

obtained at Oneonta, Binghamton and Corbett (S. Wilson), in Delaware County. Migrants were first seen Mar 4 at Newark Valley (L. Dean) and continued through the month but were always seen in small numbers. There seem to have been Song Sparrows wintering everywhere. Migrants started swelling numbers recorded about Mar 4. Four Lapland Longspurs were reported at Greene Jan 2 (W. Bartlett) and another was at Endicott Jan 7 (M. Marsi, J. Vivier, A. Watkins). Numerous flocks of Snow Buntings were reported and from all parts of the region, numbering all the way from one or two up into the thousands.

710 University Ave., Endwell

REGION 5 — ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

Fritz Scheider

Weatherwise it was a wretched winter. Dec was cold (mean temperature 4.5° below normal with four days zero or lower) and snowy (27.8 inches, ten inches above average.) Severe freezing and heavy snow prior to Christmas dimmed local Christmas Count hopes, but at Syracuse a surprising all-time high of 72 species, a compliment to diligent observers and many feeding stations, was recorded. Jan was even colder (6.7° daily below normal) and the maximum temperature reached 20° or higher on just **one** day. Snowfall of 37.3 inches (all but one inch in the first 15 days) was twice the normal amount. The severe cold and snowfall were the doom of many half-hardies (Wrens, Icterids, Sparrows, q.v.) but in turn produced high waterfowl counts, especially in Scaup, Common Goldeneye and Common Merganser, presumably from icing over of more northerly wintering quarters. The high raptor counts of Dec (e.g. 111 hawks, 32 owls, 11 Northern Shrikes and the Dec 26 Syracuse Christmas Count) held up fairly well thru Jan despite the snow cover, except for a moderate drop in Sparrow Hawks and a complete absence of Marsh Hawks. Early Feb had the same weather as Jan but worse — a 21.8 inch snowfall on Feb 3-4 was the greatest Feb fall ever recorded. Rapid thawing Feb 18-24 engendered early flooding in the last third of the month, especially in the bottomlands of Black, Limestone, Butternut, and Chittenango Creeks. The consequent excellent waterfowl habitat, however, remained unutilized and regarding early migrant ducks many wet bottoms were bare of same. Mar continued the persistent cold of the winter with daily mean temperatures below normal every day between Mar 2 and Mar 23. Over 26 inches of snow fell, the majority in the second week of Mar. A surge of south winds and warmth on Mar 26-28 initiated a splendid influx of early migrants and redeemed an otherwise wearying month.

The abundant mice in the Kirkville-Bridgeport-Cicero farmlands attracted and held many open-country raptors (Rough-legged-Hawk, Short-eared Owl, Northern Shrike, q.v.) crops seemed quickly depleted, but local cone crops appeared to hold up well despite repeated onslaughts by hordes of Pine Siskins and lesser numbers of crossbills. Icterids and Starlings fared well at pigsties, garbage dumps, and local feeders, but the small groups of Redwings and Cowbirds in local marshes and farmlands disappeared with the first corn-deep snowfall of Jan.

Notable and quotable thru the past season were 1) the superb Snowy Owl flight, 2) the equally good but less spectacular invasion of Rough-legged Hawks and Northern Shrikes, 3) the high counts of winter diving ducks (q.v. and also 1961 Waterfowl Census), 4) the crossbill-siskin flight, 5) the early winter spate of half-hardies and 6) the continuing spread of permanent-resident southern species (Red-bellied Woodpecker, Tufted Titmouse, Carolina Wren, Mockingbird, and Cardinal q.v.). Negatively 1) the persistent paucity of Redheads and Canvasbacks, 2) the meager flight of white-winged gulls, 3) the very poor showing of wintering sparrows, especially Tree, White-throated, and Song, and 4) the decimation of half-hardies by the Jan weather received the most comment.

