

crowned Sparrows were at Livingston until Nov 10 (Munson). Fox Sparrows were quite commonly reported, the high count being about 30 at New Concord on Nov 1 (Radke). Single Lincoln's Sparrows were at Amsterdam on Sept 23 and Oct 8, and on Oct 20 no less than six were there (Fitzgerald). A lone Snow Bunting was at Crescent Reservoir on Oct 20 (SBC). On Oct 17 there were other reports of single birds from Nassau (Shineman, Turner) and Schodack (Turner). One was at Livingston on Nov 23 (Munson).

I would again like to urge observers, both transient and resident, to send in records. Two areas in particular — Lake George and the northern Catskills — need better coverage.

16 Ellen Lane, Scotia 2

REGION 9 — DELAWARE - HUDSON

FRED N. HOUGH

Summer gave way to the Autumnal equinox with little upset in the weather stability pattern, with the result that our region had less than normal rainfall for most of the period and with correspondingly above normal temperatures.

Migrant birds flowed through in a rather normal fashion exhibiting wave concentrations along certain areas and dribbling erratic species here and there about the region in general. The unprecedented early move on the part of certain of the Northern Finches, especially the Evening Grosbeak, gave rise to some speculation that wintering populations would run high but unhappily the chances of this happening is greatly lessened by a season of rather poor seed crop among many trees and shrubs that would normally provide winter fare.

The Fall Season produced such rare visitants as: *Harlequin Duck*; *Golden Plover*; *Am. Three-toed Woodpecker* and others of lesser rarity but just as interesting.

Loons — Ducks: Some early Green-winged Teal arrived Sept 29 at Iona Island near Bear Mountain (John Orth). Martha Earl found several Canvasbacks inland at Tomahawk Lake, Orange Co., Oct 30 & Nov 1. At Mohonk Lake, Ulster County on Nov 6, an Old Squaw male was discovered and after remaining for several days the bird was found dead (Nov 12). Dissection by Heinz Meng found no apparent cause for the death (Dan Smiley). A male **Harlequin Duck** was seen on the Croton Falls Reservoir, Putnam County, Nov 17 by Mr. and Mrs. John Kelly and son Edward, making what is probably the first record of this duck for our region. John Orth reports both the White-winged and American Scoters in the Bear Mountain area during the fall migration. A flock of about 75 Ruddy Ducks was seen on Tomahawk Lake, Orange County, Nov 3 (Martha Earl).

Hawks — Owls: Hawk flights through the region seemed quite normal. A Goshawk was observed near Carmel, Putnam on Oct 19 (Mabel Little). As is often the case in dry years the extensive mud flats exposed by low water in our various reservoirs and ponds proved to be an attraction to the migrant Shorebirds. Records this year have proved varied and interesting. The Semipalmated Plover appeared at the Piermont area of Rockland on Aug 16 (David Hill). This Plover is seldom reported by Shorebird observers here. A lone **Golden Plover** appeared on the mud flats of Lake Maratanza, Ulster County on Sept 28 and 29 and was carefully studied by Chandler Young and Henry and Ilse Dunbar. This is another county first. Also on Lake Maratanza mud flats with the Golden Plover were Pectoral Sandpipers, an Upland Plover and two White-rumped Sandpipers. The White-rumps are first records for Ulster Co. This same species was found earlier in the season (Aug 31) in the Lake DeForest area of Rockland County by Mr and Mrs. Frank Steffens and Ed Treacy. This is also Rockland's first record. Steffens and Treacy also made

the second Rockland record that day for the Western Sandpiper found also at Lake Deforest. A small number of Caspian Terns were again seen on the Ashokan Reservoir, Ulster Co., Aug 20 (Al Feldman).

Swifts — Shrikes: A rather late Hummingbird was seen at Mohonk Lake, Ulster on Oct 2 (Dan Smiley). Martha Earl believes the Red-headed Woodpecker may be more common in Orange County. One of this species was seen near Lyonsville, Ulster County, Oct 2 (F. H.). A rare downstate find was a pair of **American Three-toed Woodpeckers** discovered in the vicinity of the home of Blanche Edwards, Waterbury Manor, Peekskill, Westchester. The birds were also seen by Helene Olandt. Martha Earl records six Barn Swallows on Oct 1 and one on Oct 7 in migration near Washingtonville, Orange County. In Ulster it was another year of high Blue Jay migration, the flights occurring chiefly during the last week in Sept and the first week in Oct. An **American Magpie**, vagrant visitor from the West, appeared at the feeding station of Mr. and Mrs. John Madden of Kent, Putnam County on Oct 21. Large crow flights occurred during latter October. Wandering Tufted Titmice would indicate that the bird has become increasingly more common in our region. It was a lesser flight year for the Red-breasted Nuthatch. A Mockingbird was seen near Stone Ridge, Ulster County, Nov 4 and for a few days thereafter before disappearing (Fred Hough; Milford Van Demark). The Mockingbirds that nested near Lake De Forest, Rockland are reported to be still in the area (Bob Deed). A late Wood Thrush was found on Oct 26 near Stony Point, Rockland (Irving Kennedy). On Sept 14 and 15 Fred Hough and Dan Smiley spent the night on Slide Mountain in the Catskills and were surprised to find Bicknell's Thrush still there and **singing!** Birds were heard both in the evening and at dawn. The visit to Slide in August of the previous year found Bicknell's completely silent, so with the information gathered so far it seems to indicate that on the eve of its departure south this Thrush renews its singing following the period of late summer silence. Happily, the Bluebird flights were in most cases considered good.

Vireos — Warblers: Bob Deed and Mrs. William Grierson report good concentrations of warblers in the lower Hudson area of Rockland and Westchester. Bob says the wave that occurred in latter September and early October in his county (Rockland) was a late one and of good numbers. Many reports indicate the Blackpoll Warbler was one of the most common warbler migrants seen during the Fall migration. On the Sept 14 & 15 trip to Slide Mountain the Blackpoll was still to be heard singing a little (F. H.; D. S.) A Cerulean Warbler was seen Oct 3 at West Nyack by Frances Irving. A Mourning Warbler was seen at Paponach, Ulster County on Oct 1 (Chandler Young). A rather late Wilson's Warbler was killed upon hitting a picture window in the home of John Colgan, Upper Nyack, Rockland, Oct 18.

Blackbirds — Sparrows: The Dickcissel appeared in New City, Rockland, Nov 19 (Frank Steffens). Evening Grosbeaks moved into the region exceptionally early this year with the earliest date of arrival occurring near High Falls, in Ulster County on Oct 5 (Henry & Ilse Dunbar) and a little later, on Oct 10, in Katonah, Westchester (Stanley Grierson). Purple Finches were abundant throughout the region during September and October but dropped off in November. Small flights of Pine Grosbeaks came in during early November but show little promise of large wintering flocks. A spectacular find was made by Emily Paulson upon discovering a Common Redpoll near Pearl River on the early date of Oct 10. This is a first fall record for Rockland County. The Pine Siskin abounded in numerous small flocks throughout the Hudson Valley during latter September and October. One solitary Red Crossbill was spotted near Lomontville, Ulster County, on Oct 13 by Henry Dunbar. Most of the above Finches show a decided dropping off during latter November and this may be correlated with the poor seed crop. This may also be an opportunity for the bird feeders to attract wandering birds to their feeding stations. Lincoln's Sparrow showed up near Washingtonville, Orange County on Sept 29 and four were ultimately banded by Martha Earl. A small number of Snowflakes arrived in the Region at the end of October.

Accord 1