

Very sparingly marked with rounded spots and blotches of different shades of umber and dark purplish-grey; markings confined, with few exceptions, to the larger end, where they form an irregular cap. Oval in shape, and much pointed at the smaller ends. Shell very fine, smooth, and glossy.

Taken by S. W. Jackson, 6th November, 1920, on the Macpherson Range, S.E. Queensland, at an elevation of 3,800 feet above sea-level.

***Pachycephala rufiventris maudæ* (S. A. White).**

*Nest*.—That of a typical Thickhead or Whistler (*Pachycephala*); measures externally  $3\frac{1}{2}$  by  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches in depth; fragile structure, composed of dried rootlets and tendrils, with no lining other than fine rootlets; placed 12 feet up from the ground, in the fork of a tea-tree on large gum creek; female on nest; eggs visible from ground through bottom of nest.

*Eggs*.—Clutch, three eggs, swollen oval in shape; surface of shell rather fine and very glossy. Ground colour yellowish-brown, with small spots and blotches of darker brown and pale purplish-grey, chiefly confined to the larger end of each egg; they closely approach some very dark specimens of the Rufous-breasted Whistler (*Pachycephala rufiventris*). They measure, in inches—(a) .87 x .64, (b) .83 x .63, (c) .87 x .63. Mr. M'Gilp states this clutch is of usual coloration, and two eggs appear to be the usual clutch, but three are now and again found.

*Locality*.—Collected by Mr. J. Neil M'Gilp at Moolawatana, near Lake Frome, South Australia, on 11th December, 1920. Female sat closely, and did not leave nest until the branch was shaken. The tea-tree is their favourite nesting-tree, and sometimes the nest is placed in a mistletoe in these trees; height from ground varies from 5 up to 20 feet. Male frequently feeds the female on the nest.

## Further Notes on Rufous Scrub-Bird and Olive Thickhead in Queensland.

BY H. L. WHITE, C.F.A.O.U., BELLTREES, N.S.W.

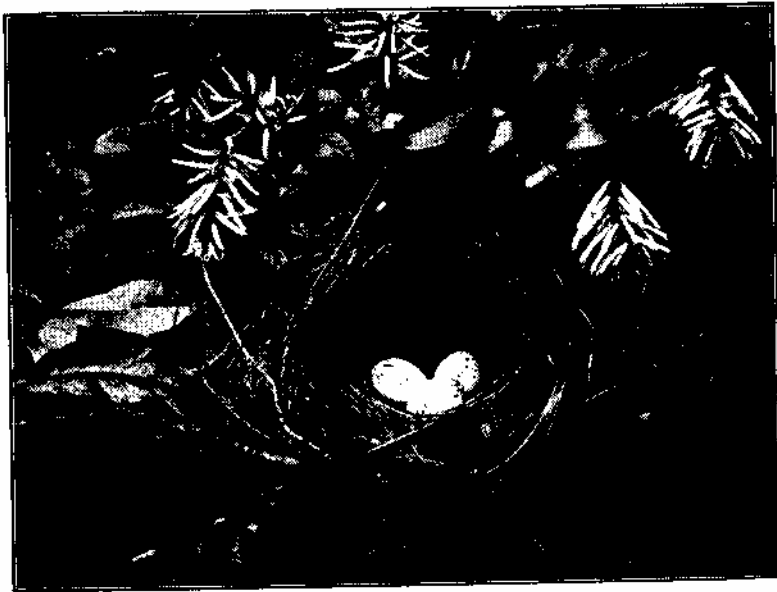
LAST season Mr. S. W. Jackson succeeded in securing additional specimens of both birds. Referring to my previous remarks on the Scrub-Bird (*Atrichornis r. jacksoni*) (*Emu*, xix., pp. 257, 258 and plate xlvii.), another female is similar to that figured except that the throat is slightly whiter, thus resembling more that of the male. Two immature birds accompanied her, which Mr. Jackson judged were about four weeks old. They were darker (dark shade of chestnut-brown) on the upper surface than the parent, while the under surface was more Verona brown or warm sepia, with a trace of rufous showing on the breast.

Another young specimen, about three weeks old, is similar in coloration to the four weeks birds, but has a shorter tail and no



Nest of Northern Olive Thickhead (*Pachycephala v. macphersonianus*).

PHOTO. BY S. W. JACKSON, R.A.O.C.



Nest, *in situ*, Northern Olive Thickhead.



Nest of *Atrichornis* (Scrub-Bird) on bank of creek.

PHOTOS. BY S. W. JACKSON, R.A.O.D.

trace of the rufous under-colouring; while another immature bird (male), about eight weeks old, has almost adult plumage except that the outer webs or edgings to the wings are dark chestnut-brown and not cross-barred, as in the full adult. As Mr. Jackson, in this issue, has furnished the dimensions, details, flesh parts, &c., there is no need to recapitulate same here.

Regarding the Olive Thickhead (*Pachycephala olivacea macphersonianus*), mentioned in the same *Emu*, p. 273, and described from a single specimen, a mated pair obtained by Mr. Jackson confirms this northern sub-species, and that the type skin was a male.

*Male*.—Lighter-coloured generally, and more greyish (slate-grey) about the head than southern form; a distinct mottled white throat is succeeded by a greyish band on the breast, which breaks into a tawny olive or buckhorn-brown under surface. Eyes reddish-brown; feet silvery-grey; legs brownish; bill blackish-horn. Dimensions in mm.:—Length 209, wing 100, tail 95, tarsus 26, culmen 22.

*Female*.—Differs from male in the absence of the greyish head and breast band, but has the mottled white throat. Eyes coffee brown; legs and feet silver-grey; bill—upper mandible blackish-horn, lower mandible much lighter coloured. Dimensions:—Length 213, wing 102, tail 98, tarsus 30, culmen 22.

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## Second Trip to Macpherson Range, South-East Queensland.

BY SIDNEY WILLIAM JACKSON, R.A.O.U., BELLTREES, SCONE, N.S.W.

SEPTEMBER 20th, 1920, found me engaged putting up camp again in the luxuriant and wonderful jungles on top of the Macpherson Range, in south-east Queensland, where success had favoured me when collecting the first known female specimen of the Rufous Scrub-Bird (*Atrichornis rufescens*) in 1919, as recorded in *The Emu* (vol. xix., part 4).

The camp was situated at an altitude of nearly 3,500 feet above sea-level—several hundred feet higher than the previous camp. At this elevation, and within less than 30 miles of the ocean, the camp was frequently enveloped in clouds and mist, especially after a warm day. Often it would rain all day about the camp, yet not much over 1,500 feet below often not a drop fell. The days were mostly warm, but pleasant, and the nights rather cold, except early in December, when they were sometimes warm and sultry. Many severe cyclonic storms, accompanied by heavy rain and hail, occurred during October and November, doing much damage in the great tall scrub or jungle, as well as smashing and destroying rare nests and eggs of birds which were under observation. However, perfect specimens were found later.