

in a rather well built garage, all these buildings being within a few hundred yards of each other. These nests had all been built during a previous year, and three nests at least had been occupied for several seasons.

On the morning of May 19 (shortly after the birds had returned from the south, according to the natives), when we opened the door of the garage a pair of Swifts were found clinging, side by side, one or two inches below the nest, to the board upon which the nest was fastened. The structure was plastered to the board about seven inches below the ridge-pole of the roof, on the end of the building, and not on the underside of the roof. The nest stuck securely to the flat surface of the board, and there was no corner or projection which had aided the birds. According to the owner of the garage this nest had been observed for the past seven years or more, without its having fallen or being rebuilt, and certain it is that there was a great mass of excrement, over three inches thick, on a projecting shelf a few feet below the nest. The birds entered the garage not through the door but by an irregular hole in one side. In the other buildings where the birds were nesting, abundant apertures permitted the birds easily to come and go as they pleased, with the Barn Swallows.

At first I was amazed that the Swifts should choose such sites with several chimneys close at hand. My present opinion is, however, that these chimneys were so often filled with smoke in this wild mountain valley where the cool nights and constant cooking demanded fires, that the Swifts were perhaps obliged to seek nesting sites elsewhere. One thing was noticeable: that in every case as dark a spot as possible was chosen in which to place the nest.

Close examination of the nests showed that already a new coating of saliva had hardened about the rim, corners, and fastening portions of the nest, and the old saliva which had held the structure up was completely covered and added to above, but not below the nests. No new twigs had been added so far as I could see. There were no eggs in any of the nests, and on the chill mornings the birds were rather sluggish in movement.
—GEORGE MIKSCH SUTTON, *Game Commission, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.*

Unusual Occurrence of the Chimney Swift.—On June 23, 1925, I was returning to Charleston, S. C., from New York, via the Clyde Steamship Line, and late in the afternoon of the date mentioned above, while off the Delaware coast, I was surprised to see a Chimney Swift (*Chaetura pelagica*) flying about the ship. The bird did not appear to be tired in the slightest, but continued circling and swooping about the ship for at least twenty minutes, sometimes coming as close to the rail as fifteen or twenty feet. The ship's position was about 25 miles off-shore, and of course, well out of sight of land.

Several of the passengers noted it, and remarked on the presence of a bat (!) so far out at sea. After flying about, and pursuing the usual tactics of a Swift after its supper of insects, it disappeared in a westerly direction. I have made like voyages in the past, and am naturally always

on the lookout for any feathered wanderers, but the Swift was hardly looked for, and I have never before seen one so far from shore.

Many Wilson's Petrels were seen on the way south, and near the Diamond Shoals Lightship, a flock of Greater Shearwaters, numbering 62 individuals was counted. One Audubon's Shearwater was noted off the South Carolina coast.—ALEXANDER SPRUNT, JR., *Charleston Museum*.

Broad-tailed Hummingbird Bathing in a Swift-flowing Mountain Stream.—June 7, 1925, I spent the day in Santa Fe Canyon at an altitude of 8,500 feet. On crossing the little stream I saw a male Broad-tailed Hummingbird (*Selasphorus platycercus*) flying over the stream. I trained my field glasses on the bird and saw it settle down in the water with its body nearly half submerged and with the wings in motion as in flight. With the water rushing rapidly about the body of the bird, it remained stationary. The bird stayed in the water for a few seconds, made a short flight and then repeated the performance possibly half a dozen times.

Sometimes it varied its tactics and, with wings at rest, would alight on a rock over which the water was flowing to a depth of one-half inch.

I watched the bird about ten minutes, then it grew tired of the performance and flew away.—J. K. JENSEN, *Santa Fe, N. Mex.*

The Dance of the Tangara (*Chiroxiphia caudata* (Shaw)).—A short time ago I was surprised to find in Dr. Knowlton's admirable 'Birds of the World' no mention of the extraordinary dancing habits of certain of the Manakins. This circumstance led to an examination of the other probable sources at my command for accounts of these habits, and I was further surprised to learn that very little regarding them has been put in print anywhere.

Charles C. Nutting has given us in his paper 'On a Collection of Birds from Nicaragua' (Proc. U. S. National Museum, Vol. VI, 1884, p. 385) an excellent account of the dance of *Chiroxiphia linearis* but there seems to be nothing published in English that can really be termed a description of the remarkable performance of *Chiroxiphia caudata*. J. F. Hamilton's remarks in his 'Notes on Birds from the Province of São Paulo, Brazil' (The Ibis, 1871, p. 305) are quite perfunctory, and are frankly derived from hearsay; while A. H. Evans' single sentence in 'The Cambridge Natural History' (Vol. IX, Birds, 1899, p. 479) is evidently drawn from Hamilton. And in the bird volume of 'The Standard Natural History' (Vol. IV, 1885, p. 473) we find but two sentences, taken, no doubt, from the Danish of Reinhardt. Beyond this I know of nothing in English.

Turning now to other languages, we find the first mention of the Tangara's dance in J. Reinhardt's 'Bidrag til Kundskab om Fuglefaunaen i Brasiliens Campos' (Videnskabelige Meddelelser fra den naturhistoriske Forening i Kjobenhavn, 1870, p. 129). This is followed by the German