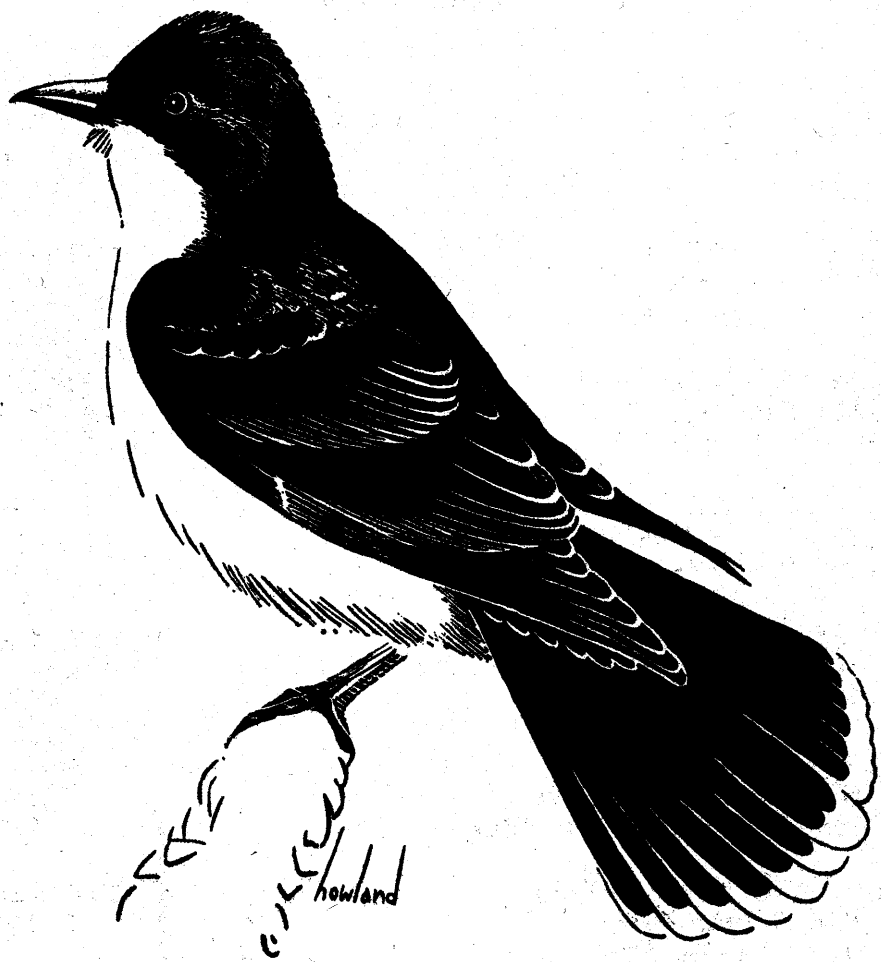


The KINGBIRD



VOLUME I, NO. 1

NOVEMBER • DECEMBER • 1950

FEDERATION OF NEW YORK STATE BIRD CLUBS

**FEDERATION OF NEW YORK STATE
BIRD CLUBS**

Organized 1947

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THE KINGBIRD

Publication of the Federation Of New York State Bird Clubs

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THE EDITOR'S PAGE

No major attempt has been made to combine the ornithological statistics of this state in a publication since the issuance of Elon Howard Eaton's Birds of New York, about forty years ago. Although this is by no means a comparative attempt it is nevertheless the initial step taken in similar direction. The staff, therefore, submits for you, the reader, our first edition of THE KINGBIRD, our Federation publication, with the hope that it will serve as a guide and an inspiration to all the ornithologists of our State.

With the first issue we are introducing a new bird artist from the Rochester area, who our staff feels shows great promise. Our thanks to Douglas Howland for our cover illustration. In the near future it is the Editor's hope to use more illustrations for articles and section headings.

Publication dates are tentative. The January-February issue will be out January 20th. All copy for the next issue should be in by January 5th. After this issue The Kingbird will be sent only to individual members of the Federation. Four issues a year are planned.

In addition to the regular staff, I wish to thank my wife, who has patiently examined the proofs, and helped in the final preparation of the publication.

To this may be added that if a record or an article may appear to be incomplete, disputed or in question, the reader is to consider himself challenged to amend or improve it with his own contribution.

To the birders of New York State, THE KINGBIRD bids welcome.

. . . A.S.K.

YOUR PRESIDENT SAYS-----

This is an auspicious event for the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs. In a few short years, we have come a long way. Since our very first meetings we all recognized one important project that was vital to initiate. That was a publication of our own, a publication by, and for the birders of New York State. Our dream has come true, thanks to the wonderful work of our first Editor, Allan Klonick, of Rochester. He and his assistants are to be highly congratulated, and the Federation owes them much. It is a big job to be an editor of a thriving publication, but the job is many times greater to set up a publication.

In addition to the expressions of thanks and congratulations which I wish to extend on behalf of my fellow officers and birders of New York State to Allan Klonick, I wish to emphasize similar thoughts to the co-operating workers who helped make this bulletin possible.

I especially wish to thank Miss Hazel Ellis, of Keuka Park for the great amount of preliminary work she did. She and her committee gathered facts and information as to type etc., of a publication the ornithologists of this state wanted.

We will now have a magazine of our own, devoted exclusively to the state of New York; its ornithology, birders, all types of birding activities, club news, and reports on conservation. I firmly believe that this publication will do much to enhance our Federation and its continued growth and expansion. It will fill a crying need of isolated ornithologists and individual members throughout the state.

I most sincerely hope that this bulletin will continue to grow. It will become what you, the readers, make and want it. It will depend upon the cooperation of each and every person in the state who reads this publication. Articles, reports etc., will be needed. Write the editor and tell him what you think of this bulletin. How we grow and what we can do depends upon you. We will need hundreds of individual members. These people will help to make this magazine possible. The more individual members we have the bigger and better

will be this publication. The Federation is guided and controlled by the affiliated clubs. The small fee per member that is collected from each club is used to defray operating expenses of the Federation. It is not enough to cover a publication. For this we are dependent upon individual members. Their dues will be used to publish this bulletin.

There is still room for additional clubs in the Federation. As the interest in ornithology continues to grow and expand, more cities, towns, and villages throughout the state will have clubs. We want to know about them and invite them to affiliate.

The next annual meeting of your Federation will be held April 7th and 8th, 1951, in Buffalo. As president of the Buffalo Ornithological Society, I extend a most cordial invitation for you to attend. Please mark these dates on your calendar for next year and plan to attend. These dates were chosen so that we could show you the interesting and outstanding waterfowl migration that we have here on the Niagara Frontier. Swans, geese, and a wide variety of ducks are promised.

