

shore line, seeking additional ones. However, I did not find any in the direction that I followed. Retracing my steps to the first point of contact, I found the original Nelson's Sparrow and another one identical with it. Further observation firmly established the identity of both of these sparrows; flushing them eventually, they flew down the river in erratic flight. Clarence Houghton, of Albany, New York, a distinguished authority in this part of the State, has recorded the only other appearance of the Nelson's Sparrow in this part of New York. His record discloses that on August 28, 1920, nearly eighteen years ago, at Lake Cassayuna, approximately sixty miles from here, he established the first Nelson's Sparrow record. Investigation leads me to the thought that possibly some of these birds use the Mohawk Valley of New York State as a channel of migration for their annual flight from the Mississippi Valley to the Atlantic coast each fall.—JOSEPH JANIEC, 663 Crane St., Schenectady, New York.

**Eastern Snow Bunting in South Carolina in summer.**—Late in the afternoon of June 21, 1937, my wife and I were watching a colony of Wilson's Plovers (*Pagolla wilsonia wilsonia*) on the eastern end of Sullivan's Island, when our attention was attracted by a small black and white bird which I recognized as a fine male Snow Bunting (*Plectrophenax nivalis nivalis*). We observed it for several minutes at close range until it made a long flight into the Fort Moultrie rifle-range reservation. The next morning, Messrs. E. Milby Burton and E. Burnham Chamberlain, of the Charleston Museum, and I hunted unsuccessfully for it; but on June 24, Mrs. E. H. McIver notified the Museum that the bird had been in the backyard of her Sullivan's Island cottage for several days and that she was feeding it. On the morning of June 25, Messrs. Chamberlain, G. Robert Lunz, E. B. Chamberlain, Jr., and I observed the bird for an hour in Mrs. McIver's yard. Mr. Lunz took a dozen photographs and I made several pencil sketches. The bird sang frequently from its favorite perch on an electric wire. We agreed that the song reminded us somewhat of that of the Nonpareil (*Passerina ciris*). Mrs. McIver's house is nearly a mile from the spot where the bunting was first seen; later it disappeared and has not been reported again.—E. VON S. DINGLE, Mount Pleasant, South Carolina.

**A modern bird fatality.**—While in La Mesa, California, June 1937, with Mr. Archbold, preparing for our 1938 New Guinea Expedition, a curious bird fatality in connection with the experimental radio was called to my attention. I was not there at the time and am indebted to Mr. Harold G. Ramm, the radio operator, for the following details. A bird, apparently a Mockingbird from the description, alit on the single insulated wire of the transmitting antenna. When the power was turned on the bird dropped dead, killed by the high radio frequency. The antenna was carrying 500 watts with a radio frequency of 7000 kilocycles at the time. The bird alighted on or near a current node where the current was lowest and the voltage highest, the only place dangerous for it.

A number of men working about powerful broadcasting stations have been reported killed by radio frequency but this is the first instance of a bird's death in such a manner which has come to my attention. It is unlikely that this new hazard to bird life is of great enough extent to be important, but it is possible for birds alighting on the transmitting antenna of any radio station to be killed.—A. L. RAND, *American Museum of Natural History, New York City.*

Deaths from electricity have been reported from time to time. Mr. J. Warren Jacobs sends a clipping from the 'Morning Observer,' Washington, Pennsylvania, of October 29, 1937, concerning a Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*) which had