

Petroica toitoi. White-breasted Tomtit.—Rare.

Rhipidura flabellifera. Pied Fantail.—Common.

R. fuliginosa. Black Fantail.—Not noted recently.

Zosterops halmaturina. Silver-eye.—Very common. Noted by a friend eating pear slug on fruit tree. In the last week in June another friend reported seeing a flock of about fifty Silver-eyes eating glutinous seeds of *Pittosporum tenuifolium*.

Prosthemadera novæ-seelandiæ. Tui.—Not uncommon.

The following introduced species occur:—Greenfinch (*Chloris chloris*), not common; Chaffinch (*Fringilla cœlebs*), fairly common; Lesser Redpoll (*Acanthis cabaret*), rare; Goldfinch (*Carduelis carduelis*), common; House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*), very common; Yellow-Hammer (*Emberiza citrinella*), common; Song Thrush (*Turdus philomelus*), very common; Blackbird (*T. merula*), very common; Hedge Sparrow (*Prunella modularis*), fairly common; Skylark (*Alauda arvensis*), common; Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*), very common; Indian Myna (*Acridotheres tristis*), scarce; White-backed Magpie (*Gymnorhina hypoleuca*), scarce.

The Habits of Cuckoos—Some Additions and a Correction.—When writing about the habits of Cuckoos (*The Emu*, Vol. XXX, 1930, p. 18) I refuted the suggestion, advanced by Mrs. Linton in an earlier contribution to *The Emu*, that the origin of the parasitic habit is associated in some way with the food of these birds. As evidence in support of my contention it was stated that "Two species of American Cuckoos (*Coccyzus americanus* and *C. erythrophthalmus*) which both feed largely on hairy caterpillars, habitually construct nests, lay several eggs, and tend their own offspring."

Additional facts, unknown to me at the time, are contained in a letter from Mr. Herbert Friedmann, of the Smithsonian Institute, United States National Museum. Mr. Friedman remarks:—

"Thus there are a number of these birds, Cuckoos, in South-Eastern Asia other than *Centropodinae*, that are not parasitic, such as *Zanclostomus*, *Carpococcyx*, and a number of American genera that also build their own nests, such as *Neomorphus*, *Dromococcyx*, *Micrococcyx*, *Sarothera*, *Crotophaga*, *Guira*, *Geococcyx*, etc."

An item of interest mentioned in the same communication is that some of the African parasitic Cuckoos do not habitually eject the rightful young from the nest.

A statement of mine, that more than one young Koel Cuckoo had been observed in the same nest (*The Emu*, Vol. XXX, p. 20), is open to correction. After re-examining most of the literature concerning the species in question, I am unable to find any record of two young Koels in the one nest. It would be interesting to ascertain if such an observation has been recorded. I may add that two eggs of the Koel have been taken from a nest. What would happen were the eggs left to incubate is a matter for speculative minds.—K. A. HINDWOOD, R.A.O.U., Willoughby, Sydney.