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Observations on the Straw-necked Ibis.—These observations were made between April 10 and 15, 1957, near Mc-Laren Vale, S.A., I noted a flock of eighteen birds, Threskiornis spinicollis, feeding on crickets in a pasture paddock near the McLaren Vale Oval. Crickets were numerous in the area. A flock of seven White-faced Herons (Notophoÿxnovæ-hollandiæ) were also feeding with them, and both species appeared to be at home in the company of the other. For most of the time the birds were seen dotted around the eight-acre paddock energetically feeding. When feeding, the Ibis would walk slowly along, prodding here and there at the many crickets, with a very rapid bill movement. Occasionally they would stop, and preen a ruffled feather. The 'Strawnecks' used their long bills to advantage to prise the crickets out of the badly-cracked ground. In many cases when the crickets were especially thick, the birds would stop and eat all those near them before moving on.

Every hour or so, the whole flock would make a short flight around the locality, or fly into the top branches of one of the numerous red gums and remain there for a short period. Almost without exception, the Ibis perched on dead branches, at the top of the trees. On one occasion, when the flock was about to settle in one of the trees, one Ibis broke the branch it settled on. This seemed to excite the whole flock and they flew around near the paddock for about ten minutes before alighting once more. Often, when in flight, the Ibis would drop and fly erratically for a few seconds, and then

suddenly pursue their normal flight.

Most of the time I could approach to within about forty yards of the Ibis before they would take wing.—Rex Ellis, McLaren Vale, S.A., 5/5/58.