

placed its egg in that nest between the hours of 6 p.m. on the 18th and 6.30 a.m. on the 19th, but whether the egg was placed there in the twilight or under cover of darkness is a moot point.

The **Northern Oriole** (*Oriolus affinis*) is not by any means a common bird in this district. During the breeding season each pair of birds seems to be restricted to a certain locality, and never goes beyond its own boundaries. As a mimic the Oriole has few equals. During the months of July and August, just before the breeding season, the Oriole amuses itself by imitating the calls of other bush birds. Among the bird-calls which are



Young Northern Orioles (*Oriolus affinis*).

PHOTO. BY W. G. AND B. C. HARVEY.

imitated to perfection by this mimic may be mentioned the Magpie, Black-throated Butcher-Bird, Friar-Bird, Magpie-Lark, Drongo, Macleay Kingfisher, Black-faced and Little Cuckoo-Shrikes, Whistling Eagle, Goshawk, Blue-faced Honey-cater, Fig-Bird, and many others. Its suspended, open nest is a bulky structure of tea-tree bark, and similar in size and shape to that of the Friar-Bird, but easily distinguishable by its untidy appearance.

Cuckoo-Shrikes.—On 6th April, 1919, near Lower Tarwin, a small township in southern Gippsland, I saw a flock of Cuckoo-Shrikes which must have numbered many scores. They were flitting from bush to bush amongst the stunted coastal vegetation, and looked as though they were tired out. These birds were possibly the Tasmanian forms on their migration northwards, and it would be interesting to know if Tasmanian observers had noted the departure of Cuckoo-Shrikes just previous to the above date.—A. CHAS. STONE. South Yarra (Vic.), 2/5/19.