

6 immatures, capable of flying only 3 or 4 feet, on Grassy Island in Oneida Lake; this is the first established breeding of the bird on Oneida Lake, although Stoner suspected breeding much earlier (1929). Common Tern — Burt banded 195 young and 7 adults from colonies on 4 islands in Oneida Lake; however, the colony at Sandy Pond has been tremendously reduced from last year; on 6/6 there were 3 egg sets and about 20 scrapes, while on 6/16 only 1 egg and no scrapes were present. The increasing human and gull populations on the Sandy Pond beaches may explain this failure. Mourning Doves — had a very successful nesting season.

SWIFTS — SHRIKES: Red-headed Woodpecker — 3 breeding stations in the Oneida-Sherrill area (Pacquette, Nodecker). Sapsucker — 2 pair present at Westernville (Mrs. May); also in several deciduous woods in the hill country (1600-1800) southeast of Syracuse. Alder Flycatcher — spotty and apparently decreasing, despite the large quantities of available habitat. Cliff Swallow — the colonies along the north shore of Oneida Lake have deteriorated rapidly — 3 colonies deserted, 2 colonies with reduced numbers of pairs. Brown Creeper — singing birds (3) present in Short Point Swamp, Oneida Lake, on 6/19. Winter Wren — singing bird present in Camillus Valley, a stronghold for the rarer southern species, through June. Both Brown Creeper and Winter Wren present at Constantia throughout the summer. Carolina Wren — 2 June records; 1 on 6/13 at South Onondaga; 1 on 6/18 at Camillus Valley. Short-billed Marsh Wren — not one reported after 6/1; definitely a scarce bird. Brown Thrasher — surprisingly common in much of the brushy area around Redfield. Hermit Thrush — reported from several low elevation areas (New London, near Rome; Centerville, near Pulaski) through the summer. Noteworthy, and especially noticeable in the breeding thrushes, was the early song cessation, probably because of the hot, dry weather.

VIREOS — FRINGILLIDS: Golden-winged Warbler — 1 male, vigorously singing, in an alder bog in the Tug Hill country, less than a mile from several singing Myrtle and Magnolia Warblers (6/20). Blue-winged Warbler — a careful search of Camillus Valley on 6/15 found the regularly-present bird carrying food, but attempts to locate the nest were unsuccessful. Nashville Warbler — feeding young near Pulaski on 7/16 (E. Evans). Magnolia Warbler — one of the commonest warblers in the Tug Hill area visited on 6/20. Black-throated Blue Warbler — rather common in the Tug Hill area. Myrtle Warbler — 1 pair with young at Selkirk on Lake Ontario; also present in June in White pine, Gray Birch, Pin Cherry mixtures along the north shore of Oneida Lake, east of Pulaski, and around Redfield; appears to be an uncommon but regular breeding bird in these little visited areas. Yellow-breasted Chat — 1 on 6/8 at Oneida (Nodecker). Towhee — notably common on the spruce-brush bog openings in Cicero Swamp, a wet area of northern plant association where one would not expect them. Slate-colored Junco — 3 birds present at Highland Park (elevation 1800-1900 ft.) on 7/25; also 1 at Selkirk on 7/20. White-throated Sparrow — a common bird in the Tug Hill area visited 6/20; also breeding at Constantia and at Verona Beach, despite the atypical habitat in the latter area. On 7/14 one male Evening Grosbeak was seen at Barneveld (eastern Oneida Co.) by Mrs. Walter Frank, Jr.

151 Seventh North St., Syracuse 8, N. Y.

REGION 6 — ST. LAWRENCE

FRANK A. CLINCH

June temperature was near normal, but in July it was below normal. There was less than average rainfall until late July when there was a heavy rain. However, in part of St. Lawrence County there were frequent and heavy rains in July.