The loving cup for rarity of the season goes to the adult male Barrow's Goldeneye on Fischer's Bay, Oneida Lake Mar 31 (Peakall, Scheider, et al) to Apr 5 (see Field Notes this issue). Other notables observed include King Eider, Goshawk, Black-backed Woodpecker and two Oregon Juncos.

In the summary below, the following initials will be used for much-frequented local birding areas:

Howland's Island Game Management Area near Port Byron -----HIGMA
Three Rivers Game Management Area near Baldwinsville -----TRGMA
Selkirk Shores State Park near Pulaski -----SSSP
Sandy Pond and Sandy Pond Inlet -----SP and SPI.

Loons — Ducks: No wintering Loons. First Common Loon Mar 30 at Brewerton (Peakall), and first Red-throated Loon Mar 26 near Texas (Seaman), both early. No wintering Red-necked Grebes. Wintering Horned Grebes, though common at Skaneateles Lake, were extremely scarce at Oswego and along Lake Ontario (one-two/day). First migrant Horned Grebes noted Mar 11 (early) at Maple Bay, Oneida Lake near Bridgeport. Pied-billed Grebe: noted to Jan 31 along the Seneca River but unreported thereafter until arrival of spring birds Mar 31 at Brewerton (Rusk). No grounded grebes reported this winter. Double-crested Cormorant: an adult Mar 27 at Maple Bay, Oneida Lake (Scheider) is both very early and unusual "inland", i.e., away from Lake Ontario.

Whistling Swan: observed only on the extensively flooded Seneca River flats Mar 18 (fide Kelsey); no Oneida Lake records this spring. Canada Goose: 80 wintered at HIGMA and 76 at TRGMA and Phoenix (1961 Waterfowl Census); both groups received supplemental feeding from the NYS Conservation Dep't during the severe storms of Jan and early Feb; first migrants noted Feb 28 (late); flock counts ranged from 60 to 250 thru the latter half of Mar at Oneida Lake, HIGMA, and the Seneca River flats.

Mallard and Black Duck: despite good counts (1000/species/day) thru early Dec, the Jan counts fell rapidly (max 667 Mallards, 1487 Blacks on 1961 Waterfowl Census) largely because of severe ice conditions along the Oneida, Oswego, and Seneca Rivers and the discontinuance of open feeding at the anatine fleshpots of HIGMA; both species noted as migrants Feb 28, but flock counts of 1000/day were noted on only one day in late Mar. Gadwall: three wintered at HIGMA with first arrivals there Mar 5; a male Mar 27 on Maple Bay, Oneida Lake is the editor's first record of this species from Oneida Lake in twenty years. Pintail: up to 17 wintered at HIGMA (Bauer); at least five birds attempted to winter along the Oswego River (Rusk, Seaman) plus two at Onondaga Lake (Thomas), but few if any made it; first migrants Feb 19 at HIGMA. No wintering teal, and no Blue-winged Teal reported for the area as of Mar 31. First Green-winged Teal observed Mar 26 at HIGMA (Felle) but extremely scarce even to date. American Widgeon: last noted Dec 4 at Beaver Lake; arrival date is Mar 3 at Browerton but, like the Green-winged Teal, extremely scarce thru the remainder of Mar (peak count is 35). Eight Shovelers wintered at HIGMA (Bauer) and a wintering pair was noted at the south end of Skaneateles Lake Jan 14 (Propst, Seaman); a male Mar 27 on Maple Bay, Oneida Lake where it is most uncommon is the first local arrival. Wood Duck: a male wintered to Jan 15 at Manlius but disappeared with the onset of total freeze-up of the pond and subsequent invasion by ice-skaters; first arrivals Mar 26 at SSSP (Rusk) are somewhat late.

