

1935 or
1906

A Least Flycatcher's Nest.

Located on hill behind UBS. Open woods.
In an upright crotch of a birch tree about
16 feet above the ground. Cup-shaped, made
of coarse grass and birch bark, lined with
fine grass, feathers, plant down.

Measurements Diam. out. $2 \frac{13}{16}$ Ins. $2 \frac{3}{8}$
nest - Depth out. $1 \frac{3}{4}$ Ins. $\frac{3}{4}$.

Eggs - greenish white, grained, no markings
 $\frac{1}{16} \times \frac{9}{16}$, ovate.

Cowbird's egg in nest to start with -
had been removed.

^{3 eggs + 1 cowbird egg}
Nest first seen on July 6. Observations begun
a week later. One young in nest on July 17, apparently
24 hours old. Second young bird appeared on July 18.
Third egg did not hatch and eventually disappeared
from nest.

Observations -

Mother bird changed positions and directions
constantly. Sat in every direction. Was exceedingly
nervous, ~~as~~ kept on the watch all the time. Left
the nest often for 2- or 3- minute periods. Returned
noiselessly.

Male kept in vicinity, uttering soft chatters

occasionally. After young were hatched, he did most of the feeding, coming every few minutes. At one time however, female left nest nine times in 35 minutes - 3 times in five minutes, returning with food almost every time.

Type of food was not observable at any time. Adult fed young, one at a feeding usually, from the mouth. Male perched on side of nest for feeding.

Male bird less conspicuously marked than the female (assuming that the bird who did most of the feeding was the female.) Female wing bars more clearly defined, dark tip on tail.

Young birds were left unprotected during heavy rainstorm on July 24, probably because adults were aware of observation from blind. One young bird found cold and stiff on ground after storm. Was returned to nest. Parents again off. At 9:30 that night parents still not present - dead and live bird in nest. Next morning dead bird was alone in nest. Live one's feathers were checked, it was not found on the ground; apparently the parents had carried it away.

Most of the observations check with accounts in Forbush, Bendire and Roberts. The difference in appearance between male & female appears unusual. The neglect of the young by

The parents in the rainstorm was quite unlike the general habit of these birds, as they are recorded as being most solicitous for their young.

Measurements were made of young only three times and are worthless.