

moisture content. According to my observations it seems that this leaf gathering is most active during (or confined to) the incubation period and usually ceases as soon, or shortly after, the young are hatched.

The conclusions are, that the leaves are taken in to supply the needed moisture for incubation, as the poultry raiser adds moisture to his incubators. It is a well known fact that many hawks add green branches to their nests. Indeed, among oölogists it is a well known fact that fresh leaves about the margin of a hawk's nest denote an occupied structure while their absence usually designates an old, abandoned nest or one in which eggs are not yet deposited, a fact that saves many a strenuous and fruitless climb. Various reasons have been ascribed to this green bough habit,—for esthetic decoration, to shade the sitting bird, or when wiled to stop the openings in the loosely woven nest. Does it not seem probable that it is, with hawks as with Purple Martins, to supply necessary moisture to the eggs?—P. A. TAVERNER, *Canadian Nat. Mus., Ottawa.*

Canada Jay in Cheshire County, New Hampshire.—On October 30, 1932, while occupied with survey work on White Hill, the badly decomposed remains of a Canada Jay (*Perisoreus c. canadensis*) were found. While the structural form was still retained, when touched, the feathers fell away, but no flies or beetles were present, and I assume that the bird had been dead possibly a month. It would shortly have been unidentifiable. I know of no previous record for this county.—LEWIS O. SHELLEY, *East Westmoreland, N. H.*

Chickadee Occupies a Robin Nest.—On July 1, 1932, a family of Chickadees (*Parus atricapillus septentrionalis*) was observed nesting in a Robin nest at Big Sandy, on Big Sandy Creek, Sublette County, Wyoming. The Robin nest had been built in a crotch formed by several willow limbs, about three and one half feet from the ground. It was located in a patch of willows about 200 yards from a strip of spruce forest which follows the creek out from the mountains into the sage brush. Because of the narrowness of the crotch in which the nest was built it was unusually deep, measuring 19 cm. deep, outside measurement. The mud lining the bottom had all been removed by the Chickadees, the cavity thus formed measuring about 6.5 cm. deep and 6 cm. wide. This excavation was lined mainly with cow and rabbit hairs, together with a small amount of mouse fur (probably *Microtus*) and a few plant fibers. The only entrance to the nest was that afforded by the original opening on the top. This opening was pear shaped and measured 8 cm. by 11 cm. The young Chickadees in the nest were almost naked.

It seems odd that these Chickadees did not nest in their normal fashion in the nearby forest but willow bottoms are a favorite habitat and since woodpecker holes and other cavities are less available there, the inclination to frequent the thickets possibly influenced the birds in their choice of the makeshift but convenient cavity of the Robin's nest.—ADOLPH MURIE, *Museum of Zoology, Univ. of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan.*