

Meanwhile the parakeet barely tolerated the waxwing and soon took to leaving the cage for most of the day. The bad feature about this was that it began chewing the lampshades and the woodwork. It soon became evident that something would have to be done for I wanted the waxwing to be free to come and go whereas the parakeet would have to be confined. Therefor I converted a cage that had been used for small mammals into an arrangement as near like the parakeet's cage as possible, with two mirrors and two perches in similar locations. This cage measured 15" x 16 1/2" x 20 1/2" high and was placed right next to the parakeet's cage. By placing the cedar branches in front of this cage and a dish of blueberries inside and closing the door of the parakeet's cage the waxwing soon entered this new cage and took up residence there. The door was never closed and many times during the day the waxwing would fly to the door of the parakeet's cage showing that it still preferred that one but since it couldn't get in would go back to its own cage and "sing" to the bird in the mirror.—Edith Andrews, Quaise, Nantucket, Mass.

**Slate-Colored Junco Response to Mirror.**—In October 1964 I held a junco (*Junco hyemalis*) with a dislocated leg for about two weeks. At first I kept it in my largest unused cage but then I needed this for something else so I put the junco in a smaller cage. The smaller cage happened to have a mirror in it and it wasn't long before I noticed that the mirror had a quieting effect on the junco. The bird would sit on the perch next to the mirror with its head turned slightly toward the mirror for hours. It hardly left this spot even to go and eat and appeared to be smitten with its own image. Actually, the junco showed almost no restlessness when in the cage with the mirror, except when I disturbed it to add food and water, whereas there had been considerable hopping from perch to perch when in the cage without the mirror.—Edith Andrews, Quaise, Nantucket, Mass.

**A Social Flight of the Laughing Gull.**—While engaged in a coastal banding project on Little Beach Island, Atlantic County, New Jersey, I observed what appeared to be an evening social flight of Laughing Gulls (*Larus atricilla*).

Little Beach Island is located about nine miles northeast of Atlantic City. It is roughly half-moon shaped, arcing for 3 1/2 miles from the west toward the east and then down to the south. One and a half miles of the island front on the Atlantic Ocean. Behind the oceanfront lie tangles of poison ivy, bayberry, and other plants characteristic of stabilized dunes. This vegetation merges into salt marsh on the bay side. On the northeast side of the island is an extensive cove which opens into Little Egg Inlet. Laughing Gulls nest in the western, salt march portion of the island.

At 5:30 P. M. (EDT) on 23 September 1962, during a respite in my banding activities, I was sitting on the southwest shore of the cove about half a mile from the ocean. A light wind from the east during the afternoon had subsided to almost calm. The sky was clear. Over the marshes about a mile north of my position, I noted 25 to 30 Laughing Gulls milling about in a compact flock. Other Laughing Gulls were flying directly toward the flock from various directions, particularly from the ocean. Both adults and birds of the year were involved. The entire flock, which soon numbered between 200 and 250 birds, was slowly moving as a unit along the southwest shore of the cove toward me. The birds maintained a tight formation, roughly spherical in shape, but were wildly flying and soaring about within it. As the flight passed over me, I noted that the flock was centered about 125 feet above the ground and that the birds were absolutely silent.

There was no indication that the gulls were feeding on insects, nor did the flight resemble the loose, circling flocks of Laughing Gulls, which did seem to be feeding on insects, that I have seen on other occasions elsewhere along this coast. The noteworthy characteristics of the flight reported here were the confined space within which the gulls were flying, the intensity of their movement and the relatively straight-line course along which the flock moved as a unit.

By 6:20 P. M. (EDT) the swirling mass of gulls reached the oceanfront and after hovering there for several minutes began to disperse. Within a few minutes, the flock formation had disappeared. The individual birds headed in different directions except toward the ocean.

The next evening a steady northeast wind was blowing and the sky was overcast. Laughing Gulls were in the same vicinity, but a repeat of the previous evening's flight was not observed.