

teresting find was a colony of Beautiful Buntings, apparently the first to be discovered in the United States.

On the morning of June 12, the senior author found two pairs of the birds in dense thorny thickets well up in Baboquivari Canyon. Here, at the foot of a cliff on a rough, steep slope, the males sang repeatedly. Though one pair was observed mating, no nest was found. The male of this pair was finally collected. Meanwhile Phillips and Hargrave, who were preparing specimens at Baboquivari Camp, took two males and one female there. All three of the above-mentioned males were plainly in breeding condition, but the ovary of the female was only slightly enlarged, the largest eggs being 1 mm. in diameter, and in none of the four birds was there any indication of a brood patch.

During the evening of that same day the senior author saw four males in the lower part of Moristo Canyon, about half a mile above camp. On June 13, Sutton and Phillips saw three or four males and one female in the catclaw and mesquite brush of a small flat in this same section, and a pair in mesquite, *Baccharis*, etc., near the mouth of the canyon. No new nests were found, but two old nests which were much like those of other members of the genus *Passerina*, but a little less bulky, were found several feet up in the thorn brush.

On June 13, our party detected a total of two males and one female at and near Baboquivari Camp. On June 14 a single male was seen there by Sutton. That day our activities centered in the higher parts of the mountains and in our return to Tucson. We saw no other *Passerina* anywhere in the region.—GEORGE MIKSCH SUTTON, ALLAN R. PHILLIPS, and LYNDON L. HARGRAVE, *Cornell University, Ithaca, New York*.

Natural death of a Fox Sparrow.—In 'The Condor,' September 1924, Laurence M. Huey describes the natural death of an Audubon's Warbler (*Dendroica auduboni*) under the title 'The Natural End of a Bird's Life.' Huey describes the bird as "ascending a vertical rose stem in a peculiar spiral manner" and otherwise conducting itself in a very abnormal fashion. Shortly afterward the bird fell dead to the ground and was examined externally and internally by Huey, who could diagnose nothing that might have had a lethal effect.

Late in the afternoon of November 23, 1937, the author flushed a Fox Sparrow (*Passerella iliaca*) at unusually close range in an apple orchard at the State Institution of Applied Agriculture, at Farmingdale, Long Island, New York. The bird perched erect on the lowest limb of a large tree and gave every appearance of perfect health. A few seconds later it dropped back into the grass, presumably to resume feeding. (It was not easy for me to be certain at this distance that the bird had dropped *head foremost*, as it had appeared to do.) The writer walked slowly forward, expecting to flush the sparrow again, but soon came within sight of the trembling bird approximately five seconds before its death. A cursory examination revealed no parasites. Freezing or emaciation seemed unlikely; the temperature had remained near normal for several weeks previously and read slightly above 40 degrees F. at the time. There had been no snow on the ground.

Aside from these two records, the author can find no data on a bird's death from causes which were presumably natural. Such occurrences must undoubtedly be quite rare.—HENRY M. STEVENSON, JR., 724 Eighth Avenue, West, Birmingham, Alabama.

Notes from Hawk Mountain (Kittatinny Ridge), Pennsylvania.—In the course of six three-month periods of almost daily census-taking of hawks (the fall seasons