

Red-headed Woodpeckers show a slight increase in Elmira area, and for the first time are appearing in open areas, away from wooded sections (Welles). Walker reports this woodpecker "at long last", south of county home near Waterloo. No Redheads around Avoca this year.

A Yellow-bellied Sapsucker was seen and heard drumming at Montezuma 7/10 (Thurber).

Downies, Hairies and Flickers all seemed down in numbers around Avoca (Carter).

Two Acadian Flycatchers were found 'singing' in the middle of the Glen at Watkins Glen on 6/24 by Carleton. Alders were found to be plentiful around Ithaca (Stein), Waterloo (Walker) and Avoca (Carter).

A flock estimated at 5000 Bank Swallows was seen near Canoga 7/10 (Thurber), while Barn Swallows were gathering in unusually large flocks during July on wires in the hillside residential sections of Watkins Glen, and seemed to be catching flies (Van Vranken). Cliff Swallows were scarcer at Avoca (Carter). At a gravel pit north of Horseheads, it was noted that Starlings were nesting along with Bank Swallows (Samson).

White-breasted Nuthatches seemed down in number at Avoca (Carter).

VIREOS — WARBLERS: Vireos seemed present in usual numbers throughout the Region, although around Avoca, the Yellow-throated Vireos seemed fewer in numbers, the Warbling is reported as increasing (Carter).

Prothonotary Warblers were heard singing in four locations at Montezuma (reported by Ward).

The Mourning Warbler seems to be becoming established around Avoca (Carter).

BLACKBIRDS — SPARROWS: Four pairs of Cardinals were observed at Avoca (Carter) where this bird now seems to be established. Young Cardinals were brought to the feeder in Geneva 6/1 (Ward).

Goldfinches seemed unusually abundant around Ithaca (Hoyt). Indigo Buntings and Savannah Sparrows seemed scarce in the Avoca area, while the Henslow was absent there this year (Carter).

Aviana, Etna, N. Y.

REGION 4 — SUSQUEHANNA

LESLIE E. BEMONT

The Susquehanna Region, like so many other areas, was very warm and dry through most of June and all of July. The dryness seems to have had little if any effect on the birds.

LOONS — DUCKS: Pied-billed Grebes have been obvious by their absence from all incoming reports. Whether this is a result of an actual scarcity or merely a reflection of the decrease in observers after the spring migration is hard to know.

Great Blue Herons have again been absent from the Triple Cities area, but a few have been seen quite regularly near Deposit (S. Wilson).

Four female Wood Ducks with an aggregate of 25 young and two Blacks with 17 young were seen on one pond near Deposit July 3 (Wilson).

A female American Merganser was seen with 12 downy young on the Beaver-kill River between Peakville and Horton, Delaware Co. June 8 and presumably the same birds were seen June 13 at the same place (Wilson).

HAWKS — OWLS: Two Semi-palmated Plover were seen near Deposit June 1 (Wilson).

This has been another tent caterpillar and Cuckoo year. Both Cuckoos have been noticeably more common this year than last in the Triple Cities area (Triple Cities Naturalists' Club).

A Barred Owl was heard June 21 near Deposit (Wilson).

GOATSUCKERS — SHRIKES: Nighthawks have been common in Binghamton, as usual, this year (TCNC). Mr. Wilson reports none at Deposit but he did hear them at Hancock June 9.

Two Alder Flycatchers were found near Deposit June 2 (Wilson), two near Binghamton June 20 (TCNC) and two more near Binghamton July 18 (Bemont). The four near Binghamton all gave the "fitz-brew" call, although the first two were in a dry hillside field and the other two close to a marsh in the Chenango Valley.

The last Olive-sided Flycatchers were seen June 4 at Ely Park in Binghamton (Sheffield's).

The Bank Swallow colony near Chenango Bridge, Broome Co. showed some enlargement over last year, from 350-375 to 400-425 pairs (Bemont).

The Cliff Swallow colony west of Richford, Tioga Co. was noted in passing several times during the breeding season, and each time showed plenty of healthy activity, but no counts were made (Bemont).

An immature Carolina Wren was trapped and banded July 10 at Chenango Bridge and a few days later a nest containing young was found near by indicating two broods perhaps by the same pair (Bemont). Carolina Wrens were also reported breeding at Bainbridge, Chenango Co. (E. J. Smith). These are the first definite breeding records in this area in recent years that have been reported.

VIREOS — WARBLERS: Blue-headed Vireos were noted at Deposit as late as June 21 but no breeding record was obtained (Wilson).

A Blue-winged Warbler was seen near Binghamton June 6 and again June 13 (L. Hevey). It has not been seen since in spite of a good deal of effort.

Yellow-breasted Chats seem to be on the increase around the Triple Cities. More have been found this year than ever before (TCNC).

BLACKBIRDS — SPARROWS: All the birds in this group seem to have enjoyed a good breeding season with no high points seeming to warrant special mention. All the expected species were present in normal numbers and there were no outsiders to cause excitement.

R. P. 3, Binghamton, N. Y.

REGION 5 — ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

FRITZ SCHEIDER

The first week of June averaged cooler than normal, but the middle two weeks more than compensated with very warm or hot days, usually punctuated in the afternoon or evening by short thunder-showers. The last week of June produced consistently clear, warm weather with no rain, a condition which existed right up to the close of the period, producing throughout the area near-drought conditions for farms and fire hazards for woods.

On June 20, several Onondaga Audubon Society members took a trip into the Redfield-Osceola area on the southern edge of that *terra incognita*, the Tug Hill Plateau. Noteworthy was the extensive tent caterpillar damage, the abundance of warblers, and the dominance of a semi-northern avifauna, even in areas notably non-coniferous and only 800-900 ft. above sea level.

LOONS — DUCKS: Brant — 2 still present at Sandy Pond Inlet on 6/6; also 1 female Pintail, 1 female Red-breasted Merganser same place and date. Blue-winged Teal — appeared to have a very successful breeding season with many broods of large numbers. Wood Ducks — appeared to have a poor overall nesting, almost the exact reverse of the Blue-wings.

HAWKS — OWLS: Cooper's Hawk — must now be accounted as a quite rare breeding bird, at least in the southern portion of Region 5, as not one nesting was reported this year. Sparrow Hawk — departure of young from nest on 6/26. Ruffed Grouse — poor season at Camp Woodland, Constantia; **lack** of reports from other places would indicate below normal breeding success. Gallinule — despite the dry weather, excellent brood hatches and success judging from the numerous young present; 1 downy young with adult on 7/28 at Syracuse is probably the result of a late renesting. Upland Sandpiper — definitely increasing as a breeding bird in the Region; reports, however, concentrated in 3 areas: 1) just south of Oneida Lake; 2) around Pulaski; and 3) around Rome and Oneida (Mrs. Aspinwall, Mr. Pacquette, Nodecker). Knot — a flock of 30, all in spring plumage, on 6/6 at Sandy Pond along with 30 Ruddy Turnstone. Ring-billed Gull — on 7/24 Dr. B. P. Burtt banded