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APPLICATION for membership should be sent to the chairman of the membership committee:

MISS AUDREY L. WREDE
3109 BEVERLY RD.
BROOKLYN 26, N. Y.
YOUR PRESIDENT SAYS . . .

The celebration of the Sixth Annual Convention of the Federation at Bear Mountain, with the Rockland Audubon Society, affords us an opportunity to see another spectacularly beautiful area of our State. So far, each of our meetings has provided us with a field trip in a different section, so that most major avifaunal regions of our State have now been visited — except for the Adirondacks, the Catskills and the St. Lawrence Valley.

At present, I believe, all the regional bird clubs of New York are members of (or have applied for membership in) the Federation. A number of clubs have been organized in the past two or three years, so that today all our larger urban communities — other than Utica — are served by local clubs.

Interest in birds is constantly increasing, yet suitable areas for their study are even more rapidly diminishing. Today in our Country the great danger to birds is not so much intentional killing as extirpation by destruction of essential habitats. The variety of wildlife with which Nature endowed our continent cannot be preserved without preservation of the habitats on which these creatures depend. In New York the important habitats most reduced and threatened are open marshes, wooded swamps, and rich deciduous woodlands.

The spread of urbanization presents an ever-growing problem while at the same time it creates an urgent need. It becomes more and more difficult to preserve anything approaching wild land in the vicinity of our cities. Yet it is our urban population, surrounded by steel and concrete, that most needs the revivifying contacts with Nature. The fact that interest in wildlife has grown at the same time that our population has become more urban reflects an obscure consciousness of this need.

The value of the Federation in helping to mobilize nature-lovers throughout the State regarding legislative problems has already been repeatedly demonstrated. The need for vigilance is ever-present. Some short-sighted materialists continue to see in a virgin forest only lost lumbering opportunities. There are those who would turn our parks and reserves into bench-bordered boulevards containing nothing wilder than a golf course.

While many of these problems must be met on the local level by local organizations, the Federation provides a means by which information and techniques may be exchanged among the various clubs. Several of them have had experience with these problems.

On the scientific side, the Federation committee engaged in planning a modern State birdbook has made a great deal of progress. The stage of gathering and appraising records will soon be reached. The Kingbird offers an opportunity for stimulating and aiding the collection of information. While science is its own justification, it should not be forgotten that people appreciate best what they know. Hence the recording and dissemination of ornithological knowledge, though done for its own sake, serves also a useful conservation purpose.

The opportunities for cooperative studies and inter-club activities have not yet been adequately used. There can be no doubt that increasingly the Federation will serve as a clearing house to facilitate such cooperation.

Eugene Eisenmann

2 The Kingbird
Directors of the Rockland Audubon Society approached with some diffi-
dence the idea of playing host to the Federation's sixth annual meeting. There was some feeling that we might not be able to match what other
localities have been able to offer, either in housing or in birdlife. However,
the society's early qualms have since been forgotten, and enthusiasm is
building up in their place.

The problem of accommodations, both for overnight guests and for the
Federation's convention program, has been solved, we believe most hap-
ply, by arrangements with the Bear Mountain Inn. In an ideally sylvan and
mountainous setting overlooking the Hudson as it passes through the High-
lands, this inn has long been a showplace. The cuisine alone attracts people
for 25 miles around. We were pleased to find that the Inn management was
cooperative, that the rates were not so high as we had supposed, that ample
accommodations for the convention could be assured.

John Martin, manager of the Inn, has set aside 35 double rooms, with
twin beds and with bath, and five single rooms with bath, at rates of $10.50
per person for the double rooms and $11 per person for the single rooms.
These rates include all meals — please note. Inasmuch as the meal allowances
figure out to $6.50 a day, the room rate compares favorably with that of city
hotels which lack the attractive environment of Bear Mountain.

There is also a limited number of overnight cabins within a few miles of
Bear Mountain, but it would be most desirable for the convention timetable,
of course, to have everyone under one roof.

As for the birdlife, Rockland Audubon cannot provide a spectacular
ocean or lake shore, but it does contain birds that may be of interest to
visitors from other areas. The field trip on Sunday, May 24, will be split
into small parties, each with an itinerary that should provide a fair chance
at such birds as: Peregrine Falcon, Turkey Vulture, Carolina Wren, Tufted
Titmouse, possibly Mockingbird, Cardinal, Worm-eating Warbler, Hooded
Warbler, Blue-winged and Golden-winged Warblers and their hybrids.

The program will open on Friday evening, May 22, with early registra-
tion — all activities are at the Bear Mountain Inn — and committee meetings
of the Federation.

On Saturday morning, May 23, the Federation Council will meet. Those
not attending the Council meeting may choose between a field trip into the
nearby areas that are best for Golden-winged, Lawrence's and Brewster's
Warblers, or a guided tour of the Bear Mountain Trailside Museums (his-
torical, geology, mammals, reptiles and birds), or independent tours to West
Point, only a few miles away.

The general convention will be at 1:45 p.m. Saturday. The program
will be devoted chiefly to papers on various ornithological subjects prepared
by Federation members. John C. Orth, Palisades Interstate Park naturalist
and chairman of the program committee, will introduce the papers.

At 7 o'clock Saturday evening, the annual dinner will be held in the
Inn's banquet hall. Two features are planned: a colored motion picture
film of wildlife in the Bear Mountain area by Mr. Orth and an address on
bird-study by Charles E. Mohr, director of the Audubon Nature Center at
Greenwich, Conn., who is well-known to most members at least by name.

A roast Vermont turkey dinner with fresh fruit cocktail, cranberry sauce, vegetables, green salad, strawberry shortcake, and beverage will be served at the annual banquet. The price will be $5, including gratuity. The box lunch during the field trip will include Virginia ham and chicken sandwiches, cheese crackers, a Delicious apple, and coffee, for $1.50.

Tickets for both the annual banquet and the field trip box luncheon must be ordered by May 18 at the latest. Send order and remittance to Rockland Audubon Society West Nyack, N. Y. Tickets will be delivered to you when you register at convention headquarters.

Persons who are planning to go on the May 24 field trip must give notice by the previous evening, May 23. This is necessary for proper planning of transportation and leadership.

The annual field trip will be on Sunday, May 24. The Inn will serve breakfast at 5 a. m., and we hope to be on the road before 6. In parties of not more than about four carloads, each with at least one leader and some with auxiliary leaders versed in plants and flowers, the field trips will cover southern Rockland County. At noon, all parties will rendezvous at Stony Point Battlefield Park for a picnic luncheon. The Inn will deliver box lunches to the site — including urns of fresh coffee. In the afternoon, those who wish may continue on a field trip in the northern portion of the county. The interior of the Interstate Park should yield Canada and Blackburnian Warblers on their nesting grounds and probably Brown Creeper and Pileated Woodpecker.

Rockland Audubon Society is making every effort to hold the registration fee to no more than $1.50. Registration fee will not be required of persons attending only the annual dinner or the field trip, or both. The annual dinner, turkey with all the trimmings, will be $5 per plate, including gratuity, and the box luncheon for the field trip picnic will be $1.50 or $2, yet to be determined. Tickets for both the dinner and the box luncheon must be purchased no later than when you register.

Advance registration at $1.50 per person may be sent to Mrs. John C. Orth, Trailside Museum, Bear Mountain, N. Y.

Bear Mountain is at the crossroads of U. S. Routes 9-W and 6. It can be reached by West Shore Railroad trains and by the New York-Poughkeepsie buses of the Mohawk Bus Line, as well as by automobile.

THE YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER IN NEW YORK

By KENNETH C. PARKES

The Yellow-throated Warbler (Dendroica dominica) is a species of southeastern North America which has found its way to New York upon a few occasions. The two subspecies which have been reported from our state are the eastern form, D. d. dominica, and the so-called Sycamore Warbler, D. d. albilora. These two subspecies breed east and west of the Appalachians, respectively. This paper will summarize the known records of both subspecies in New York, and discuss the problem of subspecific identification in the field.

Dendroica dominica dominica appears to have been collected in New
York three times. The earliest recorded specimen is that listed by Dutcher (1893. *Auk*, 10: 277) and cited by many subsequent authors. It was taken some time in the middle of the last century at Crow Hill, Brooklyn, by John Akhurst. Specimen No. 440264 in the American Museum of Natural History is presumably this same bird. It is labeled merely "Long Island" and is attributed to "N. Pike". John Akhurst was a collector for Col. Nicholas Pike, an important figure in the history of Long Island ornithology. The specimen cited by Dutcher was in the collection of the Long Island Historical Society, and AMNH 440264 bears the label of that institution. It is a male in an excellent state of preservation.

The other two specimens of *D. d. dominica* recorded from New York were taken at Oyster Bay, July 8, 1907 (Eaton, 1914. *Birds of N. Y.*, part 2: 424) and at Sag Harbor, July 15, 1933 (Cruickshank, 1952. *Birds Around N. Y. City*: 394). I have examined neither of these specimens.