In closing, I re-emphasize it is important for all of us to realize and appreciate the great job that Editor Klonick and his staff have performed. For all of you, I say thanks to him and his assistants.---

Winston William Brockner, President

BIRD COLONIES IN EASTERN LAKE ONTARIO

By John B. Belknap

During the past three seasons the writer has made observations of birds nesting on three islands off Henderson Harbor, Jefferson County. In June, 1949 an island in the St. Lawrence River was visited to secure information on the Ring-billed Gull and in May, 1950 observations were made on two islands near Kingston, Ontario. The following species were found breeding on one or more of the islands: Herring Gull, Ring-billed Gull, Common Tern, Black-crowned Night Heron and Double-crested Cormorant.

A review of periodical literature reveals few references to the bird life on these islands and it is evident that they have been regularly visited by bird students only in recent years. Of particular interest is the occurrence of the Ring-billed Gull and the Double-crested Cormorant since both, as breeding birds, are relative newcomers to this area. A summary of observations on the six islands follows.

Little Galloo Island

This is by far the largest of the group, being over forty acres in extent. Except for a few trees bordering the shore the island is practically free of larger vegetation. It is essentially a level, grassy plain a few feet higher than the lake. Each spring the southwesterly portion of the island is occupied by an immense colony of gulls, the great majority of which are Ring-bills. Very little is known of the early years of this colony but it is evident that it is much larger than it was in 1945 when visited by Dr. Kutz. Since the nesting area is several acres in extent it is obviously impractical to attempt to count all of the nests. A method of sampling was used by the writer in 1950 to approximate the number of nests on the island. Several representative squares each fifty feet on a side were selected and all nests within the squares were counted. By averaging these a density figure of 96 per 2500 square feet for the entire colony was obtained. The nesting area was then measured and found to be 11-1/2 acres. The resulting total is 19,200 nests which the writer believes to be sufficiently accurate for practical purposes. No attempt was made to determine the proportion of Herring

Gull nests but it is safe to say that they constitute less than five percent of the total.

Gull Island

Gull Island, situated in Henderson Bay is of outstanding interest to bird students. Hardly more than an acre in extent, over 3000 birds of five varieties nested on it in 1950. Ring-billed Gulls account for over 90% of the total, the other species are the Herring Gull, Common Tern, Black-crowned Night Heron and Double-crested Cormorant. All nests on the island were counted in 1950 with the following results: Ring-billed Gull 1436, Herring Gull 41, Common Tern 47, Night Heron 4, Cormorant 34. This represented a considerable change from the preceding year. The number of tern and heron nests showed a definite decrease while the cormorant colony had nearly doubled. However, on June 11, 1950 although some of the nests contained eggs no cormorants were observed on or near the island. There have been reports of shooting and it must be concluded that the birds had been driven away. Although this species is not on the protected list the loss of this colony will be most unfortunate as it is the only one known to exist in New York State.

Bass Island

This island is situated in Henderson Bay northeast of Gull Island. It is several times the size of Gull Island and supports considerably more vegetation. Herring Gulls and Common Terns nested here in 1948 and '49. The next year, however, showed a marked change. The terns practically deserted the island. Only one nest was found, and Herring Gulls were less numerous. On the other hand, Night Herons began using the island for nesting, presumably having moved over from Gull Island.

Black Ant Island

Lying between Clayton, N. Y. and Gananoque, Ontario in the Thousand Island region, this island supports the second largest colony of Ring-billed Gulls of those under discussion. It was visited briefly in June, 1949. As was the case on Little Galloo and Gull Islands, a few Herring Gulls were also

found to be nesting. The gull population is believed to be in the neighborhood of five thousand.

Snake and Salmon Islands

These islands lie in the northeast corner of Lake Ontario in Canadian waters, not far from Kingston, Ontario. They were visited on May 27, 1950 through the courtesy of Dr. Geo. M. Stirrett, Dominion Wildlife Officer for the Province of Ontario. Both islands are small, only about 1/4 acre each. Salmon Island lies farther to the west and is virtually a rocky shoal nearly bare of vegetation. A nest census gives the following results: Ring-billed Gull 216, Herring Gull 43, Common Tern 17, Double-crested Cormorant 11. The Cormorant nests consisted of platforms of sticks built up until they were 12 to 18 inches above the ground. Egg laying by the Cormorants had just begun and most of the nests were empty.

Snake Island supports considerable vegetation including a number of elm and ash trees. Herring Gulls (146 nests) and Cormorants (19 nests) were the only birds found nesting here. As on Gull Island the Cormorants nested in the elm trees.

The following table indicates the species breeding on each island in 1950, with the exception of Black Ant Island which was not visited.

	<u>Herring Gull</u>	<u>Rg-billed Gull</u>	<u>Common Tern</u>	<u>D.C. Cormorant</u>	<u>Night Heron</u>
Galloo	X	X			
Gull	X	X	X	X	X
Bass	X		X(1 nest)		X
Salmon	X	X	X	X	
Snake	X			X	

Summary

The six islands under discussion lie in an area 40 miles east to west by 25 miles north to south. All are in the north-easterly part of Lake Ontario with the exception of Black Ant Island which is in the upper St. Lawrence River. Although the Herring Gull nests on all of these islands, the Ring-billed Gull is the dominant species, greatly outnumbering all of the others combined.

DICKCISSEL IN FINGER LAKES REGION

On the evening of June 7th, as I was driving along the road about three miles from Pulteney in Steuben County, I suddenly became conscious of the singing of a Dickcissel, (*Spiza americana*). I stopped the car and located the bird sitting on a roadside high tension wire, singing as if he were sitting along an Iowa road, where I have been familiar with the species since childhood. The bird is still there (three days later at this writing), and acts as if he might be established. Since I discovered him he has been seen by about twenty other observers, several of whom--Malcolm Lerch, Francis Orcutt, Frank Guthrie--are active members of our Keuka Park Conservation Club.

There is an excellent habitat of clover hay meadow on each side of the road at this point which would encourage nesting should there be a pair of the birds.--Chas. J. Spiker, Keuka Park Conservation Club, Branchport, New York.

WHITE PELICANS IN WESTERN NEW YORK

My favorite spot and by far the best place in Western New York for observing migrating Canada Geese and other water fowl lies in the Alabama swamp region. By retaining the waters of the Oak Orchard Creek, water has covered the terrain to just the right depth for the dabbling species. The Oakfield-Barre road parallels one of these ponds and gives an excellent view of nearly the whole pond. This area, once under private ownership, now belongs to the state as a game refuge and sanctuary.

I came here before 8 A.M. on Friday, April 28, 1950, and as I approached the pond I looked over the entire surface in a general way, when my eye caught large white birds. My first thought was whistling swans. I then used binoculars which gave me definitely the long yellow bills lying close to the breast. Could there be White Pelicans in this territory? I had seen them in the Yellowstone National Park and on the west coast, but what were they doing here?

The use of my twenty power 50mm telescope proved to me that they were White Pelicans. Would they raise their wings that I could see the black tips? In a few minutes they did just that. Then I was absolutely sure.

