

Chestnut-sided and Canadian Warblers, is almost universal with the White-throat in this district. Having examined a great many nests I can only record two or three instances in which the bird has returned to lay, after being flushed from an empty nest or from a nest containing one or two eggs.

On the other hand, if the bird has commenced incubating she will rarely desert. I have never identified an egg as having been removed from an abandoned nest to a new one, yet I am quite satisfied that this is a common occurrence; at least, any eggs in a nest at the time of abandonment will have disappeared on a return visit. More than this, the birds will often remove a quantity of lining, no doubt to serve in a new venture.

The nest is a substantial structure, usually built on the ground, and the bird is fastidious in regard to certain materials apparently necessary to give satisfaction. Various substances compose the body of the nest; generally plant stalks, withered grasses and bark shreds, on a foundation of skeleton leaves, with a lining similar to that employed by the Swamp Sparrow, usually of bleached grasses. The main distinction from other sparrows' nests lies in the outer rim of green mosses which is never, to my knowledge, absent; often suggesting in this respect nests of the Phoebe Flycatcher. Sometimes, in very wet woods, there will be an additional understructure of particles of decayed wood, raising the nest slightly and permitting of drainage. Moisture is apparently essential to the White-throat's welfare at this season; possibly they would have no objection to nesting in a dry bare place (the Ovenbird safely combats the disadvantages of ground nesting in the barest of woods) were it not that the swamps contain their chosen food. Occasionally, in hilly country with a predominant growth of conifers, the White-throat will cohabit with Juncos on the dry slopes of hill pastures, when the nest is usually built in the thick of some shrubby evergreen bush. In the same locality, down in the tamarack-girt sphagnum bogs, it is also usual to find the nest above ground; the respective lack and density of undergrowth being chiefly responsible for this departure. Above all other spots, an opening, either path or glade, in damp evergreen woods is chosen, while adjoining Black Ash swamps usually accommodate a few pairs. The opening in thick woods is essential as little shade suffices; secondly, this opening should be carpeted with ferns and grasses, and especially with the running vines of Swamp Raspberry and Bedstraw. Occasionally the nest is built on top of a mossy mound or stump (especially in the wetter woods) hidden beneath a canopy of ferns; but more often it is hidden in a tangle of Bedstraw.

Descriptions of eggs are usually inadequate except by com-