



A Young White-faced Heron (*Notophya rueck-hollandiae*).

Photo by L. G. Chandler, R.A.C.U., Red Cliffs, Vic.



Silver Gulls (*Larus argentatus*) poised and flying above the steamer "Merimbah."

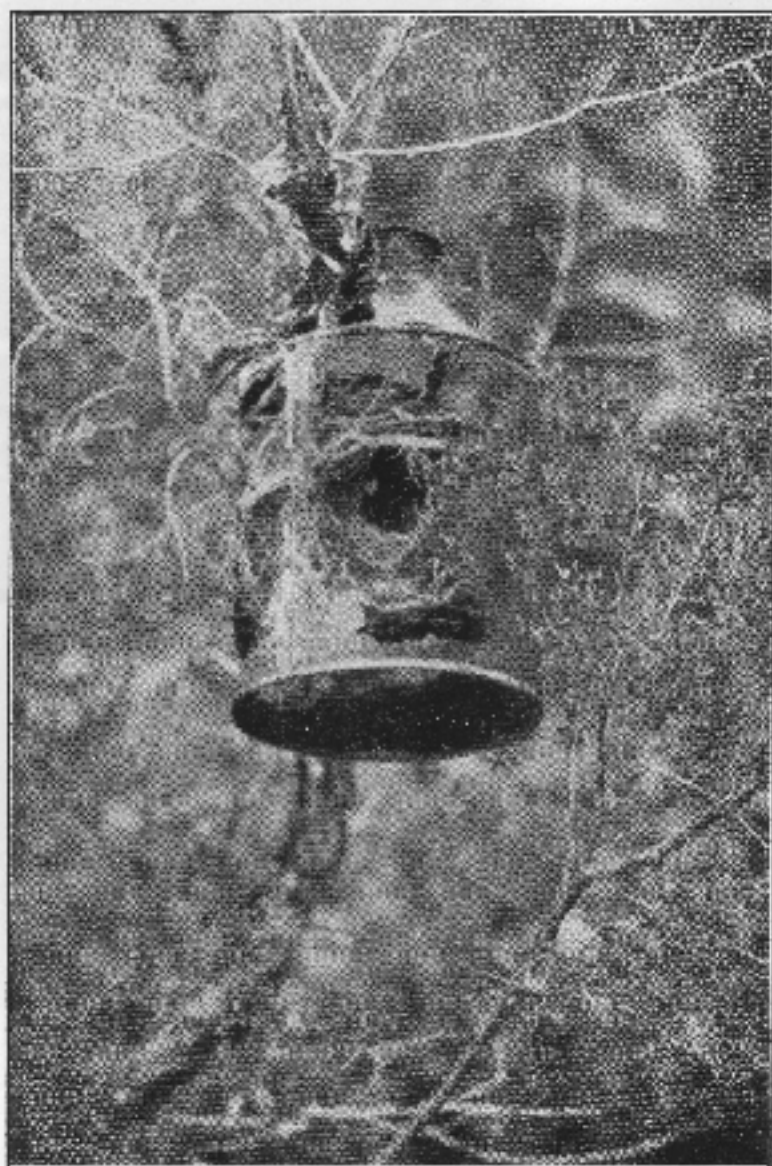
Photo by A. E. McDonnell, R.A.O.U., "Hydrolysis," *Geofed*, 8, 57, 8.

Camera Craft

The White-faced Heron.—In December, 1921, I had information that at Baxter, Vic., there was a nest of the White-faced Heron (*Notophox nova-hollandia*) containing young. In the hope of securing a photograph of the nest and young, and the adults at the nest, I visited the locality. The nest was situated about twenty feet from the ground, and while I examined the surrounding trees for a position suitable for work with the camera, the young herons—four in number—stood in characteristic, semi-rigid positions, in an attempt to escape observation. Suddenly they took fright, and three birds flew strongly over the tree-tops and away. The fourth hesitated for a minute, and then followed. I noticed that its flight was weak, so I started in pursuit. I shook it out of a sapling, in which it had settled, and after a chase it was captured. Placing the bird on a stump, where, after a few lunges with its beak at the camera, it settled itself quite placidly, I took several photographs. During the proceedings the "subject" disgorged five specimens of the yabbie, or fresh-water crayfish, and an examination of the ground below the nest showed that this was a favoured article of diet. The Heron is undoubtedly a valuable bird to the man on the land.—L. G. CHANDLER, R.A.O.U., Red Cliffs, Vic.

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Interesting Silver Gulls.—This photograph was taken on board the s.s. *Merimbula*, off Montague Island (South Coast, N.S.W.). As soon as the boat is near the island, the birds, Silver Gulls (*Larus nova-hollandia*), fly out, and are fed by the captain. They can catch meat as easily as any Magpie, and not one scrap that was thrown out ever reached the water. There were several hundred birds off the Island, and quite a few of them follow the *Merimbula* to Eden, and back to the Island the next day,



A Strange Nesting Place of the Duff-tailed Thornbill

Photo. by A. P. D'Orobian, C.A.O.U., Grafton, N.S.W.

where they leave her. I am told they nest on the Island, and wait for the *Merimbula* each week. Photos taken with a Graflex at 9 a.m., one-thousandth part of a second. Unfortunately the sun was against the lens.—ATHOL D'OMBRAIN, R.A.O.U.

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A Queer Nesting-Site.—Here is a queer nesting-site of the small Bull-tailed Thornbill (*Geobasilus reguloides*). An old methylated spirit can, evidently thrown out from a hut near by, had caught by the handle in a small shrub, and after some time had rusted half away. The birds built in it, laid three eggs, and brought out the brood. A few days after the young birds left the nest, a severe storm blew down the nest.—ATHOL F. D'OMBRAIN, R.A.O.U.
