

Swifts — Shrikes:

New locations continue to crop up for the Red-bellied Woodpecker. McIntyre found 1 at Frewsburg in southwestern New York, in March.

Flycatchers came in slowly, with Wood Pewees being late. The swallow migration was up; Cliff Swallows are increasing in the Conewango Valley, and Purple Martin seems to be higher in numbers. Most of the Brown-capped Chickadees had disappeared early.

Red-breasted Nuthatches were common, with good numbers being found late in May. Carolina Wrens are increasing. The Thrush movement was about average. Four Hermit Thrushes were listed on the Census of May 18th. More Blue-gray Gnatcatchers were noted than ever before, with nests being located. Ruby-crowned Kinglets persisted until late in May. Pipits were down. Cedar Waxwings were slow in coming back. Migrant Shrikes are still widely scattered.

Vireos — Wablers:

Red-eyed Vireos seem to be slightly down, but Warbling Vireos up.

The warbler migration was spotty and slow, but in the end few species were missed. Thirty species and one hybrid (Brewster's) were counted on the May 18th Census. Prothonotaries were not found at Oak Orchard until June 1 (Brockner), with numbers down. Golden-wings and Blue-wings still increase, with an attendant increase in the numbers of Brewster's. Tennessee Warblers were noticeable throughout May. The first Myrtle Warbler, April 12, was found by Rog. Sundell and Lenna at Riverside. Black-poll Warblers were later than usual. An increase in Chats was noted.

Blackbirds — Sparrows:

The blackbird flight was heavy. Orchard Orioles continue to spread in adjacent Ontario.

The sparrow flight was very good. Cardinals are now permanently established throughout the region. Indigo Buntings arrived late. Evening Grosbeaks lingered almost up to June in various spots. Purple Finches were down. During March, Pine Grosbeaks were located in several places. Goldfinches were late in arriving, but came in big numbers when they did. Henslow's Sparrows are on the increase, while Grasshopper Sparrows seem to be down. The White-crown, White-throat migration was unprecedented, the biggest ever. Lincoln's Sparrows were found in good numbers. Thompson found 20 Snow Buntings on March 18, at Castile.

Winston Wm. Brockner
63 Ardmore Pl.
Buffalo 13, N. Y.

REGION 2 — SOUTHERN TIER (PART 1)

(With some records from adjacent regions)

The migration in our area this spring was outstanding only in its normality. In spite of the general coolness of the season, all birds appeared promptly on schedule, with no noticeable tendency to lateness.

This is the last regional report the writer will be able to submit. We are fortunate in having a most excellent observer in this region who has agreed to write these reports in the future. All correspondence formerly directed to the writer should now be sent to Mrs. Southgate Hoyt, Etna, New York.

Loons — Ducks:

American Egret—Now regular in spring in small numbers at Montezuma. Our first date this year was April 27 (Gordon).

Black-crowned Night Heron—The colony at Vestal had at least 26 nests, some with young, on May 26 (Rising). This area will be destroyed by the new Harpur College building project.

American Bittern—April 7, an early date, near Johnson City (Bemont).

Glossy Ibis—One seen at Montezuma April 19 (Cook and Layne).

Whistling Swan—Ithaca, March 28 (Chambers and Ficken); Johnson City, April 5 (Rising and Sheffield). Both records of single birds.

Hawks — Owls:

Yellow Rail—Reliable records of this elusive species from inland New York are all too few. One was seen under excellent conditions at Larch Meadows, just south of Ithaca, on April 25 (Connor).

Glaucous Gull—An individual lingered at Ithaca until May 18, and was seen by hundreds of observers. Our only other comparable record is of a Glaucous Gull seen May 19, 1940.

Cuckoos—All observers agree that the Cuckoos, especially the Yellow-billed, are particularly abundant this year, especially in contrast to the low numbers of the past few years. The Black-billed appeared at Danby on May 9 (Parkes) and the Yellow-billed at Ithaca on May 12 (Morley and Taylor).

Swifts — Shrikes:

Red-headed Woodpecker—Considered quite uncommon in our region in recent years. Greater number of reports this spring indicate a possible increase in abundance.

Red-bellied Woodpecker—Although a regular nesting species at the northern end of the Cayuga Lake Basin, this bird is rare at the southern end. One was seen near Beebe Lake, Ithaca, on March 31 (Dudley).

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher—This species is a regular migrant in our area, but is seldom reported. Besides the obvious identification difficulties, one reason for the paucity of records may be that its migration period is so late that many observers are in the field less often than during the general height of migration. Records this year include May 16 (early) and May 30 at Johnson City (Bemont), and several from Ithaca, May 30 and various early June dates (Allen).

Tree Swallow—One seen at Montezuma on March 21 represents an early date (Trever and Connor).

Tufted Titmouse—Although seen almost daily at Stewart Park, Ithaca, during the spring, no nest was located. It still seems certain that we will get a local breeding record, as the species seems to have established itself in our area just as did the Gnatcatcher a few years ago.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher—Seen at Johnson City at the same spot from April 23 through June 1. Probably breeding (Bemont and Rising).

Vireos — Warblers:

Prothonotary Warbler—Nest found again at Montezuma. Still only the one pair has been seen here.

Worm-eating Warbler—This species has been known as a summer resident of the Elmira region for years, but few nests have actually been found. A nest with six eggs was photographed by Professor Allen on June 4. The eggs have since hatched. The species is very rare elsewhere in the region. One was seen at Johnson City on May 16 (Bemont).

