

the first winter record of a Kentucky Warbler in New York State. — Fred N. Hough, Accord 1.

Townsend's Solitaire (*Myadestes townsendi*) collected in Dutchess County, New York. — On March 16, 1953 a Solitaire was collected in the Town of Amenia, Dutchess County, New York. The specimen is preserved as a study skin in the Vassar College collection at Poughkeepsie. The bird was a female with an ovary which measured 5.5 by 3.0 millimeters. It was first observed on March 4, 1953 by Mr. George Decker of Dover Plains, N. Y. Mr. Decker watched the bird on several different days between March 4 and March 16. In every case the bird was seen in the late afternoon in one restricted area, usually sitting quietly in the top of a dead oak at the edge of an abandoned field. There were occasions, however, when the bird could not be found.

The only other record for the State of New York is a bird collected on November 25, 1905 by J. A. Weber in King's Park, L. I. (Dwight, 1906, Auk, 23:105-106). King's Park is approximately 75 miles south of Dutchess County.

Mr. Chandler Robbins was kind enough to check the files of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service and reports that three other specimens have been taken in Eastern United States: one at Waukegan, Illinois on December 16, 1875 (Nelson, 1876, Bul. Nutt. Orn. Club, 1:40); another by Herbert L. Stoddard at Prairie du Sac, Wisconsin, about February 20, 1910 (Ward, 1912, Bull. Wis. Nat. Hist. Soc., 10:47); and a third by Alan Rusch in Dodge Co., Wisconsin on December 6, 1952 (Strelitzer, 1953, Passenger Pigeon, 15(2):65).

In addition there are three sight records for eastern United States: one seen several times in Ohio between December 26, 1938 and January 14, 1939 (Campbell, 1940, Bull. Toledo Mus. Sci., 1:127-128); another seen at Hudson, Wisconsin in December, 1942 (Robbins, 1943, Passenger Pigeon, 5(1):3-4); and a third seen by many observers at Blue Island, Illinois from December 27, 1953 to January 17, 1954 (Barter, 1954, [Ill.] Audubon Bull., No. 89:6).

A study of these records indicates that most are for the winter months of December, January, or February in the states of Wisconsin (3 records), Illinois (2 records) or Ohio (1 record). The New York records are for November and March. This period, from late November to mid-March, also agrees with the three records listed in Roberts' Birds of Minnesota. — John L. George, Vassar College, Poughkeepsie.

Some interesting band returns — It is generally supposed by many people that as fall approaches a strictly southerly movement of birds takes place. Among banders cooperating with the Federal Wildlife Service, this idea is being discarded. For some time it has been surmised that as fledglings take wing and a waning food supply makes competition keen, many birds move north in search of food. Whether this is so, and if so why, has not been determined to the satisfaction of ornithologists, who are now and will be for some time to come, engaged in the study of what seems to be a contrary movement.

The bulk of my personal banding operations have been conducted on the islands of Lake Champlain near Keeseville where an average of 750 to 800 Herring and Ring-billed Gulls are banded as downy young. Because of their size, these birds provide a better incidence of band recovery than the small land birds. This has meant that I have accumulated a fair number of returns, enough to show that many birds are moving north. Two other banders are active in this area: Mrs. R. E. Mason of Essex and Mr. and Mrs. Bruce McGregor of Ellenburg Depot, the former giving good coverage to the south of my operations, the latter to the north. Both of these teams are engaged, however, in banding smaller species.

In interpreting the information in the following recovery records, it should be recalled that the area to the north of Keeseville is sparsely settled with the exception of the Montreal area. In the following list which is designed to compare north and south movements, all banding was done on Four Brothers Island in Lake Champlain.

HERRING GULL. Banded July 29, 1954, recovery Nov 30, 1955, Savannah, Georgia. 14 birds banded June 11, 1955: recoveries: Arundel, Quebec, Oct 1, 1956; Cte. Saguenay, Quebec, Sept 2, 1955; Sorel, Quebec, Sept 15, 1955; St. Jean, Quebec, Sept 23, 1955; Granby, Quebec, Sept 24, 1955; Cap-de-la-Madeline, Quebec, Sept 17, 1955; Cote Ste. Catherine, Quebec, Aug 17, 1955; Willsboro, New York, July 3, 1955; Orlando, Florida, Dec 28, 1955; Althol, Massachusetts, Aug 4, 1955;