

(Woldman). The McCanns estimated 8500 Canada Geese in the Oak Orchard area on the 20th; peak numbers were not present until after April 1. Wood Ducks were first reported on March 13 at East Mud Lake by Braunberns and at Wellsville by McMurtry. No observer reported as high a Pintail peak at Wolcottville as last year, the high estimate of 2000 (March 12, Mitchell) comparing with 5000 a year earlier. Unusually large numbers of Canvasback wintered on the upper Niagara, both our count January 16 and the aerial count January 20 being very close to 11000. All three scoters were reported in January, 187 White-winged on the 16th (mostly on Lake Ontario), and single Surf and American on the 1st, from Buffalo harbor and Niagara Falls respectively. Mitchell et al reported a King Eider from the upper river December 18.

**HAWKS — OWLS:** Braunberns observed a Turkey Vulture on March 13 at East Mud Lake. A wintering Red-shouldered Hawk, a rarity here, was seen north of Hamburg February 20 (Faul et al), and Mrs. McMurtry reported a migrant at Wellsville March 13. Seven Turkeys were seen at Bone Run on February 13 (Elderkins) and two groups at Shongo in mid-March (McMurtry). Mrs. McMurtry also found a Killdeer March 6 and reported a late March Woodcock nest at Standard. Glaucous, Iceland, and Kumlien's Gulls were available throughout the winter on the river, chiefly near the Falls. More records of wintering Mourning Doves than usual, and larger flocks, were reported. Only seven Snowy Owl reports are at hand for the winter, considerably below par.

**SWIFTS — SHRIKES:** Wintering Kingfishers were reported from Wellsville by McMurtry, and Olean by Eaton. Two Red-bellied Woodpeckers, one Red-headed Woodpecker, and several Flickers stayed over with us. Three good-sized flocks of Prairie Horned Larks seen north of Oak Orchard January 16 (Beardslee) were probably too early for migrants. Crows returned to Wellsville February 19 (McMurtry) and to Olean the 22nd (Eaton). A Brown-capped Chickadee was seen at West Falls January 2 by Mitchell. K. McCann & Dietrich found a Phoebe at Oak Orchard March 30; Brockner noted one there the same day, and McMurtry one at Wellsville the 31st. Carolina Wrens were reported from three places in December, four in January, and five in February. A Catbird wintered at a Williamsville feeding station. Robins were common in Buffalo by March 11 and at Olean by the 12th. Bluebirds were seen at Hamburg and Wellsville on the 10th. The greatest influx of Gray Shrikes ever was reported by all observers. It lasted until the fore part of March; after the 13th Loggerheads began to arrive. Parker reported the first Pipits — 18 at Jamestown on March 10.

**WARBLERS — SPARROWS:** A Myrtle Warbler wintered at Hamburg (Bacon). There seemed to be more Meadowlark records than usual, with one flock of 16 being reported from Kuckville (Beardslee). Grackles arrived March 4 (McMurtry) and Red-wings the 6th (100 at Oak Orchard, Brockner). Mrs. McMurtry found Purple Finches in December, February, and March, and Eaton watched one in the company of two Pine Grosbeaks eating crab apples. Evening Grosbeaks were widely distributed, largest flocks apparently having visited Angelica, Independence, Alfred, Jamestown, and Hamburg. Mitchell and Almendinger found an early Towhee at Derby on March 19, and Brockner an early Vesper Sparrow at Shelby March 27. Wintering White-throated Sparrows were reported from Castile (Thompson) Hamburg (Bacon), and Buffalo (Fisk). The season saw few longspurs, and most of our Snow Bunting records were based upon February observations.

132 McKinley Ave., Kenmore 17, N. Y.

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## REGION 2 — GENESEE

HARRY VANBEURDEN

The height of the winter in our region was reached in early February when low temperatures and ice formation drove many waterfowl off inland bodies of water into the open waters of Lake Ontario. Migration lagged several weeks behind the very early precedents set in February and March of 1954; it was not up to par even in comparison with a normal year. However, several interesting late stragglers were noted in December.

