

snail shells after the female had arrived, she waited for a while and then departed. Similar behaviour by the male in tending the bower was noted by Warham (1957, 1962).

Two possible occurrences of bower painting were noted, the first being when the male arrived silently with a bark-like substance in his beak. He entered the bower and moved along the avenue probing both walls with his beak at about the same level all the time. He then backed out, continuously probing as he did so. After standing at one end and looking at the bower for a short while, he flew off and preened. The second occasion noted was after he had been arranging snail shells. He entered the bower and worked along it thrusting his beak into either side of the avenue at about the level of his normal head position. He would occasionally pause and "gobble", as though trying to clear an obstruction in his throat. Having worked both ways along the bower he left and dropped something nearby. Later investigation showed half a piece of softened wallaby dung where he dropped this object. It may have been that this was partly swallowed so that it was acted upon by the saliva, and the resultant solution coughed up as required for painting the inside of the bower. No evidence of any painting could be seen, so it is possible that the dung and saliva mixture might impart a particular fragrance, rather than colour, to the bower. Warham (1962) noted similar behaviour, without visible results.

VI. REFERENCES

- Marshall, A. J., 1954. *Bower Birds*, Oxford.
U.N.E. Exploration Society, 1961. 1960 North Queensland Expedition, Report No. 2 (private publication).
Warham, J., 1957. Notes on the display and behaviour of the Great Bower-bird. *Emu*, 57: 72-78.
Warham, J., 1962. Field notes on Australian bower-birds and cat-birds. *Emu*, 62: 1-30.

High-level feeding of Willie Wagtail.—As a general rule the feeding habits of the Willie Wagtail (*Rhipidura leucophrys*) are flycatcher-like, but they differ from the true Tyrannoid type of feeding as defined by L. M. Bartlett in his paper, "Observations on birds 'hawking' insects" (*Auk*, 73: 127, 1956). Willie Wagtails often practise the hawking type of feeding, and they also hover when such manoeuvre is necessary.

However, it is uncommon for the species to pursue insects above the height of 100 feet from the ground. An example of unusual high-level feeding came to my notice at Erdora Farm, Sutherlands, S.A., on April 20, 1962. A Willie Wagtail flew gradually upwards, apparently catching insects, until it reached a height of at least 250 feet above the ground.—E. F. BOEHM, Sutherlands, S.A., 28/5, 62.