

## REGIONAL REPORTS

### REGION 1 — WESTERN NEW YORK

The weather during the fall of 1952 was seldom such as might hasten the southward departure of any bird which found itself in the western end of the state at summer's end. Those species which had any hardiness at all seemed little disposed to hurry, and resultant late records were received for a larger number than usual.

#### **Loons — Ducks:**

Only 2 Common Loons were reported on the October 12 Fall Duck Census of the **Buffalo Ornithological Society**, and only 8 on their Christmas Census on December 21. No Red-throated Loons were reported. Pied-billed and Horned Grebes were numerous, and Squaw Island contributed a Western Grebe on October 25th (Nathan et al.) and an Eared Grebe December 19th (Mitchell et al.) A good Canada Goose flight contrasted with the poorest swan migration in years. No Blue or Snow Geese were recorded. We had an excellent duck count on October 12, with most of the dabbling species giving an especially good account of themselves. Two Harlequin Ducks were found in the gorge below the Falls on November 23 (B.O.S. trip), and have apparently decided to spend the winter with us. Comorants were both late in arriving and few in number.

#### **Hawks — Owls:**

More records have reached us of Eastern Turkeys in Allegany State Park and nearby New York State areas. The shore bird migration was below normal, probably due to high water in many favored haunts. However, the number of Golden Plover observed was encouraging,—maximum count of 200 on September 28, and 67 on the October 12 census. Late records included Black-bellied Plover (November 23), Killdeer (November 29), and Greater Yellow-legs (December 1). A Northern Phalarope, rare here, was found October 25 at Niagara Falls (K. and E. Praemassing, Baker, et al.). Ten species of gulls were reported, including Glaucous, Iceland, Kumlien's, and Kittiwake from the Falls, and Franklin's and Little Gulls from the upper river opposite Buffalo.

#### **Swifts — Shrikes:**

On October 12 Anderle observed a Raven flying along the lake shore near Irving. This is an extreme rarity in western New York. A very late Wood Thrush was reported the same day by Mrs. Norma Annabal from Batavia.

#### **Vireos — Warblers:**

On the October 12 B.O.S. census, most observers found warblers unusually numerous. Not only was the count of Myrtles an all-time high (888), but no less than 15 species were reported. There were even November records of Yellow (one at the Avery feeding station, Hamburg, on the 17th), Western Palm (one found at Tiffet St., Buffalo, on the 17th by Schaffner), and an almost incredible Kentucky (on the 2nd by the Klabundes and Vaughan at Lewiston).

#### **Blackbirds — Sparrows:**

A good many Red-wings, Rustys, and Grackles are still with us as this is written, and will doubtless winter. Northern fringillids, influenced by the same mild weather, were slow to appear. Snow Buntings, although present in good numbers later, did not appear until November 16, when the Axtells found one individual on Grand Island. A few Evening Grosbeaks were reported from November 15th on, and a single Redpoll on the 30th. No Crossbills have appeared as yet. A second record for our territory was that of an adult Clay-colored Sparrow found on September 27 on Squaw Island by Nathan.

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### REGION 2 — SOUTHERN TIER (PART 1)

#### **(Including some records from Region 9)**

In general, fall migration was poor in the Southern Tier. A hard freeze occurred in the second week of October, and snow fell the last week, but November and December were marked by little rain or snow, and above-average temperatures. 61 species were seen on the annual New Year's Day census of the Cayuga Lake Basin.