

COMMON REDPOLLS were observed Nov 23 at Frewsburg by McIntire (rep. Parker). Eaton found GOLDFINCHES abundant this fall. He observed his first RED CROSS-BILLS at Vandalia Nov 15. Last reported CHIPPING SPARROW was seen at Chestnut Ridge Park Nov 4 by the Brockners, last FIELD SPARROW at Wilson, Nov 17 by Nathan. An early WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW was noted by Mrs. Bacon at Hamburg Sep 27. First SNOW BUNTING record was of a flock of 14 at Barcelona Oct 25 (Nelms).

132 McKinley Ave., Kenmore

REGION 2 — GENESEE

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The cool weather of 1956 continued through the fall except during the last three weeks of October which was a delightful period of Indian Summer. Waterfowl migration was good, but the migration of flycatchers, thrushes, warblers and sparrows was very poor. Unusual records during this period were the Eared Grebe, Common Eider, Kittiwake and Arctic Three-toed Woodpecker.

Loons — Ducks: There was a heavy migration of COMMON LOONS, beginning on Oct 14 and reaching a peak towards the end of the month. Several counts of over 100 were reported. RED-THROATED LOONS were present in much smaller numbers; maximum count, 6. HORNED GREBS first appear on Oct 12 and from then on were present in good numbers. A single EARED GREBE was seen by the Kemnitzers Oct 27-30 at Webster Park. They had ample opportunity to study this bird at close range and compare it with the numerous HORNED GREBS. There was no definite record of HOLBOELL'S GREBE and only one of the DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT. There was an exceptionally good migration of BRANT, beginning Oct 20, and reaching a peak of 1850 on Oct 24 (Listman). All observers were on the alert for birds with yellow neck-bands, but none was seen. A high count of 400 MALLARDS was reported at Mendon Ponds Park on Oct 27 by the Whites. What appears to have been an albino MALLARD was seen by Raetz at this same place on Nov 26. This completely snow-white duck with an orange bill was with a flock of about 60 MALLARDS and 15 BLACK DUCKS. Since it was slightly smaller than the regular mallards and maintained an even flight with them, it was probably an albino rather than a domestic white duck. Diving ducks, including all three SCOTERS appeared during the latter part of October. WHITE-WINGED SCOTERS are normally seen here during the fall and winter, but this season's counts were higher than usual (maximum of 175, by Listman, Oct. 24). Both SURF and AMERICAN SCOTERS were seen on several occasions during this season. The maximum counts were 90 American by Listman on Oct. 24, and 18 Surf Scoters by Kemnitzers on Oct 28. Two COMMON EIDERS were seen on Nov 10, the first at Lighthouse Point by O'Hara, Miller and Listman, and the second at the Russell Station Outlet by Listman alone.

Hawks — Owls: There were no outstanding hawk records during the fall. Only one OSPREY was seen, and there were no Goshawks, Red-shouldered Hawks, Broad-winged Hawks, Bald Eagles, Duck Hawks or Pigeon Hawks. ROUGH-LEGGED HAWKS appear on Oct 20. Hunters reported RING-NECKED PHEASANTS scarce except in stocked areas, and RUFFED GROUSE plentiful in the hill country south of Rochester. One RUFFED GROUSE was seen by Mrs. Davis at her home within the city limits of Rochester on Nov 14. Shorebird migration was normal except for low counts in a few species. There were only three records of GOLDEN PLOVERS, on Sept 19, Oct 14 and Nov 17, all by Listman. One bird was seen on each of these days. The KNOT was seen only twice during the fall. A PURPLE SAND-PIPER was seen at Braddock's Bay on Oct 27 by Listman and a WESTERN SAND-PIPER on Sept 9 on a GOS hike. RED-BACKED SANDPIPERS and BLACK-BELLIED PLOVERS continued until late in November. BAIRD'S and WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPERS appeared in small numbers. None of the Phalaropes were reported. Two immature jaegers were seen; one was at such a distance that it could only be called a jaeger, and the other was seen under better conditions and from its flight pattern was judged to be a PARASITIC JAEGER (Listman, Oct 24). Two rare gulls

appeared this fall. An immature KITTIWAKE was seen at the mouth of the Genesee River on Sept. 9 on a GOS hike. A LITTLE GULL changing from immature to adult plumage was seen at the Russell Station Outlet by Listman on Sept 19. Two FORSTER'S TERNS were reported at Braddock's Bay on Oct 22 by Listman and O'Hara. This is considerably less than numbers reported during recent years. The SCREECH and GREAT HORNED and SHORT-EARED OWLS have been reported regularly, and the SNOWY OWL once.

