

NESTING OF THE BLUE-WINGED WARBLER IN NORTHERN ILLINOIS.

Apparently the blue-winged warbler is not common in this area even in migrations. However, some few observations made at a time when the presence of the bird argued the likelihood that it had remained to breed in the locality are on record, and Mr. Frank M. Woodruff in "Birds of the Chicago Area" has been led to say, "It does not seem impossible that a very few individuals may remain and breed within our limits."

On May 23 while pushing my way through cover of lesser growth, but comparatively free of underbrush—a rather damp part of the woodland, at its edge and situated between its higher slopes and the creek bottomland—I came upon a nest new to me but quite certainly the nest of a warbler. There were no eggs nor for a time was any bird in evidence. Presently, however, I caught sight of a small yellow head peering out of the greenery. That, I believe, was the male; for my next glimpse was of a bird not so bright but exhibiting some alarm in frequent chippings though for the most part contriving to keep in concealment.

Upon revisiting the nest, May 29, accompanied by Dr. Frederick C. Test, I found it to contain four small, delicately marked eggs, but, as before, the birds were shy and it was only after a considerable interval of waiting that Dr. Test and I were able to desery the female. She kept to the higher branches of the nearby trees, and while manifesting alarm in nervous chipping, seemed indisposed to make the fearless approach common to most of the smaller birds when their nests are threatened.

The nest was placed on the ground and supported by the three stems of a small choke-cherry shrub, to which it was not in any manner attached. It was composed of oak leaves, the stems up-pointed, strips of grape-vine bark and a few coarse grasses. The lining was of long fibres of plant stems, brown in color, and some horse hair.

The record refers to a locality near Fort Sheridan, Lake county, Illinois.

EDWARD R. FORD.

THE FOX SPARROW IN CENTRAL ILLINOIS.

On December 28, 1912, while out on a bird "hunt," my brother and I noticed a bird flying along a hedge before us. At first we thought it was a brown thrasher, but soon we found our error and identified it as a fox sparrow (*Passerella iliaca*). We soon noticed that it was in some way crippled, and at last we saw that its right wing was not fully developed. It was able to fly short distances easily and avoided capture.

During the winter we saw it again on February 16, 1913, with a companion of the same species, so that our fears for its surviving the winter were allayed. It was easily identified as the same individual we had before seen by its wing. On February 23, 1913, it was again seen

with a companion, as it was again March 16. It was recorded by itself on March 24 and 26, but with a companion on March 30. From that date it was observed with or without a companion (which being so often seen with him, and being somewhat lighter colored, was finally concluded to be his mate) on the following dates: April 1, 6, 8, 9, 10, 19; May 5, 8, 12, 23, 29; June 16, 25; July 12, 24; August 15; September 9 and 21. In October he was observed several times, but with others of his kind, which we gathered, from their actions, were not only of his kind, but of his family. Although no nest could be found, I feel certain that this maimed bird and his mate raised a brood of young fox sparrows in this vicinity. The birds were always found in an abandoned roadway about a half mile from my home. I am also glad to say that our hero's wing seemed to develop during the summer, and though not as strong as the other nor as large, he got along very well and would take long flights without much trouble.

GEORGE E. EKBLAW.

Rantoul, Ill.

NOTES FROM HURON, ERIE COUNTY, OHIO.

Found a Black-bellied Plover in an oat field half a mile south of Huron on May 24.

A pair of Prothonotary Warblers have been around Huron for several days prospecting for a nesting place. I had always supposed that these birds were swamp-loving birds, but this pair stay around houses. They were trying to get into wren boxes, and yesterday (May 24) they started building in an empty sprinkling can hung up on the back of a house. They have been around today, but have not done any more building.

H. G. MORSE, Huron, Ohio.

TWO NEW BIRDS FOR OBERLIN, OHIO.

Apparently a season of erratic weather conditions is favorable for the appearance of extralimital species. The spring migration of 1914 in northern Ohio will be remembered for the late beginning of the first wave of migration and for the extreme variations from normal of many migration records of first arrival and dates for the arrival of the bulk. The curve of migration was about sixty-five per cent abnormal. The Carolina Chickadee made its first appearance in Oberlin and for the general region on February 27 and remained in the village to April 21. There was a single individual.

Bewick's Wren was taken on April 20. It has been found in the region on three other occasions, but never before in the village.

In this connection it may be worth notice that the Hooded and Prothonotary Warblers were more numerous than ever before.

LYNDS JONES, Oberlin, Ohio.