I have found the following published sight records of Yellow-throated Warblers; as indicated by Cruickshank (loc. cit.), "it is possible that some of these records refer to the Sycamore Warbler"; Prospect Park, April 28-29, 1917; Orient, June 2, 1924; Mamaroneck, May 18-21, 1925; Central Park, April 29-May 1, 1926; Grassy Sprain, May 28, 1933; Hewlett, April 27-28, 1939; Central Park, April 23, 1943; Prospect Park, May 10, 1946; Pelham Bay golf course, April 28, 1951; Far Rockaway, September 16, 1951; Prospect Park, April 23, 1952. It is perhaps noteworthy that only a single fall date is included in this list, although many of us admittedly concentrate on warbler-finding in the spring rather than the fall. I have seen no records from beyond the New York City region except the Spring Lake bird mentioned below.

The Sycamore Warbler, *D. d. albilara*, has been reported twice in New York, both sight records. Wright (1919. *Auk*, 36: 580-581 saw a bird near Spring Lake, northern Cayuga County, May 23, 1919, which he believed to be *albilara*. Cruickshank (loc. cit.) listed a sight record from Prospect Park, Brooklyn, April 30, 1940. There exists a New York specimen of *albilara* which seems to have been generally overlooked. This bird, No. 240958 in the American Museum of Natural History, is a brightly colored female which was found dead in Central Park, New York City, on April 18, 1919. The specimen bears the label of J. M. Valentine, but it is not expressly stated that Valentine was the collector. It would seem highly probable that this bird is the one which was reported as a sight record the day before, listed by Cruickshank (loc. cit.) among the sight records not assigned to either subspecies. The Sycamore Warbler is thus entitled to a place on the list of New York birds according to the standards of those who demand that a specimen must be taken before a species or subspecies may be admitted to full standing.
As indicated by the number of subspecific sight identifications in the literature, there has long existed a widespread opinion that *Dendroica dominica* is one of the few species whose subspecies might safely be identified in the field. Roger T. Peterson, whose general conservatism on the question of subspecific field identification is highly commendable, stated in the text of his book (1947, *Field Guide to the Birds*: 197) that the Sycamore Warbler “can be told at close range by the white instead of yellow lores (between eye and bill).” Many field identifications have undoubtedly been made in good faith on this basis; unfortunately Peterson's caution that “this is not a constant character” is buried in an appendix (p. 268). Peterson and several other authors have mentioned that some individuals of *albilora* have distinctly yellow lores. The converse is also true. I examined the extensive series of this species in the American Museum of Natural History, and soon came to the conclusion that the color of the lores, emphasized in so much of the literature, is actually the least satisfactory of the three principal characters which separate *dominica* and *albilora*. Many individuals of *dominica* had so little yellow on the lores that I had to step to the window and examine the birds closely in bright light to detect the yellow tinge. Some of these specimens had originally been identified as *albilora* (obviously on the basis of color of lores) and then reidentified. The lores of these birds would without question appear white under field conditions. In view of the variability of this character, it is unwise to assign an individual bird seen in the field, especially outside the normal range of the species, to a definite subspecific population on the basis of apparent color of lores. It would therefore appear that *dominica* and *albilora* are not separable in the field, since the two more consistent diagnostic characters, size of bill and amount of white on inner webs of rectrices, are comparative and hardly to be observed except by actual measurement.

I am grateful to Dr. John T. Zimmer for permission to report on the specimens of Yellow-throated Warbler in the collections of the American Museum of Natural History.

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**COOPERATIVE STUDY OF BIRD MIGRATION THROUGH THE USE OF SPRING ARRIVAL DATES**

During the spring of 1951, members of the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology launched a new study of the age-old problem of bird migration. By plotting arrival dates on a map they hoped to discover to what extent spring migration is influenced by the weather and whether or not birds move forward steadily or by occasional long hops.

Observations that spring indicated that the White-throated Sparrow, the only species then under study, moved northward by a series of hops, 7 to 10 days apart and that 300 miles might be covered in one hop. With such distances involved it was decided to increase the area under study. The support of cooperators from the Gulf to southern Canada was enlisted. New species were added — the Mourning Dove, Baltimore Oriole, and Canada Goose.

So encouraging were the results for the spring of 1952 that it was decided greatly to increase the scope of study. For 1953 the help of cooperators...
from the area east of the Rockies to the Atlantic seaboard is being enlisted. Additional species have been added. Of the 28 selected, 14 winter in part or entirely within our borders:

Canada Goose  
Marsh Hawk  
Killdeer  
Mourning Dove  

Yellow-shafted Flicker  
Eastern Phoebe  
Common Crow  
House Wren  

Myrtle Warbler  
American Goldfinch  
Slate-colored Junco  
Chipping Sparrow  

White-throated Sparrow  

(Arrival dates for above species are desired wherever wintering individuals will not be confused with spring migrants; when in doubt report first date anyway.)

An additional 14 winter to the south of us:

Common Nighthawk  
Chimney Swift  
Ruby-throated Hummingbird  
Eastern Kingbird  
Eastern Wood Pewee  

Barn Swallow  
Purple Martin  
Wood Thrush  
Black and White Warbler  
Yellow Warbler  

American Redstart  
Baltimore Oriole  
Rose-breasted Grosbeak  
Indigo Bunting  

The arrival date only is desired for all species listed with the exception of the White-throat and Canada Goose. These latter are being studied in more detail. For them the following information is desired: dates of increases or decreases, main flights, date of departure of last birds, or, if possible, daily counts.

If you are already keeping arrival dates, we will appreciate having your 1953 dates for the species listed. If there is still time to obtain arrival dates for late migrants, please send them to us. The study will continue for at least five years so if you haven’t heard about the project in time this year please plan to send in your reports for the spring of 1954 and thereafter.

Send all reports either to your regional Audubon Field Notes Editor or to Mr. Chandler S. Robbins, Patuxent Research Refuge, Laurel, Maryland. A postcard listing species and arrival dates should be sufficient.

We are interested not only in your records but also in your support in finding additional cooperators. We should emphasize that we want the individual reports of each cooperator in a region and not local compilations of many records.

Already an able group of ornithologists are acting as advisors to this program. Yearly announcements will be forthcoming in many ornithological publications as to the progress of the study. The final goal is to interpret properly the effect of weather upon bird migration.

James H. Zimmerman, John V. Dennis, Chandler S. Robbins

A SAPSUCKER - GRAY SQUIRREL RELATIONSHIP

The holes bored by the Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (Sphyrapicus v. varius) often attract sap-loving insects, but it is not often that other vertebrates are found feeding on the sap. On April 23, 1953, I observed a gray squirrel, (Sciurus carolinensis leucotis) about fifteen feet from the ground on the side of a shagbark hictory tree in Washington Park, Albany. The squirrel appeared to be licking the side of the tree. Closer observation revealed that
it was lapping up the sap which was running from a series of freshly-made holes of the sapsucker. The sapsucker was proceeding up the tree some 20 feet above the squirrel, and, as I watched, the squirrel moved up the tree to more recently made, and presumably more productive, holes. At no time did it appear that the squirrel was driving the sapsucker away from newly bored holes. The sap was, however, flowing copiously from the holes, and it is possible that the squirrel had originally chased the sapsucker from fresh holes before I appeared. Although there are many other squirrels in the park, and although both squirrels and sapsuckers were common on the morning in question, I saw no other squirrels taking advantage of this source of food.

Gray squirrels are known to love sap, and are frequently seen licking sap from the spiles of tapped sugar maples. This particular individual had adapted himself to a new source of temporarily abundant food, without apparent disadvantage to the sapsucker which was providing him with this food.

Allen H. Benton
New York State College for Teachers
Albany, New York

NEWS AND NOTES FROM MEMBER CLUBS

Sullivan County Audubon Society

Some of our members are planning to again take part in the Lunar migration count of returning birds during the months of March, April and May. The records will be sent as before to the University of Louisiana to be added to their general Spring Lunar count.

On April 12th, which has been designated as "Bird Day", our members have arranged for two public window displays. These will consist of several species of birds mounted, which are being loaned to the club. We also plan to show bird banding material, bird houses and feeders together with related articles on bird conservation. The Sullivan County National Bank in Liberty has very kindly offered us the use of one of their large front windows for the entire week and we hope that a similar arrangement can be made in Monticello. The result of these displays should be a greatly awakened interest in birding specifically and in conservation as a whole.

Wilber Prince Carr, Treasurer

The Linnaean Society of New York

The Linnaean Society of New York celebrated its 75th anniversary on March 10, 1953 at a meeting attended by many old-timers. The Linnaean Society is the second oldest ornithological organization in America, having been founded on March 7, 1878. To a remarkable extent, the facilities, organizations and books which eastern bird students now take for granted were the product of Linnaean members.

At the meeting John Kieran acted as toastmaster, and the speakers (selected from various periods in the society's history) were Beecher S. Bowdish, Roger T. Peterson, James P. Chapin, and Ludlow Griscom — all of them Linnaean members since their youth.

