

The locations observed seem to have nothing to do with the sun. Nests have been seen in spruce trees close against the north side of my house where few sun's rays reach. Innocently encouraging this research, a Robin built her nest on the lower limb of a spruce tree which overhung the driveway to my garage. Numerous nests have been seen over streets where the traffic is heaviest, so evidently Robins are little disturbed by this.

Forbush, in his excellent work, 'Birds of Massachusetts and other New England States,' 3: 412, 1929, wrote: "Many robins' nests are built in trees along river banks on branches overhanging the water." Vaughans of Chicago, in an advertisement of Robin roosts, state: "Robins will not occupy a nesting box but insist on a covered, sheltered shelf which allows them to see on at least three sides."

Not content with being able to see up and down one street, a surprising number of Robins selected branches overhanging the corners of cross streets. Unfortunately, I did not keep an exact count of them.—GERALD B. WEBB, *Colorado Springs, Colorado*.

**An unusual nest of the House Wren.**—On July 8, 1945, while visiting my son at Camp Carson, near Fredricksburg, Lebanon Co., Pennsylvania, my attention was called to an unusual nest of the Eastern House Wren (*Troglodytes aedon aedon*). Attached to the outside wall of a wooden cabin about twelve feet above the ground, and supported only by a glass electric insulator, was a well preserved Robin nest, upon which was superimposed a second Robin nest. A wren had constructed a nest on top of the upper nest, as was evidenced by an accumulation of twigs measuring about eight inches wide by six inches deep. No entrance hole was visible from the ground, but I was informed that a pair of wrens had occupied the nest a short time previous to my visit. House Wrens are fairly common at the camp, but strangely enough no bird boxes are in evidence. This, together with the fact that the tree growth of the vicinity is rather scrubby, with a probable minimum of natural cavities, might be the reason for this particular 'outdoor' nest—the first I have observed.—JOHN A. GILLESPIE, *Glenolden, Penna.*

**Nesting of Gadwall and Shoveller on the Middle Atlantic Coast.**—Waterfowl habits have received the attention of sportsmen and ornithologists for a great many years and as a result of numerous observations, field studies and banding work, waterfowl ranges have been well delineated. However, some breeding ranges as set forth in ornithological literature, while based on the reliable and careful work of capable naturalists, may be subject to extension, perhaps because of conditions causing waterfowl to change their habits. Some modifications in wintering, migrational and breeding ranges of waterfowl can be attributed to protection and the development and maintenance of favorable habitat. This point is well illustrated in the nesting of the Gadwall and Shoveller on two national wildlife refuges located on the Atlantic Coast.

The American breeding range of the Gadwall (*Chaulelasmus streperus*) according to the A. O. U. Check-List (4th ed.) is ". . . from Little Slave Lake, Lake Athabaska, and Hudson Bay (northern Manitoba) to central British Columbia, interior Washington, Oregon, California, Utah, southern Colorado, northwestern New Mexico, southwestern Kansas, northern Iowa, southern Wisconsin, central Minnesota, and Ohio (formerly)." The Gadwall has nested on the salt marshes of the Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge, Kent County, Delaware, in numbers sufficient to remove its breeding there from the accidental category. Gadwalls also nest each year on the Pea Island Refuge, Dare County, North Carolina. These two refuges embrace a variety of marsh and aquatic habitats, including salt, brackish and fresh water con-