

REGION 1 — NIAGARA FRONTIER

HAROLD D. MITCHELL

Except for a few warm days, mostly in early summer, the weather was comparatively cool, with occasional rainy periods to prevent the severe drought conditions experienced further eastward in the state. Few migrant warblers tarried as late as June. A successful nesting of Mockingbirds in Westfield, where an unusual number were reported, is especially noteworthy.

Loons — Ducks: Normal nesting activities, with nothing special to report.

Hawks — Owls: Beal noted an Osprey at Chautauqua Lake near Jamestown, June 16, and one was observed at Gainesville on July 25 by Mrs. Smith, who also reported a Snipe and 5 Whimbrel from the same area on Aug 15. Larkin reported 3 Bald Eagles at Derby, June 9. Rosche saw 2 Turkeys at Allegany State Park, June 8. An early Whimbrel appeared on Bird Island Pier, Buffalo, July 13 (Filor). Snipe probably nest at Kent's Switch where one was seen July 31 (Knott, fide Parker). Two Caspian Terns were seen July 16 at Ontario Beach (Buckland, Janiec). Heavy southwest gales in June caused havoc in the nesting colony of Common Terns in Buffalo Harbor, forcing later nestings of many pairs. Very few Bonaparte's Gulls were reported during the period. Six young Barn Owls were successfully reared in Alden (Mitchell).

Swifts — Shrikes: Bourne reported Olive-sided Flycatcher near corner Thruway and Camp Rd., Hamburg, June 1, and a Loggerhead Shrike at Sturgeon Pt., June 11. Parker saw a Tufted Titmouse at Chautauqua Lake July 25, and a Short-billed Marsh Wren at Bear Lake, June 23. Two Carolina Wrens were seen daily at Niagara Falls from July 28 to 31 and one remained throughout August. Another appeared in a Buffalo residential district, Aug 3, (Andrle). A group of Mockingbirds, which first appeared April 20, raised at least one brood successfully at Westfield (Bentley), and remained in the vicinity until July 20. As many as 16 were known to be present at one time, an unprecedented number for this area.

Vireos — Warblers: At Taylor Hollow three Black and White Warblers were seen on June 2 (McShane et al). The last Blackpoll Warbler migrant was seen June 2 at Hickok's Rd (Bourne). A Yellow-breasted Chat was noted at Ohoville, June 8 (Rosche et al) and another June 23 in the Tonawanda Indian Res. (Brockners).

Blackbirds — Sparrows: A Dickcissel was seen June 4 at Elma (Rosche et al). It was a male in full song but remained in the area for only a few days.

238 West Royal Parkway, Williamsville 21

REGION 2 — GENESEE

HOWARD S. MILLER

The present period may be characterized as somewhat cooler than average and much drier than normal. The dying hurricane "Audrey" produced heavy rain and wind in late June. This rainfall, in addition to frequent thundershowers in early July, constituted most of the rainfall for the period, as since that time we have had only brief local showers and thunderstorms which have not been sufficient to prevent gradually increasing drought conditions. Except for a hot spell in late June and another short heat wave in mid-July temperatures have consistently been somewhat under normal. The lowering water level has produced good shorebirding along Lake Ontario but many of the mudflats elsewhere are so grown up with vegetation that they are unsuitable for any number of shorebirds.

Loons — Ducks: There was not a single report of any grebes during the period.

No American Egrets have been reported in our region this year. Black-crowned Night Herons and American Bitterns, which were almost unreported in the early part of the period, appeared in normal numbers by mid-July. A Least Bittern was at Buck Pond June 16 (Tanghe, Dobson). Although this bird is fairly well distributed in this area, it can be very elusive and easily overlooked unless especially searched for. An adult Whistling Swan appeared at Manitou July 6 (Listman) and remained for the rest of the period. The last Brant for the spring migration were three birds June 6 at Manitou. A single male Pintail was reported July 24 at Ling Road (O'Hara). A Green-winged Teal was observed at Buck Pond June 8; small numbers were appearing by the end of the period. Two Hooded Mergansers were along the Ontario shore west of Rochester June 8.

Hawks — Owls: 19 Turkey Vultures were seen at Bergen Swamp June 9. Eight Broad-winged Hawks on June 14 at Manitou (Listman) marked our last spring date for this species. One Bald Eagle was at Braddock Bay June 6 (Listman).

One Black-bellied Plover was seen Aug 3 at Shore Acres. Two records so far this year for Hudsonian Curlew: the first July 15 (Listman) and the second Aug 12 (Holland), both from Braddock Bay and both of single birds. A Greater Yellowlegs seen June 20 and July 6 at Buck Pond may have been a summering bird. One Lesser Yellowlegs June 2 at Ling Road was our last spring date. The only record for the Knot for the period was a single bird June 4-8 at Manitou. The first fall White-rumped Sandpiper was seen Aug 10 at Shore Acres. Dowitchers occurred in fair numbers, ten seen July 27 along the west lakeshore being the largest number reported. Five Stilt Sandpipers at Manitou July 20 (Starling, Miller) were the largest number seen, although from one to three birds were frequently reported. Two Semipalmated Sandpipers were reported from Manitou Jun 12. There was a heavy late May and early June flight of "Peep" of which some were surely and an additional number probably Western Sandpipers. Some believe that this late flight was composed **mainly** of **Westerns**. A little careful collecting could probably settle this thorny question. A single Sanderling on May 30 and three birds June 8 gave two records of this rare spring shorebird. A Wilson's Phalarope was at Ling Road for a short time June 2 (Tanghe, Miller).

A sub-adult Franklin's Gull was seen at Manitou on July 15-16 (Listman). A Caspian Tern was at Manitou June 20 and the species was present in small numbers during the last month of the period. A pair of Barn Owls which have nested irregularly in a barn in Scottsville were burned out by a fire which destroyed the building. Apparently they lost either young or eggs. Mourning Doves seem unusually common this summer.

Swifts — Shrikes: A pair of Red-headed Woodpeckers again nested at Manitou this summer. A single Cliff Swallow was seen at Braddock Bay June 18, and another or the same bird was seen July 28 and Aug 3. Four Carolina Wrens were seen or heard along Irondequoit Creek Aug 4 (Miller) and a nest of this species was found in an outbuilding just south of Rochester. Two young were reared in this nest of which one was banded (Starling, Leubner). A Blue-gray Gnatcatcher was seen Aug 11 at Tryon Park (Miller). A few Migrant Shrikes have been seen west of Rochester during the period.

Warblers — Sparrows: No Prothonotary Warblers were reported this year. Two singing male Nashville Warblers were at Bergen Swamp June 9. The Yellow-breasted Chat was reported June 23 at Conesus (Haller) and at LeRoy where it has become a regular summer resident. The Western Meadowlark apparently nested successfully at Manitou. The writer will discuss this more fully in a separate note. A White-throated Sparrow was heard singing on the edge of Bergen Swamp June 9 and a very late migrant White-crowned Sparrow was seen in Island Cottage Woods June 1 (O'Hara).

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