

tridge had a good season. They are found in parts of Jefferson and St. Lawrence Counties. A late date for Solitary Sandpipers Oct 8 near Madrid. Six Knots appeared at Stony Point Sept 7 (Gordon et al). Belknap found a Willet at El Dorado Aug 28. On Aug 25 Gordon saw Black-bellied Plovers, Lesser Yellowlegs and Sanderlings at Stony Point and on Sept 7 an Eastern Dowitcher still in spring plumage. A very late date for Greater Yellowlegs was Nov 29 at Sherwin's Bay (Belknap). Great Black-backed Gulls were reported twice, Nov 9 at Adams Cove, Lake Ontario and Nov 14 near Morristown. A few Snowy Owls have been seen, two reported from St. Lawrence County the second half of November, one at Chaumont Nov 22 and two north of Watertown very early in December. In Lewis County a Barred Owl was seen near Natural Bridge Oct 16 (Gordon). J. Blake found a Long-eared Owl near Clayton on Sept 20, and Hickok and Nichols saw a Short-eared Owl on Nov 26 near Waddington.

Swifts — Shrikes: A late date for Phoebe is Oct 17 at Waddington (Nichols). Tree Swallows along the St. Lawrence River were estimated at 2,000 near Red Mills on Aug 16, and Cliff Swallows resting on wires at Cranberry Lake village Aug 17 numbered about 800 (Nichols). Gordon found Winter Wrens near Belfort, Lewis County on Sept 8, and at Great Bend Oct 14. On Nov 24 a Mockingbird was discovered in Watertown where it was seen by several persons including some who know the bird very well. It was also seen Nov 27 and Dec 2 at the same place. American Pipits were at Stony Point Oct 6. Belknap saw eight Northern Shrikes Oct 25 to the end of November.

Vireos — Warblers: Rev. Nichols did not see a Yellow-throated Vireo in 1957, Gordon saw a Blue-headed Vireo at Perch Lake Sept 28. He also reports Wilson's Warbler Sept 21 and a Black-throated Blue, Sept 22, both near Watertown. Nichols observed the Tennessee Warbler at Cranberry Lake Aug 17, and Myrtle Warbler at Madrid Nov 22. J. Blake noticed many unidentified warblers Oct 29, but they probably included Canada and Magnolia Warblers.

Blackbirds — Sparrows: Three Rusty Blackbirds were seen Aug 17 in a wild swamp near Wanakena where they may have nested, and a flock of 200 was seen at Lafargeville Oct 29. For several months there have been vague reports or rumors of Cardinals being seen near Watertown, but on Nov 16 Art Allen called my attention to a male Cardinal in his back yard. Many small flocks of Evening Grosbeaks have been reported, and by the end of the period larger groups have been seen. There were six at Madrid Spt 23 with scattered observations since. They were said to be plentiful near Potsdam (L. Blake). They first appeared in Watertown Oct 9, and have been seen many times since. Banded birds have been noticed near Potsdam and at Watertown. Last year there were no Pine Grosbeaks, but this year they have been reported often in St. Lawrence and Jefferson Counties from Nov 14 to early December. Redpolls are being seen more often than a year ago. The first record is Oct 31 near Red Mills. Belknap says they were common the latter part of November. Allen found Pine Siskins Oct 4 at Felts Mills and Red Crossbills at Camp Drum Nov 18. One Lapland Longspur was seen near Philadelphia Oct 27 (Belknap).

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REGION 7 — ADIRONDACK - CHAMPLAIN

THOMAS A. LESPERANCE

Due to the very dry summer and late fall season there were very few birds locally, and hardly any migratory birds stopped over at all. Many trees actually shriveled and died, maple trees colored prematurely and streams that had never before been known to have dried were completely waterless. They tell us that the water table has dropped 18 feet in the past 57 years. With the beaches bordering Lake Champlain becoming ever wider with each dry summer, one wonders why they now want to dredge the Richelieu River deeper.

Loons — Geese: Here in the North Country we now have a new problem, which has given the local population grave concern. We never realized the additional

pressure that would be applied to the local duck population by the personnel of the Plattsburg Strategic Air Command Base. Duck shooting here is a thing of the past, as after the first day of the open season there were no ducks to be seen from Plattsburg south to the Willsboro Bay area. Many were probably driven off to other grounds, but the hunter take was staggering for such a small area.

In their order of abundance: Black, Green-winged Teal, Wood Duck, Pintail, Mallard, Ring-neck, Greater and Lesser Scaup, Goldeneye, Oldsquaw, Bufflehead, White-winged Scoter, Shoveler, Canada Goose, Blue Goose. Mergansers are always plentiful, and Hooded were exceptionally prominent this fall. Large broods of Blacks were at Wickham's and Ausable Marshes during the late summer, and Amstutz notes broods of Black, Ringnecks and Mergansers at Sunmount.

Hawks — Owls: Many Goshawks were about this year, a number brought in by hunters to be mounted. Sparrow Hawks still noted in early December. Great Horned Owls were heard "booming" along the river, and three Barred Owls were killed by cars along the upper reaches of Ausable Marsh.

Woodpeckers — Warblers: One Arctic Three-toed seen at Sugarloaf Mountain Nov 18. Many Pileated, Hairy and Downy, mostly in the heavy timber area. Robins seen until Nov 8 at Keeseville and at Sunmount by Amstutz until Sept 28. Many Bluebirds were around until late October and a Hermit Thrush was at Sunmount Oct 6. Crested and Alder Flycatchers, Wood Pewee and Phoebe were noted in Wickham's Marsh until the last week of October. At Keeseville there were no interesting warbler waves, but at Sunmount Miss Amstutz noted good waves.

Finches — Sparrows: Pine and Evening Grosbeaks have been noted in good numbers in the Plattsburg, Sunmount and Pok-o-Moonshine areas. Goldfinches seem to be in every wooded area, feeding on white birch seeds. Siskins have also been noted with Golden-crowned Kinglets and Brown Creepers. Sparrows seemed to mass in numbers and move out all at once. Large numbers of Grasshopper, Savannah, Song, White-crowned and White-throated mixed with Field and Tree Sparrows were recorded in the Keeseville and Tupper Lake areas until the third week of October. Miss Amstutz noted a Fox Sparrow also.

Keeseville

REGION 8 — MOHAWK - HUDSON

JAMES K. MERITT

The fall months were relatively warm and dry. Most observers in the Mohawk-Hudson region thought the fall warbler migration was a good one, certainly better than that of the spring. Undoubtedly because of the warm weather, there were many late warbler departure dates. The waterfowl migration, on the other hand, was not as conspicuous this fall as might be expected.

The dry weather had a direct effect on the number of shorebird reports. Normally, there are few spots in this inland area where any shorebirds — other than the very common ones — can be found with any degree of certainty. However, the low water level this fall left flats exposed at many local lakes and reservoirs, and thirteen varieties of shorebirds were reported.

The influx of certain southern birds continued. There was a continuing increase in the number of reports of the Cardinal and Carolina Wren, and no less than six Tufted Titmice were reported. These are the first in this region in several years. We also had visitors from the north. Following three late September observations of Evening Grosbeak, there were many reports thereafter. There were scattered observations also of the Redpoll and Pine Siskin and more than just a few of the Pine Grosbeak.

Loons — Ducks: A Holboell's Grebe was seen at Tomhannock Reservoir on Nov 3, and on the 17th two were at Saratoga Lake (Schenectady Bird Club). The high count of Horned Grebes was the 300 or so seen at Saratoga Lake on Nov 23