. I noted nests in a roadside tree two miles south of Bellenden Ker, at Frenchman's Creek, which were almost certainly attributable to this species.

Streptopelia surattensis. Indian Turtle-dove.

S. R. White (*Emu*, vol. 46, p. 122) records the introduction of this species to the Cairns district and noted that it was spreading rapidly. I encountered the species at Innisfail and in the surrounding country, at Babinda, where several were observed, and at Cairns where the birds seemed well-established, though not particularly numerous.

Black-fronted Dotterel Swimming.—No doubt the majority of the waders must at times swim. Actual observations are rare however and perhaps are worthy of record. Recently I disturbed a loose party of twelve Black-fronted Dotterels (*Charadrius melanops*) from the edge of a small pool. They alighted on the opposite edge of the pool, with the exception of one bird. This one settled on water about two feet deep and then swam two or three yards to rejoin the party on the mud. The bird floated quite buoyantly and seemed in normal physical condition.—JOHN N. HOBBS, Deniliquin, N.S.W., 23/3/55.