

this bird, so that the ringing must have been carried out elsewhere.

This bird was a mature male, weight 155 ozs., wing (carpal to tip of longest primary) 538 mm., tail 177 mm., culmen 98.2 mm. long (tip of unguis to base of culminicorn) and 33.7 mm. wide at maximum point. Tarsus 99 mm. Mid-toe with claw 140 mm. Plumage light brown except for white head and neck with a few flecks of brown on top of head.

Ringing of petrels on Heard Island is being continued during 1950 by the relieving biologists.

Should any of these ringed birds be found, it would be appreciated if the ring at least, and the bird if possible, with full notes including locality and date, were sent to the Fauna Board, Hobart, Tasmania, or to the Australian National Antarctic Research Expedition, Albert Park Barracks, Victoria. If the bird is released again, the ring number with the notes should be sent.

A record of the species, with the date and location of ringing, will be sent for the interest of the finder, if requested.

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**Rufous Song-Lark.**— To-day (July 24) the Rufous Song-Lark is singing gaily. This is the first time I have heard this songster on the lowlands in July, though it is commonly heard when conditions are favourable in the warm, grassed, partly-timbered valleys a couple of miles distant. The Rufous Song-Lark is never more than a local migrant in this district and can be seen at most times throughout the winter months, usually returning to nesting sites in August. The Brown Song-Lark, on the other hand, leaves the district and is perhaps a true migrant, though the possibility that this bird also retires to warm valleys in other districts must not be discounted. Last year these birds were heard here early in August.

This is a remarkable season here (central-west New South Wales), with summer, autumn and winter rains assuming record proportions. Our annual average rain is 23 inches, but to date we have had 37 inches and 20 points. The comparative mildness of the weather to date has resulted in many species of birds building out of season. A Noisy Miner was observed yesterday brooding in a black wattle near the house, whilst Welcome Swallows were also observed beginning building operations.—GEO. W. ALTHOFER, Dripstone, N.S.W., 24/7/50.