

bird, I feel sure it will interest many readers to learn that the bird still frequents, as well as breeds in, southern Victoria. The birds usually arrive here about June, leaving again towards the end of the year, although a few pairs seem to stay on right through the year. The largest number I have seen together was in 1919, when I came across a mob of sixteen ; but as a rule* they seem to stay in pairs. I have had the good fortune to notice several nests (if such they may be called), all containing one egg only. One egg I found on a large flat stone ; another between two large stones on the top of a stony rise ; and two others alongside small tussocks. The nesting months are from August to December. During the season 1920, although I did not notice any eggs, I know of four different young birds having been seen. The young Bustard has some peculiar calls, and on being surprised it utters two quick barks, which sound like the bark of a young dog. Another call is a long-drawn-out, mournful whistle, which can be heard for a considerable distance. A bird which I have mounted (shot many years ago) stands just over three feet high. Unfortunately, there is no record of weight or measurements.—J. K. RUSSELL, R.A.O.U. Barunah Plains, Hesse, Vic.

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The White Honey-Eater.—One of the most interesting finds of the R.A.O.U. in Western Australia was the White or Alfred Honey-eater (*Lacustroica whitei*), also called the Inconspicuous Honey-eater, owing to its small size and dull mousey-grey colour. Resembling an *Acanthiza*, it is little wonder that the bird has rarely been procured. The first specimen—a male—was obtained in 1909 by Mr. F. Lawson Whitlock at Lake Way, in the East Murchison district. Mr. North described the bird as a new genus and species—*Lacustroica whitei*, after Mr. H. L. White's son Alfred. A full description appeared in the *Victorian Naturalist*, vol. xxvi., p. 138, and a coloured plate of the bird appeared in *The Emu*, vol. ix. ; but this plate is somewhat misleading, as there is a certain amount of yellowish tinge about the upper surface of the birds. This is not in the live bird, there being no "adornment" whatever in its feathers. The species was not included in the list in the last issue of *The Emu* owing to lack of identification until after *The Emu* had gone to press. The bird was shot in low bushes in very dry country, and its habits and actions resemble those of an *Acanthiza*. The taking of the bird near Ajana extends the range of the bird a considerable distance westward on the Murchison, and nearer to the coast-line.—JOHN W. MELLOR. Locksley (S.A.), 27/2/21.

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The Gracemere Bird Reserve.—At the invitation of Mr. R. S. Archer, who has been patron of the Central Queensland Native Birds' Protection Association since its inception, a party of members of the association recently journeyed to Mr. Archer's homestead. After enjoying the hospitality of Mr. Archer and



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