

west area (*W.A. Naturalist*, vol. 3, 1953, p. 189). I find, however, in my records a reference to an individual of the species which was shot at Busselton in 1934. On January 11, of that year, Mr. Roy Macgregor gave me a specimen whose dimensions I noted as follows: length, 21½ in.; wing, 22½ in.; tarsus, 2 in.; the legs were white; nails, horn; bill, horn; iris, dark blue; and facial disc dark grey. The bird was not sexed.

A large number of Straw-necked Ibis were present on the Broadwater at the time.

—H. M. WHITTELL, Bridgetown.

Incipient Song in Juvenile or Female Blue Wrens.—On September 6, 1953, on the Muchea-Gingin road in the vicinity of Lake Catambo, a group of about 8 Blue Wrens (*Malurus splendens*) was under observation for about half an hour as they fed in a gum and wattle thicket. The birds used a monosyllabic "flock" note, a short "tip" as they moved about. There was only one fully plumaged male in attendance and this was quite silent but on several occasions one of the juveniles or females was heard and seen to utter a short snatch of song. The birds frequently came within 8 feet as they fed. It was impossible to tell whether the songs all came from the same individual or whether they were juveniles or females; none had any blue on the wings though all had blue on the tail and chestnut beaks and eye patches.

—JOHN WARHAM, Leederville.

Occurrence of Red-eared Firetail and Red-winged Wren in the Darling Ranges.—When collecting for the W.A. Museum along the Albany Highway on February 28, 1954, I examined a dry creek bed near the 53-mile peg (from Perth). The precise locality was about one mile along an old timber track leading off from the Highway to the west, on the Perth side of the 53-mile peg. The country is mostly wandoo forest with a few scattered jarrah trees and the usual sclerophyllous ground flora. The Red-winged Wrens (*Malurus elegans*) were feeding in the thickets near the creek bank. The Red-eared Firetail (*Zonaeginthus oculatus*) were found in the same area, and in the company of the Red-winged Wrens. I saw 5 finches and there were large parties of Wrens, there being at least 15 birds in one group, including 3 fully-plumaged males. Nearby was a company of the Banded Wren (*Malurus splendens*). Specimens of the finch and the Red-winged Wren were collected for the Museum.

—K. G. BULLER, W.A. Museum.

Sunbathing of Senegal Turtledove.—On September 12, 1953, in a garden at Leederville an adult Senegal Turtledove (*Streptopelia senegalensis*) was noticed squatting on a gravel path at right angles to the strong sun. The tail was fully fanned and the left wing, that on the sunny side, half extended with the primaries separated a little. This attitude was held for several



Warham, John. 1954. "From Field and Study: Incipient Song in Juvenile or Female Blue Wrens." *The Western Australian Naturalist* 4(4), 91–91.

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