A number of door prizes were distributed, consisting of current natural history books by Linnaean authors, plus one mounted Snowy Owl — a victim of the days before this species was protected.
REGIONAL REPORTS FOR WINTER AND EARLY SPRING
MIGRATION IN NEW YORK STATE

REGION 1 — WESTERN NEW YORK

The winter of 1952-1953 was extremely mild — so mild indeed that it will take its place with the winters of 1889-90, 1912-13, 1918-19, 1931-32, and 1948-49. The effect of such warm winters upon bird life is clearly visible.

Loons — Ducks:

A single Eared Grebe was found December 19 off Squaw Island, Buffalo (Mitchell) and seen by several observers. In the same spot a Red-throated Loon was observed on January 1 (Nathan). Five Whistling Swan spent the entire winter off the south end of Grand Island. Gadwall, American Scoter (very rare in winter), White-winged Scoter, and Hooded Merganser were occasionally seen on the boundary waters, and two Harlequins were present all winter at the Falls. A maximum of 14,000 Canvasback was reported off Grand Island in January, and 10,000 in the South Harbor in February; and 6000 Greater Scaup were counted on the river on January 17. Noticeably absent were Ring-necked Ducks, which were reported many times during the winters of 1931-32 and 1948-49.

Hawks — Owls:

Rough-legs were almost completely absent from all their usual haunts except the plain south of Lake Ontario, where as many as eight were seen (January 25, B. O. S. trip). A Red-shouldered Hawk, very rare here in winter, was reported from Cheektowaga January 6 by Knox. Turkeys were reported four times during the winter from Allegany State Park. A Virginia Rail from Burnt Ship Creek on January 3 (Nathan et all), five Coot records, and a February 24 Killdeer record from Jamestown (Parker) were outstanding.

The Kingbird
The northern gulls were well represented throughout the winter. Glaucous and Iceland Gulls were reported frequently, and as many as four Kumlien’s were seen on a single day. Bonaparte’s Gulls remained on the river all winter, as many as 3,000 being observed at Lewiston on February 22. Save for the winters of 1931-32 and 1948-49, this is without known precedent. Ring-bills also were present in greater than usual numbers. A single Little Gull was noted in the flock of Bonaparte’s at Lewiston on February 22, and the last Common Tern was noted at Beaver Island December 7 (Hall).

Our only Snowy Owl record was of a bird which was seen February 14 and 15 at South Harbor.

Swifts — Shrikes:

Feeding station operators reported it a poor winter for Chickadees. It was, however, rather better than average for Red-breasted Nuthatches, and a wintering Brown Thrasher in Buffalo and Carolina Wren in Woodlawn were noteworthy. There were many records of wintering Robins, but only one of the Gray Shrike.

Vireos — Warblers:

Again Wolfing supplied our only record of wintering warblers — two Myrtles at Alden on January 24.

Blackbirds — Sparrows:

Wintering icterids were reported rather regularly. Of extreme interest was the record of a Baltimore Oriole at Niagara Falls from December 31 to January 4 (Mallam, fide Heilborn). One of the outstanding features of the winter was the great number of Redpoll records; the largest number reported on a single day was the 760 noted at Chestnut Ridge on December 28 (Buffalo Audubon Society census). Both Crossbills were reported, but sparingly.

Clark S. Beardslee
132 McKinley Ave.
Kenmore 17, New York

REGION 2 — SOUTHERN TIER — PART 1

In all respects this was a mild winter in the Southern Tier. Snows were infrequent, light, and didn’t stay on the ground. Temperatures went down to zero only two or three times, and most of the time the ground was not frozen, at least not to any depth. Natural food was plentiful. However, spring migrants were about on schedule, although a few individuals put in an early appearance.

Loons — Ducks:

On February 15, the Third Annual Finger Lakes Waterfowl Census was taken and showed an increase in numbers on Cayuga (as on all other lakes) over the preceding two years. Although Montezuma was frozen over, ice extended out only 300 feet at the south end of Cayuga, and it was felt that the mild winter was responsible for the increase in ducks, especially Blacks, of which species 6389 were counted on Cayuga alone. Other significant counts were 181 Horned Grebes, 3209 Canvasbacks, 115 Old-squaws, and 59 Buffleheads, on Cayuga. Only 3 Loons, 3 Ring-necked Ducks, 11 Pintails, and no Baldpates, were located. The total of 2 Canada Geese reported is not indicative of the actual number wintering in the area this year, as flocks were frequently reported. Cayuga boasted the highest number of Coot — 800 being counted, a good increase over last year.

In the Binghamton area, Black Ducks and American Mergansers were present in normal numbers (Bemont), but no Mallards. Dates other waterfowl were noted in that area are: 2 Pintails, Whitney Pt. Dam, March 7 (Rising, Harris); Baldpate, March 8; Canvasback, March 1. In the Ithaca area, a Wood Duck was seen at Danby Beaver Pond Mar. 15 (Spiegel); the first one at Binghamton was 3/22. A Gadwall at Montezuma 3/14; Pied-billed Grebe 3/15; Holboell’s Grebe 3/29, 3 miles north of King Ferry (Seeber).

The Kingbird
Hawks — Owls:

There was nothing unusual reported among the Hawks this winter. One or more Marsh Hawks were seen each week, an occasional Red-tail, several Rough-legs. A Goshawk was seen over the Rifle Range near Ithaca 3/12 (J. Layne). The first Red-shouldered Hawk was reported over the Cornell campus 3/14 (W. J. Hamilton III).

The Woodcock arrived 3/18, Swanson farm (Spiegel). In the Elmira area, a Wilson’s Snipe was seen 3/15 (Welles). The first Killdeer around Binghamton was reported 3/21 (Bemont).

The Gull population was lower this winter, and it is interesting that in the Ithaca area, Ring-bills outnumbered Herring Gulls, the reverse being true around Binghamton. Great Black-backed Gulls were reported regularly on Cayuga. A Glaucous Gull was reported on Cayuga on Mar. 10 (Murray), and an Iceland Gull was seen at Myers Pt. 2/18 by a group.

Few Owls were reported. One Horned Owl nest contained young 3/21 near Binghamton (Loomis).

Swifts — Shrikes:

A Belted Kingfisher spent the winter on Fall Creek near Etna as it has for several years (Hoyt). Binghamton reported one 1/17, the next 2/20. That area reports Flickers for 12/30 and again 2/13. The Pileated Woodpecker continued to visit the residential areas of East Ithaca. Two Red-headed Woodpeckers were seen near Binghamton Dec. 21 (Moore).


A Red-breasted Nuthatch spent winter at feeder of Mrs. C. L. Clark in Ithaca. Brown Thrasher reported at Cornell Orchard 2/6 (T. Savage). Waxwings were common all winter in Ithaca area, became common middle of March in Binghamton.

Vireos — Warblers:

Wintering Warblers near Ithaca included the Northern Yellow-throat on Jan 1 reported in last issue, by Barbehenn, and the Jan. 12 report of a Myrtle in Stewart Park on Jan. 12 (Bocchet al). Mrs. Russell Easton of Binghamton had a Myrtle at her feeder for a while in early January, and the L. A. Davises of the same city reported a flock of Myrtles in late February. Mr. Davis reported 4 Cape Mays with the Myrtles on Feb. 23. His careful description seems to leave little doubt, yet since this would be a first winter record for the state, it probably should not stand without a specimen or photograph.

Blackbirds — Sparrows:

5 Meadowlarks were seen 1/9 at Slaterville (Spiegel). Reported 3/15 at Binghamton (C. and R. Harris). A female Redwing spent month of February at Bemont’s feeder in Binghamton, and 5 Redwings and 2 Cowbirds were seen in Watkins Glen 2/12 by Mrs. Champion. Migrating Redwings appeared at Binghamton 2/28, 39 of them along Fall Creek 3/3 (Hoyt), and banded resident Redwings at feeder in Etna 3/20 (Hoyt). 69 Cowbirds at Myers Point on 2/8 (Rosche).

A Baltimore Oriole was reported at Montour Falls by Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Kivela 1/25. Rusty Blackbird at Cincinnatus 3/13 (Mrs. E. Burlingame).

No Evening Grosbeaks around Binghamton all winter. Scattered reports of individuals near Ithaca, one flock of 30 at Slaterville 3/3 (Terpenning), 20 at a feeder in Groton (Metzgar) in March. The Grosbeaks do not seem to have come in numbers west of the Utica-Rome area.

Goldfinches and Pine Siskins have been common all winter throughout the area. This has definitely been a Redpoll year with several flocks of 500 reported, and one flock of 2,000 or more 2/21 near Ouaquaga (H. and G. Marsi, Sheffield).

Crossbill reports include: 5 Red Crossbills at IBM Country Club 3/22 (Harris), 5 at Beebe Lake, Ithaca on 3/5 (Bock), 2 at Westernville 3/14 (May). White-winged Crossbills 3/21 at Westernville (May) and a flock of White-wings at Freeville Bog 2/5 (Long et al).