Redhead: max winter count of 543 on 1961 Waterfowl Census, mainly from Skaneateles Lake (Propst, Rusk, Seaman); the Mar flight was extremely sparse and no regional record this Mar exceeds 100. Ring-necked Duck: four held over thru the winter at Skaneateles Lake and a single male remained at Baldwinsville thru the major part of Jan; unreported at Oswego for the second year running; arrival date Mar 12, rapidly increasing to 150/day by Mar 25 (Propst, Scheider). Canvas-back: woefully scarce thru the winter with seasonal peak 500 in early Dec at Shackleton Point, Oneida Lake; the 1961 Waterfowl Census tallied a very low 140 and the Feb flight was virtually absent locally; Mar numbers on Oneida Lake 60-100/day (Peakall, Rusk) with peak of 300 Mar 31, a time when normally 1000 are present. The Greater Scaup tally of 9800 on the 1961 Waterfowl Census was an all-time local high for the annual local Waterfowl Count as were 2700 Common Goldeneye, 139 Bufflehead, and 270 Oldsquaw; these higher figures are almost due to the severe freezing weather closing off more northerly wintering areas with consequent augmentation of the usual Oswego River-Ontario lakeshore populations. Upwards of 4000 Scaup with a sprinkling of Lesser Scaup and 1000 Goldeneye were regularly present in the lower Oswego River (north of Fulton) thru late Jan and

Feb, but had moved out with the muddy flooding of late Feb, only to return in early Mar; late Mar counts of Goldeneye at Oneida Lake (Brewerton and Bridgeport sectors) ran 300-800/day. King Eider: two reported Dec 12 near Sandy Pond (Rusk), an immature male noted Jan 15 at Pleasant Point on Lake Ontario near Mexico (Ives, Scheider), and a female in Oswego harbor in early Feb (Sandburg) are the only reports, a poor showing after the fine spate of fall records of this species. White-winged Scoters were present in small numbers (one-seven/day) at Oswego and along Lake Ontario thru the winter (Peakall, Rusk, Spofford); 11 on Jan 14 at Skaneateles were unusual (Propst). A female Common Scoter was noted Dec 31 on the Oswego-Fulton Christmas Count (Hoyt, Rusk, et al) and a female Surf Scoter was spotted intermittently at Fulton Dec 31 to Mar 4 (Hoyt, Rusk(Thomas). This is the second successive winter that all three scoters have been recorded there.

Ruddy Duck: two males in Oswego harbor Jan 15 are the only winter record; no Mar migrants of this species noted.

Hooded Merganser: 19 reported on 1961 Waterfowl Census with a male: female ratio of five: 14, a distinctly lopsided ratio; what is the sex ratio of wintering birds of this species in other Regions?? Common Merganser: some 5000 noted in Oswego harbor Jan 20 after a windstorm on Lake Ontario (Estoff, Propst); numbers thru the remainder of Jan and early Feb were much less (700-1000+/-day); the freezing-over of the Seneca River and Cross Lake in early Jan forced out the usual flocks (500-1000) of Common Mergansers that winter there; it was scarce (30-85/day) in the waterfowl gatherings at Bridgeport and Brewerton, Oneida Lake in late Mar.

Hawks — Owls: Turkey Vulture: five Mar 25 over HIGMA are rather early (Peakall). Goshawk: a superb adult Jan 15 (Scheider) near Lakeview on Lake Ontario, Town of Scriba, Oswego County is an irregular winter visitant; an adult Feb 18 at Big Moose (Spofford et al) is probably a permanent resident, and another adult Mar 26 near Texas (Minor) is certainly a migrant. Wintering Sharp-shinned Hawks were reported at various feeders at Oneida and Syracuse thru Jan and Feb with unsubsidized (non-feeding station) individuals noted in Dec at SSSP (Propst et al) and Battle Island, Fulton (Hoyt). Cooper's Hawk: frankly scarce thru the winter with a high tally of six on the Syracuse Christmas Count Dec 26. Red-tailed Hawk: Dec counts of this bulky Buteo were high (five-35/day) with a moderate drop (three-20/day) in Jan and Feb; 25 noted passing over HIGMA Mar 25. A hawk flight on Mar 26 at the Hawk Lookout near Texas tallied one Goshawk, three Sharp-shinned, five Cooper's, 13 Red-tailed, 124 Red-shouldered, two Rough-legged, and one Sparrow (Minor, Rusk, Seaman); on Mar 28 at the same station Minor noted two Turkey Vultures, eight Sharp-shinned, three Cooper's, 91 Red-tailed, 109 Red-shouldered, six Rough-legged, one Sparrow, and 40 unidentified Buteos. The lack of appropriate weather conditions — and the sharp cessation of suitable winds on Mar 28 — explains the paucity of flight days and the low numbers on these days, as the Hawk Lookout was manned on all but one favorable day.