Blue-winged Warbler—Still a very rare bird in the region, but becoming somewhat more regular. One, possibly two at Lake Como on May 18 (Gibbs).

Blackbirds — Sparrows:

Orchard Oriole—Rare and irregular in the region. One at Stewart Park, Ithaca, on May 15 (Gibbs).

Evening Grosbeak—The latest report from the region seems to be a single bird seen at Ithaca on May 30 (Mrs. Fay). According to Mrs. Hoyt, most of our local Grosbeaks left during the weekend of May 25.

Purple Finch—Several observers have commented on the abundance of this species this spring.

Kenneth C. Parkes
Ithaca, New York

REGION 2 — SOUTHERN TIER (PART 2)

A dozen to fifteen members of the Keuka Park Conservation Club who have birds as a primary interest, get together at the end of each month to make up a list of species seen by all during the month, the list being published each month in the Penn Yan Chronicle-Express. The area covered is limited to the Keuka Lake watershed, including also a small area immediately contiguous to the outlet into Seneca Lake at Dresden. The club is engaged in mapping the bird habitats of the area in conformity with the general plan of cartography outlined by the state organization.

In the past two years there have been some noticeable changes in open field habitats about Keuka Lake, especially several miles back on the uplands. A great deal more land is being brought under cultivation for potato culture, buckwheat and wheat; farms that a few years ago could be listed as abandoned land have been plowed and crops put in. This has brought about a marked lessening in numbers of Bobolinks, Henslow's, Savannah and Grasshopper Sparrows.

There is a definite scarcity of Sparrow Hawks and Kingbirds along the roadsides of this region. On the other hand, Red-shouldered Hawks are reported here and there in increased numbers, and I have noted more Yellow-billed Cuckoos and Bluebirds this season than in several years. A male Red-breasted Merganser and a male American Merganser spent the month of May on the Branchport marsh, and the latter is still there at this writing, June 15. Both appeared unable to fly, for they would merely swim out of the way of passing rowboats. Also on the evening of June 15, an immature Bald Eagle was over the marsh for a while.

Notes from **Chemung Valley Audubon Society** include Prairie Warbler May 13, Worm-eating Warbler nesting at Elmira (H. C. York) and a sight record of Oregon Junco March 29 and 30.

Charles Spiker
Branchport, N. Y.

REGION 3 — LAKE ONTARIO

Spring has been unusually pleasant in this region this year. The weather was fair a large part of the time and there was little to upset the routine arrival and departure of migrants. The temperature has averaged slightly better than normal and rainfall slightly less.

Up until May the migration was good in most respects, but unspectacular. During May however a good many unusual records turned up, most of which are mentioned below. The last migrants appear to have passed through during the first week of June and local residents have settled down to their summer job—raising a family.

Loons — Ducks:

On April 14th the Kemnitzers reported over 500 Red-throated Loons off Webster Park. This is startling since they usually occur here in small numbers. There are three dates for Double-crested Cormorant between mid-April and mid-May. A Snowy Egret was at Braddock's Bay on May 24 and 25 (Barry, Kemnitzer et al). This is only the second Rochester record.

One Whistling Swan was still present at Braddocks Bay on May 30th. A few Blue Geese but no Snow Geese were seen this year. Two or three European Widgeon turned up, one as late as May 18th. Gadwall were scarce. Red-breasted Merganser reached a peak of 12,000 on April 27th. This species seems to pass through in larger numbers each year. Late Ducks include: Golden-eye on May 30th (McKinney), White-winged Scoter, May 18th (Listman, et al), Pintail and Baldpate, June 7th (Nelson O'Hara).

Hawks — Owls:

The number of migrant hawks reported was less this year than in other recent years. Weather conditions and less intense coverage may be the reasons.

Two Goshawks were reported, (Barry-Kemnitzer) as well as one Golden Eagle, (Barry) all in mid-April. Over 2,800 Broadwings on April 22 and 1,500 Sharp shins on May 11th, were peak numbers.

Of the shore birds the most noteworthy included: Two very early records of Pectoral Sandpipers, on April 1st (1 bird) and 6th (8 birds) Willet on May 25th (Bieber) at Braddocks Bay; White-rump; Knot; and Hudsonian Curlew (Nelson-O'Hara) at Shore Acres on June 7th.

Three White-winged Gulls; Iceland, Kumliens, and Glaucous, were seen from the Andrews St. bridge in downtown Rochester in mid-April. Bonaparte's Gull appeared on March 24th and was still present on June 7th (1 immature bird). Caspian Terns were more numerous than usual this spring.

It was a good year for Owls. Noteworthy was the decided influx of Saw-Whet Owls along the lake shore in early April. Up to 10 were reported in one day (Barry-Listman). Whether or not this movement is a regular one is a question local observers would like to answer.

Swifts — Shrikes

An early Chimney Swift appeared on April 10th (Listman), and an early Purple Martin on April 5th (Dolan-O'Hara). A Tufted Titmouse is said to have been present at Palmyra for some time this spring and I understand that this is not the first record there. It is a decidedly rare bird here, but perhaps will extend its range in this area as it has elsewhere. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker and Carolina Wren may both be nesting in the same woodland in Chili (Listman). Blue-gray Gnatcatchers appeared by May 3rd and nested again at Reed Rd. and probably at Scottsville. A very interesting return movement of Brown-capped