According to a report received at the museum from Dr. W. L. Godson, Training and Research Section, Meteorological Division, Dept. of Transport, Toronto, who searched the weather maps for a couple of weeks prior to October 29, there were only two situations which might be interpreted as having caused the displacement of this bird.

1. Starting on the evening of October 21 in the region around Utah, and brought about by a cold front from northwestern North America, there were strong west winds (20–25 m. p. h.) in the lower layers (1,000–2,000 feet) which changed to southwest winds before subsiding in southern Ontario 20 to 24 hours later. These bore warm air northeastward and the temperatures throughout the belt between Utah and Ontario, at the time, were uniformly "tropical."

2. A similar situation, during the evening of October 28, creating southwest winds from Utah, and subsiding during the afternoon of October 29 in southern Ontario.

Although it is possible that the first situation might have carried this bird to southern Ontario, or part way, and that it continued on to Toronto on its own volition, it seems unlikely that it was carried directly to Toronto and was present a full week before its detection October 29, as the area in which the bird was seen happens to be one of the most thoroughly inspected by field-observers in the immediate vicinity of Toronto.

It is the writer's opinion (concurred in by W. W. H. Gunn and J. L. Baillie) that the second situation (if either) was more likely to have been responsible for the presence of the bird so far north of its northern limits. The time of day when first observed (2:30 p. m. E. S. T., October 29) was approximately 20 hours subsequent to the development of the second disturbance in Utah the previous day, at almost exactly the time a small bird, if carried on those winds, would have reached southern Ontario.—THOMAS C. SWIFT, *206 Indian Grove, Toronto, Canada.*

Model Planes and Purple Martins, *Progne subis*.—On July 4, 1949, I was watching an exhibit of model airplanes in a small field near Edgewater, Prince Georges County, Maryland. The planes were small gas-driven machines some two feet in length and were flown in a circle and controlled by means of a guy wire from the hand of the contestant to the tip of the wing of the plane. In this manner the model plane described a circle and performed numerous antics, such as loops, back loops, etc. These machines attain a speed of from 40 to 50 miles an hour, and their engines produce a continuous piercing hum. Many of the planes were parti-colored, although some were of solid color.

As is typical of many fields in this area numerous Barn Swallows, *Hirundo erythrogaster* were evident. At times the course of the planes crossed that of the birds, but the swallows wheeled out of the path and resumed their aerial feeding. Then suddenly a pair of Purple Martins appeared and dive bombed the model planes. There were several machines in the air at the time, but the martin selected to attack a machine with a deep purple fuselage and a yellow diagonal streak across each wing. Many attacks were made upon the yellow and purple machine, but the remaining planes did not attract the large swallows.—MALCOLM DAVIS, *The National Zoological Park, Washington, D. C.*

A Blue Jay, *Cyanocitta cristata*, Anting.—On August 16, 1949, my attention was drawn to a Blue Jay, perched upon the terminal branch of a white oak tree, *Quercus alba*. As I looked from my window, I observed the bird busily picking small objects from the leaves of the tree and inserting them beneath its feathers. After each insertion the bird uttered the typical Blue Jay scream. The bird engaged in

these maneuvers for about ten minutes. Through binoculars the objects inserted among the feathers appeared to be ants. These insects were placed deeply among the contour feathers, the feathers at the base of the tail, and the primaries.

I had never observed a bird that was anting and giving voice in apparent "ecstasy" during the process of anting.—MALCOLM DAVIS, *National Zoological Park, Washington, D. C.*

The Cedar Waxwing, *Bombycilla cedrorum*, at Juneau, Alaska.—The Cedar Waxwing has been recorded in southeastern Alaska (Swarth, Univ. Calif. Publ. Zool., 7: 97, 1911, and Willet, Condor, 23: 159, 1921, and Condor, 29: 59, 1927). Its occurrence in these latitudes, however, is decidedly far from common. Allen Brooks and Harry S. Swarth (Pacific Coast Avif., 17: 105, 1925) reported the species to be common in summer over the southern half of British Columbia, including Vancouver Island, while Munro and Cowan (B. C. Prov. Mus. Publ., 2: 184, 1947) reported that *cedrorum* in British Columbia is a common summer visitant to deciduous woodlands, north to the Skeena Valley and Peace River Parklands. It winters regularly in small numbers in the Puget Sound Lowlands and occasionally in the Okanagan Valley.

The previously published Alaskan records are from Wrangell and Ketchikan to the south, while there are no published reports on the occurrence of the species as far north as Juneau, Alaska. Clark P. Streator (Fish and Wildlife Service, Streator MS Report) while at Juneau, Alaska, from August 15 to 30, 1895, reported two or three seen and one female secured August 19, 1895, and sent to the U. S. National Museum where the specimen may now be found. My notes on the birds of Alexander Archipelago, southeastern Alaska, made during the past five years of residence at Juneau, refer three times to this species.

My first record of this species was made on December 2, 1948, when a single bird was seen in the company of: some 30 Bohemian Waxwings, *Bombycilla garrula;* two Rosy Finches, *Leucosticte tephrocotis*, referable to *littoralis;* two Pine Grosbeaks, *Pinicola enucleator;* and a Robin, *Turdus migratorius*. All were feeding in a berry-laden, mountain ash tree on the lawn at the Governor's Mansion.

The second record was made on August 22, 1949, at the author's Juneau residence. An adult was collected after it had been observed for some 20 minutes as it hawked for midges and other winged insects, much after the fashion of a typical flycatcher. This bird was using a high tension line as its point of vantage and would fly out to capture an insect, returning almost to the same perch. The specimen (now in the U. S. National Museum) proved to be an adult male, which, according to Herbert Friedmann, "is a very dark individual, considerably darker than most of the specimens we have here. On the underparts it appears to be somewhat stained which may partly account for its general darkness. However, this does not seem to apply to the top of the head or to the back of the neck which are unusually dusky . . ." Friedmann also stated that the female collected by Streator "does not have any particular dark cast to the plumage as does the bird you have sent in. I can see nothing about it by which it differs from other specimens . . . I find, however, that variation in tone, at least as far as our very large series of specimens is concerned, does not have geographic significance."

The third record was made September 1, 1949, after a single bird was seen in the company of several Robins, about four miles south of Juneau, at Sheep Creek, Alaska.

I am indebted to the authorities of the Fish and Wildlife Service for permission to record the Streator note and to Herbert Friedmann for his confirmation and report on the specimen collected.—RALPH B. WILLIAMS, *Box 2354, Juneau, Alaska.*