

were also at Pharsalia Jul 23, singing in three different locations (R. & S. White).
Late Reports from Last Period: A nesting colony of Great Blue Herons has been discovered in Cortland Co., about 2½ miles from Otisco Lake (Spencer, J. Gustafson). This is only the second known colony in the region. There were two reports of Up-land Plovers in Cortland Co. in late May (Bowers, R. Haines). One involved a nest broken up while Mr. Haines was plowing his farm near McLean. A Common Tern at East Homer Apr 26 (J. Gustafson) was the only one reported all spring. A third Mockingbird report for the spring concerned one in the village park at Little York (J. Gustafson). A Great Crested Flycatcher May 6 and four Hermit Thrushes Apr 15 in the Cortland area were both earlier than the previously reported firsts (J. Gustafson). — 710 University Ave., Endwell.

REGION 5 — ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

DAVID B. PEAKALL AND MARGARET S. RUSK

This is the first report under new management. In the departure of Fritz Scheider the Region has lost not only its recorder but also its most active observer. Fritz has been Regional Editor since the new regions came into being in 1954, and happily his absence is not permanent. It is characteristic that in a brief visit back to Region 5 he found the rarest bird recorded this quarter — a Ruff!

June was cool; appreciable rain fell on ten days, but the amount was exactly normal. July was wet; precipitation was up 50% over normal, and rain fell on twelve days; the first half of the month was cooler than normal and the second half warmer, with a high of over eighty every day but one. July rainfall kept swampy woods wet and produced a high mosquito population; high water levels were favorable for breeding grebes and ducks but prevented formation of extensive shorebird flats at Sandy Pond. August precipitation (slightly more than half the normal) had not reversed the water level picture by the 15th. August temperature averaged about normal.

Explorations of the Tug Hill Plateau continued. A considerable body of comparative data has now been accumulated for one area, and other areas are being examined. To the south of Syracuse, Labrador Pond has been visited several times, explorations of Highland Forest and Brookfield State Reforestation Area have been continued, trips were made to the high-altitude Morrisville and Peterboro Swamps, and the vicinity of Otisco Lake was investigated more extensively and intensely than for several years.

In addition to the Ruff already referred to, unusual records include the Northern Phalarope, Forster's Tern, Saw-whet Owl, Western Meadowlark, Orchard Oriole and the confirmed breeding of the Sharp-shinned Hawk.

A most striking and interesting trend has been the increase in breeding sites of Yellow-breasted Chats and their expansion into new, though neighboring, areas.

The following abbreviations are used in this report: HIGMA — Howland's Island Game Management Area near Port Byron, SP — Sandy Pond, SSSP — Selkirk Shores State Park near Pulaski, THP — Tug Hill Plateau, TRGMA — Three Rivers Game Management Area near Baldwinsville.

Loons — Ducks: No records of Loons. Pied-billed Grebes had a successful season, broods being reported from HIGMA, SP, and Stevens' Pond near Phoenix. Great Blue Heron was noted as especially common at HIGMA with 37 on one pool (Bauer). Common Egret: one or two present irregularly at HIGMA throughout the period, much smaller numbers than last year (Bauer). No records of Cattle Egrets this summer.

Canada Goose: a pair reared one young at Stevens' Pond, a new location (Rusk); 50 pairs bred at HIGMA. Brant: a few still present at Sandy Pond as of Jun 4.

Breeding ducks: — the HIGMA figures are the most reliable index: Mallard 65 broods, Black one (extremely low), Gadwall three, Pintail 20, Green-winged Teal one, Blue-winged Teal 10, Shoveler one, Wood Duck 10, Redhead nine (Bauer). Delta Lake was in good condition for breeding ducks due to high water levels; two pairs of Mallard and one or two pairs of Wood Duck bred successfully (Aspinwall). Wood Duck were also reported as breeding at Stony Pond Conservation Area (Felle), Rome (Aspinwall), Camillus (Spofford), Verona Beach (Whites), and Clay Swamp (Peakall).

There were several reports of Hooded Mergansers but no definite nesting records. It would be interesting to have more information on this species. A female was

seen at different places in THP on Jun 3, 18, and 24; one was at TRGMA Jun 28 (Scheider); a pair was present at HIGMA during the summer.

Migrating ducks: — Two Green-winged Teal were seen at Stevens' Pond Jun 2 and a single bird was there Jun 13 (Rusk) — they may have bred again; first fall record was Aug 5, SP; Pintail arrival date was Aug 10, SP.

American Widgeon summered at HIGMA and eight Greater Scaup were present there throughout June (Bauer).

