

**Stiltia isabella.** Australian Pratincole.

The status of this species was discussed in some detail previously (*Emu*, vol. 59, p. 136).

**Burhinus magnirostris.** Southern Stone-Curlew.

As mentioned earlier, this species was recorded in north-west Queensland by Berney (1907), M'Lennan (1914), and Marshall (1933). I did not see or hear it.

#### REFERENCES

- 1907 Berney, F. L. 'Field Notes on Birds of the Richmond District, North Queensland', *Emu*, vol. 6, pp. 106-115.  
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 1933 Marshall, A. J. 'Notes from the Leichhardt River, Q'd', *Emu*, vol. 32, pp. 263-266.  
 1949 Wheeler, Roy. 'Sharp-tailed Sandpipers in Breeding Plumage', *Emu*, vol. 49, p. 143.  
 1955 Liddy, John. 'Waders at Mount Isa, Queensland', *Emu*, vol. 55, pp. 297-302.  
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**A New Silver Gull Rookery.**—On November 10, 1959, in the company of Sgt. G. Hanlon, Tasmanian Fauna Board, I visited the north-west coast of Tasmania. A small rookery of the Silver Gull, *Larus novæ-hollandiæ*, was discovered on an unnamed rocky islet at the northern end of Studland Bay. The islet is connected to the mainland at low tide. The rookery was occupied by about 25 birds, but only eight of the birds were in pairs. Twenty-five nest sites were found, and only four eggs were found in three nests. A number of broken eggs were discovered and the site is believed to be subject to predation by water rats, *Hydromys chrysogaster*.—ERIC R. GUILER, University of Tasmania, Hobart, Tas., 4/5/60.

**Autumn Flocking of White-winged Chough.**—The gregariousness of the White-winged Chough (*Corcorax melanorhamphus*) is a constant trait of this remarkable species. Solitary pairs are rarely seen even in the breeding season. It seems likely that nest-building and the feeding of the young is done by community effort.

After the breeding season the local colonies tend to combine to form flocks of from 30 to 60 birds. On rare occasions such flocks meet and an exceptionally large gathering takes place. Drought and the resultant scarcity of food are probably the reason for the abnormally large flocks, which are only observed in the autumn as a rule.

About 120 Choughs were noted feeding on pasture beside the stock road close to the Government Dam, 3 miles south-east of Sutherlands, S.A., on April 11, 1960. They were scattered over about three acres of land, and, when disturbed, all flew into a small patch of scrub nearby. It was the largest gathering of Choughs I have ever seen.—E. F. BOEHM, Sutherlands, S.A., 19/4/60.