

Creek Grey Currawongs were observed in the same place both when we were proceeding to and returning from the Lighthouse.

Gymnorhina hypoleuca. White-backed Magpie.—The Magpie was not plentiful.

Cracticus torquatus. Grey Butcher-bird.—A pair was seen on the hill between Sealer's Cove and Refuge Cove. Others were heard calling at various places.

The Blackbird (*Turdus merula*), the ubiquitous Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*), and the Goldfinch (*Carduelis carduelis*) were noted, bringing our total list for Promontory, including those species noted on the prior trip, to 61 species.

The Boobook Owl (*Ninox boobook*), the Fantail Cuckoo (*Cacomantis flabelliformis*), and the White-throated Tree-creeper (*Climacteris leucophaea*) were heard but not seen.

Australian Pratincole.—In 1929 the Australian Pratincole (*Stiltia isabellae*) was first observed on October 17 about eight miles south of Boggabilla, near the Queensland border. On October 21 a number were seen about eight miles south of Moree on a dry, sun-baked plain, and a few of these were still there after Christmas. On this plain the birds nested during October, November and December, the first nest, containing two eggs, being found on October 26. Later, owing, no doubt, to the dry season, no nests were found with more than one egg. On one occasion a nest with a single egg was marked about thirty yards from the main Moree-Narrabri road, and the place being visited a few days later, it was found that the egg was missing. One was found, however, much closer to the road, and at least ten yards in a more northerly direction. It was almost impossible to have missed this nest on the previous visit as the bright, rusty-yellow plumage of the bird makes it very conspicuous on a bare plain, and the egg was highly incubated, so the bird must have been sitting at the time. It would appear therefore that on being disturbed the bird removed her eggs from one place to another. This would not entail any hardship in building as they lay in any small depression on the ground, without attempting to build a nest of any sort.

The Pratincole is a past master at doing the "wounded bird act." They will flap along the ground for yards with wings dragging in an attempt to lure one away from the nest. Finding this not successful, they will fly up within a few yards, and with both wings extended, flutter up and down and round and round in all kinds of comical attitudes.

On this same plain a flock of about eighty or a hundred Oriental Dotterels (*Charadrius veredus*) has been seen since October, and on one occasion only five Little Whimbrels (*Mesoscolopax minutus*) were also seen. This was the only place that either of these birds was noted during the year.—B. S. MORSE, R.A.O.U., Moree, N.S.W.