

flown into a 22,000-volt high-tension line supplying power to the Nemacolin Mine, in Greene County, Pennsylvania. The short circuit resulted in blowing out the transformer and throwing one thousand miners out of work for the day. The facts are vouched for by Mr. Jacobs. An item in the 'Boston Sunday Herald' of November 28, 1937, reports the death within a week of a number of 'American Eagles' through alighting on power poles near St. Anthony, Idaho. These reports, if trustworthy, indicate a new menace for large hawks and eagles, that might perhaps be overcome by proper insulating devices.—Ed.]

Milk snakes vs. birds.—That snakes are notorious bird eaters is well known. It is also rather strange what extraordinary places they ascend, and their manner of obtaining knowledge that a nest exists in these places. In rose bushes and low shrubs where Chipping Sparrows (*Spizella p. passerina*) nest, it might not be so unusual, and surely not with ground-nesting species. At my nextdoor neighbor's house, on the east side, a rambler rose climbs a trellis up some twenty feet, and stands fully twelve inches away from the building. Here, about six feet up, a Chipping Sparrow had her nest; and she was heard and seen feigning wing injury three times before we realized the snake's presence. This milk adder lived under the porch piazza. On our visits to the nest the snake would drop directly to the ground and flee. It would climb, as we saw later, directly up the clapboards of the house, in a wide spiral way, then reach over into the rambler at its nearest branch. In the end it had to be shot, using craft to get it.

In a large stone cattle pass under the railroad, a spot infrequently visited, Phobes (*Sayornis phoebe*) have nested for years. The young or eggs have sometimes mysteriously disappeared. The pass is built six feet high, the walls of large stone blocks, sloping on an inward incline from halfway up, to the top, where the tops of the stones extend back about six inches, forming a shelf. On this the Phobes nest. I would make my visits after dark, to catch the adult bird and band her. For three years I happened to pick the same night a milk snake did. Each one was killed. But the marvel is that the snake could locate the nest, and, after discovering it, climb up the outward slant of the rock to the nest, thence lie along the shelf and eat the young at its leisure. There was no other access, as the top is solid. And each time the female Phoebe would be quietly perched on the pasture fence just outside one end of the culvert, to fly only at our approach.—LEWIS O. SHELLEY, *East Westmoreland, New Hampshire*.

Noteworthy records for Nova Scotia.—During the last ten years or so, several interesting occurrences of accidental or locally rare birds for this province have come to my attention. I am indebted to Mr. Robie W. Tufts, of Wolfville, Nova Scotia, for his information on several of the following records.

MAN-O'-WAR-BIRD, *Fregata magnificens*.—An adult female was shot at Pennant Bay, Halifax County, on December 5, 1932, by George Little. This is the third known record of this species for Nova Scotia.

BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT HERON, *Nycticorax nycticorax hoactli*.—An adult male was found dead in an emaciated condition near Port Williams, Kings County, on April 30, 1926. On April 1, 1928, one was picked up dead in Yarmouth County.

YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT HERON, *Nyctanassa violacea violacea*.—An immature of this species was collected by Earl Godfrey at North Grand Pré, Kings County, on September 13, 1932. Mr. Godfrey also collected one in juvenal plumage on July 28, 1937, and two more in juvenal plumage on August 12, 1937.