

the western part of the state. It was seen in Region 2. Ithaca's Clay-colored Sparrow, first reported in the spring, continued to be present. The appearance of a Lark Bunting on Long Island created some excitement there, and this bird was seen by numerous observers.

REGION 1 — NIAGARA FRONTIER

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The weather during June was typical for the month with average temperature and precipitation deviating little from normal. Several local convective storms were the only disturbances during a generally fair and pleasant month. July continued this trend with an average temperature 2.2°F above normal and sunshine exceeding its own monthly mean by eleven percent. Precipitation was somewhat below normal and was scattered so that some sections suffered from drought. The several spectacular thunderstorms did not do much to alleviate the dryness especially in the northern part of the region. The temperature during the first week in August averaged slightly above normal and some very warm days occurred at the end of the period. No high winds or widespread severe weather was experienced through June, July and the first half of August, the fairly numerous local thunderstorms being the only interruptions in a warm and sunny summer. Water levels in ponds and streams dropped considerably and Lake Erie's level remained low for the third successive summer. Apparently breeding conditions were good for Ring-necked Pheasants and some of the ground nesting passerines. The low water in swamps and marshes attracted herons and shorebirds, especially at localities such as Oak Orchard Swamp and various inland ponds.

Loons — Ducks: A Common Loon was on the Niagara River at the Falls on Jun 14 (Brockner). The report of four Common Egrets at Oak Orchard Swamp on Jul 14 (Anderson rep Andrle) was the only one for this species during the period. This seems unusual as apparently there was a good influx of egrets in the northeast indicated by reports from several localities. Ducks appeared to have had a good breeding season in many parts of the region. A Green-winged Teal was seen near Varysburg on Aug 1 (Rosche, Krayna, Rubach). An observation of four American Widgeon at Oak Orchard on Jun 21 (Brockners) was of interest. On Jul 15 a Pintail, an uncommon nester in the region, was seen at Oak Orchard (Andrle). Hooded Mergansers were noted in a number of places, probably indicating a fairly good breeding season. From one to four individuals were reported from Ashford Hollow, Warsaw (Jun 21, 27; Rosche et al), Varysburg (Jul 19, 22; Rosche et al), and Langford (Jul 20; Bourne, Avery). On Aug 8 Rosche counted 73 Wood Ducks in Wyoming County.

Hawks — Owls: Birds of prey seemed to be generally in below normal numbers, especially Marsh Hawks. A Broad-winged Hawk was seen Jul 27 near Colden (Rosche et al), and Eaton observed a nest near Olean in June. This species nests regularly in scattered localities through the Allegheny Plateau. Individual Bald Eagles were noted on Jun 8 over East Eden Pond (Bourne), and on Jul 15 an adult was at Oak Orchard Swamp (Anderson rep Andrle). A King Rail with five young out of the nest was found in a small pond just south of Langford on Jul 19 (Bourne) and was seen by many observers until the first week in August. Some species of shorebirds remained later in June than normal and at the end of the month it was not possible to be sure whether they were stragglers from the spring migration or southward bound migrants. A Common Snipe was seen near Pike on Jun 27 (Rosche), and a maximum of five was noted in the Warsaw-Varysburg area through August by the same observer. This species is not often located in June during the breeding season in the region. The last migrant Least Sandpipers (6) were observed near Wethersfield on Jun 3 (Rosche). The lowered water level of Delaware

Park Lake in Buffalo in late July and August and the creation of mud areas brought shorebirds including Spotted, Solitary, Least, Semipalmated, and Pectoral Sandpipers and Lesser Yellowlegs. On Jul 11, on the south shore of Lake Erie at Sturgeon Point Bourne found two Whimbrels, the first fall migrants of this species reported for the region. A maximum of 16 Solitary Sandpipers was noted by Rosche and Blowers on Aug 8 in western Wyoming County. A greater Yellowlegs at the pond near Landford on Jul 20 (Bourne, Avery) marked the first appearance of this species returning south. A maximum of 10 were counted on Aug 1 in western Wyoming County (Rosche, Krayna, Rubach). On Aug 8 a total of 34 Lesser Yellowlegs was the greatest number for this species in the same area. A Stilt Sandpiper was observed near Warsaw on Aug 1 (Rosche, Krayna, Rubach). Although this species occurs regularly in the summer and fall on the north shore of Lake Erie (Canada), it is seldom seen inland in western New York. The Barn Owls apparently were successful in raising young in North Tonawanda as four birds were seen on Jun 23 (Rosche et al) and Jul 9 (Bourne). Of interest was a Long-eared Owl found at Hamburg Jul 8 (Bourne).

Goatsuckers — Shrikes: Common Nighthawks appeared to be in normal numbers within the city of Buffalo, and a female with two young was successfully photographed on the roof of the Buffalo Museum of Science in July. The bird roost at Jamestown contained 10,000 Purple Martins and 1000 Barn Swallows on Aug 10 (Beal). A Tufted Titmouse was seen on Aug 12 at Jamestown (Beal) and two remained all month at Lakewood in Chautauqua County (Babath rep. Beal). A Carolina Wren stayed through the month of August at Hamburg (Avery). Three Swainson's Thrushes, an uncommon breeder in the region, were reported from Allegheny State Park on Jul 3 (Parker, Lenna, Knot). Bluebirds were apparently still low in numbers in the region. A pair of Golden-crowned Kinglets, the male singing repeatedly, was found at McCarty Hill near Ellicottville on Jun 27 (Andrle et al). An intensive search failed to discover the nest.

Vireos — Warblers: No warbler migration was noted up to the end of the period. A parula Warbler, probably a late migrant, was seen on Hickox Road in Hamburg on June 9 (Bourne). Not worthy was the observation of a Northern Waterthrush on Jun 9 in a wooded swamp near Sinclairville (Rew, Rathbun). This species is known to breed in only a few localities in the region. A thorough search in the reforested area at McCarty Hill near Ellicottville on Jun 27 failed to locate either Myrtle or Bay-breasted Warblers which had been seen the previous year.

Blackbirds — Sparrows: On Aug 12 Bourne saw 26 Bobolinks in fall plumage in the vicinity of the pond near Langford. An Orchard Oriole was seen on Jul 11 in North Evans (Bourne). There have been several records of this species south of Buffalo recently. It is hoped that this indicates an increase in their numbers in western New York. Cardinals continued to be conspicuously present in many sections of the region and are now found regularly at a number of locations within Buffalo. Chipping Sparrows appear to have decreased considerably over the past decade or more in many urban localities in the Niagara Frontier. A singing White-throated Sparrow was located in a swamp near Sinclairville in the Allegheny Plateau on Jun 5.

Buffalo Museum of Science, Buffalo 11

REGION 2 — GENESEE

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The weather for the period averaged much hotter and much drier than normal. The temperature reached 90° or above on twelve days; this mark was reached just once last year during the entire summer. The rainfall from June 1 to August 15 was only about 40% of normal, resulting in drought conditions during the last month of the period. The water level remained above last year's very low mark, however, although it dropped rather rapidly during the last several weeks of the period.

Birdwise, the period was marked by late lingering shorebirds of the spring migration, a rather early start of the fall shorebird flight, the rather