

**The Snowy Egret in Marin County, California.**—According to "Bird-life of the San Francisco Bay Region" (Pacific Coast Avifauna, no. 18, 1927, p. 61), the only occurrences of the Snowy Egret (*Egretta thula thula*) within the bay region are three individuals seen in spring or early summer on the Farallon Islands; it has been found in San Mateo County, but the dates are not known.

On March 5, 1932, as I was walking across the new Richardson Bay bridge between Manzanita and San Rafael, I saw a small white object at the end of a sand spit near the south side of the structure. At first I presumed it to be a gull; then as I drew closer, and was able to see the heron shape, I believed it to be a night heron; and at last, on close approach, it dawned on me that it was a Snowy Egret. I had seen the birds several times before on their breeding grounds in the lower San Joaquin Valley, and am positive of the identification. The bird did not even notice the constantly passing automobiles; but as I drew closer, it became more and more alarmed, and finally, on snowy wings, flew up, circled around and crossed over the bridge, flying northward. At all times in flight the black legs and yellow feet were evident.

Another record, undoubtedly the same bird, was obtained on February 28, when it was seen near the same bridge from the train, by Edwin McClintock.—HAROLD SWANTON, *Oakland, California, March 29, 1932.*

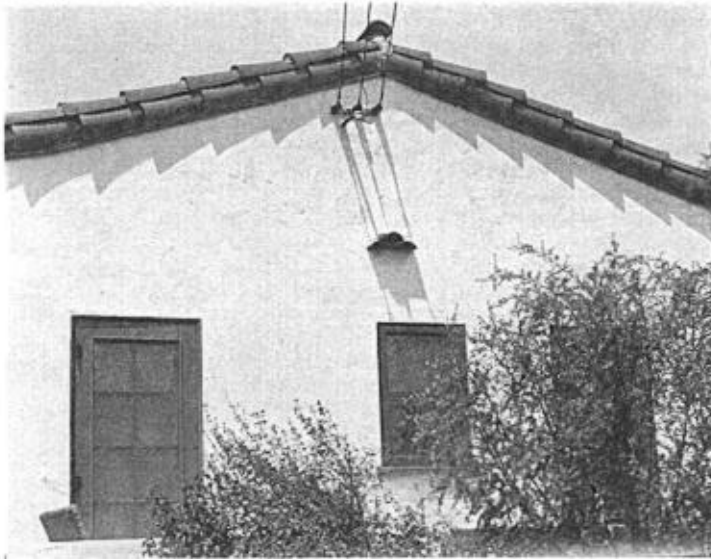


Fig. 16. NESTING SITE OF WESTERN BLUEBIRD, IN ORNAMENTAL TILE ON STUCCO WALL; SAN MARINO, CALIFORNIA.

**Western Bluebird Nesting in Wall Tile.**—The nesting of the Western Bluebird (*Sialia mexicana occidentalis*) in the lowlands of southern California is infrequent enough to justify the following notice. In the spring of 1931, Mrs. Beatrice Sisk advised me of nesting bluebirds at her San Marino home. Early in May, 1932, she again called and upon our visit showed us the adults and two of the three juveniles successfully launched on May 1.

The nesting site is shown in the cut (fig. 16), being within the lower left cavity beneath an ornamental tile projecting from a stucco wall. The environment is partly modern urban with spacious grassland studded with oak groves coming within half a block. The elevation is 500 feet. The open grove effect of the whole San Marino district probably accounts for the summer presence of the Western Bluebird; the