

## ADDENDUM

Since the foregoing notes were written there has appeared in *British Birds* (53, I, January 1960) an article entitled 'Notes on Anting by British Passerine Birds in the Wild', by K. E. L. Simmons and others. The introduction by Simmons and the contributions by some fourteen other writers are all interesting and informative, dealing as they do with both active and passive anting and with certain facets of the practice hitherto unrecorded. Several species are added to the list of birds known to practise anting. Simmons states that he has gained some 'most exciting observations' and adds that he has in preparation another review of the subject.

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**The Purple-crowned Lorikeet in New South Wales.**—A. R. McGill, in *The Emu*, vol. 59, p. 265, suggests that the Purple-crowned Lorikeet (*Glossopsitta porphyrocephala*) "occasionally irrupts far north of its usual range". During the winter months of 1958, there was such an irruption of the little parrots into this district.

Late in May large numbers of the Swift Parrot (*Lathamus discolor*) arrived and began feeding amongst flowering eucalypts along the Billabong Creek at Rand. They were joined within a few days by numbers of lorikeets, chiefly, so I thought at the time, *G. pusilla*. The larger Musk Lorikeets (*G. concinna*) were also present, but they were merely in dozens, whereas there were hundreds of the other two species.

On June 10, my small daughter told me that there were two little parrots feeding in a boobialla (*Myoporum insulare*) in the house yard and that they were "the same as the ones we saw at Lindner's place". The Lindner to whom she referred was Mr. A. Lindner, of Vectis, near Horsham (Victoria), whose wonderful garden of native plants attracts many birds, amongst them flocks of Purple-crowned Lorikeets. I went out to the tree to point out the differences between the Victorian birds and our visitors, and was surprised to find that she was quite correct: they were Purple-crowned Lorikeets. It was my first definite record of the species in New South Wales.

After that I carefully examined the parrots in the trees along about a mile of the creek. There was no real point in trying to make a count, as the flocks moved so much, but it soon became obvious that there were at least several hundred of each species of the four parrots. They remained throughout June and July, but all the Lorikeets departed early in August, although the Swift Parrots remained until the end of September—late enough for me to start hoping for nesting. However, they did not nest, and the last flock was seen on October 3.—P. A. BOURKE, Rand, N.S.W., 28/12/59.