

summer of 1930, photographs were obtained of the adults and young of the Great Black-backed Gull.

The larger species apparently lived in perfect harmony with the smaller, and more abundant, Herring Gulls. The total gull colony was estimated at two thousand pairs, and they occupied an area of about twenty acres. The three nests of the Black-backed Gulls were some distance apart, and Herring Gull nests were within a few feet of each.

In a recent article, Richard J. Eaton¹ says, “. . . it is highly probable that the Black-backed Gull within a very few years, if not in 1931, has made the first definite southward extension of its breeding range since Audubon's time.” The records of Arthur H. Norton and Robert P. Allen² give further evidence of this extension. They record the breeding of this species on ten islands farther up the coast than our record. Our data show that the southward extension of breeding range began at least within the last three years, and probably a few years earlier.—C. F. JACKSON, and PHILIP F. ALLAN, *Univ. New Hampshire, Durham, N. H.*

Nesting of the Eastern Mourning Dove.—Though the Mourning Dove is well known to appropriate abandoned nests of the Robin and other birds my attention was recently called to a case where the Dove drove the Robin from a newly made nest, the Robin submitting without protest. As usual the Dove put a shallow lining in the nest before using it.

During the summer of 1931, I witnessed several attempts of a Dove to drive a Robin from a nest that it was remodeling for a second brood but the Robin waged a successful fight and the Dove built a nest of its own nearby.

The past mild winter seemed to induce the Doves to nest earlier than usual. In mid-February an egg was found near a nest that Blue Jays had destroyed and on March 3, 1932 a young Dove just hatched was found on the ground under a nest.—MYRA KATIE ROADS, *Hillsboro, Ohio.*

Early Breeding of the Eastern Mourning Dove in Virginia.—The unusual weather conditions prevailing during the past winter and spring have resulted in some curious ornithological records. Among these the following account of an early nesting and laying of the Mourning Dove (*Zenaidura macroura carolinensis*) in Virginia, is of interest.

On February 21, 1932, while following an old wood road leading from the valley of Potomac Run, Virginia, to the upland, we flushed a female dove from her nest located in a small pine (*Pinus virginiana*), beside the road. Investigation revealed two eggs which were collected and are now in the National Museum collection. They appeared to have been slightly frozen, but were not cracked. The parent had utilized an old Cardinal's nest for the foundation of her own flimsy structure. The site of this nest is about

¹ Eaton, R. J.: *The Auk*, vol. XLVIII, No. 4, pp. 588-589, 1931.

² Norton, A. H., and Allen, R. P.: *The Auk*, vol. XLVIII, No. 4, pp. 589-592, 1931.