Rough-legged Hawk: an excellent movement of these fine Arctic mousers; 33 noted on Dec 26; 20-29/day (Cade, Peakall, Rusk) noted from late Jan to mid-Mar in the Bridgeport-Kirkville-Cicero area despite persistent and often deep ground snow. Noteworthy was the active hunting of this species during snowstorms which forced Red-tailed Hawks and Sparrow Hawks to morose and mouseless (?) idleness (observed by Dr. T. Cade, who was actively hunting for Rough-legged during snowstorms!); the dark phase: light-phase ratio was close to two: three (e.g., 12:17 dark: light on Mar 11 — Cade, Scheider). Marsh Hawk last noted Dec 26, an immature lurking about a Starling-rich pig farm near Cicero Center; unreported to Mar 12, a female at Brewerton (Propst). Sparrow Hawk: peak count of 36 Dec 26 around Syracuse; a dwindling to one-seven/day in Jan (may be due to reduced observational efforts) continuing thru Feb with best counts consistently from the Onondaga Lake dumps and the Bridgeport mousefields (Cade); a sharp influx (11-15/day) on Mar 11-12 in the Bridgeport-Brewerton area.

Killdeer: last noted Dec 4, five at Sylvan Beach (Paquette, Rusk, et al); first arrival Mar 2 near East Syracuse (Peakall). Woodcock: two on Mar 22, Ram's Gulch (Rusk) are the earliest; scattered reports thereafter but no counts in excess of ten. Common Snipe: first noted at Oneida Mar 24 (Felle) but no appreciable numbers by Mar 31.

Glaucous and Iceland Gull: a very poor flight throughout the winter, confined to the Onondaga Lake dumps and the Oswego River axis; total observations by month were — Dec three Glaucous and three Iceland, Jan four Glaucous and two Iceland, Feb one Glaucous and three Iceland, Mar three Glaucous and four Iceland; all but three reports were of first-year birds, and no second-year birds were noted. Great Black-backed Gull: 400 on Dec 31 along the Oswego River (Fulton to Oswego inclusive) is a record high; numbers thru Feb were very low (ten-35/day). Herring and Ring-billed Gulls: widespread despite severe freezing, but poor numbers thru the entire winter: seasonal peaks are 1800 Herring on Jan 15 and 2500 Ring-billed Mar 12, both at Oswego (the latter number undoubtedly includes many late February Mar migrants).

Screech Owl: max of nine on Dec 26 around Syracuse; abundant spontaneous calling noted in early Mar at HIGMA, Baldwinsville, and Clay Swamp. Snowy Owl: a wonderful irruption of these fine Arctic owls; reported from almost all regularly-covered sectors of the Region except HIGMA and the country north of Utica; most frequently observed along the west side of Onondaga Lake (one-four/day) and the south shore of Oneida Lake between Bridgeport and Brewerton, with max count there of seven Mar 31. Because of their conspicuousness and mobility it is difficult to say exactly how many individual birds were present, but 3 to 35 would be a conservative score (a field note is being prepared). Short-eared Owl: less obvious but much more numerous than the Snowy Owl; two-eight/day noted in the mouse-fields around East Syracuse and Bridgeport (Cade, Propst, Rusk), Onondaga Lake (Thomas, Thurber), and Utica (Curtis); those birds at Bridgeport and East Syracuse were noted regularly roosting in the adjacent pine plantations (Futuyama, Scheider).

