

REGION 7 — NEW YORK AND LOWER HUDSON VALLEY

The only deviation from normal autumn weather was a severe snowstorm of five or six inches in Orange, Rockland, Putnam and Westchester counties on Nov. 6.

LOONS — DUCKS: Pied-billed Grebe was rather numerous, and a record number stayed to winter in Orange and Rockland counties. Last migratory Canada Geese were seen in Sullivan County on Nov. 9. Kiamesha Lake, in Sullivan County, harbored a flock of 150 to 200 Scaup Ducks on Nov. 11 (McBride).

HAWKS — OWLS: Two Golden Eagles turned up in Sullivan County. Wilber P. Carr forwards a report of an immature Golden Eagle shot Oct. 14 at White Sulphur Springs; another bird was seen in the Mongaup Valley several times between Nov. 3 and 9 by Seymour Roseig. A Sullivan County late date for Osprey was scored on Oct. 24 at Bridgeville (Kenneth D. Niven and McBride). A Bald Eagle, not common inland from the Hudson, was watched for more than 20 minutes at Ellenville on Oct. 18 by Wilber Carr.

On Nov. 1, the Cross River Reservoir in Westchester County yielded a fine group of shorebirds for Stanley O. Grierson and his Adult Education Class in Wildlife. Besides a Common Loon and a Pied-billed Grebe, there were 14 White-rumped Sandpipers, 8 Greater Yellowlegs, 2 Killdeer, and a Black-bellied Plover. Killdeer remained fairly numerous well into the winter in scattered spots in Sullivan and Rockland counties.

Two omissions from the October Kingbird report are two new species recorded for the first time in Rockland County: three Clapper Rails at Grassy Point on Sept. 10 (Dr. Marjorie R. Hopper) and a Golden Plover nearby at about the same date (Betty Barron).

Carr reports that the Conservation Dept. released about 160 Wild Turkeys in western Sullivan County; several have since been seen by Mrs. Charles Atwell. He also reports Ruffed Grouse and Woodcock rather numerous this fall. Grouse held up well in the Orange-Rockland highlands, too.

A late Black-billed Cuckoo was seen at Carmel, Putnam County, on Oct. 15 by Mrs. George Little. This is a rare bird after Oct. 5.

SWIFTS — SHRIKES: Kingfishers seemed more numerous than usual in some areas. Mrs. John Birch saw four at Katonah on Nov. 15, and many wintered. Carr finds Hairy and Downy Woodpeckers conspicuously abundant, with Pileated Woodpeckers at least holding their own. But Crows, he says, are singularly scarce. A Sullivan County Audubon Society field trip to Sam's Point on Nov. 1 was treated to a sight of a Northern Raven.

Mrs. H. Townsend Laire had a Winter Wren in the middle of Pleasantville, Westchester County, on Nov. 16 and a Ruby-crowned Kinglet singing on Nov. 2. A Carolina Wren, rare east of the Hudson, was well identified at Chappaqua in Westchester on Nov. 23 by Mrs. F. E. D'Humy. Stanley and Ruth Grierson saw a dozen Water Pipits at Cross River Reservoir on Oct. 12, and two were at Kiamesha Lake, Sullivan County, on Nov. 11 (McBride and Niven).

BLACKBIRDS — SPARROWS: Two partial albino English Sparrows came to the Carrs' feeding station at Ferndale, Sullivan County, in late October. More than 100 Pine Siskins visited the Carrs' pine woods on Nov. 15 and thereafter; Siskins were notably scarce in Rockland County. A Pine Grosbeak female was noted by Mrs. Laire in Pleasantville on Nov. 15 and was seen two weeks later at another point in the village. Mrs. Laire also had two Towhees from Nov. 18 to Dec. 12 and two Fox Sparrows from Nov. 29 to Dec. 14. Fox Sparrows remained at Carmel, Putnam County, until Nov. 27 (Mrs. Little). The Sullivan County Audubon Society trip to Sam's Point on Nov. 1 found a small flock of Snow Buntings.

Robert F. Deed
50 Clinton Ave.
Nyack, N. Y.