

mountain forests of New Guinea up to 3500 feet, and the mesites found in Madagascar forests.

It would seem as if this small volume would be an ideal travelling companion for the bird watcher abroad.

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### WHAT GOES DOWN A CHIMNEY?

By Merrill Wood

To find what fell down a chimney used 80 years only for ventilating, a fan was removed at the bottom and nearly 20 quarts of debris were collected. This chimney on the Walker Laboratory (an old chemistry-physics building) on the campus of the Pennsylvania State University, was known to have been used as a roosting place by migrating Chimney Swifts, and thought to be a possible source of bands, if swifts died there. In a careful search through the accumulated debris, the following skeletons and other items were found:

Rock Dove 10, Chimney Swift 6 (5 adults, 1 young), Starling 2 (spotting on feathers indicate one died in autumn and one in winter), House Sparrow 3, parts of two or more Chimney Swift nests, fragments of Chimney Swift eggs, and bird droppings.

Many larval skins of the Black Carpet Beetle (*Atlagenus piceus* Oliver), which apparently consumed most of the eatable parts of the birds; cockroaches which probably entered through the fan; a bumblebee which supposedly fell in; and one live spider beetle (*Mexium affine* Boieldieu).

Skulls or jaws of one shrew and seven mice from pellets regurgitated by owls perching on the chimney. No evidence of bats was found. Also, there were numerous seeds, and bits of bricks and mortar.

Bird bands: One (562-92943), placed on an adult male Starling on March 21, 1961 by Dorothy L. Bordner at her banding station one mile distant. The band shows considerable wearing.

This material was secured on June 19, 1969 through the kindness of Mr. William Daup, and the insects were identified by Dr. Robert J. Snet-singer.

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