

tions and examine as many Canvas-back wings as can be obtained. Persons who would like to make sex ratio counts or save wings from fall shot Canvasbacks are urged to contact the Delta Waterfowl Research Station, Delta, Manitoba.

**UNUSUAL NEST SITES OF AMERICAN ROBIN AND SLATE-COLORED JUNCO.**—On May 9, 1958, in Maurice Alcock's farmyard 2½ miles northeast of Pontrilas, Sask., I was surprised to see a female American Robin fly out from the 2-inch opening of a 45 imperial gallon barrel lying on its side in a high-wheeled farm wagon. The wagon box had a plank bottom and 12-inch sides, with the ends open. The end of the barrel was approximately 8 inches from the end of the plank bottom, so this afforded the robin a landing shelf, with the barrel opening slightly to the right of bottom centre and about 4 inches above the shelf. Seen through the 2-inch opening, one-third of the nest was visible, the larger portion being to the left. The nest was incomplete, with the mud lining only about one-third complete. The wagon and barrel were moved the same day, and the nesting disrupted. It seems strange that the robin chose the barrel instead of a more natural nesting site in the thick grove of trees surrounding the farm yard, or the farm buildings.

On June 1, 1958, near Nipawin, I found a Slate-colored Junco also nesting in a metal container. The nest was in a ½-pound tobacco can lying on its side, in the centre of a clearing in a scattered stand of jack-pine and small white poplar. The can was partially imbedded in the ground, about 1/6 filled with pine needles and leaf mould. The front of the can had tipped slightly downward, thus affording complete protection from the elements for the nest. The nest contained 3 eggs of the Brown-headed Cowbird and 3 of its host.—**Maurice Street, Nipawin.**

**MOCKINGBIRD IN SASKATOON.**—For a fleeting moment in July and for about five minutes on October 14 I saw a Mockingbird reminding me of my native New Hampshire. The Mockingbird became a regular visitor to my yard in November but it was killed by a cat on December 9, 1958.—**Lillian Headley, Saskatoon.**

**CARDINAL AT KELWOOD.**—I have lived here on a farm close to the Riding Mountains since 1911. During the summer of 1958 I had the pleasure of seeing my first Cardinal with his brilliant red coat and crested head. We saw him quite often during the summer but now, December 30, we see him every day. He seems quite at home in our snowy shelterbelt and I hope he survives the winter.—**W. F. Rosenbarker, Kelwood, Manitoba.**

**SAW-WHET RARE VISITOR.**—**Glen Fox, Kindersley,** reports as a "rare visitor" to the area a Saw-whet Owl seen Jan. 16, 1959. His last previous observation of one was in the winter of 1955-56 when a Saw-whet was found dead along with a Richardson's Owl. Also described as an "unusual visitor" by **Frank Brazier, Regina,** was the Saw-whet which he observed in the Legislative Park, Jan. 11, 1959. At 3.00 p.m. the bird was photographed by **R. W. Fyfe** 20 feet up in a spruce where Brazier had found it at 10.45 a.m. The owl ejected a pellet, then began to feed on prey it had evidently held all this time (but which could not be seen because the owl's feet were hidden by a bough). The recovered pellet contained a redpoll skull, and two feathers which floated down when the owl was eating appeared to be redpoll feathers. Two other records of the Saw-whet (Lumsden, Skull Creek) will be noted in the report of the Christmas Count.

### S.N.H.S.

### SUMMER MEETING

**Moose Mountain Prov. Park  
June 13 - 14, 1959**

Reservations for the annual meeting should be made early with the Parks Manager, Moose Mountain Provincial Park, Carlyle, Sask. Chalet rooms: \$2.50—\$4.50 per day; non-modern cabins: \$3.50—\$4.50 (2-6 persons); modern cabins: \$6.50—\$9.00 (4-6 persons). Meals will be served at the Chalet at Kenossee, our headquarters for the weekend. Programme chairman: **C. Ellis, 820 Valley View Drive, Moose Jaw.**