

CORCORAX.—I have confirmed the fact that two females at least of *Corcorax melanorhamphus* lay in one nest. I examined a nest on Wednesday (7/10/08) just before sunset, and found it empty but ready for eggs; examined it again following Saturday and found *five* eggs of two distinct types.—H. L. WHITE.

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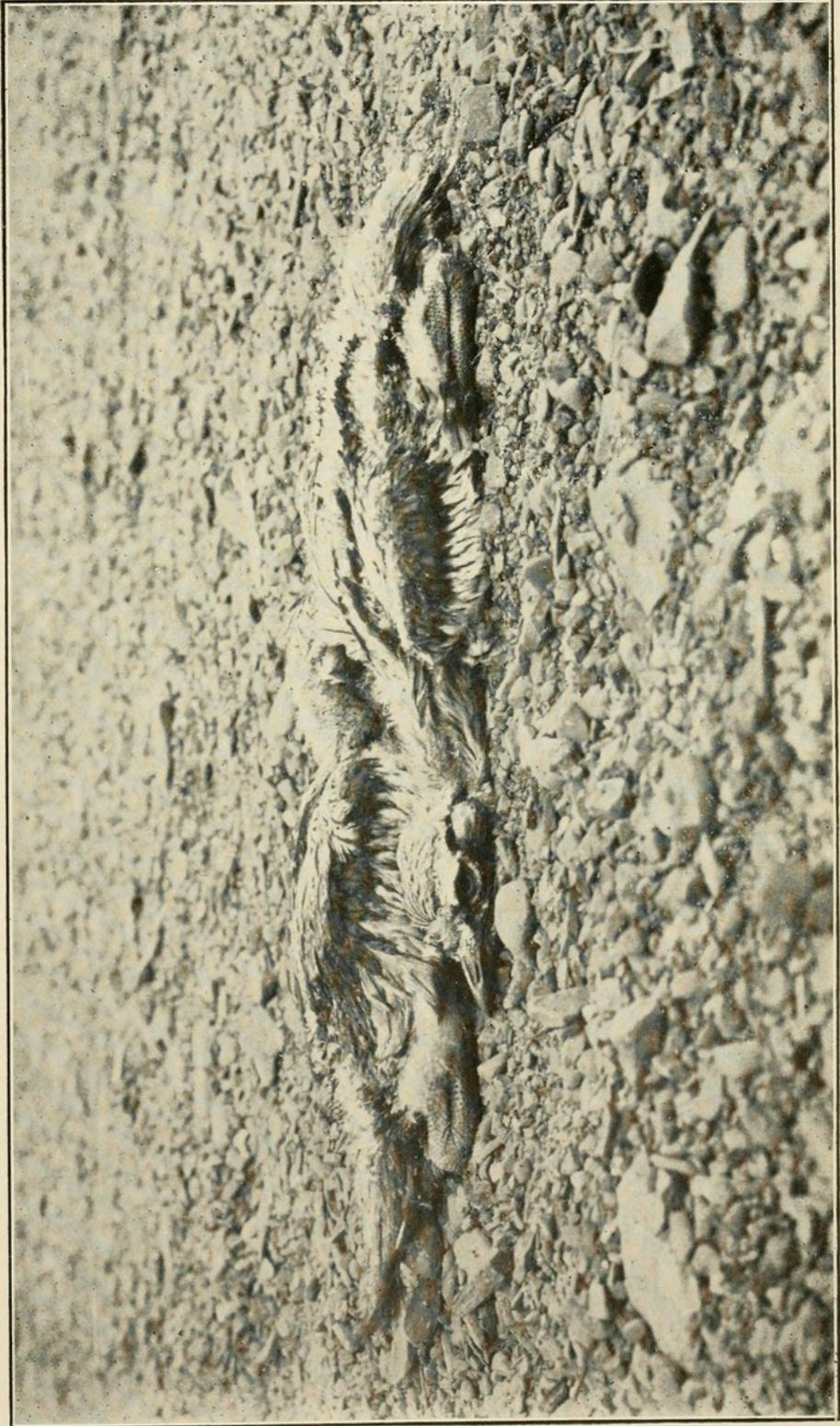
BIRD ROBBERS.—One day in October, 1897, while wandering through gums and bull-oaks at Springvale, I noticed an Orange-winged Tree-runner (*Sittella chrysoptera*) carrying something in its bill. Tracing it to a high fork in a bull-oak (*Casuarina*), I found it was nest-building. But the bird had not been long away on the search for more material before a Little Tit (*Acanthiza nana*) appeared and began to tug violently at some of the fibrous part of the Tree-runner's nest. It dislodged a piece and carried it off to its own nest not far away. This is the only instance of the kind I have ever noticed among native birds.—A. G. CAMPBELL. Pomonal, Victoria.

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YOUNG STONE - PLOVERS (*Burhinus grallarius*) AND SHINGLE.—Having received two young birds from a friend as a donation towards my collection, I at once placed them in the aviary. Soon after, on my approaching them, I was struck with the quaint and peculiar attitude they fell into. One would think at times the earth had gaped and swallowed the pair; the similarity of colour in plumage and site selected for squatting by the birds would deceive the trained eye of a pot-hunter. It is the only means of concealment provided by nature against the searching eye of their greatest enemy, the Wedge-tailed Eagle (*Uroaëtus audax*). I photographed them as a study in colour protection. Although not in their natural haunts, they were very wild at the time, as depicted by the expression of fear and the outstretched attitude on the shingle. They have now become very docile, and never attempt to pose as per photo.—HARRY BURRELL. Manilla, New South Wales, 23/11/08.

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MORE NEW FOSTER-PARENTS. — *Acanthiza uropygialis* is among the foster-parents of *Chalcococcyx basalus*. I took a nest on Wednesday last (28/10/08) containing two eggs of *Acanthiza* and the Cuckoo's egg, all fresh. The nest was situated about 12 feet from the ground, in a dead bull-oak stump. The softer white wood had decayed and fallen away, leaving a shell outside about 1/8-inch thick, and a space of about 1 1/2 inches between it and the heart of the tree. A strip about an inch wide was broken out, just giving nice clearance for the birds, and the opening in the nest could be seen. Last year, on 6th October,



Young Stone-Plovers (*Burhinus gallarius*) "Planting."



Burrell, Harry. 1909. "Young Stone—Plovers *Burhinus grallarius* and Shingle." *The Emu : official organ of the Australasian Ornithologists' Union* 8(3), 150–150.
<https://doi.org/10.1071/mu908149e>.

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