

May 18. Wilson's Warbler: total of nine reported this spring with date range May 16 to 31. Redstart: outstandingly scarce in migration though there appears to be no decrease in the numbers of breeding birds.

Meadowlark: reports from Skaneateles, Texas, Brewerton; and Oneida indicate increased numbers of this species; this is surprising in view of the depletion of other early migrants and the marked local loss of this species in the past winter.

Cardinal: despite a hard winter, spring reports of this species are more abundant than ever, especially in the Camillus-Marcellus Valley to the west of and the Limestone and Butternut Creek Valleys to the east of Syracuse. Evening Grosbeak: present through May in small flocks (4-20) with the last report on June 1, six males near Rome (Aspinwall). Redpoll: a female, carefully observed at three-foot distance, on May 13 near Stokes is phenomenally late (Smith fide Aspinwall). Pine Siskin: a short late May flight, May 11 to 25, with a peak of 30 on May 21. Savannah and Vesper Sparrows: both late in arriving, Apr 6 and 5 respectively; daily checks at Oakwood Cemetery in Syracuse, an area where they do not breed, showed these species and Swamp Sparrows migrating through until early May. Slate-colored Junco: departure date is May 17, Syracuse. Oregon Junco: an adult bird feeding with a flock of Slate-colored Juncos, Apr 20, Selkirk Shores State Park is a rare find (Spofford, Scheider, et al). Chipping Sparrow: a notable wave of these with warblers on May 13 and for the next week they flocked with anything — Siskins, Goldfinches, Warblers, and Waxwings. White-crowned Sparrow: very late in arriving (May 11) and hasty in departing (May 18). Fox Sparrow: remarkably scarce through entire spring; high count is three, Apr 24, with the total number of reports **six**; last date is May 1.

151 Seventh North Street, Syracuse 8

REGION 6—ST. LAWRENCE

FRANK A. CLINCH

In early April the weather was about normal. Birds seemed a little late in coming to us, but this could hardly be explained by the weather conditions in this region. In May the temperatures were about average, but with no hot days. The birds began to arrive at about the usual time.

The second Annual Spring Bird Census taken May 3-18 showed 157 species in this region. This is about the same as last year, but thirteen species seen last year were not reported in this census.

Loons — Ducks: Two Glossy Ibis were found at Perch Lake Refuge May 4 by Charles Mayhood. Later they were seen by Gordon, Allen and district game manager John Wilson. Canada Geese stayed in St. Lawrence County as late as May 12. Wood Ducks arrived early in St. Lawrence County, Apr 8. On that date Nichols saw nine species and reports that there were thousands of ducks at Chippewa Bay. At Perch Lake Refuge the Wood Duck population is good this year and more of the nesting boxes are being used this year than last year (Wilson). Pintails and Red-heads stayed late at Perch River and may be nesting there. Some dates for St. Lawrence County are: Green-winged Teal and American Widgeon May 6, and Bufflehead May 13.

Hawks — Owls: The Osprey nest is being used again this year (Allen). Five Bald Eagles were seen at Stony Point May 10. The first date for Sora Rail at Perch Lake was May 3. Wilson finds that the Gallinule, Coot and Black Tern population at Perch Lake is high. An Iceland Gull appeared at Pillar Point Apr 6. A Barn Owl was seen in Dexter May 25 and appears to be living there (Allen). There seems to be no other recent record of a Barn Owl in this region. Gordon saw two Short-eared Owls flying over the fields north of Watertown Apr 6.

Swifts — Sparrows: Two Red-headed Woodpeckers were observed near Perch River May 18 where they are now nesting. Wilson saw few Bluebirds and Wrens this spring. Gordon reports few Hermit Thrushes and no Bay-breasted Warblers. Palm Warblers were seen in St. Lawrence County May 13 and in Jefferson County May 18. The last date for Evening Grosbeaks in Watertown was May 17. The first date for Rose-breasted Grosbeaks near Watertown was May 11 and they seemed unusually numerous this spring (Gordon).

More information has been obtained about the Richardson's Owl mentioned

in the last report. The bird was killed when it flew into a car through an open window. This happened near Ogdensburg in St. Lawrence County. The dead owl was discarded near Deferiet where it was found about four days later.

173 *Haley Street, Watertown*

REGION 7 — ADIRONDACK - CHAMPLAIN

THOMAS A. LESPERANCE

With spring temperatures below normal and continued wet weather there was an almost imperceptible blending of the season from spring to summer. There were no waves of migrants as the term applies, at least in the Champlain area. It was a general slow infiltration, and due to the coolness and the rain the individual birds did not in their usual way cooperate with song which always makes it easy to discover them. Later as the season progressed and the birds paired off to mate and raise their young the usual species to be found became more evident by their song and individual feeding habits.

Those who applied themselves, even for a few minutes each day during the peak of the migration, were rewarded by the discovery of two new species for our area, the Mockingbird and Red-headed Woodpecker. This brings the total of new species discovered in our area the last three years to five. One of these, the Clay-colored Sparrow, is a typical western species, while the other four are usually considered southern. The incursion of the new and generally southern species could therefore denote a warming trend, which certainly was not characterized by the climate we had this spring. However, the general trend is toward a dryer and warmer climate. It is not too far fetched to predict that should the trend continue more of the southern species shall eventually be found and recorded in this area.

I wish especially to thank Miss Agnes Amstutz of Tupper Lake for the thorough and complete report she submitted to me. All arrival dates and observations listed below are hers, excepted where indicated. My own observations parallel hers very closely.

Loons — Shrikes: Bitterns were seen in late April, but they were generally scarce throughout the period. Geese were quite common this year, and Snow Geese were seen the week of Apr 12. By Apr 12 Hooded Mergansers, Common Mergansers, Ring-necked Ducks, Black Ducks, and Common Goldeneyes had appeared on the lakes, although most of the water was still frozen. The Spotted Sandpiper and Solitary Sandpiper were seen the week of May 17.

A Red-headed Woodpecker, a new area record, was seen near Saranac Lake the last week of May by Mr. Greenleaf Chase, District Game Manager for the N. Y. S. Conservation Department. Olive-sided Flycatchers were noted on several occasions in late May. Canada Jays were noted the week of Apr 12. Red-breasted Nuthatches were common throughout the period, but Bluebirds and all thrushes seemed scarce, especially the Hermit. The Mockingbird was observed near Plattsburg by Dr. Reese Nevin, head of the Biology Department at Plattsburg State Teachers College.

Vireos — Sparrows: An excellent warbler wave was noted on May 10. Especially common were the Black-throated Green, Black-throated Blue, Chestnut-sided, Yellow-throat, and Waterthrushes. There were few Myrtles and Parulas. The Bay-breasted Warbler was recorded.

Purple Finches were relatively scarce. Evening Grosbeaks were noted throughout the period. Juncos were quite common, both in April and May. Fox Sparrows and Savannah Sparrows had arrived by Apr 1, and Fox Sparrows were last seen Apr 19. On May 11, a cold and rainy morning, many White-crowned Sparrows were noted, and their obvious presence was even commented on by non-birders. The birds were present for some time thereafter.

Keeseville