**LOONS — DUCKS:** A Green-winged Teal was noted at Charlotte on the late date of Dec. 23. A Harlequin Duck was noted at Webster Beach State Park on Jan. 23 by a party of 10 observers. The usual wintering waterfowl were observed. Our Winter Waterfowl Census of Jan. 15-23 netted 17 species and 4009 individual Grebes, Ducks and Coot. Whistling Swan — more than usual on migration in March. Snow Goose — 2 birds in Monroe County in March. European Teal — 1 on March 20 at Hamlin State Park, seen by 5 observers. American Bittern — 1 on Dec. 26 at Braddock's Bay.

**HAWKS — OWLS:** Goshawk — 6 birds in March; 5 on March 20 on migration at Braddock's Bay. Duck Hawk and Pigeon Hawk were reported in March. Golden Eagle — 1 on March 19, 1 on March 24; migrating at Braddock's Bay. Virginia Rail — reported in Dec., Feb., and March from Ling Road; also once in Dec. from Braddock's Bay. At least 2 individuals wintered at Ling Road. Several late shorebirds were noted: Sanderling, 1 Dec. 18, Manitou; White-rumped Sandpiper, 1 Dec. 4, Manitou; Red-backed Sandpiper, 1 Dec. 23, Ling Road. A very unusual record of 1 Red Phalarope at Oklahoma Beach on Jan. 16 was observed by Listman, Bieber, and VanBeurden.

**SWIFTS — SHRIKES:** The Tufted Titmouse has definitely increased in our area, as evidenced by the number of feeding station reports. Regular reports of Red-bellied Woodpecker were received during the winter from the Genesee River valley, where they are resident. Long-billed Marsh Wren was noted in Dec. and March at Braddock's Bay. Our Christmas Census netted 77 species on Dec. 26. Among these were 1 Bluebird and 1 Hermit Thrush. Cedar Waxwing — an unusual flight of these birds was noted on the weekend of Feb. 26 when 600 were observed at Rose's Marsh. Northern Horned Lark — only 1 bird reported. Pipit — an early migrant seen on March 6th.

**VIREOS — WARBLERS:** Myrtle Warblers wintered in small numbers at Durand-Eastman Park as usual. Yellow-throat — 1 in Dec. at the Flynn Road dump and 1 in Feb. at Ling Road marsh.

**BLACKBIRDS — SPARROWS:** Pine Grosbeaks, Redpolls, and Snow Buntings were present in good numbers. A flock of 4000 Snow Buntings in Mendon was reported during Jan. Evening Grosbeak reappeared for the first time Since Dec. on March 28. A Hoary Redpoll was seen on Dec. 23 near Pultneyville by the Kemnitzers. Oregon Junco — 2 reports of this type: 1 on Dec. 29 at Sodus Bay and 1 on Jan. 15 on the East Lakeshore. A Fox Sparrow was observed in Durand Park in late Dec. and early Jan.

246 Tremont Street, Rochester 8, New York

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## REGION 3 — FINGER LAKES

SALLY F. HOYT

The weather for Dec., Jan., Feb. and March was generally cold, especially in late January and early February. While there were no heavy snows in the Finger Lakes, snow remained on the ground almost constantly except along the Penna. line, and light snows were frequent. For example, at Ithaca, it snowed or rained 16 of the 28th days in February, and precipitation was an inch above normal. All small lakes and ponds were frozen over, as was Montezuma. The larger lakes had open areas, where waterfowl concentrated. All observers, however, reported that natural food seemed plentiful and except following heavy snow, feeding stations were not patronized as much as expected.

**LOONS — DUCKS:** Reports of Common Loons were infrequent. A Red-throated Loon was seen on Seneca Lake near Sampson 2/6 (Munford). A few Pied-billed Grebes were seen on the larger lakes and one on the Chemung River 1/22 (K. Fudge). A Great Blue Heron at Wellsburg 1/8 (A. Fudge et al) and another was found dead south of Newfield, the talons of an equally dead Screech Owl locked in its neck, on Jan. 31, the two specimens being brought to Cornell.

4 Whistling Swans spent the week of 3/20 at Montezuma (Smith), while the