The birds were about 1500 feet from the north end of the pond in the morning. In the afternoon they floated to within 600 feet of the end and later in the evening returned to their first location. There were thousands of wild geese and several species of ducks in the area. The Pelicans remained in the middle, the geese keeping away from them for a radius of about 25 feet.

The sky at 8 A.M. was cloudy, but cleared about noon with sunny weather through the middle of the day. The day ended overcast and with a cold northeast wind.

According to the rules of our society there must be three observers to make an unusual observation authentic. I drove down to Mrs. Beadle's farm. Miss Moore was visiting her. The three of us hurried back to the pond where we studied the birds with binoculars and telescope. All agreed definitely they were 3 White Pelicans.

I hurried back to Batavia and called Buffalo about 9:30. The news was flashed all over Buffalo via a grapevine system carried on by bird students.

Mrs. Beadle called the Rochester Museum from where word went out over Rochester to members of the Genesee Ornithological Society.

After completing the Buffalo call I immediately called all Batavia bird minded people. A broadcast over WBTA on the

noon broadcast brought many people from the surrounding country to the pond that same afternoon.

People also came from Rochester, Buffalo, LeRoy, Medina Lyndonville and Albion. It would be hard to estimate how many.

The game warden said all day Saturday the road along the edge of the pond was lined with cars.

The birds stayed until Sunday A.M. About six o'clock A.M. they rose and circled over the pond, flew in the direction of the eastern (big) marsh. They did not settle there but went on in a northwesterly direction. (Ed. Note--3 White Pelicans were observed the following Monday on Lake Ontario near Irondequoit Bay proceeding east along the lake.)

The rarity of Pelicans for Western New York causes much speculation about their presence here. Several years ago the Genesee Ornithological Society recorded a White Pelican from Shore Acres about thirty miles to the east of the present birds. Other records are scarce or absent.

During April, in the area of the upper Mississippi Valley and to the west, the weather was unseasonably cold and inclement. This may have been the deterring factor, which directed the birds easterly away from their regularly traveled migration route.

Records for Oak Orchard Swamp contains Blue, Snow, White-fronted and Lesser Canada Geese; Am. Egret, Little Blue Heron, Glossy Ibis, Yellow Rail, and the Prothonotary Warbler, and now the presence of Pelicans adds another bird to this list of rarities.--Kathryn Pixley, Batavia, N. Y.

NOTES ON THE BREEDING BIRDS OF CAYUGA COUNTY, NEW YORK

During the progress of a survey of the breeding birds of Cayuga County, New York, in 1948, several notes were accumulated which may be of some general interest.

On May 29, 1948, the nest of a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker,

(*Sphyrapicus varius varius*), was found by the writer and Mr. R.H. Stone of Schenectady, New York. The nest was located in a wooded swamp in the Township of Ira, where the most prominent avian species were the Northern Water-thrush, (*Seiurus n. noveboracensis*), Crested Flycatcher, (*Myiarchus crinitus boreus*) and the Rose-breasted Grosbeak (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*). The nesthole was in a dead stub of red maple (*Acer rubrum*) about twelve feet from the ground.

So far as I am able to determine, this is the second published record of the nesting of this species in Cayuga county. Samuel Rathbun found a nest near Auburn in 1880, (*Ornithologist and Oologist*, VI:4, June 1881, 25-26.) and Charles Spiker observed the species in the Township of Sempronius in the south portion of the county, but gave no definite data on nesting. (*Roosevelt Wildlife Bull.* VI:3, July 1925, p. 480). The species was observed during the breeding season of 1948 in two other locations, but no other nests were found.

On June 15, in the Township of Genoa, Mr. Robert Dickerman of Ithaca and the writer found several Yellow-breasted Chats, (*Icteria v. virens*), on a hillside overlooking Cayuga Lake. At least four singing males were heard in this area, a slope covered with scattered clumps of blackberry (*Rubus allegheniensis*) red cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*) hawthorn, (*Crataegus* sp.), and wild roses, (*Rosa* sp.) The area is pastured, but the thorny growth makes it suitable for many species of brush-loving birds. Dickerman discovered a Chat's nest about two feet from the ground in a rose bush. The nest contained two eggs, one so small that it was almost of the "runt" type. This nest was later deserted, but another, apparently of the same pair, was found only a few yards from the site of the first nest, in a clump of blackberry bushes. On July 15 this nest contained three young birds a few days old.

Although Chats occur sparingly throughout this part of New York, it has never been my good fortune to observe elsewhere such a concentration as to be reminiscent of conditions in the center of the bird's range.

On June 17, in the Township of Summerhill, Dickerman came upon a very excited Nashville Warbler, (*Vermivora r.*

rificapilla), which was hopping around in the underbrush of blackberries in a grove of *Populus tremuloides*. Upon searching the ground near by, we discovered a young bird of this species, out of the nest but unable to fly. While we were near the fledgling, the adult bird approached within inches of our hands and feet, chipping constantly. Fearing that we would step on other young birds, we withdrew from the area at once.

Nashville Warblers were observed at two other similar locations in the county during the breeding season of 1948. No other nests were located. A local bird student, Mr. E.G. Tabor of Meridian, has a nest of the species which was taken in the town of Conquest many years ago. A singing male was found in 1948 at the spot where he took the nest, so the species is apparently well established here.--Allen H. Benton, New York State College for Teachers, Albany, New York.

BALTIMORE ORIOLES AT BIRD HAVEN

On May 7th the first 3 male Orioles returned "home" and were sighted on their favorite raisin dish. The following day there were 6 males and 1 female. On the 9th we counted 7 males and 1 female on the raisin dishes. May 10th there were 9 males and 2 females. Then on May 13th we counted 14 males and 4 females--the 15th there were 15 males and 8 females--the 16th of May set an all time record. There were 20 males and 15 females all flying about the yard and overflowing the raisin dishes--a sight beyond description! This is the largest influx of Orioles ever to visit Bird Haven .

I banded 3 males on May 8th--on May 11th 7 males and 2 females--on May 12th 2 males and 1 female--May 15th 4 males and 4 females--May 18th 1 female--May 18th 1 female and on May 20th I banded 2 males and 1 female to reach the grand total of 18 males and 10 females wearing my aluminum "bracelets".

There were many "repeats". One gorgeous fiery orange male no.-49-157103 repeated ten times. We became quite friendly. He never left my hand without accepting a raisin to carry away to his favorite perch.

I discontinued banding the Orioles on May 20th as they were busy nesting and I did not wish to disturb them. I hope to be able to band all 20 males and the 15 females before migration time which is September 6th in this section. Four pairs are nesting in our yard and are very busy feeding their hungry young.

I shall look forward with much pleasure to banding their young when next spring and Oriole time roll around again at Bird Haven. -- Mrs. Gerald Fitzgerald, Sassafras Bird Club, Amsterdam, New York.

