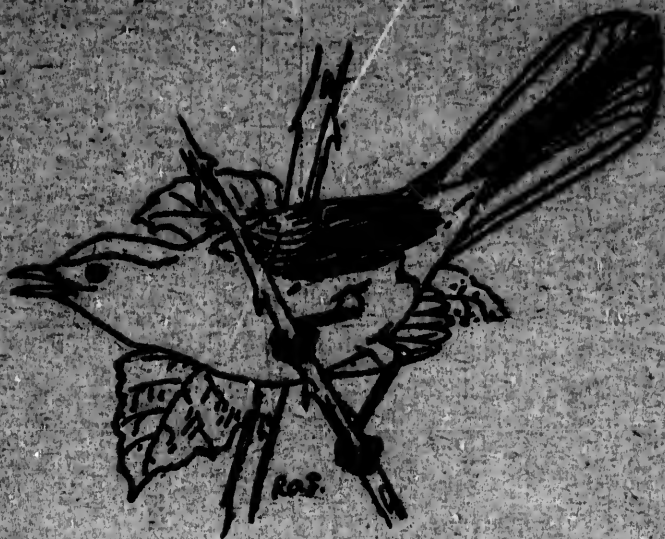


THE CAT BIRD.



APPEARANCE : *Length.*—Nine inches. Male and female, dark slate above, somewhat paler below, top of head black. Distinct chestnut patch under the black tail, feet and bill black also. Wings more than two inches shorter than the tail.

RANGE : North America to Mexico ; west to Rocky Mountains, rarely to Pacific Coast. Winters in Southern States, Central America, and Cuba.

MIGRATIONS : May, November. A common summer resident.

SONG : Very sweet, exquisitely finished and rippling. "Prut ! prut ! coquillicot. Really, really, coquillicot ! Hey, coquillicot ! Hey,