The Kingbird

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Among the Sparrows, Whitethroats, Songs and Swamps wintered locally in small numbers. Vesper Sparrow, north of King Ferry 3/29 (Seeber); Field Sparrow, Binghamton 3/22 and Etna 3/23; Savannah Sparrow 3/22 Binghamton (White); Fox Sparrow, 3/15 Ithaca (A. Lane), 3/17 Binghamton (Bemont), 3/17 West Berne (McAlpin).

Resident banded Song Sparrows back the third week in March (Hoyt). Few Snow Buntings reported all winter.

Mrs. Southgate Hoyt
"Aviana"
Etna, New York

REGION 2 — SOUTHERN TIER — PART 2

The winter just past has been the mildest this writer has experienced in the twenty years he has lived here. The home thermometer registered zero but once, and there was a minimum of snow — an occasional fall of one to three inches, which in each case remained but few days. Such weather conditions, I think, kept many of our waterfowl, especially, wintering farther north, as there was a positive dearth on Keuka Lake here, although there was a more normal complement on Seneca, the upper end of which lies in our reporting area. There were more unusual records of wintering land birds: Towhee, Baltimore Oriole, Swamp and Fox Sparrows. Loons — Duck:

For the past two winters Loons have been scarce on the lakes here, only an occasional individual being seen. On the weekend of April 12, however, Miss Ellis and a group from the Keuka Park club met upon a migration wave on Waneta and Lamoka lakes, small bodies lying east of Keuka Lake, which included over 100 Loons, and several dozen each of Horned and Pied-billed Grebes. About 100 Black Ducks with a few Mallards were on the basin at Branchport till the middle of March, when they moved out. Seneca Lake had quite a concentration of Redheads throughout the winter, with a few Scaups, Golden-eyes, Canvasbacks and Old-squaws. Hooded Mergansers were present all winter here and there, but American Mergansers were scarce; Mrs. Carter at Avoca saw 7 on the Cochocton river, January 20. Red-breasted Mergansers appeared the last of March.

Hawks — Owls:

Cooper’s and Sharp-skinned Hawks were observed frequently throughout the winter in the Elmira area, with an occasional Red-tail and Red-shouldered Hawk. The writer saw one Rough-legged Hawk, February 23. Sparrow Hawks were well distributed over the entire region. Mrs. McMurty saw a Wild Turkey fly across the road about 6 miles south of Wellsville on November 28, flushed by a deer hunter. She writes that they have been seen occasionally for the past two years, sometimes as many as five in a group, and appear to be on the increase.

A few Coot wintered at Dresden, Branchport and Hammondsport. A pair of Killdeer wintered at the outlet of Keuka Lake where it empties into Seneca Lake. Th outlet has built up a small delta of sandbars, which forms one of the most interesting spots for winter bird observations, and it is there that we have picked up Purple Sandpipers for three winters, although absent this winter. A few Great Black-backed Gulls were found regularly at this point. Mourning Doves wintered in scattered flocks over the entire southern tier area, numbering from single individuals to flocks of two dozen. A small flock of Short-eared Owls spent several weeks after the first of the year, a half mile east of Benton Centre in Yates County.

Swifts — Shrikes:

The writer saw a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker on March 13, an early date here. A Phoebe was reported by the Elmira group on March 18, and Tree Swallow on March 25. They have also found the Tufted Titmouse in several new areas near Elmira. Robins have been observed here and there throughout the winter, although not in the numbers of a year ago. The writer found a Hermit Thrush on March 13. There have been several winter reports of Ruby-crowned Kinglets: Elmira on January 30, Avoca on January 20, and a late fall record, November 30 in Wellsville. Waxwings were practically absent during the winter, but flocks of Cedars began to appear in the Keuka area late in March. The Elmira club reports a Shrike on February 10 at Horseheads, and another on March 6. The former probably was a Northern Shrike at that date, while Mrs. Welles writes that the latter was
smaller, and was probably a Migrant. My own first record for Migrant Shrike is March 24th.

Vireos — Warblers:
An immature Cape May Warbler spent a week early in December at Wellsburg.

Blackbirds — Sparrows:
Meadowlarks appeared near Branchport on March 13, and in the Elmira area on March 18. A Baltimore Oriole (sex not stated) fed in a yard in Montour Falls where some unharvested grapes provided food till they were gone, when it visited the rest of the winter at various feeding stations in the neighborhood. First date for Bronzed Grackle was March 6, at Elmira.

Evening Grosbeaks were far less common than a year ago, but a few were observed at various dates through the winter at Watkins Glen, Elmira and Wellsville. A female Dickcissel wintered just over the state line at Athens, Pa., where the Susquehanna Audubon Society maintains feeders.

There has been a scattering of Pine Siskins over the area, and this has been very definitely a Redpoll winter. Large flocks have been observed generally over the region. A Towhee spent the winter on the premises of Mrs. F. A. Cole in Penn Yan, another at Pine Valley, and a third for about a week in January south of Elmira. Mrs. Welles at Big Flats saw two Savannah Sparrows on March 24, one of which was in song. The writer banded a Fox Sparrow on January 8, which remained for another month, and another spent the winter at Mrs. Cole’s in Penn Yan. I also banded a Swamp Sparrow on February 1, and it was retrapped several times in the next few weeks. Lapland Longspurs and Snow Buntings have been present over the region in mixed as well as flocks of the two species.

Charles J. Spiker
Branchport, New York

REGION 3 — LAKE ONTARIO

The mild winter continued with little snowfall and temperatures as high as 50°F. in January and February. With little melting snow, the fields and woods were unusually dry for March.

Loons — Ducks:
Several Holboell’s Grebes remained at Sodus Bay and the lake shore from January till the present writing. Pied-billed Grebe and a Great Blue Heron were reported as early as January.

A flock of 125 Canada Geese and several Pintail wintered at Shore Acres, the corn fields furnishing food and the nearby lake providing shelter from their enemies. By the first of March the flock had grown to 1000 and a Blue Goose had joined them (Neil Moon). Baldpate and one European Widgeon were also reported from Shore Acres on the same day.

Two hundred Canvasback were reported at Sodus Bay from the 31st of January through February. Two Whistling Swan were seen at the lakeshore as early as March 24.

Hawks — Owls:
Migrating hawks drifted by on the lake shore through all of March but no large flights were seen until Barry, Listman, and VanBeurden reported 105 Red-tailed Hawks on the 19th of March. They recorded a total of nine species of hawks on that one day.

On the 15th of March The Genesee Ornithological Society was rewarded with a view of a Golden Eagle at Hamlin Beach Park, and on the 22nd of March, Bieber and Listman observed another migrating Golden at Manitou Beach.

An early report for the Bald-Eagle was 7 Feb. on the west lake shore.

A Glaucous and an Iceland Gull remained at the lake shore through January and February. The first Woodcock of the year was observed at the Burroughs-Audubon Nature Station on March 22 (McKinney); the first Short-eared Owl on March 12; and the first Saw-whet Owl on March 21.

The Kingbird
Swifts — Shrikes:
Three Red-bellied and a Red-headed Woodpecker were observed at Scottsville on January 18 on the G. O. S. hike.
A pair of Carolina and two Long-billed Marsh Wren wintered at Tryon Park and on January 15 we received a report of a Mockingbird on Latta Road. Two Hermit Thrush were regularly reported from Durand-Eastman Park in January and February.
The first Pheobe was seen on the 23rd of February, but the main group of migrants didn't arrive till the 18th of March. Tree Swallows became abundant along the lake after March 15.
Crows could be seen migrating along the lake shore in large flocks from the 12th to the 22nd of March and up to 2500 were reported on the 15th. Most of these birds were flying westward in just the opposite direction of our hawk migration.
Robins appeared in numbers on March 12 and Bluebirds on March 13.
Vireos — Warblers:
Myrtle Warbler was observed wintering at Durand (VanBurden) and a Northern Water Thrush was seen on the 7th and 21st of February at Tryon Park (O'Hara).
Blackbirds — Sparrows:
A flock of 30 Red-wings, 8 Rusty Blackbirds, a Bronzed Grackle, and 10 Cowbirds were all reported from the lakeshore as early as January.
Both a Hoary Redpoll from Island Cottage Woods and a Towhee from Long Pond Woods were reported on January 3.
Especially interesting is the flock of 100 Lapland Longspurs and 42 Snow Buntings seen at Shore Acres on March 15 by a group of birders on a Genesee Ornithological Society field trip.

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REGION 4 — ST. LAWRENCE
The winter was generally mild, with no prolonged cold spells, and was notable particularly for lack of snow. Watertown had the least snowfall in 50 years. Thaws were frequent and the ground was bare on several occasions during the winter.

Loons — Ducks:
A Brunnich Murre was killed at the Dexter marsh on Dec. 7.
Both White-winged and Surf Scoters were seen at Sandy Pond on Nov. 29 (Schneider).
Three species of grebes, Horned, Holboell's, and Pied Billed were present at Oswego Harbor during the winter (Scheider).
A Coot was seen at Oswego Harbor during February (Hileman).
The following winter records were also obtained at Oswego Harbor, Old Squaw, Hooded Merganser, Bufflehead, Canvasback.

