

Notes on hoarding nesting material, display, and flycatching in the Gray Jay (*Perisoreus canadensis*).—In the winter of 1960 several white-tailed deer fed regularly at our feeding station at Pimisi Bay in central Ontario and toward spring the snow became littered with their shed hairs. On 23 March one of the Gray Jays was observed picking up these hairs and storing tufts of them in crotches between the needles of a white spruce. I cannot say whether the mere sight of such an abundance of nesting material caused this reaction, or if later some of the stored hairs were actually used for the nest-building. A monograph on the Siberian Jay (*Perisoreus infaustus*) by Arne Blomgren (Bonniers, Stockholm 1964, reviewed in *Vår Fågelvärld*, 25: 280–281) mentions this jay hoarding feathers during the winter “for the prospective nest-building.”

On 11 November 1966, hopping on the ground with a piece of food in the bill, one of a pair of Gray Jays, upon being pursued by its mate in an effort to take the food away, went into an interesting display. The bird ran out of the way of its pursuer with all the contour feathers fully erected and then crouched with wings held stiffly out from its flanks, tips vibrating. At the sight of this display the mate immediately stopped the pursuit. Here, obviously, was a display of highly ambivalent content suggesting conflicting motivations, threat expressed by the ballooning of the contour feathers, and appeasement by the stance of the begging bird. Both birds were tame and performed at no greater distance from me than about 4 feet.

A few minutes later the same birds engaged in catching in the precise manner of a true flycatcher some small moth-like insects that were in the air above the top of a young birch on this mild fall day.—LOUISE DE KIRLINE LAWRENCE, *Pimisi Bay, R. R. 1, Rutherglen, Ontario, Canada.*

Nesting of the Black Guillemot at Point Barrow, Alaska.—Breeding of the Black Guillemot, *Cepphus grylle*, along the arctic coast of Alaska has been suspected by several authorities (A. M. Bailey, *Colorado Mus. Nat. Hist., Pop. Ser.*, no. 8: 257, 1948; I. N. Gabrielson and F. C. Lincoln, *The birds of Alaska*, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, Stackpole Co., and Washington, D. C., Wildlife Mgmt. Inst., 1959, see p. 483; R. W. Storer, *Univ. California Publs. Zool.*, 52: 200, 1952), but has not been confirmed by actual observation. Specimens of *C. g. mandtzi* in breeding plumage have been collected near Point Barrow in summer (MVZ 134733, taken 23 June), and immature birds are occasionally seen in August. Native hunters of the Eskimo village of Barrow report that occasional birds of this species are seen in open areas in the sea ice in all months of the year. This is substantiated by winter specimens (MVZ 152785, taken 27 February).

In its breeding habitat the Black Guillemot is a bird of rocky cliffs. J. D. Soper (*Auk*, 57: 17, 1940) states that “an indispensable feature [of the nesting habitat] is the presence of talus slides at the base of cliffs near the sea where the nests are hidden away among the boulders. This imposes a highly restraining influence on general distribution.” The established breeding range of the *C. g. mandtzi* extends from the northeast coast of Greenland east to the Siberian arctic coast (Storer, 1952: p. 200 and fig. 17; M. D. F. Udvardy, p. 98 in *Pacific basin biogeography* (J. L. Gressitt, Ed.), Honolulu, Bishop Mus. Press, 1963). L. G. Swartz (p. 615 in *Environment of the Cape Thompson region, Alaska* [N. J. Wilimovsky and J. N. Wolfe, eds.], Oak Ridge, Tennessee, USAEC Div. Tech. Info. Ext.) observed Black Guillemots breeding at Cape Thompson on the northwest Alaskan coast, where rocky cliffs of the type Soper describes are common. No such cliffs exist along the northern Alaskan coast, and the conditions under which we found the species breeding there are most novel.