

parties of 2-4 birds; no marked flocks even at the end of March. Tree Sparrow — no large wintering flocks but every trip produced at least 15 or 20. White-throated and Swamp Sparrows — usual few wintered, mostly in protected gullies south of Syracuse. Lapland Longspur — 1 on 12/26 at Bridgeport, 1 on 3/13 at Clay Swamp are the only period records. Snow Buntings — for sheer numbers, this winter finch stole the show; usual flocks ranged from 100-300 with occasional flock of 500-1500 reported; present to end of period in numbers, which is unusual since most go north in mid-March.

Corrigenda to Regional Report in Vol. IV, No. 4, p. 110 — Stilt Sandpiper, 1 on 9/11, Sylvan Beach; p. 111 — Shrike total should be 6 (3 unidentified to species).

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

REGION 6 — ST. LAWRENCE

FRANK A. CLINCH

The weather was near normal, although there were periods of very cold temperatures followed by mild spells. Many of the March migrants were first reported earlier than most years. A newspaper report tells of ducks, geese, grackles and redwings feeding on unharvested corn after the heavy snowfall of March 26. Many fields of corn were not entirely harvested because of the frequent and heavy rains last fall which made the ground too soft for machinery.

LOONS — DUCKS: A Red-throated Loon was found alive beside the road near Evans Mills on Dec. 21 (Belknap). A Loon was heard, but not seen near Henderson in the middle of January. An immature Pied-billed Grebe was found on land in the City of Watertown on Dec. 12. It seemed healthy, but almost too young to fly and did not live long. There were several records of Canada Geese, the first at Henderson Harbor March 12, and about 200 at Perch Lake the last of the month. Two Whistling Swans were noted at Sackets Harbor March 24, one in Black River near Herrings late in the month and three at Perch Lake April 1. They are sometimes along the eastern part of Lake Ontario, in the spring and fall, but not often away from the lake. There probably are more Black Ducks in this region in winter than the 30 recorded at the time of the January Waterfowl Census might indicate. Pintails were first seen March 15 and became common by the end of the month. Scaup Ducks were common along the shore of Lake Ontario in late March. A male Hooded Merganser was found in the river at Watertown in late December and again in the middle of February. Several were seen in other places late in March.

HAWKS — OWLS: A Turkey Vulture was seen near Pillar Point March 12 (J. Blake). Marsh Hawks were unusually numerous in March (Belknap). Few Rough-legged Hawks reported, one early in December and one late in March. Belknap reports 21 Snowy Owls in Jefferson with some duplication probable. One was still present near Philadelphia April 1. A Barred Owl spent New Year's Day in a tree in Watertown and one was seen Feb. 2 in Antwerp. Saw-whet Owls appeared in Potsdam and in Canton (L. Blake). A few Great Black-backed Gulls were seen this winter.

SWIFTS — SHRIKES: Horned Larks first appeared in the middle of February and were common in March. The Pileated Woodpeckers are said to be quite numerous around Potsdam and one of them chisled out a nice big hole in a tree in Potsdam (L. Blake). J. Wilson saw ten Ravens near High Falls, St. Lawrence Co. on Feb. 23, but found no evidence of their nesting there. He also says that the Canada Jays are increasing in the same section. Several reports indicate that Shrikes were more common than usual this winter. Starlings were more numerous than usual in Potsdam.

WARBLERS — SPARROWS: A female Cardinal was seen near Henderson late in March (Belknap). Belknap reports that Evening Grosbeaks were scarce, but they were frequently seen in Watertown from November to the present time (Apr. 12).

Pine Grosbeaks were seen the first part of the winter. A White-throated Sparrow was found near Watertown on December 12. Redpolls were numerous and some very large flocks of Snow Buntings were seen.

173 Haley St., Watertown, N. Y.

REGION 7 — ADIRONDACK - CHAMPLAIN

GORDON M. MEADE

The weather pattern in the Adirondacks during the winter season paralleled the summer season of 1954 in that while the more southern parts of the State had little snow, the Adirondacks had the heaviest snowfall in many years — 168 inches at Saranac Lake between November 17th and March 31st. Furthermore there was a lack of thawing periods of any duration such as have occurred in recent years, so that snow lay deep and constantly all through the winter. It will be recalled that during the summer of 1954 the Adirondack region suffered unusually heavy and constant rainfall while more southern parts of the State were below normal in rainfall. The heaviest snowfall of the winter came on March 25th-27th.

During December the average daily maximum (25 degrees) at Saranac Lake was about usual, as was the average daily minimum (10 degrees). Maximum reading for the month was 42 degrees, minimum reading was -4 degrees (usually this is around -20 degrees). January's average daily maximum (18 degrees) was somewhat lower than usual, as was the average daily minimum, (8 degrees). Maximum reading for the month was the lowest in 5 years, 35 degrees, the minimum of -21 degrees was about usual. The February average daily maximum (27 degrees) and the minimum (8 degrees) were about usual. However, the month's maximum was higher than any of the past six years at 47 degrees, while the minimum was the lowest in 6 years at -38 degrees. For March the average daily maximum was about usual at 31.5 degrees, while the average daily minimum was the highest in 6 years at 18 degrees. The month's maximum and minimum were about usual at 53 degrees and -3 degrees.

Noteworthy for the period was the dearth of Evening Grosbeaks, Siskins, Purple Finches, White-winged Crossbills, Goldfinches, Tree Sparrows, Gray Shrikes, Snowy Owls and Black-capped Chickadees. The heavy influx of Pine Grosbeaks apparently moved out by mid-February. Noteworthy is a report of the Great Gray Owl near Tupper Lake and two reports of Snow Geese in central mountains — at Saranac Lake, December 26th - January 11th and at Tupper Lake on April 3rd.

LOONS — DUCKS — SNOW GOOSE: A single bird was found in the Saranac River at Saranac Lake on December 26th. This bird remained around the Village until at least January 11th and probably later. The river through the Village remained open all this period. One early morning he was seen on the front lawn of the public library but flew off as people came on the streets. Six birds were seen in a field at Tupper Lake on April 3rd. These birds may have been stragglers from the flocks which seem to regularly use the Lake Champlain valley as a flyway.

HAWKS — OWLS: Bald Eagle, January 19th, March 13th, March 8th. It is hard to tell whether the bird at Keeseville (Tom Lesperance) on January 19th was a wintering bird or an early return. What appear to be definite spring arrivals were at Saranac Lake March 8th (G. M. M.) and Tupper Lake, March 13th (M. K.). Ruffed Grouse: Came through the heavy winter in Adirondacks better than expected according to District Game Manager (G. T. Chase). Killdeer: March 12th and 27th, A. Amstutz and March 31, T. L. An early arrival noted at Tupper Lake on March 12th. More generalized influx March 27-31. Mourning Dove — Only report to