

*Haplopappus bloomeri*, *Ribes cereum*, *Amelanchier* sp., *Cercocarpus ledifolius*, and young *Juniperus occidentalis* and *Pinus ponderosa*. The numerous, scattered, charred snags in the area are remnants of the once-dominant but now burned out forest of *Pseudotsuga menziesii*.

On May 13, 1959, I observed one Black-throated Sparrow perched on a branch of one of the shrubs in the area. This was my only observation of this species there, but I reported it immediately to my companion, Mr. Kenneth L. McLeod, Jr. He returned to the area on several occasions, making the following additional observations: one on May 24, 27, 29, and 30; two on June 2; three on June 3, one of which appeared to be gathering nesting material; one on June 9 and 18; and two, perching together, on June 28. On June 3, the presence of a fourth individual was also suspected. Mr. McLeod stated that he could distinguish individuals by differences in the width of their black throat-patches, which suggests some variation in this aspect of their pattern.

Du Bois (*op. cit.*) refers to two earlier records for this species in eastern Oregon. These include reports by Jewett (*Condor*, 15, 1913:229) of two from Wright's Point, and by Gabrielson and Jewett (*Birds of Oregon*, 1940:565) of one from Silver Lake, both in Harney County. Hyde (*Condor*, 42, 1940:305) also reports one from Wright's Point. The observations reported here apparently provide the first records for this species in the intermountain area of south-central Oregon.—RICHARD MCP. BROWN, *Crater Lake National Park, Oregon, December 4, 1959.*

**Ground-level Nest of the Mountain Chickadee.**—Bent states in his *Life Histories of North American Jays, Crows, and Titmice* (U. S. Nat. Mus. Bull. 191, 1946:364), that the Mountain Chickadee (*Parus gambeli*) nests "at heights ranging from 2 to 80 feet above the ground, the extreme heights being very rare."

On July 9, 1959, while at Lake Mary in the Mammoth Lake area of Mono County, California, we found a nest of the Mountain Chickadee in a location almost underground, as illustrated in the



Fig. 1. Nesting site of Mountain Chickadee (*Parus gambeli*), Mammoth Lakes, Mono County, California.

accompanying photograph (fig. 1). The nesting cavity was entered through a crack, several inches long but barely an inch wide, between the flat rock shown in the picture and the base of the pine tree. We tried to reach in with our hands but no more than the fingertips could slip in. Thus it seemed well protected from most of the larger predators.

A light flashed into the narrow crevice disclosed at least five well-developed nestlings. Both parents made repeated flights to and from the nest with insects while we watched from distances of six feet and less. We captured and banded one of the parent birds which entered the opening, the capture being accomplished by holding a mist net near the opening.—MARJORIE M. ELMORE and DANA T. ELMORE, *Paradise, California, December 1, 1959.*