

THE ALDER FLYCATCHER (*Empidonax traillii alnorum*) is tolerably common along alder bordered streams. It arrives from the south late in May when one is notified of its arrival by hearing its harsh call which, to some observers, sounds like the following notes, "kzer-wee," uttered persistently as the bird sits at rest upon some twig, when upon the lookout for its favorite insects. The nest of this species is a good imitation of a bunch of dried grasses lodged in the forks of a small bush by water during freshets. An observer unacquainted with the habits of our flycatchers, would never suspect that the nests of the wood pewee and alder flycatcher belonged to nearly related birds, yet both nests are good imitations of objects occurring in their vicinity, thus showing that the birds try to protect the eggs and young in a thoughtful manner.

THE LEAST FLYCATCHER (*Empidonax minimus*) is a habitant of orchards and second growth deciduous trees. With the exception of the pewee, the call and song of the least flycatcher is more pleasant to the ear than any of the other flycatchers' notes. A common name applied to this species is derived from its notes which sound "Chebeck, chebeck," and may be heard from the time the birds arrive from the south in May until after the young are fledged, in June. The eggs of the chebeck are quite unlike the eggs of our other flycatchers, being of a spotless cream color throughout. The number of eggs is three or four. The nest is compactly built of shreds of bark, weed stems and feathers, lined with plant down, and usually placed in the forks of a small tree, or among twigs of a horizontal branch of a conifer. Squirrels and blue jays are persistent enemies, robbing the nests of both eggs and young birds. This species seems to put more confidence in man than does any of its kin, therefore, it may often build its nest and rear its young in close proximity to our own buildings. In the construction of their nests they like to get bits of string that are often put out for the special benefit of the birds. The strings make good material for binding the nest together and to its foundation.