

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.