

Black-bellied Plover were reported from Buffalo Harbor July 27. Adult Bonaparte's Gulls returned (late) to the Niagara River on July 30 (Beardslee), and by that date the number of Black Terns on the river was building up toward the tremendous peak due a month later.

SWIFTS — SHRIKES: Sapsuckers seen feeding young June 26 in Allegany State Park by the McCanns and Brockners. Despite the drought I heard more Alder Flycatchers this summer than usual, and I was also delighted to note an apparent increase in our Prairie Horned Lark population. Winter Wrens must have nested in Allegany State Park as they were seen there June 26 (McCanns and Brockners). Short-billed Marsh Wrens continue to be scarce, but Carolina Wrens appear to be on the increase. An Olive-backed Thrush's nest was found near Vandalia on June 26 by Eaton.

VIREOS — WARBLERS: I believe I heard more Red-eyed Vireos singing within Buffalo's city limits than in any previous summer. Our normal population of breeding warblers was reported, including, however, only one Prothonotary (June 4, Oak Orchard, Brockner). Eaton reported a loose aggregation of eight individuals of four species of summer resident warblers moving through the woods behind his home as early as July 17.

BLACKBIRDS — SPARROWS: One observer's impression: Towhee, Grasshopper Sparrow, Field Sparrow somewhat more numerous than usual; Henslow's and Swamp Sparrows heard less frequently.

132 McKinley Ave., Kenmore, N. Y.

REGION 2 — GENESEE

HARRY VAN BEURDEN

June was a warm, dry month. July was cooler in the first two weeks, however, and moderately rainy. Few good shorebirding areas appeared in July due to the continuing influence of Lake Ontario's high water level. Also, few outstanding records were secured during this period. Breeding work in June & July was sparse as usual.

LOONS — DUCKS: Whistling Swans were reported at Braddock's Bay on a late June 2nd. Lesser Scaups were reported in June and July.

HAWKS — OWLS: Least Sandpiper reported June 18, Semipalmated Sandpiper July 2, Stilt Sandpiper July 19. A White-rumped Sandpiper was seen on June 22 (C. & H. Jarvis).

SWIFTS — SHRIKES: Nesting cliff swallows were reported on June 12 from south of Sodus Bay. This is the closest known nesting location to Rochester at present. Brown Creepers were seen in June and July in Bergen Swamp.

VIREOS — WARBLERS: The only record of interest in this category is that of a Brewster's Warbler on June 5 in Powder Mill Park (Davis).

BLACKBIRDS — SPARROWS: A pair of nesting Dickcissels was discovered in late June at the intersection of Strong and Dryer Rds., Victor, Ontario Co. (Edson). A nest and four eggs were present until destroyed in early July. The birds were observed from June 26 to approximately July 4 and seen by various observers. A Western Meadowlark was reported near Batavia (fide Beardslee) in July.

246 Tremont St., Rochester 8, N. Y.

REGION 3 — FINGER LAKES

SALLY F. HOYT

June and July were unusually dry throughout. The first two or three weeks in June were quite cool, but then excessive heat took over, which, combined with the drought made crops suffer.

A. A. Allen noted that there was considerable infertility in the eggs under observation, and many other nests were broken up for one reason or another. Even Cowbirds had a hard season Mrs. Carter noted that around Avoca many young birds seemed to leave nests too soon and there were more casualties than usual, for no apparent reason. This seemed especially true in Robins, Chipping Sparrows and Red-eyed Vireos. I had numer-

ous casual comments made to me as to an apparent scarcity of birds around homes. Whether any of this could be related to the unusual weather or not, remains a question.

LOONS — DUCKS: A Pied-billed Grebe nested on the new Sapsucker Woods Sanctuary pond near Ithaca.

Great Blue Herons were abundant at Montezuma this year, reported as scarce around Keuka (Guthrie) and rather scarce at south end of Cayuga.

