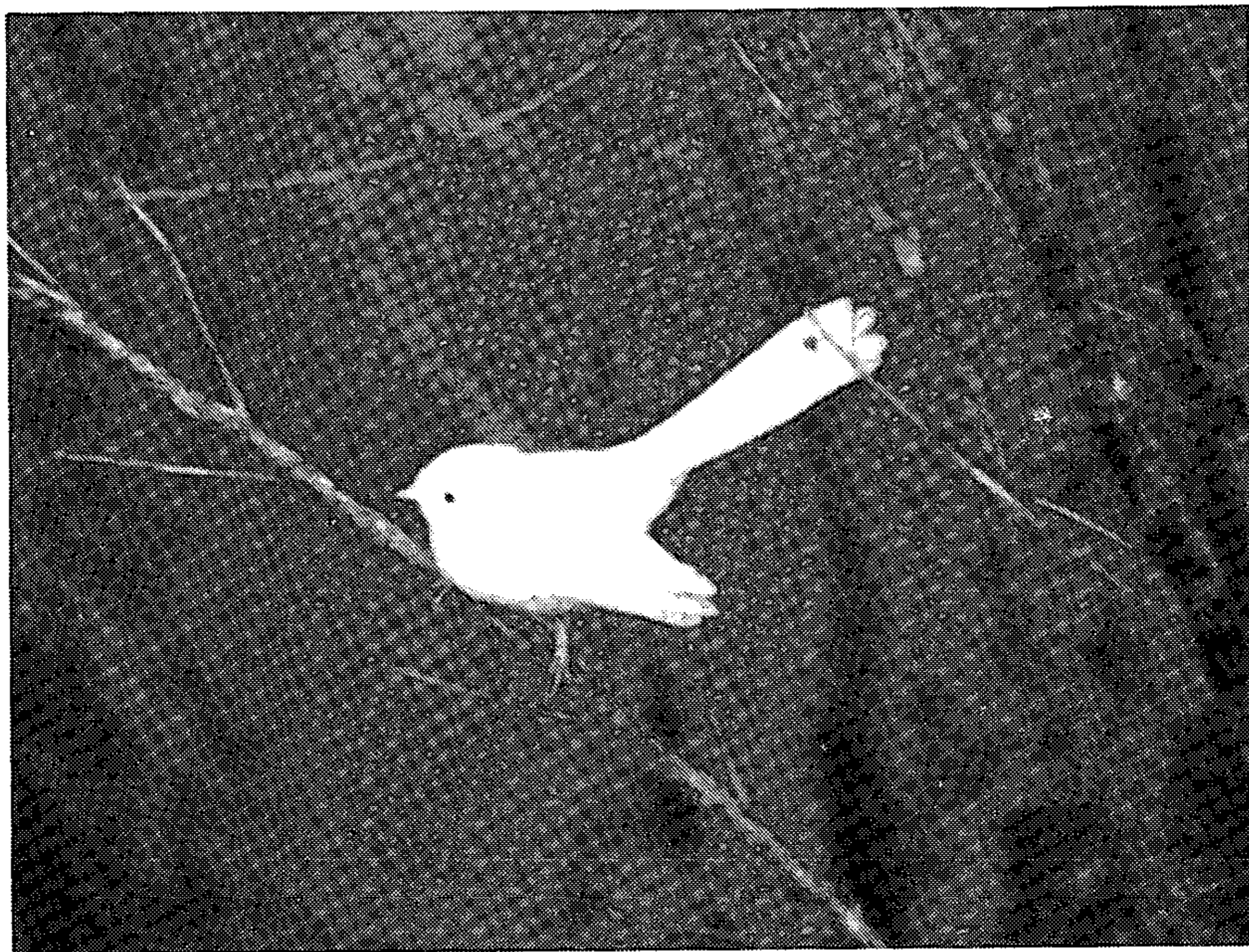


An albinistic Fantail



An albinistic North Island Fantail (*Rhipidura fuliginosa placabilis*) was seen in May 1989. The habitat was pasture and gully scrub (manuka) in the headwaters of the Orautaha Stream, north of Raetihi. I took the photograph on 21 May. The bird had a yellow beak, black eyes, and entirely white plumage. [In the colour photo, the visible leg is pink and the feet are pinkish white - Ed.] It travelled and fed with up to 12 normally pied fantails, spending much of its time following cattle as they disturbed insects. It was visible for long distances and spent a lot of time on the ground. It was not seen after a heavy snowfall on 30 May.

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