

last year. On the western and central part of the Alleghany Plateau beech-nuts, wild black cherries, white ash and hemlock produced good crops but in the east this crop was poor to fair. Acorns were generally scarce in the western part of the State but good in the Champlain Valley and southeastern portions.

Grey Shrikes, Evening Grosbeaks, Red-breasted Nuthatches, Brown Creepers and Golden-crown Kinglets seem to be wintering in fair numbers in western and south-central portions of the State.

REGION 1 — NIAGARA FRONTIER

CLARKE S. BEARDSLEE

August was very hot. The two-month drought was broken by a 2.4" fall on the 10th. Another inch fell on the 13th as Hurricane Connie's westward edge passed through. Some warblers arrived from the north exceptionally early, for no apparent reason. September was closer to normal, but October again was warm and rainy, — the second wettest October of record (8.12"). It was mild enough to delay the southward movement of many land birds. November was stormy. A record seiche, with very high WSW winds, occurred on the 16th and 17th, and was followed by a blinding snowstorm. Twenty inches of snow fell on the 28th and 29th, causing a state of emergency to be declared in South Buffalo. Three species of vireos, four of warblers, and a Baltimore Oriole were present at the same time Red Crossbills, White-winged Crossbills, Evening Grosbeaks, and other northern species were being reported.

LOONS — DUCKS: The latest egret record was 9/4 at Randolph (C. Parker); a very late Least Bittern was observed 9/29 by A. Schaffner (Buffalo). Parker reported 300 Whistling Swans on upper Chautauqua Lake on 11/6 and throughout the balance of November. A large flock of Swans flew SE over Vandalia 11/9. A B.O.S. census on 10/16 showed a total of 1404 Canada Geese, but neither Blue nor Snow have been reported this fall. A single European Widgeon was found 10/16 at Stilson's Pond (Eschelmans); this bird remains a rarity, while Gadwalls are definitely more numerous than they were twenty years ago, no less than 10 having been seen at Grand Island 10/20 (A.S., B. Nathan, H. Thorpe). Twelve hundred Redheads (a very large flock for western New York) were counted 10/30 at Mayville by Robinson and Lenna (rep. C.P.).

HAWKS — OWLS: A peregrinating Broad-wing was observed 8/24 (very early) by D. Brownstein in Delaware Park. Our first Rough-leg arrived 10/13 (Grand Island, R. Coggeshall). Chautauqua Lake lived up to its reputation by furnishing a record of 2000 Coots on 10/16 (C.P., et al.). A few Golden Plover records are at hand, but none of the numbers of recent years. Two late Spotted Sandpipers were counted on the 10/16 census. Both Snipe and Woodcock were last seen 11/13 at Grand Island (J. Stains), and Greater Yellowlegs, also at Grand Island, on 11/6 (C. Beardslee). Gull records for the period were very spotty. A single Franklin's was observed 11/26 at Buffalo (B.N., A.S.), constituting a very late record indeed. No little Gulls were reported, and neither Glaucous nor Iceland Gulls had arrived by November's end. One Kumlien's Gull was found on 11/20 (Niagara Falls, A.S.), and 10,000 Bonaparte's Gulls were on the Niagara River above the International Bridge throughout the latter half of November. The last Common Tern was found (as always) off Squaw Island, Buffalo, on the very late date of 11/27 (A.S. et al.). Three Forster's Terns were reported on the 10/16 census. The highest count of Black Terns was 2000 on 8/21 (Niagara River, H. Mitchell); this is very low, and possibly the peak was missed by our observers. Two late Black-billed Cuckoos showed up for our 10/16 census. The only owl record of moment was a Saw-whet which the Klambundes found at Youngstown 11/24 and 11/26.

SWIFTS — SHRIKES: The last Nighthawk record was of two seen on 9/18 (Snyder, R. Verrill), the earliest date for the last record (if you know what I mean) that I can recall. Swifts also left early, latest record being of two 9/13 (Buffalo, A.S.).