Hawks — Owls:
A few wintering Rough-legged Hawks have been reported.
Iceland Gull, one at Oswego Harbor, March 1 (Scheider).

Swifts — Shrikes:
Kingfisher, one remained into January at Colton (St. Lawrence Co.).
Pileated Woodpecker, apparently on the increase in the vicinity of Gouverneur.

Blackbirds — Sparrows:
Cowbird, a few wintered in Northern N. Y. Reported in January and February from St. Lawrence Co.
Meadowlark, one seen January 14 at Great Bend, Jefferson Co.
Cardinal, a male of this species spent the winter near Morristown.
Redpoll, present throughout the winter season, most numerous in March.
Evening Grosbeak, rather scarce during the early part of winter, much more numerous in February and March.

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REGION 5 — ADIRONDACK

In general the Adirondack area had another mild winter with poor snowfall. However, the most central parts — the Lake Placid and Saranac Lake areas — had the hardest winter since 1947-48. Temperatures were consistently lower than for several years and snowfall was decidedly the heaviest in five years. The first heavy snow came November 27th and stayed with us until a thaw in mid-January. During that period some snow fell almost every day.

Loons — Ducks:

Lake Champlain did not freeze over except in isolated bays and small coves.

Snow Geese — December 25th Lesperance had 15 Snow Geese on Lake Champlain, off the mouth of the Salmon River. Ducks were seen in large numbers throughout period off Au Sable Point (Lesperance). These included Mallard, Black Duck, Greater Scaup, Golden-eye and Bufflehead. This failure of the lake to freeze over may account for the fact that Golden-eyes and Mergansers failed to show up in the Saranac River at Saranac Lake (village) in mid-January as they usually do. I have felt that they follow the river up from the lake as it freezes over; the river remains open even during the coldest winters. Migrant Ring-necked Ducks appeared at Tupper Lake between March 23rd and 28th (Amstutz and Kingsbury).

Hawks — Owls:

Ruffed Grouse — Indications of a decline in grouse this winter.

Parasitic Jaeger — This very unusual record was made on December 13th on Lake Champlain at Au Sable Point by Thomas Lesperance. He reports that the bird (along with the Dovekie) appeared following a storm over New England. I am not able to check the nature, date and extent of that disturbance to see if it seems a plausible explanation.

Dovekie — Another very unusual record made by Lesperance on December 13th, on Lake Champlain off Au Sable Point.

Morning Dove — I don't think there is any question that this bird has been infiltrating the central Adirondacks in the past three years. Last year several reports. An early bird at Saranac Lake this year on March 22nd.

Snowy Owl — None this winter.

Larks — Shrikes:

Horned Lark — Considerable flocks came into Northern New York between February 18th and 20th.

Brown Creeper — Seemed perhaps to be more common than most winters. First heard singing on March 5th.

Carolina Wren — The bird which came to the feeder of Mrs. R. E. Mason in Essex in October, was banded November 9th and remained there until December 28th.

Shrikes and Waxwings — None of either reported this winter.

Thrushes — Sparrows:

The first real wave of migrants into central Adirondacks occurred between March 18th and 22nd when Meadowlarks, Red-wings, Grackles, Cowbirds, Bluebirds, Robins, Flicker, Song Sparrows, Juncos came in numbers. Up until the 18th the daily maximum at Saranac Lake had been no higher than 37" but it rose steadily to 55° on the 23rd. This influx of migrants corresponded with the peak of maple sap flow.

Evening Grosbeaks — Only a few birds around at most points during December and first half of January. Then there was a decided increase. Numbers then sustained until March 23rd when they abruptly declined in numbers. It is perhaps significant that this coincided with the rise in temperature which brought in the wave of spring migrants from the south.

Crossbills — Both species have been consistently present in moderate numbers in central Adirondacks throughout winter. On the other hand, Lesperance at Keeseville, near Lake Champlain, complains of a complete lack of the birds. We saw no evidence here of the influx which occurred in the New York area.

Redpolls, Siskins, Snow Buntings — Redpolls in large numbers all winter. Pine Siskins, following the heavy influx in October, the birds declined in numbers with a few flocks around all winter. Snow Buntings, small flocks all winter.

White-throated Sparrow — One bird spent winter at Saranac Lake feeder.

Gordon M. Meade, M. D.
Trudeau, N. Y.
The first three months of the year were all above normal temperature, and March was much above normal in precipitation. January excess temperature averaged 9 degrees, February 8, and March 5, 6. Streams and lakes were open more and earlier than usual, with ducks and gulls not concentrated. Wintering individuals of summer species were above par in kinds and numbers, and most of the truly winter species were absent or scarce. Spring arrivals were much in evidence by early March; will be reported with spring migration report.

**Loons — Ducks:**

A Great Blue Heron was seen repeatedly at Collins Lake through January and February. The first local record of Blue Goose was obtained March 15 on State Farm Road (Van Vorst, Hallenbeck, et al.). There was a flight of 200 Canada Geese February 3 at Niskayuna. An unusual variety of ducks was reported, but in small numbers, and from scattered locations. Thirty Pintails were reported at Vischers Ferry February 24. An Old-squaw was seen at the Troy dam February 20, and two pairs of Hooded Mergansers at Saratoga Lake January 1.

**Hawks — Owls:**

There have been occasional reports of hawks, in some variety. Owls, as usual, were unreported. An unusual record of four Turkey Vultures was obtained March 29 at Inian Ladder (Scotland). Several Bald Eagles were seen in February and March.

**Swifts — Shrikes:**

A Killdeer spent January and February at Collins Lake. A total of seven Great Black-backed Gulls were seen at three locations along the Mohawk February 23 (Yunick) and three at Poentic Kill March 4 (Stone). Although Herring and Ring-billed Gulls were in less than usual numbers, 230 Herring Gulls were at Saratoga Lake February 23. There have been a few scattered reports of Mourning Dove, plus a flock of fifteen at Vischers Ponds January 17. Belted Kingfisher reported February 8 and March 4, and Yellow-shafted Flicker January 11 and March 8. Downy Woodpecker flocked at Vischers Ponds January 17. Canada Jay, rare here, was seen at Delmar March 15 (Van Vorst et al.). American Crow was unusually scarce in December and January; and Winter Wren in less numbers than usual. There were isolated reports of American Robin, one each in December, January and February. Hermit Thrush was reported in January and in February. Golden-crowned Kinglets were fewer than usual, as were Cedar Waxwings.

**Vireos — Sparrows:**

Two Myrtle Warblers on February 23 represent the second local Winter record (Stone). Eastern Meadowlark was recorded on January 1. There were two records of Purple Grackle, two on January 1 and one on January 11. Local flocks of Evening Grosbeaks have been holding out well through March. Purple Finch was scarce, while Common Redpoll and Pine Siskin were observed in unusually large numbers. The shores of Collins Lake harbored four White-throated Sparrows in January and February, and four Swamp Sparrows in January. Five Lapland Long-sprurs were recorded at Niskayuna January 1, and two on February 22 at Six Mile Reservoir.

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Schenectady, New York

**REGION 7 — NEW YORK AND LOWER HUDSON VALLEY**

This winter was one of the mildest on record. Even at the Bear Mountain weather station, 1,300 feet above sea level, the temperature never went down to zero. Snowfall was less than 50% of normal. However, rainfall set new monthly records in January and March; February was six degrees warmer than normal, with more than an inch deficiency in precipitation.

These statistics would scarcely explain the spectacular influx of northern visitors, notably Pine Siskins, Redpolls, and Crossbills. Yet there the northern birds were — all through February and March — with a sprinkling of Evening and Pine Grosbeaks. At the same time, many half-hardy species remained, making it possible though incongruous to list Towhee and Crossbill on the same date.

The Kingbird
Ponds and lakes were frozen over only in Sullivan County and parts of Orange and Putnam Counties. In the northern portion of the region, the usual winter sparrows and finches were down in numbers, perhaps merely dispersed more widely. Juncos, for example, were absent from Sullivan County and Song Sparrows were rare from late fall to mid-March.

**Loons — Ducks:**

Common Loons appeared on Amawalk Reservoir, Westchester County, on Dec. 7 and 20 (Ralph W. Odell, Jr., and Donald R. Fowler). Pied-billed Grebes wintered in small numbers, with a high count of four on Mar. 8 at West Branch Reservoir, Putnam County (Stanley O. Grierson). Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Steinhardt counted 39 Cormorants at Mamaroneck in mid-winter. Six Black-crowned Night Herons at Rye on Jan. 31 were unseasonable (Watson B. Hastings). So were six Pintails at Cross River Reservoir on Dec. 20 (Robert J. Hammerschlag). Ring-necked Ducks wintered in Rockland County in small numbers; Hastings reports them less numerous than formerly on Kensico Reservoir, Westchester. Other ducks, especially Black Ducks and American Mergansers, were abnormally abundant throughout the region. More Hooded Merganser reports than usual were received. Two female Buffleheads visited Mgaup Reservoir, Sullivan County (Wilber P. Carr).

