

while severe, affected few birds in our area. For observers who have been birding here over a long period there was more of interest than usual.

LOONS — DUCKS: A single Common Loon was observed at Allegany State Park throughout the period. Only two American Egrets were reported. Seven Lesser Scaups were still on Findley Lake on June 13, and Hooded Mergansers were seen at Buffalo Audubon Society's Beaver Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary throughout both months.

HAWKS — OWLS: Eaton provides us with a good record of a Broad-winged Hawk's nest at Vandalia; the banded young left the nest July 4. Possibly the species nested also near Findley Lake, for one individual was seen there on June 13. Wild Turkeys are reported quite regularly now, and six young were seen near Wellsville the first week of June. Very unusual indeed was the Purple Sandpiper, in dull and mottled plumage, which was discovered by Brockner at Buckhorn Island State Park (Grand Island) on June 6. It was seen by many observers, and was collected on the 8th. Short-eared Owls nested as usual on Grand Island, but were unreported elsewhere.

SWIFTS — SHRIKES: Sapsuckers were found nesting at Vandalia by Eaton, and were also reported from Allegany State Park, Zoar Valley, and Findley Lake. Brown Creepers were found at Allegany State Park and Clarence. These are always good finds, but even better were two records from the Hambury cemetery, whose large spruces attracted a pair of Red-breasted Nuthatches and a pair of Golden-crowned Kinglets, providing two very rare nesting records.

VIREOS — WARBLERS: Eaton found a Blue-headed Vireo's nest with three eggs near Vandalia on July 4. A nest of male Blue-wing and female Golden-wing was located at Bone Run. Prothonotaries nested again at Oak Orchard, and single individuals were seen in both months at Findley Lake. We received five Chat records in June and one in July.

BLACKBIRDS — SPARROWS: An Orchard Oriole was observed along the Lower Lake Road, Niagara County, on June 19 (Nathan et al.) This is more unusual than it sounds. We have two routes by which Orchard Orioles reach our area. One is northeastward along the south shore of Lake Erie. The other is along the north shore of Lake Erie. Normally the former route brings an occasional Oriole as far as Silver Creek, but very seldom as far as Buffalo; the latter route provides many Orioles up to a point within fifty miles of Buffalo, after which they thin out so rapidly that only a few reach the Niagara River and almost none cross. It would be interesting to know which route produced the Niagara County bird. Grasshopper Sparrows seem less common than formerly, while Henslow's Sparrows increase in numbers.

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REGION 2 — GENESEE

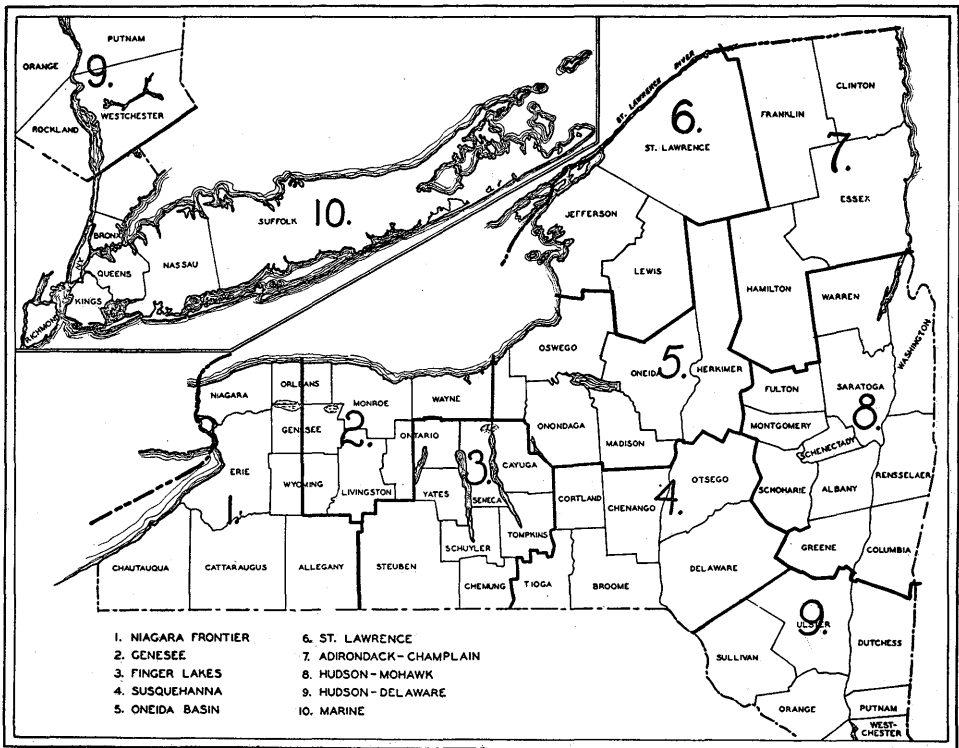
HARRY VAN BEURDEN

In general the summer's weather was cool and dry, according to the records of the Rochester Weather Bureau. June averaged 1.5 degrees above normal and July 1.3 degrees below normal. Rainfall in both months was below normal and this combined with a dry spring led to a drought in the counties of the region.

Little attention has been paid to the status of breeding birds of our region in the past few years but long-range plans for next year indicate more data will be collected.

LOONS — DUCKS: Last Common Loon 6/6; an American Egret at Salmon Creek (Wayne Co.) on 6/10; a few reports of Least Bitterns. A group of 13 Brant remained at Braddock's Bay (Monroe Co.) until 6/10, as did an immature Blue

REPORTING REGIONS



For descriptions of Regions see Kingbird Vol. IV, Nos. 1 and 2

Goose. One Gadwall at Ling Road on 7/27; last Lesser Scaup on 6/8; last American Golden-eye 6/10; last Ruddy Duck 6/5 and last Red-breasted Merganser 6/5.

HAWKS — OWLS: Ruffed Grouse reported from Bergen Swamp 6/27; Wilson's Snipe seen on 6/29; Least Sandpiper 7/1; Solitary Sandpiper seen in early July; Pectoral Sandpiper seen in late July; Stilt Sandpiper 7/24; Sanderling 7/17 and Dowitcher 7/15; nine Hudsonian Curlews 7/25 Braddock's Bay (Simons). Last June records of shorebirds were White-rumped Sandpiper 6/5; Greater Yellow-legs 6/5; Pectoral Sandpiper 6/5; Red-backed Sandpiper 6/10; Semipalmated Sandpiper mid-June; Turnstone 6/5; Ringed Plover 6/10. One Great Black-backed Gull seen on 6/10 and 7/5. A pair of Barn Owls with 5 young were reported from Victor in July.

SWIFTS — SHRIKES: Last Yellow-bellied Flycatcher seen 6/10; Olive-backed Thrush 6/5. Several reports of summering Hermit Thrushes and Blue-grey Gnatcatchers in our region.

VIREOS — WARBLERS: Last Philadelphia Vireo seen on 6/10; Blue-headed Vireo found during summer in the southern part of our area; three Yellow-breasted Chats reported during June and July.

BLACKBIRDS — SPARROWS: Four Red Crossbills seen on 6/5; Slate-colored Junco found summering in several places. A very unusual record is that of a singing adult White-throated Sparrow on 7/10 in Bergen Swamp (McKinney).

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