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CONSERVATION NEWS AND NOTES

Walter Elwood, Chairman,
Conservation Committee

The outstanding conservation program featured last Spring by Elmira College, at Elmira, N.Y. has an interesting write-up in the October, 1950, issue of Nature Magazine. How the modern dance was used in this program is also described in the current issue of American Forests. "The Plow That Broke the Plains", both the original music and recitative of this famous documentary film, provided the inspiration for the dance group. (And a mystery is solved).

"Warning to North Americans" is the timely title of Antoon de Vos's article in the Sept.-Oct. issue of Audubon Magazine. What the ever-mounting pressure of population increase has done to every form of wildlife in the Netherlands is graphically brought out; birds, small mammals, wild flowers are rapidly becoming non-existent as their habitats are being more and more claimed by man.

This is in line with the urgent appeal made to our member clubs, by Richard H. Pough, Curator of Conservation in the American Museum of Natural History, who has been imploring our clubs to save here and there, little areas of natural habitats, untampered with, before it is too late, as living museum exhibits of the America that was.

Mr. Pough is chairman of the Island Beach National Monument Committee, a group which is trying to raise funds to purchase the last bit of natural unspoiled shore on the New Jersey coast, a 22,000-acre peninsula between Seaside Park and Barnegat Bay. (See Nature Magazine for October).

The Jackson Hole Monument headache has been settled--after twenty years of controversy. This Monument has been consolidated with the Grand Teton National Park. Included in the consolidation are the thirty-some thousand acres of Rockefeller land bought by the philanthropist to provide winter feeding grounds for the hard-pressed Yellowstone elk herd. The thorny problem of taxes for Teton County has apparently been straightened out to the County's satisfaction.

The bill to provide a refuge for the little Florida Key deer was withdrawn at the last moment before Congress adjourned. It is still, however, on the calendar for action when Congress reconvenes.

The bill to protect the Bald Eagle in Alaska passed the House but was not reported out of the Senate Committee. (Special Ed. Note)--Due to President calling Special Session, Nov. 27, Bill H.R. 5507 can be brought out of Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee for action by the Senate. Write or telegraph Senator Edwin C. Johnson, Chairman urging its passage. Do this today!

The California War Memorial Park Association which has battled so long and so hard to save the famous sugar pines in Tuolumne and Calaveras Counties is still fighting. The Pickering Lumber Company which owns the pines is opposed to the purchase, even though only 369 acres, a mere fraction of its vast holdings, is effected. Congressman Holifield of California, chairman of a House group fighting to preserve the sugar pines, has called for a Senate probe. He has unearthed some interesting facts; namely, that the Pickering Lumber Company obtained a \$2,500,000 loan from the RFC back in 1936 and that shortly thereafter three new members appeared on the Board of Directors and, by some strange coincidence, these new directors were all recent RFC officials.

Miss Brush of our Federation's Conservation Committee provided us with this illuminating example of what a powerful business-politics partnership can do to a mere conservation issue. Miss Brush, incidentally, visited several National and State Parks and National Monuments in California during her stay in those parts this Spring.

Your chairman spent several weeks in Mexico this summer and saw with his own eyes our neighbor's terrific conservation problems, and how well William Vogt had described them in his "Road to Survival."

When the New York State legislature convenes in 1951, our Federation Bird Clubs will have their work cut out for them again in protecting our Forest Preserve and in seeing to it that the New York State Constitution is upheld.

The bill banning Panther Mountain Dam was passed, but the bill declaring a moratorium on all Adirondack reservoirs for one year was vetoed and the bill to require a referendum of the people on the construction of Adirondack reservoirs was defeated in Assembly Committee.

Hearings are still being held in various parts of the State on this issue of building flood control and power dams in the Forest Preserve, to form the basis of a report to the 1951 legislature.

Unfortunately, the Secretary of the Interior has authorized the Bureau of Reclamation to build the Echo Park and Split Mountain Dams in the Dinosaur National Monument, a project strongly opposed by conservation organizations throughout the land. Our only hope lies in the fact that the 207 million dollars needed for the job has still to be appropriated by Congress and we can still express opinions to our congressmen.

The Budget Bureau has just announced a 500 million dollar cut in non-defense appropriations, a bigger cut than Congress ordered. In this reduction are included \$56,950,000 for the reclamation and power-marketing agencies and 50 million dollars for the Army engineers civil activities.

A bloc of western congressmen are all for these power developments, being egged on by the Bureau of Reclamation, the Army engineers and private concerns; but there is a ray of hope, perhaps, in the appropriation cuts.

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REGION 1--WESTERN NEW YORK

The 1950 fall migration in the Western New York area to date has produced fewer outstandingly unusual records than has been the rule the past few years. The smaller land birds have occurred in sporadic waves, with smaller than usual numbers found in the interims; but good birding on a few days. Altogether, totals seem to have been about normal. Notable exceptions include a shortage of Connecticut Warblers, a species occurring regularly but in small numbers at this season. The only two reported were by Lenna in the Chautauqua region on Sept. 23 and 29. Orange-crowned Warblers, however, have been seen in increased numbers and localities over previous years. Of note was a Kentucky Warbler seen by B. Nathan on October 1 in Buffalo near the Niagara River.

Field birds have been scarce, but at this writing (October 23) numbers are becoming normal. Pipits have been uncommon until mid-October, but are now increasing to normal numbers. A good spread of Lapland Longspurs was found on October 15, following one of the best waves of the season on the 14th, which also brought in droves of Kinglets, White-throated Sparrows, House and Winter Wrens, and other species.

Notable also, though only doubtfully a part of the fall migration picture, were the reports of Prothonotary Warblers from Riverside Marsh south of Jamestown. One seen August 8 and two on August 18, all by Sundell and party, may have represented birds breeding in the locality, since one was seen there in May. However, summer searchers found none there. The date of August 18 is extremely late for this species.

We are greatly encouraged by the apparent recolonization of this region by the Wild Turkey. At least two flocks have been reported in Allegany Park or vicinity. We do not know for sure that they were not introduced, but presumably they have spread northward from Pennsylvania.

The northward flight of Herons this year was disappointing. A few American Egrets were found at many locations, but no other species wandered up as in the past two years.

Ducks are late, but are now appearing. It is difficult to get an accurate impression of the relative abundance of water fowl in this region until January. However, there seems to be an unusually large number of Geese, with Blues and Snows reported, as well as the more numerous Canadas.

Along with the several thousand Bonaparte's Gulls which frequent the Niagara River from late August to early October were at least three European Little Gulls. It is interesting to note that we have two distinct migrations of Bonaparte's each fall: the second occurs from late October or November until Lake Erie freezes, usually shortly after Christmas. During the past few years European Little Gulls have appeared with both the early and late Bonaparte's groups, a fact which lends support to the supposition that there is a North American breeding colony of this species of Old World bird, probably within or near the breeding range of our Bonaparte's.

Only one Franklin's Gull, observed by Woldman and Schaffner on September 23 at Buffalo Harbor, has been reported so far. These Gulls have been more numerous during the past few years. White-rumped Sandpipers, usually quite scarce here, have also made a better than usual show. Otherwise, shore birds occurred in normal numbers.

