

A NEW BLUE JAY FROM SOUTHERN FLORIDA.

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THE collection of the Carnegie Museum contains eleven specimens of a Blue Jay from extreme southern Florida which appears to be separable from the form inhabiting the rest of that State, and which I propose to call

***Cyanocitta cristata semplei*, subsp. nov.**

Type, No. 102,369, Collection Carnegie Museum, adult male; Coconut Grove, Florida, January 21, 1928; John B. Semple.

Subspecific characters.—Similar to *Cyanocitta cristata cristata* (Linnaeus) of the South Atlantic and Gulf States, but general coloration paler, the under parts white, with less grayish suffusion, the lower throat with less bluish wash, and the upper parts paler and duller blue, with less purplish tone.

Remarks.—This new form is as much different from *C. c. cristata* as the latter is from the northern race *C. c. bromia*. Its pale coloration stands out well as the two series lie side by side. While occasional specimens from peninsular Florida (north of the Everglades) approximate in their pallor the characters above specified, it is only in the extreme southern part of the State that these characters become sufficiently constant and pronounced to justify giving a name to the individuals showing them. The type of *C. cristata florincola* Coues came from Hibernia, Clay County, according to Dr. Oberholser (Auk, XXXVIII, 1921, 83), and so could not in any event belong to the form here described, on geographical grounds alone.

In the average example of *cristata* the upper parts are "deep dull bluish violet No. 2" of Ridgway (as seen with the eye between the bird and the light), while the pileum is brighter, between "grayish blue violet No. 2" and "dull bluish violet No. 2." In the new race these parts are respectively "deep madder blue" and "deep plumbago blue." The specimen chosen as the type is in fresh plumage, and is rather brighter than the average of the series.

The new race is named in honor of Mr. John B. Semple of Sewickley, Pa., the collector of the type-specimen, in recognition of his interest in the work of the Carnegie Museum in general and in the birds of Florida in particular.

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