Swifts — Shrikes: The ARTIC THREE-TOED WOODPECKER made its appearance Nov 18 at 1105 Monroe Ave., Rochester, N. Y. A week later, Nov 25-26 two male birds were seen by Stutz, Rising, Taylor, Klonick, Listman, Moon and Davis. The fall migration of YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKERS was light, and there were no other outstanding woodpecker records. The last TREE SWALLOWS were seen on Oct 27. A CAROLINA WREN was reported by Mrs. Haller at Avon on Nov 4, and a MOCKINGBIRD by Rising on Sept 1. First dates of migrants in this group were: WINTER WREN, Oct 12; HERMIT THRUSH, Oct 27; OLIVE-BACKED THRUSH, Sept 8; GRAY-CHEEKED THRUSH, Sept 15; GOLDEN and RUBY-CROWNED KINGLETS, Oct 12; AMERICAN PIPIT, Sept 22, and NORTHERN SHRIKE, Oct 20.

Vireos — Warblers: The warbler migration was much poorer than a year ago, and insignificant compared to the wonderful migration last spring. A GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER on Aug 18 (McKinney) and a YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT on Aug 20 (White, Dakin) are unusually late dates for these species. The end of August and early September brought most of the warblers normally appearing at that time, but warblers whose normal migration dates normally extend into October were scarcely seen at all. There were only a few low counts of MYRTLE WARBLERS, only one BLACKPOLL and no Palm Warblers. A NORTHERN YELLOWTHROAT was seen on Nov 24 at Braddock's Bay by Listman.

Blackbirds — Sparrows: RUSTY BLACKBIRDS appeared on Oct 12. PURPLE FINCHES have been present regularly in small numbers and GOLDFINCHES were abundant. Other finches, grosbeaks and crossbills have not yet been reported this fall. JUNCO, TREE SPARROW and SNOW BUNTING appeared on Oct 20. Migrations of WHITE-CROWNED, WHITE-THROATED and FOX SPARROWS were light. A LINCOLN'S SPARROW was reported at Albion by Lippert and Weeks on Sept. 16.

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REGION 3—FINGER LAKES

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Although there was some unseasonably warm weather in late October and early November, the fall in general has continued the cool, wet pattern of the summer. A few local cold spots had a freeze in early September (my thermometer in Etna was 27° on Sept 10) but in most places the freeze was delayed until the end of October. Migration was poor: no sizeable warbler waves reported, and flocks of migrating sparrows were absent. Winter finches had not appeared by the end of November, but Rough-legged Hawks were unusually abundant and Northern Shrikes were reported from various points.

Loons — Ducks: A COMMON LOON in emaciated condition was picked up on the Main Street of Freeville Nov 18 and died two days later. A HOLBOELL'S GREBE was seen on west side of Keuka Lake Oct 29 (A Robinson); HORNED GREBES were in good numbers at south end of Cayuga and north end of Seneca, where 60 were seen on Nov 4 (R. Rosche). There were fewer CANADA GEESE at the Montezuma Refuge than in some years (500 there Oct 14-27, Smith) but various observers called me concerning large flocks going over Ithaca throughout the season, including one "very large" flock early on Nov 23 (M. Kraft). 250 plus BRANT flew over the Montezuma storage pool on Nov 4 (R. Rosche) and there were scattered reports of them all fall. Two joined a small flock of Mallards at Stewart Park around Nov 17 and remained for ten days, able to be closely approached but anticipating all attempts to net them for banding and color-marking. A flock of