Perhaps this fall will be most noted for the extraordinary number of late records it has produced. A Nighthawk (perhaps not the Eastern sub-species) was seen on October 15 by Dr. and Mrs. Eschelman near Allegany State Park. A Whip-poor-will, freshly deceased was picked up by Dr. and Mrs. Axtell in Niagara County near Lake Ontario the same day. Orange-crowned Warblers are still here on October 22. A Black Tern seen by H. D. Mitchell and party on October 21, may also hang around still longer.

There are undoubtedly other records of note which have not come to my attention. If local readers will notify me of these omissions, I shall be able to be more inclusive hereafter.--Edward L. Seeber, 186 Wabash Avenue, Kenmore 17, New York.

REGION 2--SOUTHERN TIER

The fall migration season in the southern tier has not been too conducive to good bird recording, as until the 8th of October it has been cool and dry, with only an occasional shower or unusually warm day. There have been few waves although two members of the Keuka Park Conservation Club each reported one the latter part of September. One reported quite a variety of warblers, while the other reported a wave consisting largely of Black-throated Blue and Parula Warblers and Wood Pewees.

My own banding traps have yielded a few noteworthy items, viz., a Yellow-bellied Flycatcher on September 10; Ovenbird on September 13; and an Olive-backed and a Gray-checked Thrush in the same trap together on October 2.

Some "last dates" reported by the club include Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Sept. 6; Chimney Swift, Sept. 7; Least Flycatcher Sept. 6; Wood Pewee, Sept. 30; Barn Swallow, Sept. 17; Veery, Sept. 12; Wood Thrush, Oct. 1; Yellow-throated Vireo, Sept. 23; Warbling Vireo, Sept. 10; Red-eyed Vireo, Sept. 23; Parula Warbler, Oct. 1; Yellow Warbler, Aug. 15; Magnolia Warbler, Oct. 1; Ovenbird, Sept. 15; Redstart, Oct. 1; Scarlet Tanager, Sept. 21; and Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Sept. 30.

"First dates" recorded: Whip-poor-will, Sept. 9; Myrtle Warbler, Sept. 17; Palm Warbler, Sept. 17; Rusty Blackbird, Sept. 17; White-throated Sparrow, Sept. 21; White-crowned Sparrow, Oct. 4; Lincoln's Sparrow, Sept. 24. Individuals of these species are still here. A flock of 20 Whistling Swans flew over me Oct. 11, while I was picking grapes.

A group of about a dozen members of the Keuka Park Club meet at the end of each month to pool their lists for that month, making up the combined list, which is published in the Penn Yan Chronicle-Express. I hope something similar may be done in the other clubs of the southern tier, that unusual occurrences may be published in THE KINGBIRD.--

Charles Spiker, Branchport, N. Y.

REGION 3--LAKE ONTARIO

The fall migration to date--mid-October--appears to be proceeding rapidly with most species reaching peaks of abundance considerably earlier than in the preceding year or two. This early and rapid movement has more or less characterized the migration of all species and seems to be the most outstanding trait of this year's southward movement. This can be clearly seen in the brief summary of reports for this area given below.

1. Loons and Grebes:

No migration to date except for first report of Horned Grebe in early October. A Common Loon apparently spent the summer on Canadice Lake in the hills south of Rochester.

2. Cormorants:

A few scattered reports of Double-crested Cormorant in September and early October.

3. Herons:

Last dates for all species except Great Blue are in first or second week of October. Am. Egrets have been fairly common, no other southern species noted.

4. Swans and Geese:

No Swans to date; except for a few at Oak Orchard in late September, first flights of Geese were not noted until mid-October. Good numbers reported late October with some Brant.

5. Ducks:

Fair flight of early species; Teal, Baldpate, Pintail, etc., appeared to have reached a peak by early October. One very early Gadwall in early September stayed for a couple weeks and one Old Squaw noted on August 30. Diving Ducks almost unreported to date except for Lesser Scaup. About 60 of these appeared on usual lakeshore raft on October 7. By October 14, this raft had grown to over 500.

6. Hawks and Owls:

No unusual reports. A few wandering Eagles and Osprey along lake shore, small numbers of Broadwings; Cooper's and Sharp-shinned, and one early Duck Hawk in August. These birds have seemed comparably scarce this summer and fall. No migrant Owls reported.

7. Grouse and Pheasant:

Ruffed Grouse reported breeding at Ling Rd.--most unusual. Pheasants appear on upgrade after several good summers and light winters.

8. Rails, Gallinules and Coots:

Coots appearing in some numbers. Gallinules still present. Rails reported commonly in September.

9. Shorebirds:

Good flight but unusually early. Golden and Black-bellied Plover reached peak in early September. Hudsonian Godwit August 17-19; Marbled Godwit, August 19 and October 7. Northern Phalarope--one stayed for two weeks in late September. Good numbers of almost all species including Knots, White-rumped, and Red-backed. Very good early flight of Stilt Sandpiper, Dowitchers, Yellowlegs and common "peeps" also Hudsonian Curlew. One Buff-breasted Sandpiper in late August. All had disappeared by mid-October except for Red-backed Sandpipers, and a few Killdeer, Semi-palmated Plover, and "peeps."

10. Jaegers:

One Parasitic Jaeger reported off lakeshore first week in October--rare in this area. Two were seen October 15 on G.O.S. hike. One wounded bird picked up Oct. 22, died 3 days later. Now in Rochester Museum.

11. Gulls:

Flocks of Herrings and Ring-bills had greatly increased by early October. Bonaparte's still present but becoming less common. One Black-backed in late September; two in mid-October. No White-winged Gulls to date.

12. Terns:

Caspian scarce this summer. Last Black Tern reported in late September; last Common Tern in early October.

13. Perching birds and allies:

The migration of smaller species seemed at least normal with regard to numbers. Late August found good-sized groups of warblers passing through. The first Juncos appeared in late September, along with White Th. and White-crowned Sparrows, Kinglets, Creepers and other similar species. On October 14th, Robins, Bluebirds, Blackbirds, Sparrows, Myrtle Warblers and a few Catbirds, Hermit Thrushes and Phoebes were noted among migrating groups. Migration appeared well advanced by this comparatively early date and normal winter species present in some numbers.--

Richard O'Hara, 100 Fernwood Park, Rochester 9, N. Y.

REGION 4--ST LAWRENCE

Hérons:

No American Egrets reported this year.

Green and Great Blue Herons more numerous than usual.

Shore Birds:

Poor season due to high level in Lake Ontario and other waters--exposed shorelines scarce.

Yellowlegs scarce

Solitary Sandpiper--normal

Ruddy Turnstone--one seen 9/5 near Sacketts Harbor

Killdeer--last seen 10/1 (Lewis County)

Wilson Snipe--less common than last year.

Ducks, etc.:

Wood Duck and Mallard--more seen than a year ago.

