

Within ten minutes the refuge had returned to normal and the only excitement remaining was that of the workmen who were discussing the matter.—H. ELLIOTT McCCLURE, 406th Medical General Laboratory, APO 343, San Francisco, California.

**Nesting of the Pygmy Palm-Swift.**—Lack states in his "A review of the genera and nesting habits of swifts" that the nest of the Pygmy Palm-Swift (*Micropanyptila furcata*) is unknown (Auk, 73: 22, 1956). However, Hermano Nicéforo María, the well known Colombian naturalist, writes (*in litt.*) that he found on July 31, 1948, a nest of this rare species situated in a palm about 15 meters above the ground. The locality was Petrólea, Norte de Santander, in the Catatumbo lowlands, Colombia. He remarks that "the 2 birds, in turn, went in and out of the hollowed base of a leaf, and at this place they were both killed." One of these (sex not determined) is in the collection of this Academy (A. N. S. P. 157,551). It will be noted that the nesting site is similar to that of an Antillean *Tachornis*, which I have collected in like fashion.—JAMES BOND, *Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.*

**The Little Egret, a New Bird for North America.**—The National Museum of Canada has received from Mr. Leslie M. Tuck, Canadian Wildlife Service, St. John's, Newfoundland, the skin of a female Little Egret, *Egretta garzetta garzetta* (Linnaeus). It was shot by Robert Emerson at Flatrock, Conception Bay, Newfoundland, on May 8, 1954. Dr. Alexander Wetmore, who kindly examined the specimen at the writer's request, concurs with the identification. The finding of this Old World bird in Newfoundland adds a new genus and species to the North American list.—W. EARL GODFREY, *National Museum of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario.*

**An Anomalous Condition in the Eye of Some Hawks.**—During a morphological study of the eyes of birds in Texas, specimens of several species were collected, two of which exhibited an anomalous condition in one eye. The condition called colaboma is usually congenital and is characterized by an absence of some portion of the eye. An adult Rough-legged Hawk (*Buteo lagopus*) and a Red-tailed Hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*) both exhibited colabomas which involved a lack of development or an atrophy of approximately three fourths of the iris, lens, retina, and choroid. The eye could not possibly have functioned in image formation if indeed it was able to function in light perception.

It is very difficult to make a hawk with normal eyes observe an object which is close at hand with only one eye. They seem to insist on binocularity at close range, which demands the use of their temporal foveae. Apparently the binocularity is of use in depth perception during the stoop.

The above-mentioned hawks, without the use of one eye, were of course forced into monocularly for all situations. Yet they managed to survive as adult hawks. Either they managed to compensate for their loss by using the other clues for depth perception (size of object, shadows, etc.) or possibly they subsisted on carrion or locusts, both of which were abundant in the area where they were collected.—REXFORD D. LORD, *Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland.*