American Egrets appeared early at Montezuma, and were in good numbers by early July (Walker). Few reports of least Bitterns this year, but seen at Refuge 6/5 and 6/12 (Walker). There were 3 immature Whistling Swans at Montezuma 6/19.

There were plenty of broods of Mallards, Blacks, Blue-winged Teal, Wood Ducks and at least 2 broods of Gadwalls at Montezuma, but appeared to be no nesting Rudies this year.

HAWKS — OWLS: Turkey Vultures were scarce or absent in the Cayuga basin, and there were no reports from other sections of Region. Hawks seemed scarce at the Refuge (Walker), but the Bald Eagles raised one young.

Ruffed Grouse were missing from one or two areas around Ithaca, but there are no other reports of their scarcity. Pheasants were plentiful and apparently had successful nesting. One report of a Bob-white in Etna (Dickinson). An adult Wild Turkey was seen 5/27 by S. Eaton and Mrs. McMurtry in Steuben Co., 4 miles west of South Addison on Rte. 17. This may have been a liberated one, but it is to be expected that Turkeys will spread into the state from Pennsylvania too.

Rails were not found in usual numbers around Keuka (Guthrie.) Gallinules and Coots were abundant at Montezuma.

Shore-birds were putting in their appearance at Montezuma by 7/15 (L. Smith) A Lesser Yellow-legs was seen there 6/12 by Walker and one at Sapsucker Woods pond 6/25 (AAA) probably both non-breeding. A Greater Yellowlegs was at the airport pond north of Ithaca 7/11 (AAA). 4 Sanderlings were seen at Montezuma 7/24 (Walker) and one on 7/31 (Walker, Ward).

The Common Tern nested at the Refuge in June (Vernan Dewey) and this year hatched young successfully at the south end of Cayuga, just at the end of the Municipal airport runway (Randy Little). Black terns seemed less abundant at the Refuge than usual (Walker). Mourning Doves were in good numbers everywhere.

The Barred Owl, reported from Keuka in last issue, was last seen 6/5.

SWIFTS — SHRIKES: Woodpeckers seemed scarce at Avoca (Carter), but unusually abundant around Etna (Hoyt).

Alder Flycatchers were reported as increasing at Keuka (Guthrie) and Avoca (Carter). There were no reports of Acadians this summer.

Cliff Swallows seemed scarce in the area covered by the Eaton Bird Club this year.

Nuthatches were scarce around Avoca (Carter). Walker reported that House Wrens seemed scarce, and according to Guthrie the "Short-billed Marsh Wren has not been found in our territory."

Two Mockingbirds were first reported by Miss Jean Doren at a Motel just east of Corning on June 7. They were seen by several members of the Chemung Valley Aud. Soc. in the next week, and although courtship was observed, and some carrying of nesting material, nesting was not observed.

Catbirds are increasing in most sections of the Region, and Robins, which at first seemed scarce, picked up in numbers during the summer.

Cedar Waxwings were more plentiful than usual at Avoca. (Carter).

VIREOS — WARBLERS: The Blue-headed Vireo nested along Fall Creek near the old Rifle Range n.e. of Ithaca and was photographed by Allen. This species is a rare breeder at Ithaca. Red-eyed Vireos were plentiful at Avoca (Carter).

Those in the field around Ithaca felt there was a decided scarcity of the usual breeding Warblers this year, and unusual numbers of unsuccessful and abandoned nests. Redstarts, reported as up in numbers at Avoca (Carter) were below average at Ithaca.

Another station for the Blue-winged Warbler: it was seen close to Avoca 6/18 (Carter).

BLACKBIRDS — SPARROWS: All Blackbirds were plentiful around Avoca. A pair of Yellow-headed Blackbirds, carefully noted and described, was reported by Mrs. Ruth Fitchen at Ovid, 7/. (Other reports of this species reached me during the summer, and were forwarded to the proper Regional Editors.)

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