**Hawks — Owls:**

Buteos moved northward early. Many observers in Rockland and Westchester Counties and nearby Fairfield County, Conn., reported a sizable movement on Mar. 16, with counts of as many as 40 or 50 Red-shoulders, Red-tails, and Broad-wings in an hour. An early Broad-wing was seen in Sullivan County on Mar. 7 (Carr). Bald Eagles were normally numerous on the Hudson despite the absence of their customary ice-cake perches; one Bald Eagle on Sullivan County reservoirs bore conspicuous white markings on the back and underparts (partial albino), Carr reports. Several Rough-legged Hawks were recorded during the winter. Turkey Vultures appeared as early as Feb. 26 (Grierson).

On Dec. 27, Mr. and Mrs. Glierson saw a Goshawk at Katonah; an immature of this species had been killed in collision with a picture window in Bedford Hills on Oct. 26 (Grierson).

Ruffed Grouse seemed to be at least normally common in Sullivan County, only slightly down in the Hudson Highlands. Coot and Killdeer wintered in numbers far above average. Woodcock were heard in courtship flight as early as Mar. 15 (Theodore B. Eiben). A flock of 40 Purple Sandpipers at Mamaroneck on Jan. 4 was remarkable (Ken Harte). Great Black-backed Gulls were more common than usual on the Hudson River.

**Swifts — Shrikes:**

Phoebes landed in great numbers about Mar. 20. Tree Swallows came early, Mar. 16 at West Nyack (Mrs. William G. Irving). The Tufted Titmouse is well established in Westchester (Grierson) and wintered for the first time at the Audubon Nature Center near Greenwich, Conn. (Hastings). Red-breasted Nuthatches were reported at only two feeding stations in lower Westchester (Harte). Sullivan County scored its first pair of Carolina Wrens, first seen on Mar. 1 (Carr). A new Mockingbird station for Rockland County is near Viola (Dr. Marjorie R. Hopper). Harte reports a Hermit Thrush for Jan. 17 in Pelham Bay Park, the Bronx. Cedar Waxwings were spottily distributed, sparse in Sullivan and abundant in Rockland and Westchester. The only Northern Shrike record dates from Sullivan County on Mar. 12 (Carr).

**Vireos — Warblers:**

A Baltimore Oriole turned up in Katonah on Dec. 20 (Miss Van Norden, Grierson). An immature male Western Tanager at Franklin, N. J., across the state line from Orange County, attracted much attention until it departed on Mar. 10. Two male Rusty Blackbirds visited feeders in Sullivan County almost daily after Jan. 2 (Carr); the first females arrived Mar. 18.

The House Finch colony at Stamford, Conn., is growing, and one bird was seen at Poundridge Reservation on Mar. 14 by Mrs. H. E. Dickenson and a Scarsdale Audubon Society party. A male Dickcissel wintered in Stamford (Mrs. Dickenson) and one, sometimes two, came to Dr. Hopper’s feeder in Nyack from Oct. 19 to date.

**The Kingbird**
The treat of the winter, of course, was the abundance of northern finches. Records are too numerous to list in detail, but the following is a summary:

Evening Grosbeak — Sullivan County had a flock of 35 to 50 from November to March. A half dozen in Dobbs Ferry on Feb. 7 (N. Woodford, reported by Watson Hastings); a female at New City on Feb. 13 (Mrs. Frank Steffens); a pair at Milwood, Westchester, on Feb. 15 (Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Kuyk) and at Mt. Kisco on Feb. 22 (Andrew MacWaters).

Pine Grosbeak — Two males and four females or immatures at Shrub Oak on Jan. 3 (Ralph W. Odell, Jr.).

Pine Siskin — Abundant throughout the winter in the southern portion of our region; seen in Sullivan County during January only, but then in flocks up to 500 or more.

Redpoll — Greatest number in upward of 25 years. Earliest date, Feb. 11 at Katonah (Hammerschlag) and Feb. 12 in all other counties. Latest date before presstime, Mar. 22 at New City (Rockland Audubon Society). One flock of 250 at Katonah on Feb. 17 (Mrs. Frank McKown); a flock of 500 at Mounty Ivy, Rockland, about the same date (Dr. Hopper); flocks of 500-plus in Sullivan County (Carr).

White-winged Crossbill — Noted at several points in Westchester and Rockland on Feb. 6 (Mr. and Mrs. Ralmond Wood, William Russell, Mrs. Edmund Barron) and Feb. 7 (Col. Allen M. Pope, Mrs. Javius Matsumoto). A flock of 15 at Palisades on Feb. 8 (Rockland Audubon) was the largest reported, but there were dozens of records for bands o’f 9 or 10 birds. Seen in Sullivan County only at Bethel (Carr).

Snow Bunting — Only one large flock, about 200 birds, is reported from the region, and this flock only for one day in Sullivan (Carr).

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REGION 8 — LONG ISLAND

February and March were mild with very little snow and migration began early. Wintering birds apparently suffered little; practically no freeze-ups allowed ducks to remain on most of the ponds and lakes. This resulted in large numbers of Anatinae (surface-feeding ducks) over-wintering, even around the shallow, easily-frozen Jones Beach Sanctuary pond. The surprisingly great numbers of Red and White-winged Crossbills, Siskins and Redpolls disappeared in February, and with their departure large flocks of Grackles, Red-wings and Cowbirds arrived. This vanguard of spring migrants was more marked than for several years and there was no cold weather to retard the movement. Song Sparrows appeared about the same time in early February as Meadowlarks began singing; and by February 10 Prairie Horned Larks were on territory, 17 pairs being counted at Jones Beach east of the tower along the ocean causeway grass strips. Soon Killdeer arrived and since there have been several record-breaking early reports of shorebirds.

Loons — Ducks:

There was a good flight of loons from March to mid-April: maximum 200 Red-throated Loons April 12. Horned Grebes were also common in late March; a few Double-crested Cormorants appeared in mid-April and on April 12, 75 Gannets were observed on the ocean off Jones Beach. The White Pelican which has been at Mill Neck Pond since last June set a new winter record here, and although its local movements may indicate an escaped or released bird, it forages for itself and added a tropical touch to a winter flock of swans and ducks. Large flocks of Brant were present on western bays into April and a big concentration of Canada Geese, with up to 20 Snow Geese, was reported on the potato fields o feeten Long Island near Wainscott. Among ducks large numbers of Gadwalls, Baldpates, Pintails and Green-winged Teal wintered. The European Teal, common wintering species a decade ago on western Long Island, has now become a very rare migrant: one at Jones Beach, March 21 (J. Elliott). The Harlequin Duck was recorded from Montauk, Atlantic Beach and the Rockaways; latest report: Atlantic Beach, April 12, two females (J. Mayer). Great concentrations of all three scoters were present in the ocean off the south barrier beaches in late March, early April, and a solid flock of 1,150 Old-squaws in more sheltered waters at Fire Island Inlet, March 21-28.
Hawks — Owls:

There was one Goshawk record: Shelter Island, February 11 (R. Latham).

Cooper's Hawks and Duck Hawks were scarce through the winter and spring; there were no Gyrfalcon records since last fall. Sora was reported at Idlewild, April 12, and there were four Florida Gallinules at Lawrence on April 18 (U. Bull, J. Mayer, G. Rose), while on April 25 a King Rail was seen (R. Sloss). Early shorebird dates: Spotted Sandpiper, Jamaica Bay, March 14 (R. Clermont); Knot, Mecox, April 16 (C. McKeever; Solitary Sandpiper, Idlewild (Mayer, Rose), Willet at Shinnecock and Least Sandpiper at Sagaponack (McKeever) all on April 19. Another early record was that of a Marbled Godwit at Jamaica Bay (The Raunt), April 12, (Brooklyn Bird Club). Red-backed Sandpipers and Sanderlings continued plentiful through the winter into March and April. Piping Plover came back to the dune lands in mid-March and Greater Yellow-legs a week or so later. There were several records of Glacous and Iceland Gulls, but very few Kumlien's Gulls were reported. A Barn Owl was seen at the Jones Beach tower in late winter (G. Komorowski); there were no Snowy Owl reports; Long-eared Owls were scarce, but the Short-eared still resorts the rat-infested Jamaica Bay dumps. The little Saw-whet Owl was present at Riis Park for about a month in mid winter, but was scarce elsewhere.

Swifts — Shrikes:

Two early Nighthawks, one at Seaford (E. Morgan) and one at Lawrence (Mayer) were reported on April 12. The Yellow-bellied Sapsucker was common by mid-April; the Phoebe came through sparsely around April 1; Tree Swallows wintered at Gilgo as they did last year; Purple Martins showed up on western Long Island on April 18 and a Mockingbird is back in the same location where it was heard singing at Merrick last summer but was not known to breed. Goodly numbers of Thrashers, Towhees and White-throated Sparrows appeared April 25. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: one at Seaford, April 16 (Morgan) and two at Woodmere, April 25 (Mayer, Ross). The Northern Shrike went unrecorded since early winter.

