

mass of down. It must be noted, however, that this is not the appearance of all chicks at 45 days old, some chicks having a much more liberal coating of down on them. Three days later there is another rapid advance, with only small tufts left on the back of the neck and traces under the neck and at the shoulders. On the 51st day these last are gone also, leaving the chick fully fledged for the remaining few days of its life in the burrow (fig. 7).

**Frogmouths Resting on the Ground.**—Whilst I have never seen a Frogmouth on the ground with wings outstretched, as described in the note by Mrs. A. M. Lawrance (*Emu*, vol. XXXIX, p. 295), I have twice, while walking through the bush, flushed Tawny Frogmouths from the ground, and once—on March 5, 1934—while at Nangeenan, I noticed one of a pair of Frogmouths which I had had under observation for some time, roosting under a pepper tree (*Schinus molle*) close to the bole, but on the ground. The day was very hot and sultry. On another occasion, I narrowly avoided running over a Frogmouth which was resting on a roadway. Quite recently, I found a Frogmouth on the ground, but this bird was being “mobbed” by Dusky Miners and Grey Butcher-birds, and may not have been behaving normally.

I have often found the remains of Frogmouths in the bush under circumstances pointing to a violent death, and consider that strange in view of the infrequency with which I have found dead birds of other species under similar conditions. I have wondered whether this ground-resting habit, which may be more general than is usually supposed, may contribute to the seemingly high mortality by unduly exposing the birds to the attacks of cats and foxes.—ERIC H. SEDGWICK, Wellard, W.A., 9/5/40.

**Fly Larvae in Nest.**—In *The Emu* of January, 1940, is an article by N. L. Roberts, dealing with fly larvæ in the nest of an Eastern Rosella. This article was particularly interesting to me, as just previous to reading the article mentioned, I had found a Sacred Kingfisher's nest containing three young birds, infested with fly larvæ. I was particularly struck with the clean condition of the nest. Usually these birds have their nests in a filthy condition.

One other nest, a deserted one, from which the young had recently departed, was in a remarkably clean state and beneath the entrance, and attached to the termite nest, was a number of empty cases from which some form of moth had emerged.

The nest was examined after the birds had left and it was found that there were numerous pupæ imbedded in the dirt in the floor of the nest. These brown-cased insects were about  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch in length.—E. A. LORD, Murphy's Creek, Q'ld., 4/7/40.