

were reported often with a peak of 250 Nov 14 at SSSP; lesser numbers (15-60) present to Nov 30.

Red Crossbill: small (four - six/day) scattered groups seen at Syracuse, HIGMA and Beaver Lake after Nov 12; 20, two-thirds of which were adult males, Nov 27 south of Brookfield (the Whites) is the peak figure.

A superb early (Sep 20 - Oct 20) sparrow flight flooded the local fields and brushlots; however, the later species, particularly Junco and Tree Sparrow, came thru in reduced numbers, and Nodecker at Oneida and Burt on his feeder survey noted decreases in these species. Savannah Sparrow: peak count is 35, Oct 5, Stevens Pond near Phoenix; last reported Oct 23 (early), two, Onondaga Lake. Grasshopper and Henslow's Sparrows: departure dates are Oct 15, one near Mapleview, and Oct 9, one at SSSP, respectively; mid-Oct dates are most likely normal departure times for these species although the greater proportion of local birds leave by mid-September. Sharp-tailed Sparrow: a single bird, Aug 29, in the wet grass edge of a wildlife marsh near Texas (Evans) is early; the species is very seldom observed in this region.

Slate-colored Junco: arrival date of Sep 19 (late), two at SSSP; 40 — 75/day thru the last week of Oct (very low, especially in comparison with last year's counts). Tree Sparrow: first noted Oct 22 at Oneida; late Oct counts 100 - 150/day and the max. Nov count is 120 (low) Nov 20 at TRGMA. Chipping and Field Sparrows: prominent species in the early sparrow flight; high counts respectively are 75 Oct 15, Dry Bridge Road near Mapleview and 120, Oct 8, TRGMA and Beaver Lake; Chippings were last noted on Nov 16 (late), two at Oneida, and Fields on Oct 30 (early), one near Mapleview. White-crowned Sparrow: two on Sep 30 at Oneida are the first fall arrivals; a massive flight in the first ten days of Oct with 450 Oct 8 at TRGMA and Beaver Lake (Ackley, Paquette); a rapid fall in the last week of Oct with no Nov records. White-throated Sparrow: first noted at Syracuse Sep 14 (late); a very heavy Oct flight (400 on Oct 8) in the western third of the region but sorely deficient at Oneida, Rome, and Sylvan and Verona Beaches (Nodecker, Ackley, Paquette). Fox Sparrow: one on Sep 28 at SSSP was early; noted in small numbers (three-four/day) to departure date of Nov 6 (very early). Lincoln's Sparrow: between Sep 16 (arrival date) and the departure date of Oct 8 at least a dozen were seen amongst the many sparrow flocks in the brush patches at TRGMA, Beaver Lake, and Oneida. Swamp and Song Sparrow: peak counts of 105 and 400 respectively Oct 8 at TRGMA, Beaver Lake, and HIGMA give some indication of both the magnitude of the sparrow flight and the earliness with which the majority of these species populations moved thru the area; correspondingly, Nov counts for both species were notably lower than last year's despite the milder weather. Snow Bunting: first noted Oct 9 (early) near SP (Dr. Thurber); peak count 175, Oct 30 (early for this number) with Nov counts in 25-60/day range; one — six Lapland Longspurs intermittently noted with the Nov flocks of Snow Buntings.

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REGION 6—ST. LAWRENCE

FRANK A. CLINCH

Temperatures for the latter half of August and September were below normal. October and November were cool, but there was no really cold weather until the last day of November when real winter weather arrived and covered much of this region with snow.

Rainfall was light in September and October. However, this was after the growing season for most vegetation. The leaves on many trees were brilliantly colored, and they remained on the trees until very late. In fact, the first snow came with many leaves still on the trees, but this snow melted in a short time and many branches were broken by the weight of the wet snow.

As the trees became bare, the heavy crop of seeds on the box elders was very noticeable. There seemed to be plenty of food for most birds, and with no snow on the ground they did not seem to be interested in coming to feeders.

The bare ground made it easier to see Snowy Owls on posts or near the ground. The most unusual record, however, was that of the three Barrows Goldeneyes which were shot at Stony Point on November 27 (Ed — readers are referred to Frank Clinch's field note in this issue concerning the Barrow's Goldeneyes at

Stony Point. His field note also makes reference to certain other published state records for this erratic and rare winter visitor).