Vireos — Warblers:

Blue-headed Vireo appeared on western Long Island, April 19, and a White-eyed Vireo was seen in the Botanic Garden (Brooklyn) a week earlier. 10 Pine and eight Yellow Palm Warblers were seen at Manorville, April 11, 12 (G. Raynor). An Orange-crowned Warbler showed up at Woodmere, April 19 and Louisiana Water-Thrush at Far Rockaway, same date (J. Bull).

Blackbirds — Sparrows:

The Rusty Blackbird was reported into late April. A Western Tanager, observed at Jones Beach late November to January 16, was not seen later.

The White-winged Crossbill invasion was the greatest in 50 years. A Dickcissel wintered at a Wantaug feeding station. Practically no Evening Grosbeaks were reported in winter or spring; Purple Finch has been scarce to date, but the House Finch is increasing so rapidly as to be now included in one's daily list while birding on western Long Island. The Ipswich Sparrow passed through early with very few of the usual April records coming in. Savannah Sparrows arrived in numbers in early April and the Vesper Sparrow appeared on the coastal strip April 12. As to be expected Longspurs and Snow Buntings departed for the north this mild spring a month earlier, being generally present into early March at Jones Beach and Idlewild.

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REGION 9 — Central New York

With mild weather during late February and early March, there was a noticeable increase in bird activity such as the spring song of Black-capped Chickadee, Cardinal, Red-wing Blackbird, and the Song Sparrow. Several flocks of Canada Geese were observed during week of February 23. It appears that some geese may have wintered on the Finger Lakes. Mild weather continued throughout most of March and certain spring migrant species were observed. The present report carries on from the previous one which covered the fall and winter season up to March 1. Few reports have been received since that time, but a composite record of wintering and migrants to about April 1 follows:

The Kingbird
Loons — Ducks:

Common Loon reported throughout winter but none of Red-throated Loons. Late March arrivals include Whistling Swan, Canada Geese, Blue-winged Teal, Shoveller, Horned Grebe, Baldpate, Pintail, Wood Duck, and Ruddy Duck. American, Red-breasted and Hooded Mergansers wintered in Finger Lakes Region; Bald Eagle nesting March 29 (Dr. Munford’s); Coot wintered in fairly large numbers; Woodcock heard March 21 (Gambrell); several reports of Killdeer (3/15 - 3/29); Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs, Pectoral Sandpipers seen on April 12; also 1 Western Sandpiper reported at Montezuma (J. Walker and M. Wheat); 5 Great Black-backed Gulls present on foot of Cayuga Lake on 3/21 (Gambrell’s) and 1 adult Bonaparte’s Gull on Senaca Lake April 12. Mourning Dove appeared in numbers about March 21.

Hawks — Owls:

Both hawks and owls have been scarce in Geneva-Montezuma area. Small numbers of Red-tailed, Red-shouldered and Rough-legged Hawks reported through winter or early spring but Sparrow Hawk fairly common. A few barn, Great Horned and Short-eared Owls reported in this area. No migration flights of hawks have been reported thus far this spring.

Swifts — Shrikes:

No Chimney Swifts or Barn Swallows seen to date but Tree Swallows present on March 22; Purple Martin observed early April (4/12). Flickers reported by 3/21, c.3 Phoebe. Robins present in some numbers, by April 12, Hermit Thrush on April 13, 200 Cedar Waxwings on 3/7 (Gambrell’s); Meadowlark reports on 3/21.

Vireos — Warblers:

None.

Blackbirds — Sparrows:

Red-wing Blackbirds, Bronze Grackles observed in mid-March; 5 Redpolls seen all winter roosting in evergreens beside house, last recorded April 2 (Gambrell). Cowbirds present by April 3. Field, White-throated, Vesper and Song Sparrows reported mid-late March; Purple Finch seen March 6 (Gambrell); 5 Tree Sparrows seen March 6 and Savannah Sparrow present March 15. Snow Buntings, Lapland Longspurs either not reported or quite scarce this winter around Geneva but observed by Syracuse group. Cold weather throughout most of April has not been favorable for large movements of migrating species.

Foster L. Gambrell
288 Lafayette Avenue
Geneva, N. Y.

THE FEDERATION OF NEW YORK STATE BIRD CLUBS
1953 OFFICERS OF MEMBER CLUBS

Baldwin Bird Club
President: Mrs. Heathcote Kimball, 86 4th St., Garden City, N. Y.
Vice-Pres.: Mr. Edwin Margan, Tackapausha Museum, Massapequa, N. Y.
Rec. Sec.: Mrs. James Sector, 19 Parkwood Rd., Rockville Centre, N. Y.
Cor. Sec.: Miss Lucy Bartholomew, 15 Belmont Ave., Floral Park, N. Y.
Treasurer: Mrs. William Arthur, 98 Fennimore St., Lynbrook, N. Y.

Blue Heron Audubon Club
President: Edward A. Lapham, Box 238, Stony Brook, L. I.
Vice-Pres.: John H. VonGlain, RFD Smithtown Branch, L. I.
Sec.-Treas.: Philip A. Nixon, Arbutus Rd., Greenlawn, L. I.

Bedford Audubon Society
President: H. B. Van Cleve, 488 Madison Ave., New York 22, N. Y.
Vice-Pres.: Donald B. Percy, Cross River Road, Katonah, N. Y.
Vice-Pres.: Mrs. Thomas M. Waller, Tamarack Farm, Bedford Hills, N. Y.
Cor. Sec.: Daniel G. Quigley, Box 87, Bedford, N. Y.
Treasurer: Robert K. Adams, Burbank Ave., Bedford Hills, N. Y.

Foster L. Gambrell
288 Lafayette Avenue
Geneva, N. Y.

20 The Kingbird
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<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Terms Expire</th>
<th>President</th>
<th>Vice-Pres.</th>
<th>Gen. Sec.</th>
<th>Cor. Sec.</th>
<th>Treasurer</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Brooklyn Bird Club</strong></td>
<td>January 1954</td>
<td>Edward J. Whelan, 971 East 34th St., Brooklyn 10, N. Y.</td>
<td>David Kreissman, 938 East 14th St., Brooklyn 30, N. Y.</td>
<td>Audrey Louise Wrede, 3109 Beverley Rd., Brooklyn 26, N. Y.</td>
<td>Mildred Eriberry, 4015 Flatlands Ave., Brooklyn 34, N. Y.</td>
<td>Philip Ebersman, 87 Fenimore St., Brooklyn 25, N. Y.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Chemung Valley Audubon Society</strong></td>
<td>April 1953</td>
<td>Albert W. Fudge, 326 Larchmont Rd., Elmira, N. Y.</td>
<td>Mrs. J. Fanning Campbell, 908 W. First St., Elmira, N. Y.</td>
<td>Mrs. Geraldine Thomas, 638 W. Gray St., Elmira, N. Y.</td>
<td>Mrs. Loraine Wheeler, 605 Mt. Zoa St., Elmira, N. Y.</td>
<td>Corland Mann, 605 Mt. Zoa St., Elmira, N. Y.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Eaton Bird Club</strong></td>
<td>January 1954</td>
<td>Miss Rosannah Wilson, 37 N. Main St., Geneva, N. Y.</td>
<td>Frederick Z. Hartzell, 111 N. Main St., Geneva, N. Y.</td>
<td>Loren D. Ward, 29 Maple St., Geneva, N. Y.</td>
<td>Miss Mabel Belden, Keuka Park, N. Y.</td>
<td>Mrs. Izora Lerch, RFD #5, Penn Yan, N. Y.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Keuka Park Conservation Club</strong></td>
<td>May 1953</td>
<td>Francis H. Orcutt, RFD, Penn Yan, N. Y.</td>
<td>Frank K. Guthrie, Keuka Park, N. Y.</td>
<td>Malcolm Lerch, RFD #5, Penn Yan, N. Y.</td>
<td>Miss Mabel Belden, Keuka Park, N. Y.</td>
<td>Mrs. John W. Plumb, 6836 Amboy Rd., Staten Island 9, N. Y.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Natural History Section of the Staten Island</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Roswell S. Coles, 37 Elicot Place, Staten Island 1, N. Y.</td>
<td>Mrs. Fred Marsi, 6 Euclid Ave., Binghamton, N. Y.</td>
<td>Mrs. Clara Taylor, 4190 Victory Blvd., Staten Island 14, N. Y.</td>
<td>Mrs. John W. Plumb, 6836 Amboy Rd., Staten Island 9, N. Y.</td>
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**The Kingbird**
North Country Bird Club
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Vice-Pres.: Frank A. Clinch, 313 Brainard St., Watertown, N. Y.
Secretary: Mrs. Howard Vrooman, 1162 Boyd St., Watertown, N. Y.
Treasurer: Mrs. Joseph Blake, 140 Ten Eycke St., Watertown, N. Y.

