

single pairs were made on this area throughout the breeding season. In the 1969 breeding season Ring-necks were not subsequently observed on the pothole where the fight occurred and the species appeared to be transient in the Minnedosa area.

Mendall (1958, *The Ring-necked Duck in the Northeast*. Univ. of Maine Studies, 2nd Ser., no. 73) observed fights among male Ring-necks on rare occasions during nuptial courtship. He noted that the male defends the female only when she is in immediate danger of being molested and also that spacing of breeding pairs appeared to occur without defense. Although the fighting had been in progress when we first observed it, aggressive behavior directed toward a female was not detected. It appears unlikely that these were courting birds or that either of the pairs was defending a nesting site. It still seems most probable that the fight arose in defense of the mate (Koskimies and Routamo, *Zur Fortpflanzungsbiologie der Samtente *Melanitta f. fusca* (L.)*. I. Allgemeine Nistökologie. Papers on Game Research 10, 1953).

These interactions appeared to constitute an unusually overt expression of aggression by a species which Mendall (1958) records as seldom displaying aggression. The lack of involvement by the females is interesting considering that males are believed less aggressive and females more aggressive in the genus *Aythya* than in the genus *Anas* (Delacour, *The Waterfowl of the World*, Vol. 4, Country Life Ltd., London, 1964).

We are grateful to John P. Ryder, Lakehead University, Thunder Bay, Ontario for his suggestions. Financial support for our studies in the Minnedosa area were provided by the Delta Waterfowl Research Station, Manitoba.—RODGER D. TITMAN AND NORMAN R. SEYMOUR, *Dept. of Renewable Resources, Macdonald College of McGill Univ., Ste. Anne de Belleuve, Québec H0A 1C0. Accepted 21 July 1975.*

Cedar Waxwings and Eastern Bluebirds feeding on winter stoneflies.—Aquatic insects such as stoneflies (Plecoptera) are seldom considered a principal food of passerines. Bent (U.S. Natl. Mus. Bull. 197, 1950) reported that stoneflies are a noteworthy item in the diet of the Cedar Waxwing (*Bombycilla cedrorum*), and Chapin (U.S. Dep. Agric. Bull. 1355, 1925) found an unidentified stonefly in the stomach of a Solitary Vireo (*Vireo solitarius*). Hamilton (Auk 49:352, 1932) observed a pair of Blue Jays (*Cyanocitta cristata*) feeding on stoneflies in late winter, but I could find no other records of passerines exploiting Plecoptera prey. Although this paucity of records involving songbird predation of Plecoptera is surprising, the lack of reports of predation on the "winter stoneflies" which emerge during winter when few other insects are available is also noteworthy.

The Cedar Waxwing and the Eastern Bluebird (*Sialia sialis*) winter in varying numbers at northern latitudes; both are largely frugivorous during the winter months. From 1200–1600 on 15 and 16 March 1975 I observed several small flocks of these 2 species feeding in a wooded area near Washington, Macomb Co., Michigan. The birds were preying on small insects later identified as the stoneflies *Allocapnia granulata* and *Taeniopteryx nivalis* which belong to the winter stonefly families Capniidae and Taeniopterygidae, respectively. The insects were emerging from two small, swift-flowing streams that contained numerous riffles, a gravel-sand bottom, some leaf detritus, and logs, rocks, and other objects that stoneflies crawl onto when undergoing ecdysis (Finni, Ann. Entomol. Soc. Am. 66:1243–1248, 1973). Snow covered the ground although the streams were essentially free of ice. Air temperatures were 4–5°C and the water temperature was 1.0°C.

The manner of capture differed for the 2 bird species. The waxwings obtained most of their prey by flycatching; short dashes from a conspicuous perch were more common than longer flights. The bluebirds gleaned most of their prey from tree limbs and branches, although some stoneflies (mostly adults, but undoubtedly a few naiads that had not yet molted into adults) were obtained on the ground; flycatching was infrequent. Both species fed almost entirely on the emerging stoneflies during the 2 observation periods as well as on several occasions during the following week.

Future observations should indicate that other birds (e.g. the Eastern Phoebe, *Sayornis phoebe*, and the Tree Swallow, *Iridoprocne bicolor*) that arrive at northern latitudes during March or earlier and regularly feed near streams also prey on winter stoneflies during periods of peak emergence.

I wish to thank Richard P. Narf for identifying the specimens.—BENEDICT C. PIN-KOWSKI, 15738 Millar, Fraser, MI 48026. Accepted 29 July 1975.

An incident of Blue Jay predation on a Yellow-rumped Warbler.—Although the propensity of Blue Jays (*Cyanocitta cristata*) to raid the nests of small birds for eggs and nestlings is well-known, there are no reports of predation on mature birds. Carothers et al. (Wilson Bull. 8:204, 1972) reported several incidents of predation on small birds by Steller's Jay (*C. stelleri*). Roth (Condor 73:113, 1971) described an attack on a sparrow by a Mexican Jay (*Aphelacoma ultramarina*). Inclement weather and food stress were common factors in those reports. Blue Jay predation on red bats (*Lasiurus borealis*) was reported by Hoffmeister and Downes (Southwest. Nat. 9:102, 1964).

On 16 March 1975 we watched a Blue Jay attack and kill a Yellow-rumped Warbler (*Dendroica coronata*) in a residential area in Temple, Bell Co., Texas. The dive of the jay capturing the warbler drew our attention. Whether the warbler was on the ground when attacked, or was forced down by the jay is unknown. The warbler broke free briefly, but had scarcely left the ground when it was recaptured. The jay apparently killed the warbler with a series of pecks, picked it up by the head in its bill, and flew into a tree directly above us. After a few seconds it flew out of sight still carrying the limp warbler in its bill.

The weather was warm and typical of a central Texas spring. Food or climatic stress were probably not factors in the incident described here.—KENNETH W. JOHNSON, Dept. of Biology, Mary Hardin-Baylor College, Belton, TX 76513, and JOYE E. JOHNSON, St. Francis Episcopal School, Temple, TX 76501. Accepted 1 July 1975.