

woodland somewhat denser than that at Pointe Ferret. This thrasher also breeds in colonies in St. Lucia, according to Mr. Stanley John, who collected a nest with two immaculate greenish blue eggs (27×19 ; 25.5×19.5 mm.) on June 15, 1954, at Grand Anse. This was situated only $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet above the ground. The eggs resemble those of *Cinlocerthia* and do not agree with the description as given by Thibault de Chanvalon (*Voyage à la Martinique, 1763*, p. 99), who stated that they are of a "beau bleu céleste, taché à l'un de leurs bouts de petites marques noires," which would apply to eggs of *Sallator*. It is of interest that de Chanvalon refers to *Ramphocinclus* as "le gorge-blanc" (*op. cit.*, p. 180) rather than "gorge-blanche": the species is still known to the natives of both Martinique and St. Lucia as the "gorge-blanc."

As far as I could ascertain, the only other species of Mimidae that at present associate with *Ramphocinclus* are *Mimus gilvus* and *Allenia montana*; but the former prefers more open country, the latter more heavily wooded terrain.—JAMES BOND, *Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, Penna.*

Displacement Singing in a Canada Jay (*Perisoreus canadensis*).—Few observers seem to have heard the singing of the Canada Jay and, indeed, it probably is of rather rare occurrence. Hence the following may be of interest.

In January, 1956, a Canada Jay came to our feeding-station at Pimisi Bay, Ontario. This bird took to roosting in one of the surrounding conifers and got into the habit of coming down very early in the morning before any of the other birds arrived and I had time to put out any food. Taking advantage of the absence of distractions and the strong urge of the bird to feed at this particular time, I attempted to induce it to come to hand for its first meal. On the second morning when I was thus engaged the jay greeted me with several phrases of *krē* notes, a croaking note repeated quickly three or four times so that it sounds like fits of hoarse mirthless laughter. This is apparently a "scolding" note which expresses an admixture of fear and aggressiveness. Having thus declared itself, the jay showed further reluctance to accept the offering in my hand by making short flights from branch to branch. It finally ended up in a thick spruce where it perched well shielded on all sides except the one from which it faced me. Then the jay commenced singing, giving a continuous sequence of soft notes, most of them distinctly melodious to my ear. The song lasted no less than 30 to 40 seconds and reminded me a little of the Starling's (*Sturnus vulgaris*) continuous notes. Presently shyness overcame the jay altogether and it flew off in search of food elsewhere.

It is obvious that during this episode a conflict arose between two drives which possessed the jay, the urge to feed and the urge to flee, caused by hunger and the finding of food in an "unapproachable" place. The bird reacted by perching at a distance in a "safe" spot, and here it burst into song. This, therefore, was clearly displacement singing.

During an earlier observation (*Can. Field-Nat.*, 61: 7, 1947), I heard another Canada Jay singing under similar circumstances. The bird which I had just released after having banded and examined it, during which procedure it fought violently though in vain, sang a song of considerable length composed of soft whistled notes, standing this time on the ground at a short distance from me.

Dr. Tinbergen (*Quart. Rev. Biol.*, 27: 18, 1952) pointed out the close connection that seems to exist between displacement activities and innate movements that are frequently used; and also that "displacement activities are characteristic of the species, and of the situation" (*Proc. Xth Internat. Ornith. Congr. 1950*, p. 368).

On two occasions when I have observed some of the courtship and nesting behavior of this species I have not heard any singing in the sense in which it is usually being performed by other passerines during the breeding cycle. It is therefore of further interest to note that singing, here used as a displacement activity, may not be a common activity in the Canada Jay. In relation to the situation, on the other hand, a correlation between the song and the breeding season may be assumed in both cases, although in the first instance no evidence of pairing or beginning courtship had been observed yet in any of the three Canada Jays present in the area at that time.—LOUISE DE KIRILINE LAWRENCE, *Pimisi Bay, Rutherglen, Ontario.*

Winter Returns of Baltimore Orioles (*Icterus galbula*) in the Washington-Baltimore Area.—The return of a winter-banded Baltimore Oriole to Washington, D. C., in at least two out of three later winters shows that this bird was a habitual northern winterer. The appearance of orioles, always of the same sex, at three feeding stations about Baltimore, Md., in two and three successive winters suggests that these birds, also, were the same ones, returned—since this seems less improbable than that different individuals should, in successive years, have happened upon those three particular feeders out of the many that are maintained. It would appear, then, that some number of orioles may now be wintering regularly in the United States, and that the increasing reports of winter orioles do not represent constantly different individuals.

The Washington bird, a male, was first seen as an immature at the home of Ralph E. Lawrence on January 5, 1953, and was banded there on January 7. One of its legs appeared weak; this lameness, in conjunction with its band, made retrappings for later identifications unnecessary. The bird continued to be seen from time to time during the spring of 1953; the dates were not recorded. In the winter of 1953–1954 this oriole was seen at the Lawrence home and the home of E. E. Brown six blocks away, from sometime in October until April 10; on March 22 it was trapped by Mr. Brown and the band number read. In the winter of 1954–1955 it was not seen. In the winter of 1955–1956 it again was present at the Brown home from December 6 to January 9, and at the Lawrence home on several days between February 9 and 15.

In Catonsville, Baltimore County, Maryland (west of Baltimore city) Mrs. Robert E. Costen reported a female Baltimore Oriole at her feeding station from February 10 to April 11, 1955, and again on February 14 and 15, 1956. In Towson, also in Baltimore County but north of Baltimore city, Mrs. George S. Buck had a female on two days around January 24, 1955, again from January 29 to about February 26, 1956, and again from January 15 through January 20, 1957. In the Waverly section of northeast Baltimore a male appeared at the William O. Purcell home on January 14, 1956, and stayed through April 9; on December 11, 1956, a male again appeared there; on December 20 Hervey Brackbill color-banded it and it disappeared, but on January 16, 1957, on the heels of a snowstorm, it returned once more, and was still present as late as January 20.

We express our thanks to Mrs. Robert E. Kaestner and Richard D. Cole, of the Maryland Ornithological Society, for visiting the Waverly and Towson feeding stations in one year or another and confirming the keepers' identification of their birds. The Catonsville bird was not seen by any ornithologist but was described to Brackbill in detail.—RALPH E. LAWRENCE, 1410 Decatur Street, N. W., Washington 11, D. C., and HERVEY BRACKBILL, 2620 Poplar Drive, Baltimore 7, Maryland.