

Both Mr. Bettington and Mr. Jackson say that the differences in the markings of the eggs are very strong. Personally, the inland bird is unknown to me.

The fact of the bird being called the Summer Bird around Forster is owing, no doubt, to its being noticed only during the breeding season when the local boys are collecting eggs.

The strangest point about the bird's local habitat is the line of demarcation on the south. Draw a line from the Cape Hawke Mountain to the lake, and there are no birds to be seen on the southern side of the line or on Cape Hawke itself. There is none of these Honeyeaters on Wallis Island, although this is the same class of country as that around Forster, where the *Plectorhyncha* makes its home. It would be very interesting to discover what makes these birds keep to this small area. It is the food, no doubt, but what kind of food, when apparently all the country for ten miles round has just the same trees and flowers. It remains to be seen if the plumage of the bird has changed as much as the egg-markings.

In that fine article by Capt. S. A. White, on his last trip across Australia,\* he mentions seeing *Plectorhyncha lanceolata* between Longreach and Bourke. This line of country is a long way from the coast of New South Wales, and how the few birds came here and bred up the small colony is a mystery.

This visit of the R.A.O.U. and the fine lecture by Captain S. A. White on Bird Economies during the Camp-out at "Ellerslie," in 1921, are having very marked effects in stopping egg-destruction and helping to preserve the birds of the district. The visit of the R.A.O.U. aroused an interest in bird life that will set the young people on the right road to the study of ornithology, and teach them to know their birds.

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**Young of the Gibber-Bird.**—As the young of the Gibber Bird (*Ashbyia lovensis*) differ considerably from adult birds, a short description seems advisable, as I cannot find a record of such.

The young birds differ from the adults in that the upper surface has a more rufous-cinnamon wash to the feathers; there is also a distinct wash of rufous-cinnamon colour on the breast and throat of the young. This wash gradually recedes upwards, until at adult stage the breast, throat and abdomen are a deep lemon yellow, which becomes much brighter during the mating season. The bill of the young is a light brown or horn color; it is black in the adult; the feet are light brown, brown in adult; the legs are light horn colour, almost black in adult; the iris is of a lemon or light straw colour, which is similar to the iris of the adult. The above description of the young bird is taken from specimens that have recently left the nest and are able to fly well.—J. NEIL MCGILP, R.A.O.U., King's Park, S.A.

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\* "The Emu," vol. xxii., p. 234.