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—JOHN W. SLIPP, *Washington State Museum, Seattle.*

**Tree Swallow breeding in northeastern Louisiana.**—On June 20, 1941, while engaged in field work in the Delta region of Mississippi, a brief survey was made of the bird life of Eagle Lake, a narrow crescent-shaped body of water lying approximately sixteen miles northwest of Vicksburg. Although for the time being at least a lake in all its characteristics, this stretch of water was originally part of the Mississippi River. It was isolated some years ago when the river cut a new channel a few miles away, and in years of normal rainfall that followed this change, the depth of the water gradually increased. This resulted in the submersion and death of the trees that at one time grew at the edge of the water, and their present status as old decayed stubs dotting much of the shore line on the western edge of the lake. The presence of several Tree Swallows (*Iridoprocne bicolor*) here at this late date in June aroused the suspicion that they might possibly be breeding birds, so the stubs in the vicinity of where these birds were first seen were closely scrutinized. Within a few minutes a nest was found that held three almost fully fledged young. The nest was in a cavity up ten feet from the water, in an old stub possibly a hundred yards from the nearby shore. Further search failed to reveal another nest, but as three adult birds were on several occasions in sight at one time, feeding over the water, at least two pairs of these swallows were nesting at this spot. Eagle Lake is locally considered to be in Mississippi, but reference to available maps shows the line separating Mississippi and Louisiana to be in the middle of the lake. Accordingly these Tree Swallows, nesting as they did near the western shore, must be credited to the list of birds now known to breed in Louisiana. The 1931 'Check-list' gives the range of this species as breeding south to northeastern Arkansas and Virginia, so this marks a considerable extension in the now accepted breeding range of the Tree Swallow in the Southeast.—THOS. D. BURLEIGH, *Gulfport, Mississippi*, and MERRIAM L. MILES, *Vicksburg, Mississippi*.

**Identity of *Parus frigidus* Selys.**—Nearly a hundred years ago de Selys-Longchamps named and described (*Bull. Acad. Roy. Sci. Bruxelles*, 10: (Séance 8 juillet) 27, 1843) by comparative characters a chickadee from, as he believed, "Iceland." The following is a translation:

"I possess an individual which I am assured was brought from Iceland by the French scientific expedition. It does not differ appreciably from those from Canada in color, save that the black of the throat is less extensive laterally

[this is due to the preparation]—the back is more olivaceous, approaching that of *palustris*, and the posterior under parts are more reddish; but the dimensions are greater (total length, 4 inches 10 lines; of the tail, 2 inches 6 lines). If these characters and dimensions are constant, they may form a distinct species under the name *Parus frigroris* Nob.”

At a much later date (Bull. Soc. Zool. France, 9: 54, 1884) he corrected the locality to the “Etats-Unis” and tentatively placed his *frigroris* with *atricapillus* “Race *septentrionalis*” because of the “long tail.” However, he re-affirms his color characters.

When in Brussels in July 1939, I was courteously given access to the Selys collection which is, or was at that date, housed in the old Selys residence a short distance from the Musée Royal d’Histoire Naturelle. My notes taken at the time of the examination of the type of *Parus frigroris* are as follows: “So far as I can see, this bird is simply *atricapillus*, a little more richly buff on the sides and under tail-coverts and as regards [restriction of] wing and tail edging. The original description mentioned the unusually reddish character of the under parts and the more olive [less grayish] tone of the back. The supposed restriction of the throat patch is partly due to fresh plumage and partly to the posture of the mount. At any rate, this specimen has nothing to do with *septentrionalis* where tentatively placed by Hellmayr (Das Tierreich, 18: 56, 1903). Immediate comparison is limited to a couple of birds from New York.”

As to other data relative to the type, it is a mounted bird in good condition, a fully plumaged adult with but slight wear apparent. Three Selys numbers are on the stand, 18, 858, and 1076, the last a printed label pasted on. On the rim of the stand is written in pencil “*frigroris*.” The old Selys tag attached reads: “*Parus* (Poecile)/*atricapillus*. L./Race/*septentrionalis* Harris/type du *P. frigroris* Selys/Etats Unis atlant.” Measurements of wing, tail, and exposed culmen are 67, 62, and 8.0 mm., respectively. Incidentally, it is obvious that Selys’s idea of *frigroris* as a long-tailed race was gained partly from the rather elongated manner in which the specimen is mounted and partly by the slightly smaller size of his limited comparative material. His tail measurement of “2 inches 6 lines” was taken in a manner impossible to judge and may have been from the uropygium instead of from the point of insertion of the central pair of rectrices. Assuming that he used the Pied du Roi his measurement approximates 67 mm., a circumstance which favors the former method; if he used the English foot it would be 63 mm., and the latter method is indicated!

Recently, Aldrich and Nutt (Sci. Publ. Cleveland Mus. Nat. Hist., 4: no. 2, 29, 1939) have characterized and named as *Penthestes atricapillus bartletti* the Black-capped Chickadee of Newfoundland on precisely the color differences shown by the type of *Parus frigroris*. The wing length of the type is also distinctly in favor of the Newfoundland race as given by Aldrich and Nutt. Unfortunately our bill measurements are not comparable. All things considered it would seem that the name of the Newfoundland Black-capped Chickadee should be *Parus atricapillus frigroris* Selys.—A. J. VAN ROSSEM, *University of California, Los Angeles, California*.

**Nomenclature of certain Pycnonotidae.**<sup>1</sup>—Among the scattered manuscript notes of the late Charles W. Richmond deposited in the United States National Museum, I have recently uncovered the following observations which seem not previously to have been brought to public attention:

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