

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

1919. Gilbert, P. A. 'A Dipterous Parasite of Nestling Birds', *The Emu*, vol. 19, pt. 1, July, pp. 48-9.
1924. Campbell, A. J. 'New and Strange Scavenger Moth, discovered by Ornithological Collector', *The Emu*, vol. 23, pt. 4, April, pp. 324-5.
1933. Jellison, Wm. L., and Philip, Cornelius B. 'Faunae of Nests of the Magpie and Crow in western Montana', *Canadian Entomologist*, February, 1933, pp. 26-31.
1935. Thomson, D. F. *Birds of Cape York Peninsula*, 8vo., Melbourne, p. 45.
1936. Moreau, R. E. 'Bird-insect Nesting Associations', *The Ibis*, vol. 6 (series 13), pp. 460-471.
1940. Roberts, N. L. 'Fly Larvae in Rosella's Nest', *The Emu*, vol. 39, pt. 3, January, pp. 233-6, pl. 29.
1941. Bryant, C. E. 'Notes on Boobook Owl Nestlings', *The Emu*, vol. 41, pt. 2, October, pp. 97-100, pl. 19.
1947. Hindwood, K. A. 'Nesting Habits of the Kookaburra or Laughing Jackass (*Dacelo gigas*)', *The Emu*, vol. 47, pt. 2, October, pp. 117-130, pls. 7-8.
1951. Woodroffe, G. E., and Southgate, B. J. 'Bird-nesting for Insects', *The Countryman*, Oxfordshire, vol. 43, no. 1, pp. 85-9.

FORTHCOMING CONTRIBUTION

A paper by A. H. Chisholm, dealing with the subject of 'Bird-Insect Nesting Associations in Australia', will appear in *The Ibis* early in 1952. A comprehensive bibliography, grouped under the following headings, 'Birds and Ants', 'Birds and Wasps', and 'Insects in Birds' Nests', will be appended.

Reed-Warbler's 'Fibro-plaster' Nest.—An empty nest of a Reed-Warbler (*Acrocephalus australis*) found near Sydney last summer was situated at a height of about three feet in a plant of Paterson's curse (*Echium plantagineum*), growing on a sandy hillock some 20 yards from a creeklet. Apparently the small reeds used for nesting material had been soaked in slime and mud, for the structure generally was as firm as cardboard. Submitted to Mr. J. Willis, of the Sydney Museum of Technology and Applied Science, it became the subject of the following interesting report:

Pieces of the vegetation forming the interior of the nest were taken from six different parts, macerated on slides in water, and examined both macroscopically and microscopically. As soon as the vegetation was pressed with a needle, clouds of what appeared to be mud were released into the water. Microscopic examination confirmed the mineral nature of this material. The bird either selects dead vegetation from a wet mud bank, incorporating it into the nest and allowing it to dry, or, alternatively, rubs dried vegetation in mud before incorporating it into the lining.

It would be interesting to know if Reed-Warblers' nests generally contain 'plaster'. In the instance under notice the mud served as effectively as does spider-webbing in, say, the nest of the Wagtail.—A. H. CHISHOLM, Sydney, N.S.W., 27/6/51.