

The warbler, apparently placed in a ridiculous situation, lost interest and immediately departed.

Some further hunting occurred as the Olive-sided acquired a few more insects, but at 7:09, after some 114 minutes under observation, and with daylight lessening, the Olive-sided left, apparently to bed down elsewhere for the night. I saw it no more, nor did I see any others that season. John J. Elliott, 3994 Park Avenue, Seaford, L. I.

THE WINTER SEASON: DECEMBER 1 TO MARCH 31

There is little to say about the season just past except that it was a fine demonstration up-state of the effects of the "real old-fashioned winters." Each regional report has its story about the February blizzards and their toll of bird life. This year especially after the mild weather extending through Christmas which held many of the half-hardy species over, we had an opportunity to witness how destructive the inclement weather can be. It will be interesting to note continuing levels in the populations of such birds as the Tufted Titmouse and the Carolina Wren. It will be interesting too to speculate on the differing effects on birds which utilize feeders and those which do not.

Noteworthy was the winter finch flight with Redpolls in the vanguard. 14 Snowy Owl reports, six from Finger Lakes. There was very little evidence of an echo flight of Three-toed Woodpeckers. The Cardinal continues to spread to the northeast, this winter bringing a report from the central Adirondacks. It is unfortunate that this bird did not make it through the winter. GRR

REGION 1—NIAGARA FRONTIER

ROBERT F. ANDRLE

The cold and stormy weather of November continued to mid-December but the marked higher temperatures during the latter half of the month made it the warmest December in 26 years. A sleety, snowy and comparatively cold first three weeks of January followed but a "thaw" in the last week saw temperatures fluctuating little from the freezing point. There was no ice in Lake Erie nor much in Buffalo harbor until February which ushered in severe weather with more snow (54.2 inches) than in any month on record. It was also a cold month with a record low of -5° F on the 18th after a weekend storm left more than two feet of snow over much of the region. Alternate thawing and freezing late in the month and through March removed much of the snow cover without causing flooding. During the last month of the period near normal temperatures prevailed (average 34.5° F) and precipitation was very light. Unusually low wind velocities occurred and prevailing easterly winds during the latter part of March caused open water by moving much Lake Erie ice to the westward. Great numbers of gulls continued to be present through December but soon after the advent of harsher weather and the formation of the ice bridge below Niagara Falls in January they decreased greatly. Slightly more than the normal number of half-hardy birds were observed through December and the flights of Evening Grosbeaks, Common Redpolls and Snow Buntings continued quite heavily during the period. The feeders south of Buffalo were well patronized by the Grosbeaks. Tufted Titmice and Carolina Wrens also appeared