Northport Veterans Hospital Bird Club
(No regularly elected officers)
Send Federation correspondence to Miss Peggy Zumbech, Asst. Recreation Chief, Veterans Administration, Northport, N. Y.

Onondaga Audubon Society
President: Dr. Walter R. Spofford, Duguid Rd., Fayetteville, N. Y.
Vice-Pres.: William Minor, 101 Comstock Ave., Syracuse, N. Y.
Rec. Sec.: Mrs. Fritz Scheider, 151 Seventh North, Syracuse, N. Y.
Cor. Sec.: Mrs. May Cate, 710 Lancaster Ave., Syracuse, N. Y.
Treasurer: Homer Stone Kelsey, Sky View Acres, Pomona, N. Y.

Onondaga Audubon Society
Terms expire April 1953
President: Leonard J. Garland, 260-73 73rd Ave., Glen Oaks, N. Y.
Vice-Pres.: Arthur Skopec, 48-20, 207th St., Bayside 64, N. Y.
Sec.-Treas.: Herman Goebel, 78-52 80th St., Brooklyn 27, N. Y.

Onondaga Audubon Society
Terms expire January 1954
President: Robert F. Deed, 50 Clinton Ave., Nyack, N. Y.
1st Vice-P.: Frank Steffens, New City, N. Y.
2d Vice-P.: John C. Orth, Bear Mountain Park, Bear Mountain, N. Y.
Secretary: Mrs. Richard B. Lyman, Van Houten Fields, West Nyack, N. Y.
Treasurer: Miss Marie L. Gilbert, 35 Division St., Amsterdam, N. Y.

Queens County Bird Club
Terms expire May 1953
(After May 1953 terms will expire in June)
President: Joseph A. Jordan, 14 Sherbrook Rd., Scarsdale, N. Y.
Vice-Pres.: Mrs. John Thies, 106 Potter Rd., Scarsdale, N. Y.
Secretary: Miss Elizabeth S. Manning, 1130 Fifth Ave., New York 28, N. Y.
Treasurer: Ralph Holmes, 85 No. Broadway, White Plains, N. Y.

Queens County Bird Club
Terms expire February 1954
President: Miss Nellie G. Van Vorst, 67 Snowden Ave., Schenectady, N. Y.
Vice-Pres.: Dr. Minnie B. Scotland, 24 Belvidere Ave., Albany, N. Y.
Secretary: Miss Nellie Silliman, 216 James St., Scotia, N. Y.
Treasurer: Miss Viola Mab, 1624 Becker St., Schenectady, N. Y.

Schenectady Bird Club, Inc.
Terms expire February 1954
President: Kenneth D. Niven, 61 Broadway, Monticello, N. Y.
Vice-Pres.: Charles Atwell, Monticello, N. Y.
Secretary: Mrs. Kenneth D. Niven, 61 Broadway, Monticello, N. Y.
Treasurer: Wilber P. Carr, Ferndale, N. Y.

Schenectady Bird Club, Inc.
Terms expire May 1953
President: Kenneth D. Niven, 61 Broadway, Monticello, N. Y.
Vice-Pres.: Charles Atwell, Monticello, N. Y.
Secretary: Mrs. Kenneth D. Niven, 61 Broadway, Monticello, N. Y.
Treasurer: Wilber P. Carr, Ferndale, N. Y.

Sullivan County Audubon Society
Terms expire May 1953
President: Mrs. Morris Bardeen, RD, Burdett, N. Y.
1st Vice-P.: Mrs. Weston Woodward, 607 N. Franklin St., Watkins Glen, N. Y.
2d Vice-P.: Mrs. Nancy White, Watkins Glen, N. Y.
Secretary: Mrs. John Darling, RD, Rock Stream, N. Y.
Treasurer: Mrs. Anna Robinson, 108 N. Monroe St., Watkins Glen, N. Y.

Watkins-Montour Bird Club
Terms expire June 1953
President: Mrs. Morris Bardeen, RD, Burdett, N. Y.
1st Vice-P.: Mrs. Weston Woodward, 607 N. Franklin St., Watkins Glen, N. Y.
2d Vice-P.: Mrs. Nancy White, Watkins Glen, N. Y.
Secretary: Mrs. John Darling, RD, Rock Stream, N. Y.
Treasurer: Mrs. Anna Robinson, 108 N. Monroe St., Watkins Glen, N. Y.
PROVISONAL MEMBERS OF FEDERATION

Subject to Approval May 1953

Cornell Field Ornithology Club — Ithaca, N. Y.
President: Richard C. Rosche, 127 North Quarry St., Ithaca, N. Y.
Summer Address: 48 Dartmouth Avenue, Buffalo 15, N. Y.
Vice-Pres.: Malcom S. Gordon, 300 West Avenue, Ithaca, N. Y.
Sec.-Treas.: Ralph H. Long, 1738 Kline Road, Ithaca, N. Y.
Request for membership to Federation received March 2, 1953.
Membership — 20.

John Burroughs Natural History Society — Kingston, N. Y.
President: Mr. Henry Dunbar, RD #3, Kingston, N. Y.
Vice-Pres.: Mr. Fred Hough, Kingston, N. Y.
Secretary: Mrs. Ella Arnold, 175 N. Manor Avenue, Kingston, N. Y.
Treasurer: Mr. Daniel Smiley, Jr., Mohonk Lake, N. Y.
Request for membership to the Federation received March 15, 1953.
Membership — 34 active members and one honorary member.
The John Burroughs Natural History Society was organized in December 1950
with a charter membership of 15. The area covered includes the area
from the Hudson River to the west boundary of Catskill Park, between
the cities of Newburgh and Catskill.
Active Records Committee compiling records of the fauna and flora of the area
covered by the Society.
The Society has published a check list of the birds of the area.
THE FEDERATION OF NEW YORK STATE BIRD CLUBS

1953

Officers

President: Eugene Eisenmann, 11 Broadway, New York 4, N. Y.
Vice-Pres.: Harold D. Mitchell, 378 Crescent Ave., Buffalo 14, N. Y.
Cor. Sec.: Miss Louise Helfer, 111 9th St., Watkins Glen, N. Y.
Rec. Sec.: Albert W. Fudge, 326 Larchmont Road, Elmira, N. Y.
Treasurer: Mrs. William J. English, 35½ Lincoln Ave., Amsterdam, N. Y.

Editor of The Kingbird
Allan S. Klonick, 828 Grosvenor Road
Rochester 18, N. Y.

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Miss Agnes M. Orbison, 311 Irvine Place, Elmira, N. Y.
John H. Von Glahn, R.F.D., Smithtown Branch, Long Island, N. Y.

Publications and Research:
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Dr. Foster Gambrell, N. Y. State Agr. Experiment Station, Geneva, N. Y.
Fred T. Hall, Buffalo Museum of Science, Buffalo, N. Y.
Miss Elizabeth S. Manning, 1130 Fifth Avenue, New York 28, N. Y.
Dr. Gordon S. Meade, Trudeau Sanatorium, Trudeau, N. Y.
Dr. Neil S. Moon, 257 Pemberton Road, Rochester 9, N. Y.

Program:
John C. Orth, Trailside Museum, Bear Mountain, N. Y., Chairman
Mrs. Thomas Waller, Tanrackin Farm, Bedford Hills, N. Y.
Herman Goebel, 78-52 80th Street, Brooklyn 27, N. Y.
Reginald W. Hartwell, 121 North Fitzhugh Street, Rochester 14, N. Y.
Dr. Paul Kellogg, Fernow Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.
Mrs. Isaac A. Rosa, 8 Grieme Avenue, Amsterdam, N. Y.
Winston W. Brockner, 63 Ardmore Place, Buffalo 13, N. Y.
Dr. M. B. Scotland, 24 Belvidere Ave., Albany, N. Y.
Mrs. Arthur Hoare, 112 - 11th St., Watkins Glen, N. Y.
H. B. Van Cleve, R.F.D. #1, Katonah, N. Y.

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Mrs. Russell P. Easton, 1227 Cornell Ave., Hill Crest, Binghamton, N. Y.
Mrs. William G. Irving, Van Houten Fields, West Nyack, N. Y.
Allan S. Klonick, 828 Grosvenor Road, Rochester 18, N. Y.
Harold D. Mitchell, 378 Crescent Avenue, Buffalo 14, N. Y.

ELECTED COMMITTEES

Auditing:
H. Everest Clements, 1116 Sibley Tower Bldg., Rochester 4, N. Y., Chairman
Miss Audrey L. Wrede, 3109 Beverly Road, Brooklyn 26, N. Y.

The Kingbird
DON ECKELBERRY is one of America's foremost painters of birds. He has been a staff artist for the National Audubon Society and did the illustrations for the Audubon Bird Guide series, the recently published "Our Amazing Birds," and other books. Mr. Eckelberry has traveled all over the United States studying birds and has recently spent some time in Mexico. His home is in Babylon, Long Island.

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