Pied Billed Grebe--less numerous than 1949.

Blue-winged Teal--less numerous than 1949.

Hawks:

Osprey seen 9/22 (Jefferson County)

Sharp-shinned Hawks; migrating birds noted about 9/15.

Red-tailed Hawk; appears to be on increase.

Sparrow Hawk; definitely on increase in this section.

Land Birds:

Mourning Dove; increasing, particularly in suitable territory in Jefferson County.

Cuckoos--appear to be more numerous than usual this year.

Goldfinch--unusually common this year.

Red-headed Woodpecker--nest found this summer near Lowville (G. B. Bowen.)

Chewink--seen twice 9/17 and 9/21 near Gouverneur.

This is near northern limit of their range (?)--

John B. Belknap, Gouverneur, New York.

REGION 5--ADIRONDACK

June and July were normal in temperature, but below normal in rainfall. June had two unseasonably cool spells with the minimums of 40 and 37 degrees on the 11th and 12th; then between the 17th and 22nd the minimums ran 39, 34, 41, 44, 45, and 38 degrees.

August was about normal in temperature but with no really

warm spell--the average 24-hour maximum temperature was 71 degrees with only one day at 80 degrees. The first signs of southward warbler migration came the night of August 4-5, nights cool at this time. Other flights nights of August 10-11; 18-19, 29 (Sandpipers--probably Solitary). Rain was excessive throughout the month.

September--a very cold, wet month. Average maximum was only 58.6 degrees and temperature only went above 70 degrees on four occasions. Average minimum was 41 degrees with temperatures of 28, 30, 29, and 27 degrees from 22nd-25th. Snow all morning on the 24th.

Some observations are as follows:

Common Loon:

Not too uncommon now in summer on many ponds and lakes of central Adirondacks. Probably more prevalent than 25 years ago.

Woodcock:

Saunders called it rare here in summer. Now many birds in many areas through breeding season--know definitely of one brood in June.

Wilson's Snipe:

Not previously reported so far as I know as a summer resident. A bird was performing its flight song nightly mid-May until at least July 13 at Paul Smith's.

Spruce Grouse:

For a long time considered extirpated from Adirondacks. In 1942 a fine male was collected and sent to Cornell U. On July 6, 1950, I found a hen with four chicks about 15 miles northeast of Paul Smith's. I have reports that birds have been in this area for about 15 years.

Black-billed Cuckoo:

Fairly abundant this summer.

Arctic Three-toed Woodpecker:

Reported locally around Whiteface Mountain and I saw one on September 10 in Madawaska area.

Canada Jay:

Several birds in Madawaska area on August 5 and 12. Also reported near Tupper Lake on August 28.

White-winged Crossbill:

Birds appeared in numbers in early August in many areas. Males in song. First reports I've seen for Adirondacks in summer.

Lincoln's Sparrow:

Birds in song in Madawaska region July 12 and near Paul Smith's.

Pine Siskin:

Have appeared in large numbers in mid-October.

Indigo Bunting:

Saunders called it rare here. Several of us have independently noted the abundance of this species widely through the Adirondacks this summer. One of the common breeders this year.

Evening Grosbeak:

Some remained through entire summer. Adults with young seen. Have not returned in usual winter numbers yet. (Oct. 22).

Cardinal:

Male Cardinals reported in July at Willsboro on west shore of Lake Champlain. May represent further northward extension of the range.

Carolina Wren:

Two birds reported at Willsboro on Lake Champlain in June. Reported singing and nesting. Unable to check identification myself. Will not accept it as definite record.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet:

Saunders did not see it in Adirondacks in summer, Eaton saw only a single bird. On July 6, I found three singing birds in Madawaska region.

Canada Goose:

Several flocks in Saranac Lake region about October 12th. Not too common here.

Sora Rail and Long-billed Marsh Wren:

Reported from Tupper Lake by Dr. Marguerite Kingsbury. New summer records from central Adirondacks.

I observed that there is a very abundant cone crop on the softwoods this year and we hope to get a goodly number of winter finches this year.--Gordon M. Meade, Trudeau, New York.

REGION 6--MOHAWK VALLEY

When Autumn paints her wooded hillsides as brilliant tapestries and the first frost scatters white powder on the lowlands, the aerial highways are crowded with feathered tourists trekking to warmer climates.

One highway is over Amsterdam. Is there a Duncan Hines in Bird Land? Margaret A. Fitzgerald's Bird Haven would be listed as a splendid place for food. Thus far this fall the following Guests have stopped to partake of her hospitality.

Sparrows:	White-throated	Oct. 2-10
	White-Crowns	Oct. 15
	Chipping	Oct. 10-18
	Song	Oct. 15-18
	Fox	Oct. 18
	Juncos	Oct. 10-15
Vireos:	Warbling, Red-eyed, Blue-headed	
Warblers:	Golden-winged	Aug. 3
	Connecticut	
	Myrtle	
	Orange-crowned	
	Nashville	(Largest flight on Oct. 1)
	Blackpoll	
	Parula	
	Black and White	
Wilson		
Redstart		
Thrush:	Hermit	Oct. 10
Finches:	Purple	Oct. 15
Kinglets:	Ruby-crowned	Oct. 15
	Golden-crowned	Oct. 15
	Brown Creeper	Oct. 15

(I found a Brown Creeper nesting at Caroga Lake about 25 mi. north of Amsterdam this summer.) H.G. Rosa.

A flock of White-crowned Sparrows were observed at High Falls on Oct. 13.

Late Saturday afternoon, Oct. 14, near Green, N. Y., Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Kinsman, of Amsterdam, were alerted by the haunting cry of wild geese overhead. About fifty great, grey Canada Geese were flying above them in a broken V formation. They seemed to be unsettled, perhaps just gather-

ing for their evening flight.

Living in a world of discord, wars and human suffering, it is with thankful hearts that we can observe the world of nature ruled by reason, and order, and law. Man has still much to learn. He can but wonder at Nature's imperious summons that rules the actions of the birds filling the ancient sky trails to the southland. Hazel G. Rosa, 8 Grieme Avenue, Amsterdam, New York.

REGION 7--NEW YORK

The fall migration got under way about mid-July, and up to this writing, October 29, it has been average.

1. Grebes and Ducks:

Two Pied-billed Grebes were seen at Van Cortlandt Park Lake on October 22.

On October 15th at Pelham Bay--Whitestone Bridge, an unusual flight of Double-crested Cormorants was observed numbering about 475 during the day.

October 12th brought the first flight of Canada Geese. A flock of 32 birds was seen over Van Cortlandt Park ridge and 2 flocks were observed by Kelsey--Spring Valley. By October 15th the flights were well underway with 75 being observed at Bronx Park, 275 from Van Cortlandt and 10 from Whitestone Bridge. On October 26th at Van Cortlandt 85 more geese were seen. October 15th also brought a flight of 259 American Brant at Whitestone Bridge along with several mixed Scoters. Van Cortlandt Park records also included are Sept. 5th--25 Green-winged Teal, October 26th--7 Wood Duck and 35 Baldpate. Green Heron--Oct. 15th--Hook Mt., Nyack, N. Y.,--Brown, et. al.