LOONS — DUCKS: A late American Brant was seen by Harry Van Beurden at Henderson Harbor on June 20. The colony of Double-Crested Cormorants which nest on an Island in Lake Ontario produced at least eleven young which were observed as late as the second of July. Seven of them were banded. We hope that with the protection given them since the first of July they may increase in numbers. There were more Cormorants than last year, but less than three or four years ago when many were shot at their nests, which are in elm trees. Is this their only breeding place in New York State as has been claimed?

HAWKS — OWLS: The Black-Crowned Night Herons did not nest where they were seen last year. Many nests of Great Blue Herons were reported on an island in the St. Lawrence River where they have nested other years, but no estimate was made of the number as compared with other seasons. John B. Belknap reports that in banding Herring and Ring-Billed Gulls at Little Galloo Island in Lake Ontario they found the young birds much smaller than usual for that time of the year. Nesting probably was delayed about two weeks due to cold weather in May. Solitary Sandpiper and Yellowlegs were observed near Lowville July 27. Sora and Virginia Rails, mostly young birds, were seen at Beaver Meadows near Watertown in late July. A report of several Upland Plovers comes from Lowville.

SWIFTS — SHRIKES: John B. Belknap says that Migrant Shrikes appear to be more numerous than in recent years. It is believed that they are increasing as a breeding bird especially in St. Lawrence County. As usual a few Red-headed Woodpeckers have been seen. A Brown Thrasher (not cited as breeding by Eaton) was seen near Highmarket, Lewis County by Geoffrey Carlton on June 25.

WARBLERS — SPARROWS: Mourning Warblers were seen by Carlton in the Tug Hill section in late June. He also saw a Nashville Warbler (not listed for Lewis County by Eaton) in the fields north or northeast of Highmarket on June 25. The next day he picked up a dead male Evening Grosbeak on Route 3 at Childwold, St. Lawrence County. Towhees were seen near Watertown and Lowville. More than the usual number of Purple Finches were noted at Lowville.

183 Park Ave., Watertown, N. Y.

REGION 7 — ADIRONDACK

GORDON M. MEADE

June in the Adirondack region was the coldest in five years. The average daily maximum at Saranac Lake was 60.4 degrees. There was considerable cold, rainy weather the first and last weeks. This period of rain, which began the last week of June, extended without interruption through July which was one of the wettest in many years. There were no more than seven days without some rainfall in contrast to the severe drought condition further south.

There has been no evidence of a southern egret incursion in this region this year. Reports continue to become more numerous each year of breeding of the Evening Grosbeak. Two records of unusual interest are Black Terns at Tupper Lake marshes on June 20th and Grasshopper Sparrow at Trudeau on June 24th and July 5th.

LOONS — DUCKS: Common Loon noted on several ponds this year where not previously seen the past several years. This may be evidence of increased breeding in Adirondacks. Pied-billed Grebe — Two families in Tupper Lake marshes (Agnes Amstutz). No records of Egrets so far this year. Numerous broods of Black and Wood Ducks along Au Sable River and its marshes (Thomas Lesperance). Ring-necked Ducks with family on June 20th near Tupper Lake (A. A. and Marguerite Kingsbury). Fewer American Mergansers this year than usual in Tupper Lake area (M. K.).

HAWKS — OWLS: Osprey — Old nest rebuilt on Horseshoe Pond near Fish Creek Campsite (M. K.) and single bird seen in Lower Saranac Lake about July 25th (G. M. Meade). No Ruffed Grouse broods at all seen in Keeseville area; wet season thought possibly to blame (T. L.). Duck Hawks — Nest site on island in Lake Champlain deserted but nesting at Willsboro Bay (T. L.). Ring-billed Gulls — Young banded on Four Brothers Island in Lake Champlain (T. L.). White Herring Gulls are seen throughout summer on many central Adirondack Lakes in small numbers, we are lacking evidence on the extent to which these do or do not represent breeding birds. A very interesting report of Black Tern (6) on June 20th in Tupper Lake marshes (A. A.). It will be interesting to see if they become established in central Adirondack area. Contrary to the report of the spring migration period, the Black-billed Cuckoo was very numerous during June and July in some areas, such as Tupper Lake (M. K.).