

under normal conditions, and neither of us observed even one individual member of this large family for a year or so previously, but when suitable trees flower (which they apparently do after long irregular intervals) there is immediately an irruption of the birds, large in numbers individually and specifically, to feast on them. The Yellow-faced Honeyeater (*Meliphaga chrysops*) far outnumbered the others, possibly because of its aggressiveness, but within the space of a few weeks, with limited opportunities for extensive search, we listed also the Red Wattle-bird (*Anthochaera carunculata*), Brown Honeyeater (*Gliciphila indistincta*), Spinebill (*Acanthorhynchus tenuirostris*), Scarlet Honeyeater (*Myzomela sanguinolenta*), Fuscous Honeyeater (*Meliphaga fusca*), and White-naped Honeyeater (*Melithreptus lunatus*). These are placed in their order of observation and possible order of arrival.

The Pied Currawong (*Strepera graculina*) is a common bird around Sydney, yet we have not recorded it from our locality. Odd though that may be, it is even more surprising that a Grey Currawong (*Strepera versicolor*), which in eastern New South Wales is rarer in comparison, was observed on April 3, quietly moving about in a patch of low scrub amongst the hilly upper reaches of Wolli Creek.

Of other swamp, river and seashore-frequenting species seen during the year, brief mention might also be made, in concluding, of the Little Crake (*Porzana pusilla*), Marsh Tern (*Chlidonias leucopareia*), Little Tern (*Sterna albigrons*), Double-banded Dotterel (*Charadrius bicinctus*), Bar-tailed Godwit (*Limosa lapponica*), Curlew Sandpiper (*Erolia testacea*), Australian Snipe (*Gallinago hardwicki*), White-necked Heron (*Notophonyx pacifica*), Nankeen Night-Heron (*Nycticorax caledonicus*), Mangrove-Heron (*Butorides striata*), Little Bittern (*Ixobrychus minutus*), White-eyed Duck (*Nyroca australis*) and Musk Duck (*Biziura lobata*).

**The Interloper.**—Whilst I was photographing at the nest of a Silvereye at Eltham, Vic., recently, a Grey Fantail came on the scene, and for some minutes indulged in the customary flight antics of the species, around me and the camera. The Silvereye nest, which contained three newly-hatched young, was in an open position. Suddenly the Fantail flew to a branch above the nest, and then, without hesitation, dropped on to the rim, hopped into the nest, wriggled its body around for a few seconds as birds do when settling down, and then flew away. Both of the Silvereyes were in a nearby tree, preening, but neither showed any concern.

When photographing birds I have often pondered on the possibility of some such event, when inquisitive birds came near, without seriously considering that it would actually happen—but this time it did.—C. E. BRYANT, Melbourne, Vic., 16/12/42.