

noted during the last week of February. A Yellow breasted Chat was reported seen at Potsdam on October 15 (H. Burrell). Mourning Doves and Meadowlarks remained late being reported up to the middle of December. A Kingfisher was seen at Adams on December 27 (J. Common and F. Wodell). The Snow Bunting was first seen on November 29 and has been reported regularly since. A few Pine Grosbeaks have been reported but the scarcity of Evening Grosbeaks continues. Prairie horned Lark first reported on February 24. Reported on December 30 (Watertown census) Cedar Waxwing, Purple Finch, Song Sparrow, -- John B. Balknap, 92 Clinton Street, Gouverneur, New York.

REGION 5 - Adirondack

Loons - Geese:

Red-throated Loon was my first Adirondack record on November 8th. Bird picked up alive at Lake Colby, Franklin County. A single Great Blue Heron in Christmas census at Lake Placid on December 30th. Difficult to see how it survived -- pond and streams almost completely frozen. Another seen at Saranac Lake, January 9th; possibly the same bird.

There was an unusually late flock of 12 Canada Geese on December 16th on ice of small lake near Saranac Lake Village. Quite a heavy flight down Champlain Valley in late fall of Blue Geese. Several Snow Geese appeared with the Blue Geese.

Ducks - Owls:

A single Mallard Duck has spent the winter on open water of Saranac River within confines of the village of Saranac Lake. Small numbers of American Mergansers appeared in mid-February as usual on the Saranac Lake village. I believe they move up the river from Lake

Champlain. They appear here regularly at this same time each year. Following the great wind of November 25-26, there have been numerous reports of Brunnich's Murres even in the central Adirondacks. A bird brought to me on January 5th which was taken about two weeks previously at Dickinson Center. Birds also taken at Ausable Point and Port Kent on Lake Champlain on December 10th and 11th. Also reports from Honnedaga Lake and Fourth Lake. They were reported as Auks or "dove-pies" in local paper. These were from the general area of Old Forge. No Snowy Owls reported to me from Adirondacks this winter.

Land Birds:

First returning migrants, Horned Larks, near Bloomingtondale on February 19th -- appeared last year on 18th. A Canada Jay - reported February 15th on slopes of Mt. Marcy. Robins still present at Saranac Lake on December 18; first returning migrant reported February 19th, west shore of Lake Champlain at Point Douglas. No Shrikes reported. This does not seem to be a Shrike winter in this area, in contrast to last year. Starling is not an abundant bird here in summer but there are moderate numbers. However, they seem to move out almost completely in the late fall. I have seen almost none this winter.

I am finding that the Cowbird is a regular winter resident in Saranac Lake area; have been here last three winters. On December 30th, this year, I found 6 at one feeding station. They have remained up to end of reporting period. Numbers of Evening Grosbeaks greatly reduced as compared with past two winters. There were only scattered individual birds until December 26th. By this time last year there were hundreds of birds in Saranac Lake. A few wintering Purple Finches with usual numbers of Redpoll and Siskins. Extraordinary flocks of wintering Goldfinches in Saranac Lake-Lake Placid region. Counted 52 on Christmas census. Both species of Crossbills

abundant. A very heavy cone crop this year. An immature Chipping Sparrow appeared at my feeder November 22nd and remained until December 30th, - not seen since.

Saranac Lake-Lake Placid Christmas Census on December 30th yielded the largest number of species in 4 years - 24. Great Blue Heron, Ruffed Grouse, Hairy and Downy Woodpecker, Blue Jay, Crow, Chickadee, White and Red-breasted Nuthatches, Brown Creeper, Purple Finch, Starling, English Sparrow, Cowbird, Evening Grosbeak, Pine Siskin, Goldfinch, Red Crossbill, White-winged Crossbill, Junco, Chipping Sparrow, White Throated Sparrow, Tree Sparrow, Snow Bunting. On December 27th a Bald Eagle. -- Gordon M. Meade, M. D., Trudeau, New York

REGION 6 - Mohawk Valley

November's average temperature was slightly above normal. First snow was on November 23rd, and the month's total was 2-3/4 inches; normal is 4 inches. The storm following Thanksgiving included the Mohawk area and did considerable damage. Some wind blown species were recorded. December was wetter and warmer than usual. January was also above normal in temperature. Maximum was 52 degrees on the 20th and minimum minus 3 degrees on the 9th. February was very open, variable and mild with average temperature 4 degrees above normal. The 9th and 10th were 18 degrees below normal but from the 15th through the 28th the temperature stayed above normal with a thaw during that time. Snowfall was, for this area, below normal with 32 inches recorded for the 4 months; par is 43-1/2 inches.

Loons - Geese:

Red throated Loon December 3rd at Saratoga Lake.
Great Blue Heron December 9th Saratoga Lake, also one