

Sparrow is responsible, for the same reasons as that given for the Cassias.

Loquat Tree.—Two plants growing. This fruit is never eaten at my place, so the human element as a dispersing factor can be struck out.

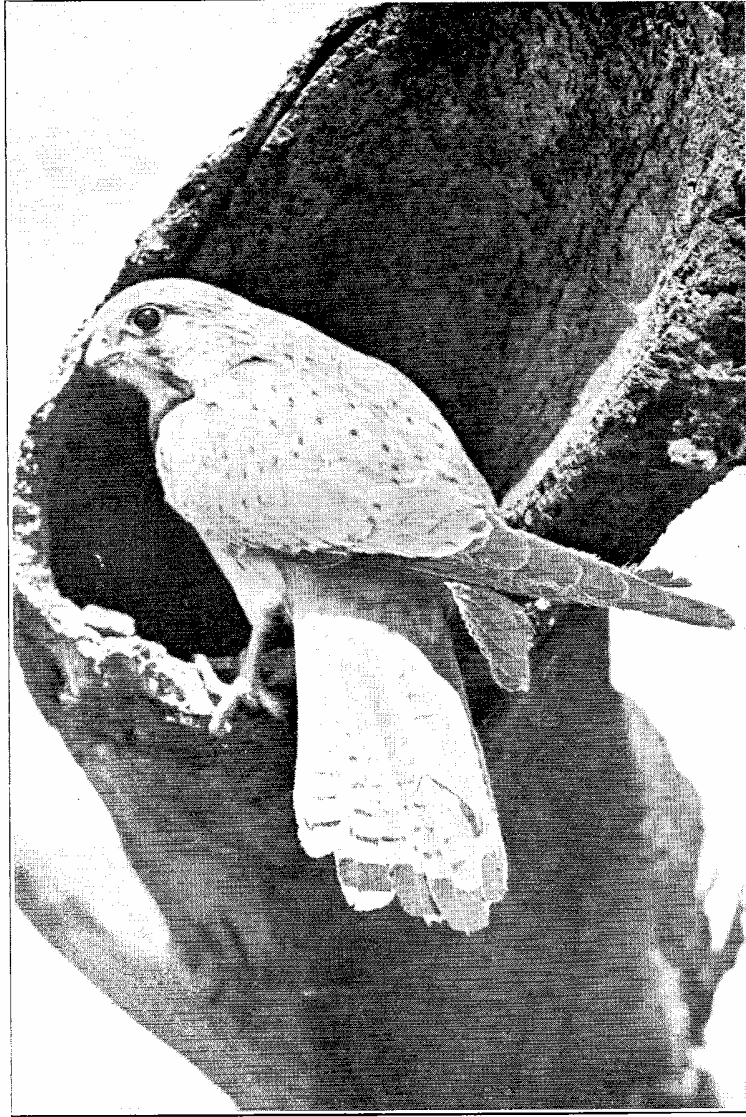
Besides the above list there are a few plants that have not as yet been positively identified, and a few others that may have been due to some one of us accidentally planting them.

The above list of plants is, no doubt, represented in practically every suburban garden around Sydney at least, even though the seeds, through constant cultivation, are hardly given time to germinate. As the Silvereye must be responsible for distributing plants over a wide area, the question arises in one's mind as to what effect the dispersal of these plants has on the surrounding bush-lands. My observations are that in the virgin bush-lands they have little influence, and it is uncommon to find any of the garden-cultivated species or pests such as the lantana and blackberry growing, but wherever there has been disturbance of the soil, or destruction of the native trees and shrubs, either directly or indirectly by man and his domestic animals, then there may be seen many instances of these plants gaining a strong hold, especially on the banks of small creeks near residences.

In the *Science Bulletin*, No. 15, of July, 1918, published by the Department of Agriculture of New South Wales, is an article on the food of Australian birds. The following seeds were identified in the stomach contents of the Silvereye:—Blackberries, Ink-berries, *Rubus* sp.? (native raspberry), Pepper-tree berries, *Persoonia* sp.? (geebung) *Eriocarpus*, *Leucopogon*, *Phytolacca octandra*, *Solanum nigrum*, native cherry, fruit (probably figs), and many other seeds not identified.

Kestrel Notes.—This nesting season I have found several nests of the Nankeen Kestrel in the Red Cliffs district, Victoria. This beautiful Hawk is remarkably tame, and presents no difficulties for the photographer, beyond the labour of building a scaffolding to hold camera and operator. The nesting hollow shewn in the illustration was about twenty feet from the ground and to reach it several mallee saplings were felled and lashed together in the form of a tripod. The camera was secured at the top with a kodapod and a ladder was used by the photographer. The Kestrel is a valuable bird and should be protected by law* and sentiment. Mice and grasshoppers form a large portion of its diet. It is regrettable that there is so much ignorance about our Hawks amongst the general public.—L. G. CHANDLER, Red Cliffs, Victoria, 21/1/36.

* The species was placed on the fully-protected list in Victoria last year (1935).—Ed.



Nankeen Kestrel at nesting hollow.

Photo. by L. G. Chandler