2. Hawks and Eagles:

At Van Cortlandt Park on Sept. 16th--307 total including 145 Broad wings, 1 adult Bald Eagle. Sept. 17th--531 total including 305 Broad wings, 6 Bald Eagles, 1 Pigeon Hawk--Sept. 25th--286 Broad wings.

Of interest also was a report of an observer at 111th St. Manhattan where over 150 Hawks were observed going in a southwesterly direction.

On October 22nd at Mt. Peter, N. Y. a small flight was observed consisting of 2 immature Golden Eagles, 27 Red-tailed

Hawks, and 22 Sharp-shinned Hawks.

3. Ruffed Grouse -- now resident -- Hook Tor Ridge and Bear Mt. Park -- Brown.

4. Nighthawks -- At Grassy Sprain on Sept. 2nd over 900 Nighthawks were observed.

5. Landbirds:

At Grassy Sprain on Sept. 4th--300 Tree Swallows were observed in migration. Sept. 6th at Bronx Park 1 Cape May Warbler, 1 Olive-sided Flycatcher on Sept. 13th. Good land bird migration was observed on both dates. Other dates for good land bird migrations were Sept. 17th, Oct. 5th, Oct. 11th, and Oct. 12th.

On Oct. 15th at Bronx Park and in Bear Mt. Region (Brown) at least 800 Myrtle Warblers, 250 Chipping Sparrows, and 50 Hermit Thrushes were observed also at Bronx Park.

A late Veery was recorded Oct. 16th at Bronx Park, and a Tufted Titmouse was seen at Van Cortlandt Park on Oct. 18th. Lincoln's Sparrow was recorded at Central Park on October 15th and a Grasshopper Sparrow was observed at a feeder at Ward's Poundridge Reservation on October 22nd.

Homer S. Kelsey
16 Chestnut Street
Spring Valley, New York

George Komorowski
240 East 199th Street
Bronx 58, New York

Other records too late to be included with the above are as follows:

Red-headed Woodpecker--Aug. 24, Sept. 5th at Washingtonville, first since 1938.

Wilson's Warbler--Sept. 25, Brown, Upper Nyack

Scarlet Tanager--Oct. 3, Brown, Hook Mt., Nyack

Coot--Oct. 14, Hopper, Sickels, Brown, Congers Lake

Gt. Black-backed Gull--Oct. 14, Hopper, Sickels, Brown, Haverstraw.

White-crowned Sparrow--Oct. 14, Grassy Point.

REGION 8--LONG ISLAND

The southern movement began early with Northern Water-

Thrush observed on western Long Island, July 21 and goodly numbers of shore birds in July and early August. Later the land bird flight was slowed by southerly winds and in late August and early September an influx of southern species was noted after hurricane disturbances at sea. Later in September a lack of prevailing westerly winds caused a poor warbler flight with rarities only found on extreme western Long Island. The easterly winds apparently aided in the September off-island movement and the woodlands were destitute of bird life until the October drift of Hermit Thrushes, Kinglets, Creepers, Myrtle Warblers and Sparrows flooded the countryside.

Loons, Grebes:

First Common Loons, two at Jones Beach, September 7; not abundant to end of period. Red-throated Loon first seen at Jones Beach also, two on October 7; Horned Grebe, one Idlewild, October 15; very few since.

Shearwater, Petrels:

A few summer records of Greater and Sooty, but mostly Cory's; maximum 20 at Montauk, October 14; records range westward to Jones Beach; several miles offshore, eastern Long Island, seven on August 9. Same area, August 8, 15 Wilson's Petrels; other Petrel records in and about New York Lower Bay.

Hérons, Egrets:

Maximum American Egret, 72 on September 30 at Jones Beach; species less abundant than in 1949; last record, two at Jones Beach, October 21. Snowy Egret, Little Blue Heron regular in several locations, but also less abundant than in 1949; Little Blue left early; Snowy Egret still at Jones Beach October 21.

Geese, Ducks:

Large flight of Canada Geese passing over, week of October 8 to October 15; one Snow Goose at Jones Beach, September 30 to October 8. 110 Baldpate at Jones Beach, September 30; first arrivals (all at Jones Beach) Pintail, Green-winged Teal, August 27; Shoveller, September 12; Ruddy Duck, October 14. Hooded Merganser: first arrival, Mastic, October 8.

Hawks, Eagles:

Fair Falcon flight along the south shore; maximum hawk count, Far Rockaway, on September 24, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. 51 Sharp-shinned, 3 Cooper's, 2 Red-tailed, 6 Red-shouldered, 40 Broad-wing, 5 Marsh Hawks, 10 Ospreys, 1 Duck Hawk, 15 Pigeon Hawks and 23 Sparrow Hawks; 5 Hawks unidenti-field. Four adult Bald Eagles migrated over Jamaica Bay, September 19.

Rails:

King Rail seen at Idlewild, September 17; a few Florida Gallinules present along south shore; one or two records of Black Rails; no Yellow Rails reported; several Sora records came through in early October.

Shore birds:

First Golden Plover, two on September 4 at Idlewild, followed by scattered reports of about a dozen individuals throughout the period to October 21. Upland Plover was passing over western Long Island on August 6. Shore bird count, August 12 at Idlewild: 125 Black-bellied Plover, 80 Ruddy Turnstone, 1 Knot, 3 White-rumped Sandpiper, one Baird's and 15 Western Sandpiper. Two Buff-breasted Sandpipers were seen at Moriches, September 2; 1 at Idlewild, September 10. First Marbled Godwit, Idlewild, August 27 both Godwits and Wilson's Phalarope fewer than in past two years with only one record of the latter, Jamaica Bay, September 10. Very few coastal reports of Northern Phalarope except for several miles offshore with four reported off the Hamptons, August 14.

Gulls, Terns:

One late summer record of Kumlein's Gull on Jamaica Bay; 3 early Bonaparte's Gulls, same place, August 13; movement of Laughing Gulls, 70 at Fire Island Inlet, September 30. A Gull-billed Tern was seen after a southerly storm at Long Beach, August 20; a Royal Tern appeared off Moriches, flying over mouth of Moriches Inlet, September 4, and 2 Caspian Terns were observed on a sandbar, September 2, following a southerly storm. Maximum numbers of Roseate Terns were seen at Montauk with an estimated 500 passing through August 21. Three large post-breeding flocks of Black Skimmers of about 150 to 200 each were seen Sep-

tember 2 to September 4 at Jones Inlet, Moriches and Shinnecock.

Jaegers:

Both species were observed along the south shore August 21--one or two Pomarines and several Parasitics. Other reports following consisted of Parasitic only with no abundance noted in this species.

