

**Notes from Prairie, N.Q.**—The only observation here is Peewits coming to the garden taps with grasshoppers and grubs and dipping them in the water and beating them soft. Repeatedly they will dip them until soft and apparently broken, and then fly away to the nest across the dry creek. The object is to make them easily swallowable by the young birds. Storm-Birds, or Channelbill Cuckoos, have been numerous around the homestead; so also were the Pallid Cuckoos a few weeks ago. I am disposed to the opinion that they make their habitat adjacent to bush dwellings. Some time ago I found a very fine dead specimen of the Jabiru lying dried near a big stock tank at a windmill in dry country. The brilliant bronze-blue plumage of the head was retained in the dried skin. These birds must at times fly high, otherwise this one could not have seen the tank. I first thought some miscreants had shot the bird, but this was not so. It had simply alighted on the water and could not get out, so was drowned and thrown out. Frequently this happens to smaller birds, and I know one place where it was a morning job to clear dead flying foxes from a tank, until sticks were put in so that the wretched bats could get out.—J. R. CHISHOLM. The Plains, Prairie (N.Q.)

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**Northern Range of *Geobasileus reguloides*.**—Mr. H. G. Barnard has been good enough to send for the "H. L. White Collection" an example of this species from the Dawson River district, Queensland. In my "Nests and Eggs," i., p. 240, I quote Mr. Charles Barnard as having observed the species nesting in the same district. Mathews, in his "Reference-list" (1912), does not indicate Queensland for the species, but more recently (*Bull. B.O.C.*, xl., p. 106) he describes, under the name *G. r. nesa*, a variety from South Queensland, taken at a R.A.O.U. camp-out, and states that it "differs from *G. r. squamata* (De Vis) in being paler generally, the under surface only tinged with yellow, and the rump only being pale buff." Why does Mr. Mathews not compare his supposed new bird with its true type instead of with a more northern sub-species of which there is a doubt? The Dawson skin (♂), compared with typical *reguloides*, has more yellowish upper tail coverts, and is more yellowish than buff on the under surface, notably breast and abdomen. Iris pale yellow; bill and feet dark brown. If this description agrees with Mr. Mathews's skin, his new name, *nesa*, may be acceptable for the variety. Those members interested in sub-species should read "The Last Phase of Sub-Species," by L. M. Loomis, of San Francisco, in *The Ibis*, October, 1920, pp. 964-966.—A. J. CAMPBELL.

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**Australian Bustard (*Eupodotis australis*).**—During the last few years I have had splendid opportunities of studying the habits of the Australian Bustard, probably better known as the Wild Turkey. Seeing several notes in *The Emu* lately on this fine



Campbell, Archibald James. 1921. "Northern Range of *Geobasileus reguloides*." *The Emu : official organ of the Australasian Ornithologists' Union* 20(4), 241–241. <https://doi.org/10.1071/mu920239h>.

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