Goatsuckers — Shrikes: Belted Kingfisher: hardy individuals noted thru Dec and Jan at Baldwinsville, Sandy Pond, Oswego, Oneida, and Minoa; severe ice conditions thru Jan either killed or forced them south as they were unreported until Mar 28, the arrival date of the year for these and so many other late Mar and early Apr migrants.

Flicker: wintered in numbers (up to 13/day) at NIGMA and near Fayetteville; it was also reported regularly at feeders around Oswego (fide Burt) where it rarely winters; a flock of 30 on Mar 3 at Onondaga Lake (Thurber) are certainly migrants. The Hairy and Downy Woodpeckers maintained a winter-long ratio of one: two on the Burt feeder survey: Jan 108 Hairy: 192 Downy, Feb 91:171, Mar 92:203. Black-backed Woodpecker: one-three seen intermittently at Syracuse thru Dec and Jan with max of five Dec 3; single females at Oneida Jan 2 (Ackley et al) and in Baldwinsville in mid-Jan (fide Burt); no Feb or Mar reports.

Southern Permanent Residents — Red-bellied Woodpecker: besides the regular corn-plucking pair (or pairs?) at HIGMA, singletons were reported at Skaneateles Feb 11 (Seaman), at Otisco Lake thru Feb (Lamb fide Burt) and at Fulton intermittently thru Feb (Parker); none at Syracuse or Oneida this winter. Tufted Titmouse: four were regularly observed thru the winter at Baldwinsville (Bisdee, Estoff, Propst); Mrs. Bisdee reports that a pair of Titmice brought young to her feeder in the summer of 1960, probably indicating nearby breeding; at least three were reported at a feeder in Fulton (Parker) and one (two?) at Brewerton in early Mar (fide Burt); a possible Titmouse at a feeder in Sherill was reported to P. Paquette Jan 21 but it could not be confirmed. Carolina Wren: singletons appeared at Fayetteville and DeWitt thru Dec but either succumbed or moved elsewhere with the heavy Jan snows; their disappearance in Jan and the lack of this species at feeders (Burt feeder survey) bode ill for it locally; at least one survived at Camillus Valley as a singing bird was there Mar 25 (Rusk). Mockingbird: one noted at a feeder thru Jan in Sandy Creek (Wheeler) and a second was noted, also at a feeder, near Jamesville (Crosby); at least two Mockers have been frequenting feeders on the west side of Skaneateles (Seaman) and one was reported north of Sherill in early Feb (fide Paquette). The propensity of Mockers and Titmice to seek out feeders for winter survival is obvious; it may also reflect the propensity of birdwatchers to remain indoors in bad weather. Cardinal: total of 90 on Syracuse Christmas Count Dec 26; all reports indicate continued high populations at Fayetteville, Manlius, and Camillus; numbers up at Oneida (11 in Dec 1959, 30 in Jan 1961); further reports from Oneida Lake, Rome, and Utica; also present at Lacona and Sandy Creek, and even at Mexico, Texas, and Port Ontario; one singing vigorously in late Mar at the Hawk Lookout east of Texas represents new ground colonized.

Horned Lark: very poor Feb flight with a trickle of birds after each snowstorm to late Mar; max 75 on Feb 18.

Blue Jay: a very successful winter population with some 350-400/feeder survey thru the winter (Burt). Crow: large Mar flights noted at Texas and along eastern Lake Ontario with 3000 on Mar 5, 8000 on Mar 12, and 4000 on Mar 25, the majority in but three to four hours of watching.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: extremely scarce both at feeders (Jan two, Feb three, Mar three) and in the usually favorable pine and spruce groves of the area; singleton Red-breasteds were seen on the Oswego and Syracuse Christmas Censuses, quite in contrast to the plethora of White-breasted Nuthatches and Brown Creepers.