Nighthawk through Swallows:

Maximum Nighthawk flight, September 4; Whip-poor-will seen into mid-October, Prospect Park, Brooklyn. Several Red-headed Woodpecker reports in September (this species is rare on Long Island in recent years). Arkansas Kingbird, one record, Quogue, September 22. Large Phoebe flight, September 24 and lesser one October 21. Estimated 200,000 Tree Swallows at Jones Beach, September 24, following good fall flight; early Cliff Swallow, July 22 at Idlewild with very few seen later.

Wrens to Vireos:

Slight comeback of Carolina Wren after severe snows of several winters ago. First Winter Wren noted, at Syosset, September 22; early Mockingbird, Far Rockaway, July 15 to July 20; Wood Thrush left early; Hermit Thrushes came through in large numbers, October 14, 15; first Olive-backed Thrush, September 3 at Massapequa and first Gray-cheeked Thrush, September 6 at Idlewild. Kinglets came through in numbers in mid-October; first Pipit seen with 30 at Orient, October 8. Several Migrant Shrike records came in from eastern Long Island, early to mid-September and one or two from Jones Beach area. First Blue-headed Vireo seen, Jones Beach, October 1; one or two Philadelphia Vireo reports.

Warblers:

First Worm-eating Warbler, Far Rockaway, September 2. Golden-winged, Hooded and Canada were fewer than in recent years. Tennessee Warbler first arrived August 21; Bay-breasted, August 22; Mourning Warbler also August 22, all these from Far Rockaway; Black-throated Blue, Wilson's and Nashville, all reported, same place, September 23. Warbler flights were poor over eastern Long Is-

land with one or two Orange-crowned records in mid-October; a tremendous flight of Myrtle Warblers and numbers of Palm and Yellow Palm Warblers observed. There appear to be few records of stragglers coming in late October.

Blackbirds to Sparrows and Finches:

Large flight of Red-wings and Grackles, October 22 with large flocks singing in leafy treetops, Seaford, Wantagh. Scarlet Tanager left early; few Cardinal reports as fall advanced; one record, Blue Grosbeak, Westhampton, September 2; records of Dickcissel in mid-September to mid-October, Jones Beach and Montauk. First Junco, Freeport, September 15; first White-throated Sparrow, Idlewild, September 17; maximum White-crowned Sparrow, 40 at Montauk, October 14. Acadian Sharp-tail Sparrow present at Jones Beach, October 14. Two records, one of Clay-colored Sparrow at Jones Beach, September 24 and one of Brewer's Sparrow, Montauk, October 14, were claimed by two different groups of observers. The first and only Lapland Longspur record comes from Jones Beach with one individual on October 8.--John S. Elliott, 3994 Park Ave., Seaford, L. I., New York.

REGION 9--CENTRAL

Fall migration has been quite spotted and varied possibly as a result of unusual weather conditions. Small numbers of Horned Grebe are now in evidence as are Pied-billed Grebe and an occasional Holboell Grebe as of October 22. Great Blue Heron were also present on above date. American Egret were still present in small numbers at Montezuma Marsh on September 30.

A noticeable increase in southward movement of several species of birds such as Grackles, Red-wing Blackbird, Robin Bluebird, and Canada Geese were noted following the first hard freeze about October 15. Canada Geese are now present in fairly large numbers, the first flock being noted October 8. There are still many Grackles, and Red-winged Blackbirds present in the Cayuga and Seneca Lake area. One small flock of Rusty Blackbirds was seen October 22.

Ducks of all species appear to be scarce thus far. Of the species present Redheads and Canvas-backs occur in largest numbers. Baldpate, Pintails, American Golden-eye, Bufflehead, and Ring-necked Duck are present in very limited numbers (October 22). Greater and Lesser Scaup are conspicuously absent. Numerous Coot and a few immature Florida Gallinules were still present at Montezuma and two Greater Yellow-legs were seen October 22. Black-capped Chickadee, Brown Creeper, Golden and Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Catbird, Pipit, and Meadowlark have been seen during the period of October 6-15. Pipits are still present in small flocks, as are Killdeer and Prairie Horned Lark, (October 19-22).

Warbler migration has been light and continued over an extended period. A few dates are as follows: August 31, Black-throated Blue, Cape May, Blackburnian, Bay-breasted, Western Palm, and Wilson's were reported. September 30, Myrtle and Chestnut-sided Warblers were seen. No large waves of migrating warblers have been reported in the central New York area by local observers.

Movement of White-throat and White-crowned Sparrows was noted October 15. An occasional Vesper Sparrow was noted on the same date. Slate-colored Junco also showed up in numbers at this time.--

Foster L. Gambrell, 288 La Fayette Ave., Geneva, N. Y.

CLUB PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

News from Buffalo Audubon Society, Inc., tells of their recent affiliation as a branch member of the National Audubon Society. To this may be added that they are also members of the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences, the Conservation Forum of Western New York, the S. P. C. A. and the Pymatuning Group.

Each year together with the Buffalo Ornithological Society a scholarship is given to a deserving person to the Audubon Nature Camp at Hog Island, Maine.

With the Buffalo Museum the Society brings the Screen Tour series each year. If any Federation members are in

the vicinity of Buffalo they are invited to attend these 3 P.M. lectures at the museum in Humboldt Park:

January 28, 1951---R. T. Peterson
March 11, 1951---Laura Reynolds
April 1, 1951---Olin S. Pettingill

In the near future a sanctuary of our own is planned for this Western New York Area.--Francis T. Tilley, President Buffalo Audubon Society, Inc.

A BRONX RIVER PARKWAY NATURE TRAIL

On May 6, 1950 the Scarsdale Audubon Society formally opened a Nature Trail along the Bronx River Parkway. Some 26 horizontal-cut oak slab signs were lettered, varnished and placed on trees by a qualified tree surgeon so that no injury to trees would result. Other signs were mounted on angle irons sunk in concrete along the trail. The signs identify trees and birds found on the trail. In addition to these, temporary signs, which can be easily changed, identify seasonal plants along the route. Of importance also is the map which was made of the trail and the committee which was appointed to regularly patrol and maintain the area. School children and scouts, with supervision, have already made use of this project which shows that it is of real benefit to the community. Mrs. Joseph Jordan, Scarsdale Audubon Society, Scarsdale, New York.

WOOD HAVEN SANCTUARY

Two members of the Sassafras Bird Club--Mrs. Powell and Mr. Elwood--made a survey of birds, plants and animals living at the newly acquired Amsterdam Girl Scout Camp. This Camp, Wood Haven, is 100 acres of wooded land containing a small lake and a winding stream and swamp. To win the honor of the Lou Henry Hoover plaque, lists of all types of wild life must be made. The camp lands must be "posted" and several other requirements have to be met. Within two hours the two Sassafras Bird Club representatives helping on the survey identified 48 species of birds to say nothing of wild flowers and other interesting wild life.--Helen N. DeGroff, Sassafras Bird Club, Amsterdam, N. Y.

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