

between yellow ochre and buckthorn brown (Ridgway's "Standards," pl. xvi.); upper tail coverts are mustard yellow (*loc. cit.*), under tail coverts pale yellow; abdomen tinged with yellowish-buff.

Measurements of dried specimen:—Total length, 155 mm.; tail, 7 mm.; wing, 78 mm.; culmen, 12 mm.; tarsus, 22 mm.; iris black.

Differs from *P. carteri* (Campbell) in being less yellow on forehead and crown of head and much darker generally, also has a larger proportion of black and less white in the ear-plumes. Differs generally from *P. flava* (Gould) in being less yellow, and *flava* has no white in the ear-plume. Differs widely from *P. keartlandi* (North) in having a yellow face, forehead, and crown, which *keartlandi* has not. Differs from *P. penicillata* (Gould) in having a brighter yellow face, brighter yellowish wash on forehead and crown, pale yellow under tail coverts, and brighter yellow upper tail coverts, has more black and less white in the ear-plumes, and has bright yellow streaks on chin, neck, and chest, these being absent in *penicillata*.

Habitat.—Numerous in the creek beds at Geraldton and Dongara, Western Australia.

There is no difference between the male and female.

The credit of the discovery is quite as much due to Mr. J. W. Mellor as to myself, as we observed several specimens each while we were working together, and I found them later at Dongara.

NOTE.—Mr. Mellor suggests that it may be Mr. Mathews's *Ptilotis ladasi*; this is quite possible, but we have had no opportunity to compare the skins.

Stray Feathers.

Clutches of the Bustard in Western Australia.—Referring to Mr. A. H. Chisholm's paper on the breeding of the Australian Bustard, I append notes from my old diaries as to the number of eggs laid in North-West Australia:—

2nd October, 1887.—One egg (Murchison River).

6th August, 1897.—Two nests, each with two eggs.

1st August, 1898.—One nest, with two eggs.

4th June, 1900.—One nest, with one egg.

(8th June, 1900.—Saw young birds that could fly.)

5th August, 1900.—Two nests, each with two eggs.

1897 and 1900 were hurricane years, with heavy rains, the rainfall registered by me at Point Cloates being $23\frac{1}{2}$ inches in 1900 and $11\frac{1}{2}$ in 1897. 1898 was also an exceptionally good year, with 14 inches. The above records of eggs found refer to Point Cloates district, excepting, of course, the first one, and are in favour of two eggs being the usual number. I have seen Bustards, with their wings expanded, driving away sheep from the vicinity

of their eggs, and have been shown a clutch of three eggs from one nest, which, from their uniform colour and markings, were apparently laid by the same bird. Have also been told on good authority of four eggs having been found in one nest. Possibly there were a pair of female birds in this case. — TOM CARTER. "Wensleydale," Mulgrave-road, Sutton, Surrey, England.

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The Bronze-Cuckoo in Western Australia.—Referring to my letter of 17th November, 1919 (*Emu*, xix., p. 251), I find that I have a skin of "*Chalcococcyx plagosus*" (the Bronze-Cuckoo) obtained by me at Carnarvon, W.A., on 16th August, 1911, so that it is quite probable that this species does occur on Dirk Hartog Island, although I procured only *Chalcococcyx basalis* (the Narrow-billed Cuckoo) there.—TOM CARTER. "Wensleydale," Mulgrave-road, Sutton, Surrey, England.

Notes and Notices.

OWING to the continued and increasing high costs of paper and publication, funds are much needed. Members who have not yet forwarded their subscription to the hon. treasurer, Mr. Z. Gray, 65 St. Vincent-place, South Melbourne, are requested to assist the R.A.O.U. by doing so at the earliest opportunity.

Our Honour Roll.—The Honour Board of the R.A.O.U. in connection with the Great War was unveiled by Senator Brigadier-General H. E. Elliott, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., D.C.M., at the Union's room, Temple Court, Melbourne, on the evening of 6th October, 1920. Mr. A. J. Campbell presided.

The board, which was made of wattle-wood, polished and lettered in gold, was suitably draped with flags and wreaths of flowering wattle, and contains the names of 50 members (see *Emu*, xix., p. 253) who dared to "put their lives in jeopardy" at their country's call, and, alas! of that number nine have fallen.

" Their gallant lives they sacrificed to rescue the oppressed;
The flowers of dear Australia—the men in khaki dressed."

Mr. J. A. Ross, on behalf of the Union, thanked General Elliott for his attendance and interest in our Honour Board. The General narrated an incident of the war, where he was instrumental in saving a room full of natural history specimens from destruction. A valuable collection of butterflies was under "bombardment" by the enemy, but it was safely removed to the Paris Museum with the loss of one insect only.

MUCH matter has had to be held over from this, a Western Australian number.

ON account of unavoidable delay, the date of publication of this number was 13th January.



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