House Wren: last noted at Oakwood Cemetery, Syracuse Dec 1 (Rusk). Winter Wren: reported repeatedly in Dec with seven on Dec 26; no field reports after the severe early Jan snows, none at feeders thru Jan, Feb, and Mar (Burt), and not noted until first migrant arrived Mar 28 Oneida (Felle).

Wintering half-hardy mimids include at least three Brown Thrashers — (Lacoe — Wheeler, Fayetteville — Evans, Syracuse — Dawley) and the Mockingbirds (Southern Permanent Residents, q.v.).

Robin: small winter groups at Manlius, Marcellus, Cicero Swamp, and Kirkville; first migrants on Feb 23 but counts were low until Mar 17 when flocks of dozens became common panregionally. Bluebirds were not reported until Mar 26 (late) and remain quite scarce.

Northern Shrike: a notable invasion of this species with the majority of reports from the mouse-rich farm country from Bridgeport to Cicero and lesser numbers as far west as Port Byron; reports by months are: Dec 21, Jan 12, Feb 22, and Mar 15; some singing noted in early Mar; still present as of Mar 31. Loggerhead Shrike: beginning migration represented by singletons seen Mar 25 at Bridgeport and Mar 28 near Texas (Propst) and Mar 31 at Onondaga Lake (Thurber).

Vireos — Warblers: Nyet!

Blackbirds — Sparrows: An unidentified Oriole was seen at Syracuse for a few days in Jan (fide Armstrong). The usual flurry of Icterids, mostly Cowbirds, Redwings, and Grackles, appeared at local feeders, refuse dumps, farmyards, and pigsties; Burt's feeder survey shows a marked attrition in numbers thru Jan and Feb, a condition applying even to the somewhat harder Cowbird this year; Cowbird numbers have held up rather well thru the winters heretofore. Arrival dates are: Redwing Feb 26, Rusty Mar 5, Grackle Feb 28, and Cowbird Feb 28, all rather late; numbers by mid-Mar had built up to the usual raucous thousands, but on the Mar 26-30 flight the Icterids descended like the Asiatic hordes upon the area, with Clay Swamp counts up to 70,000+.

Cardinal: (Southern Permanent Residents, q.v.). Northern finches for the second successive winter invaded the Region in chattering flocks. The garland for numbers goes to the Pine Siskins (replacing last year's Redpolls) with flocks of 15-300 reported from almost every hemlock grove and birch clump in Onondaga and Oswego Counties. Lesser numbers of Purple Finch and Goldfinch were associated with them. Evening Grosbeak: present in small flocks (six-25) thru Dec and Jan south of Syracuse, in the hill country north of Oneida Lake and in the southwestern Adirondacks, but numbers did not begin to pick up until mid- and late Feb (e.g. Burt feeder survey — 17 in Jan, 156 in Feb, and 1000+ in Mar). Common Redpoll: two small flocks of seven and 12 reported from Manlius and Phoenix (Evans), just two (Jan) were reported in all the four months of the feeder survey (Burt), two at Brewerton (Barclay); 25 on Mar 12 at Oneida (Ackley) may be northbound birds. Red and White-winged Crossbills: a moderate flight of both present from Dec 15 on; numbers (two-15/flock) of White-winged distinctly less than the Red (eight-90/flock) but almost all well-birded sections in the peri-Syracuse and peri-Utica area had a few reports thru Jan and Feb; a marked influx of Red Crossbills in Mar but no corresponding increase in White-winged (Curtis, Propst, Rusk). Notable are the frequent reports of "many flocks . . . dozens . . . little groups . . ." of these birds, Pine Siskin, and Purple Finches along the grit-treated roads of the southwestern Adirondacks in Herkimer and Oneida Counties.

Towhee: four individuals reported with one each from — Oneida (Ackley, Sherman, Thurber), Amber on Otisco Lake (Lamb), and two at Syracuse (Burt, Rusk).

