



Yellow Robin at nest, built with scraps of paper.

Photo. by A. H. Chisholm, R.A.O.U.

Finch (*Ægitha temporalis*), Regent Bower-Bird (*Sericulus chrysocephalus*), Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater (*Acanthagenys rufogularis*), Hooded Robin (*Melanodryas cucullata*), Plumed Pigeon (*Lophophaps plumifera*), King Quail (*Excalfactoria chinensis*), Little Quail (*Turnix velox*).

Afternoon tea was served to the guests, and later in the day a brief visit was paid to the beautiful old-world garden of Mr. A. Crompton at "Stonyfell," near Burnside.

The afternoon of October 10 was spent at the home of Captain S. A. White, at Fulham, where the party was entertained at afternoon tea and given the opportunity of inspecting the Captain's extensive collection of bird skins. Members took full advantage of the privilege offered, and spent a pleasant and profitable afternoon.

A Nesting Novelty.—It is an odd fact that for seven successive years, and possibly longer, a pair of Yellow Robins (*Eopsaltria australis*) at Wahroonga (North Sydney) have used scraps of newspaper to decorate their nest. It is assumed that the one pair of birds has been responsible, for all the nests have been built in a particular patch of casuarinas, and sometimes a second nest would be built in one season, when newspaper would again be introduced. A comparison of the photograph of the first "newsy" nest seen in 1923 (*Emu*, Vol. XXIII., plate 56), with the nest shown in the picture accompanying the present note, shows that the builders have become more artistic, weaving the "foreign" material into the nest instead of merely plastering it on. Incidentally, it is to be noted that the Robins are evidently tolerant as to politics, for they are just as ready to make use of scraps of the *Labor Daily* as they are to use portions of the conservative *Sydney Morning Herald*! It is certainly a curious thing that one pair of birds alone should develop and stabilise a taste for newspaper as nesting material, and Mr. H. Wolstenholme, R.A.O.U., who usually finds the little homes, observes jocularly that they seem to represent the rise of a new sub-species.—A. H. CHISHOLM, R.A.O.U., Sydney.

Blue Wren's Strange Meal.—In December last I was watching a party of Blue Wrens fossicking about the woodheap. One fully-fledged young bird was making a nuisance of itself—rushing up to the others in turn and asking to be fed in no uncertain manner. Suddenly one of them, perhaps less patient than the others, picked up a two-inch piece of string and offered it to the clamoring youngster. It went down at a gulp.—E. L. HYEM, R.A.O.U., Barrington, N.S.W.