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-

ditions. The species usually nests on the salt marshes on the Bombay Hook Refuge and at the Pea Island Refuge, along the edge of an impound on the inner margin of the salt marsh. It was noted, however, that during the 1941 nesting season several broods were reared on Raymond's Pool of the Bombay Hook Refuge, an impound on the edge of the salt marsh which is maintained, in part, by a small flow of fresh water.

The following records of nesting by the Gadwall on the Bombay Hook Refuge testify as to the regularity of breeding on this area. The observations are those of John Herholdt, former refuge manager, with the exception of 1945 when George Spinner was in charge.

1938 A pair spent the summer on the refuge and was seen daily to July 26; apparently did not nest.
1939 Female and seven young about three days old seen June 24. Brood last seen July 2 when six young remained.
1940 Pair again seen but no nest was found. Solitary male seen daily during summer accompanied by female at evening.
1941 Nine mated pairs seen regularly during nesting season; six broods produced on Raymond's Pool.
1942 Species showed good increase during spring flight and 30 mated pairs seen at peak, April 8. Eight broods totaling 40 young counted during season.
1943 Based on young birds observed, it was estimated at least 20 were produced on the refuge.
1944 Military use of part of refuge precluded field studies.
1945 Four broods seen; approximately 20 young produced on refuge marshes.

Breeding records of the Gadwall on the Pea Island Refuge listed below are from observations reported to the Service by Sam A. Walker, former refuge manager except in 1945 when William Hills was in charge of the refuge.

1939 Female and brood of ten seen June 12 when the young were about four days old. One young was banded. (Auk, 58: 106, Jan., 1941.)
1940 At least six broods seen during season. Nest with eggs seen June 6. First young noted June 24. Brood of 14 seen. (Bird Lore, 42: 383, July–Aug., 1940.)
1941 Nest found June 13. Five broods seen during season.
1942 Three broods seen.
1943 Eight broods found; estimated 60 young produced on refuge this season.
1944 Eight broods counted. Fifty young estimated produced.
1945 Twelve broods seen; at least 60 young produced.

The repeated nesting of the Gadwall on these Atlantic Coast areas raises the question of whether the species may not also be nesting in numbers in suitable habitats at intermediate points between these areas and the principal breeding range. The Gadwall is generally considered to be a fresh-water duck, breeding far in the interior, building its nest on dry ground and "never near to water" (Kortright, 'Ducks, Geese and Swans of North America,' 1942).

The Shoveller (*Spatula clypeata*), according to the A. O. U. Check-List (4th ed.), formerly nested occasionally to western New York, Indiana and Illinois on the eastern edge of its breeding range. As with the Gadwall, the nesting of the Shoveller on the salt marshes of the Bombay Hook Refuge has been too regular in the past several years to be considered accidental.

The following records of the nesting of this duck on the Bombay Hook Refuge as reported by Mr. Herholdt are presented:

1937 Eight broods found on Raymond's Pool, June 21, aggregating 33 young.
1938 Eighteen nests found on the Salt Marsh during nesting study. An estimated 50 young matured this season.
1939 Total of 31 nests found during nesting study. Nest hatching May 30. In early September, 74 young found in three flocks.
1940 Located 44 nests. Increase in numbers of spring migrants noted.
1941 Considered third most abundant nesting duck this year. Ran close second to nesting Black Duck, 30 mated pairs present May 9. Two hundred adults and young counted July 30.
1942 Approximately 250 young produced this season. Later records incomplete due to military activities on part of the refuge.

Studies conducted on Bombay Hook Refuge in 1938 showed that the Shoveller built its nest on the salt marsh, mostly in patches of dead *Spartina patens*, the live and dead stems of which constituted the protective covering. All nests were in close proximity to tidal guts with the exception of one which was approximately 30 yards from Delaware Bay. The other nests ranged from 12 to 200 yards from the channels intersecting the salt marsh. Ornithologists generally refer to the Shoveller as "essentially a fresh-water duck," taking to salt water only when forced to do so. Apparently, the nesting of Shovellers on salt marshes of the Atlantic Coast has not been reported heretofore.

The nesting of the Gadwall and Shoveller on the salt marshes of the Middle Atlantic Coast may not be conventional, though it is of significance from the standpoint of local production and suggests the possibility of promoting more extensive breeding of waterfowl on the coastal marshes.—R. E. GRIFFITH, *Fish and Wildlife Service, Chicago 54, Illinois.*

Rare egg-laying date for the Canada Goose.—Egg-laying time for the Canada Goose (*Branta c. canadensis*) varies considerably with both altitude and latitude, but it is generally conceded to occur in any given section of the country soon after the arrival of spring there. Judging from the records of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, any departure from this early spring egg laying of wild honkers would be not only interesting but a scientific oddity as well. Therefore, it seems desirable to record an instance of a goose having an egg in November. The rare record was brought to light by Dr. Carleton Vaughn, Washington, D. C. sportsman, who passed the information on to the Fish and Wildlife Service. While hunting the Sassafras River on Maryland's eastern shore, November 3, 1945, Dr. Vaughn had succeeded in bagging two fine honkers. Later, when the birds were being dressed, an egg, fully developed and apparently about to be laid, was found in one of the geese. No explanation of the November egg can be presented on the basis of known breeding habits in wild honkers. It can be regarded only as a freak happening and a record which probably will stand for many years.—CECIL S. WILLIAMS, *Fish and Wildlife Service, Brigham, Utah.*

Red-eyed Vireo nesting in hemlock.—In a recent book (A Guide to Bird Watching: 102, 1943), Joseph J. Hickey, speaking of nesting-site requirements as being a factor in determining habitat selection by different species of birds, says: "A Red-eyed Vireo requires a small horizontally forked twig of a deciduous tree." Kendeigh, discussing much the same matter (Community Selection by Birds on the Helderberg