The majority of wintering Towhees are female or immature, but two of the four this season were adult males.

Wintering half-hardy sparrows include an adult Chipping Sparrow at the Barclay feeder in Brewerton (fide Burtt) and single White-crowned Sparrows at Jamesville (fide Burtt), DeWitt (Scheider), Oneida (Ackley), and Red Creek (Hallock); the DeWitt bird, an adult, seemed to fare quite well without benefit of local feeders. Junco and Tree Sparrow: winter numbers were up slightly (120+ feeder survey for Juncos; 600+ feeder survey for Tree Sparrows); no appreciable Mar influx of Tree Sparrows noted before Mar 11 although much early Mar singing was noted and enjoyed by local observers. Oregon Junco: singles seen at Green Lakes State Park Dec 26 and at VanderKamp Woods north of Constantia Mar 11 (Rusk) are rare winter visitants to the area. The Dec scant scattering of wintering White-throated, Swamp, and Song Sparrows remained briefly for local Christmas Counts, then dwindled with the early Jan snows; no Swamp Sparrows were reported after Jan 1, and most of the Jan and Feb White-throated Sparrows noted were feeder-dependent birds at Oneida, Syracuse, Baldwinsville, and Brewerton. Lapland Longspur: a fine Mar flight with scattered singletons and small groups from Oneida to Baldwinsville; max count of 45 Mar 26 on the sparsely grassed wastebeds at Onondaga Lake (Thomas, Thurber).

N. B.: Special thanks to all those hardy observers who participated in local Christmas Counts and on the Waterfowl Census, thereby providing abundant quantitative data in a difficult season.

151 Seventh North Street, Syracuse 8

REGION 6—ST. LAWRENCE

FRANK A. CLINCH

The weather in December and January was cold, and there was plenty of snow. Much of the snow fell between December 12 and January 2. These storms usually came on a Saturday or Sunday. As a result of the cold there was little open water by Christmas. The period from January 19 through February 3 was especially cold, with many temperature readings below zero. More moderate temperatures prevailed for the two weeks thereafter, and the sun began to melt the snow in spots sheltered from the wind. February 19 to March 8 was mild, and much of the snow melted. By March 7 two large flocks of Red-winged Blackbirds, a few Robins and Grackles, and at least one Killdeer had reached southern Jefferson County. However, snow covered the ground again on March 9. The remainder of March was cool except for milder weather March 22-24 and again on March 27-28.

It is interesting to note some of the birds that survived, at least for some time, the severe winter weather of December and January. These included a Rufous-sided Towhee, Cowbird, Junco, Red-necked Grebe, and several Robins.

Loons—Ducks: A Red-necked Grebe was picked up alive a little south of Watertown during the first week of February, but it died a day or two later. A Great Blue Heron appeared at Chaumont Mar 25. Eight Canada Geese flew over Watertown early on the morning of Mar 26. Many could be seen at the Perch River Game Management Area two or three days later. The Conservation Department has 22 pairs of Canada Geese which they hope will breed in the Perch Lake section, and the same number will be sent to the Wilson Hill Game Management Area between Waddington and Massena. By the end of March Pintails were numerous at Perch River Flats, and there were some Blacks, Mallards, Goldeneyes, Ring-necked and Wood Ducks, and also Blue-winged and Green-winged Teal. Several Hooded Mergansers were seen the last part of March.

Hawks—Owls: Marsh Hawks were seen during the latter part of March. The first date for the Red-tailed Hawk was Mar 12. Gordon says Rough-legged Hawks were numerous most of the winter, with the light phase outnumbering the dark phase about four to one. The first Killdeer was seen near Adams on Mar 7. An early date for Common Snipe was Mar 30 near Watertown. Belknap saw a Glaucous Gull at Fishers Landing on the St. Lawrence River on Mar 1. Great Black-backed Gulls were last seen near Watertown Dec 26. Ring-billed Gulls were back before the end of March.