

Nesting of Acadian Chickadee in Maine.—On July 2, 1938, a pair of Brown-capped Chickadees (*Penthestes hudsonicus littoralis*), each with insect food in its bill, drew my attention, as I followed a trail in the deep woods of Somerset County, Maine, near Carry Ponds. This was at an elevation of about 1200 feet. The path wound through mixed woods for a mile or two and came to a clearing, floored with broken granite ledges and carpeted with sheep laurel and caribou moss. Scattering clumps of spruce and fir, a few birches, a cedar or two, grew in this open space. For some moments the two chickadees flew about nearby, uttering faint scolding notes of alarm and continued to gather insects from the ends of spruce boughs. It was not until I had seated myself and remained quiet that one of the birds flew to a clump of spruce trees, a lone birch and a cedar. Presently the chickadee dropped down low behind the cedar for an instant. Suspecting it might be the nest, I approached and discovered the nesting cavity hidden in the cedar. Fifteen inches above ground the cedar, not over six inches in diameter, divided into two upright branches at an easy angle. Where they joined on the inside, a space fully ten inches in length, the secret lay—an ideal cavity with a narrow opening. Within the nest were young birds well feathered, nearly ready to leave. When I revisited the nest on July 5, they had departed. Search of the vicinity failed to discover any of the fledglings or of their parents. The nesting cavity contained finely shredded cedar peelings and bits of decayed cedar. But the bulk of the nest consisted of moss and deer hair.

Intermingled with this moss were various forms of invertebrate fauna both living and dead. I am greatly indebted to the U. S. Biological Survey of whose staff Mr. L. W. Saylor analyzed the material and prepared the following report. "In vial: one adult *Protocalliphora* sp. and several pupae probably of this species; one ? *Agromyzidae* pupa (not usual in nests); two *Fannia* sp. larvae (spiny ones); many beetle larvae, *Choleva* sp. (a small silphid beetle); fragment of Anisoptera wing.

"For your information, the *Protocalliphora* above are bloodsucking flies and some species of the genus are known to do a good deal of damage to birds; thus the maggots of California species have been taken from the nests of the Mourning Dove, Nuttall's Sparrow, California Purple Finch, Green-backed Goldfinch, Willow Goldfinch, California Brown Towhee, and California Linnet. At times the fly maggots may be sufficiently numerous to kill not only the very young but also those nearly fully fledged. The anthomyiid fly, *Fannia*, on the other hand is a scavenger and probably feeds on the excrement in the nest and possibly also on the deer hair."—AARON C. BAGG, 72 Fairfield Ave., Holyoke, Massachusetts.

Type locality of the American Robin.—Linnaeus's name (*Systema Naturae*, ed. 12, 1: 292, 1766) was based on the *Turdus pilaris migratorius* of Catesby (*Natural History of Carolina*, 1: 29, pl. 29, 1731) and Kalm (*Resa til Norra America*, 3: 46, 1761) and the *Turdus canadensis* of Brisson (*Ornithologie*, 2: 225, 1760). Doubtless because Linnaeus adopted one of Catesby's descriptive adjectives as a specific name, Catesby has been considered the primary reference. South Carolina has thus become the accepted type locality for the nominate race of the Robin, as stated in the latest edition of the 'Check-list.' This is somewhat unfortunate, since the species is known in the vicinity of Charleston (where Catesby presumably first saw it) only as a winter resident. The selection of Canada (i.e., the city of Quebec), *ex* Brisson, on the other hand, would have simplified matters, since we now know that southern-bred Robins are appreciably smaller in size and paler in general coloration than those from the north. Raleigh, North Carolina, is the type locality designated for this small southern race, *achrusterus* of Batchelder. Could it be shown, however, that the