Flycatcher and Swallow departures were normal. A Red-bellied Woodpecker visited the Thompson feeder at Castile from 11/8 to 11/30. A Longbilled Marsh Wren was reported from the Fredonia area on the 10/16 census, and several Carolina Wrens were reported. An early Gray-cheeked thrush was seen on 9/12 (Grand Island, H.M.), and a very late Olive-back on 11/5 (Forest Lawn, B.N., A.S., M. Emerson). A flock of 150 Pipits was reported from Grand Island on 9/21 (A.S., D.B.) Another good shrike winter is in prospect, as Gray Shrikes were reported in six localities from 10/25 (when S. Eaton collected one immature) throughout November.

VIREOS — WARBLERS: An early Philadelphia Vireo record (9/3, Forest Lawn, H. M.) serves as a foil for three extremely late vireo records: A Solitary on 11/19 (Forest Lawn, H. M.), a Red-eye on 11/5 (Forest Lawn, B.N., A.S.), and a White-eye on 11/13 (Forest Lawn, collected by H. M.) Among the warblers also we find very early and very late dates. Imagine Tennessees here from 8/24 (2 Delaware Park, A.S.) until 11/13 (Forest Lawn, H.M., M.E., C.B.)! Heilborn reported an extremely early Cape May (8/11) and an even more amazing Myrtle (8/6) from the Falls. An extremely late Bay-breasted was found in Delaware Park (10/16, C.B.); an early Blackpoll in Forest Lawn (8/19, W. Brockner); a very late Common Yellowthroat in Buffalo (11/29, Chapman, Rep. H.M.); and a very late Redstart at Niagara Falls (11/5, Heilborn). We merely record these occurrences, — we do not presume to explain them.

BLACKBIRDS — SPARROWS: A Baltimore Oriole was seen in Buffalo on 11/20 (Swartzreigen, rep. H. M.). A very late Rose-breasted Grosbeak visited Hamburg on 10/26 (R. Avery). A very nice incursion of northern finches characterized the final month. Eaton reported them "flooding the wooded areas of southern Cattaraugus County", and in other areas also there were many records of Evening Grosbeak, Red Crossbill, White-winged Crossbill, Redpoll, Siskin, and Purple Finch. Possibly the most interesting record in the sparrow family is supplied by one of the totals from our 10/16 census, — 1205 White-crowned Sparrows.

132 McKinley Ave., Kenmore, N. Y.

REGION 3 — FINGER LAKES

SALLY F. HOYT

August was unusually hot and dry. Hurricane "Connie" brought a few hoped-for accidentals. September and early October brought record-breaking rains throughout the Finger Lakes, which helped in restoring the water-table, and brought Shorebirds into wet fields when mudflats were covered.

November was relatively mild and wet. Killing freezes were late in coming.

LOONS — DUCKS: Red-throated Loons appeared on Cayuga Lake during migration in November. Horned Grebes seemed in good numbers, and one was seen on Beebe Lake on the Cornell campus on 11/22 (Fischer).

Hurricane "Connie" in August did not bring in the reports of accidentals that we hoped for. However, a Leach's Petrel was seen clearly by Loren Ward on 8/14 on Seneca, and he was able to get other observers there to confirm his identification before the bird disappeared.

Great Blue Herons and American Egrets were at Montezuma in good numbers in Aug. and Sept. Last date for Am. Egret 10/2 (Walker). Black-Crowned Herons were reported as somewhat scarcer this year. A Least Bittern, scarce this year, was seen by Thurber at Montezuma on 10/2.

4 Whistling Swans spent almost a month on a flooded field at Smithport; south of Elmira — first seen on 10/22. (York). All areas reported good flights of Canada Geese, and 15 have remained in Branchport basin since last week in November. L. Smith reports 8 Blue Geese with the Canadas at the Refuge in November.

40 Brant flew over Ithaca on 10/21 (Fischer et al), and L. Smith reports the following numbers of Brant at the Refuge 200 from 10/23-29; 500 from 11/6-12; 75 from 11/13-19. There are increasing numbers of these reported each year recently.

Black Ducks and American Mergansers were on Punch Bowl Lake in Watkins Glen State Park on 11/27 (Robinson).

400 Wood Ducks spent a week early in Sept. on Montezuma (Smith).

Scaups are scarce on Keuka (Guthrie). 2 Ruddy Ducks were on Seneca on 11/20 (Walker).