Loon — Ducks: Two or three Great Blue Herons could usually be seen near the dike at the Perch River Game Management Area (PRGMA), but Allen counted 18 there Sep 21. There was a good fight of Shovelers at the Wilson Hill GMA the first week of November. Hunters reported a poor duck season. Some saw large numbers but didn't bag many. There were few Redheads or Cvasbacks. As noted above a male and two female Barrow's Goldeneyes were shot at Stony Point in the eastern part of Lake Ontario on Nov 27. J. Blake noted a scarcity of mergansers. He saw four Common Mergansers and only a few Red-breasted Mergansers.

Hawks — Owls: Gordon saw an immature Red-tailed Hawk near Adams Cove on Nov 21. Several Rough-legged Hawks were reported in October and November, but probably there were more in this area a year ago. One Bald Eagle was seen. Marsh Hawks were apparently last seen on Nov 19 at Point Peninsula.

Most of the reports of shorebirds were birds seen at El Dorado. Some of the dates were: Semipalmated Plover Aug 16 and Sep 29, Black-bellied Plover Aug 16-18, Ruddy Turnstone Aug 16 and Sep 29, Common Snipe and Spotted Sandpiper Aug 16, Greater Yellowlegs Aug 16 and Sep 18, Knot Sep 1, Pectoral Sandpiper Aug 16 and Sep 29, White-rumped Sandpiper Aug 18, Dunlin Aug 18, Least Sandpiper Aug 18 and Sep 29, Short-billed Dowitcher Aug 16 and Sep 29, Stilt Sandpiper Sep 1, Semipalmated Sandpiper Aug 16, Sanderling Aug 16 and Sep 29, and Northern Phalarope about the middle of August. Gordon saw five Woodcock near Natural Bridge in Lewis County on Oct 15.

Two Great Black-backed Gulls were at Adams Cove Nov 19, and many Caspian Terns were at El Dorado Aug 18. One Mourning Dove was at Point Peninsula Nov 19, and another stayed in this area until the end of the month. At least four persons saw Snowy Owl, and the number of birds must have been six or eight. Gordon found two Short-eared Owls at Point Peninsula on Nov 19.

Goatsuckers — Warblers: Hummingbirds stayed late. Two or three were here about Sep 20, and Allen saw another Sep 28. Black-capped Chickadees were less interested in coming to feeders than a year ago. A few Water Pipits appeared at PRGMA and were seen where work on the dike had left the ground bare. Belknap saw a large flock of Cedar Waxwings at Alexandria Bay Nov 23 and a Northern Shrike near Champion Nov 18.

Allen noted waves of warblers near Edwards Sep 3-4 and identified Black-burian, Black and White, Nashville, Magnolia, Myrtle, Black-throated Green, Pine, Ovenbird, Yellowthroat, and Redstart. Many Myrtle Warblers were in the Watertown area Oct 5-10, and the last date for them was Oct 22 near Barnes Corners.

Blackbirds — Sparrows: Several Red-winged Blackbirds remained until Nov 21 and a few until the end of the month. An early date for Rusty Blackbirds was Sep 17 when there were three near Sulphur Springs. A lone Common Grackle was at a feeder near Postdam on Nov 28. A Cardinal was seen in Watertown, and two were near there the last week of November. Around Potsdam the Evening Grosbeaks were present throughout November, but they seldom bothered with the sunflower seeds put out for them. None was around Watertown.

The first Pine Siskins were seen near Watertown Nov 12. A late date for a Rufous-sided Towhee in the Tug Hill section was Oct 1 near Diamond. Gordon found Savannah Sparrows, Vesper Sparrows, and Field Sparrows near Diamond Oct 1. Tree Sparrows were noted in several places Oct 29 — Nov 1. There did not seem to be as many White-crowned Sparrows this fall. The only record for Fox Sparrows was Oct 22 near Barnes Corners. Gordon saw about 50 Snow Buntings at Point Peninsula Nov 5, and Allen saw the same number at Dry Hill on Nov 13.

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REGION 7 — ADIRONDACK - CHAMPLAIN

THOMAS A. LESPERANCE

A normal course of events preceded our true fall season. Defoliation was complete by October 10 due in part to torrential rains and some very unseasonable cold, and to strong westerly winds at that period. A gradual warming trend