Hawks — Owls: The previously suspected breeding of the Sharp-shinned Hawk near Marcellus was confirmed this year; young were banded (Spofford). Cooper's Hawk summered at HIGMA (Bauer); an interesting record of this scarce species was one in Oakwood Cemetery, Syracuse, Jun 19 (Rusk). Marsh Hawks were scarce as a nesting species. Despite careful searching they were not found in many former nesting areas — Clay Swamp, Manlius, Pleasant Valley near Marcellus, SP, SSSP. A nest was found near the Seneca River (Peakall) and the species was recorded during the summer at HIGMA (Bauer). It was present in the breeding season near Utica (Curtis) and a male was seen at Highland Forest Jun 25 (Rusk).

There were no summering records of the Bald Eagle. The old nest of the Lake Ontario pair was destroyed two years ago, and no new site has been located. Osprey: only record was a single bird summering at HIGMA.

Bobwhite: one at Camillus Jun 9 (Scheider); three at TRGMA Jul 8 (Rusk); at least three broods at HIGMA (Bauer). Turkey: two broods at HIGMA (Bauer).

Breeding shorebirds — Common Snipe: nest with eggs found at Manlius (Bart) and photographed by Armstrong; this is a new location for this unusual Regional breeder. There were several reports of Upland Plovers present in the usual areas: Verona, Rome, Cicero, and Stevens' Pond; also a sighting near South Onondaga (Propst) a new location.

Departure dates of shorebirds — Semipalmated Plover Jun 4, Ruddy Turnstone Jun 4, Knot Jun 6, White-rumped Sandpiper Jun 4, Least Sandpiper Jun 6, Dunlin Jun 6, Sanderling Jun 19.

Arrival dates and maximum numbers recorded to Aug 15 are — Semipalmated Plover Aug 1, 50 on Aug 13; Black-bellied Aug 5, max. of three on several dates; Ruddy Turnstone Aug 2 (late); Greater Yellowlegs Aug 11 (late) when four were seen; Lesser Yellowlegs Jul 8, 75 on Jul 23, 60 on Aug 6 and 9; Pectoral Jul 15, low counts with the highest 12 on Jul 23; White-rumped Aug 13; Least Jul 15, 70 on Aug 13; Short-billed Dowitcher Jul 15, seven on Jul 21; Stilt Sandpiper Jul 15; Semipalmated Jul 15, 370 on Aug 13; Sanderling Jul 18, 100 on Aug 9.

Unusual shorebird records — Pride of place goes to the Ruff, second Regional record and the first in breeding plumage. This fine bird, with black ruff but no ear tufts was found by Scheider on Jul 15 on Onondaga Lake and was last seen on Jul 20 (Peakall). In Europe the Ruff is seldom seen in breeding plumage away from its nesting area. It seems possible that this bird crossed the southern Atlantic on the way to or from its African wintering grounds and spent the summer in New York State.

A Piping Plover was still present at SP on Jun 4 (Scheider) but there was no evidence of breeding. A Dunlin in breeding plumage was at Onondaga Lake Aug 1 (Peakall). Northern Phalarope: two Onondaga Lake Aug 3 (Allen and McChesney) and one Aug 13 (Rusk and Spofford).

Two Great Black-backed Gulls at SP on Aug 9 are unusual (Starling). Two Bonaparte's Gulls were seen on Onondaga Lake Jun 2 (Rusk), unusual location and late; first fall date Aug 5. Forster's Tern, a species not always recorded during the year in this Region, was seen at SP Aug 10 (Listman). Common Terns bred successfully this year at Onondaga Lake; early eggs were taken, but forty young were present in Jul (Thomases).

Barred Owl: two, again present, Jul 25, Labrador Pond (Rusk). An unusual record is of a Short-eared Owl caught in a trap and later released at HIGMA in the first week of Aug (Bauer). A Saw-whet Owl was found dead at Pixley Falls near Boonville Jun 12 (Aspinwall).

Goatsucker — Shrikes: Red-bellied Woodpecker: only record was at HIGMA Jul 22. Red-headed Woodpecker: seemed to have had a somewhat more successful season than in recent years, with a nesting at SP (an immature seen there near the nesting holes Jun 4 and three present Aug 9), two adults seen regularly near Skaneateles at two different sites (Seaman), three separate sightings from an auto in one day (Jul 2) around Oneida, two others seen near Oneida, one noted near Rome

Jul 12, and another Jul 4 at Chittenango. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: a female with food-begging immature at Green Lakes State Park near Fayetteville Jul 12 (Rusk) is noteworthy in view of the location, neither northern nor high-altitude. Sapsuckers were present during the period near Redfield (immatures, and female at nest hole feeding young), Brookfield, Labrador Pond, and Tully (thru summer at least to Aug 12); the last is particularly interesting too, as it is not a high location, but Sapsuckers definitely bred there in 1959 and 1960, and probably did so again this year.

Eastern Phoebe: called "common" at HIGMA (Bauer), and Felle reports "a pair everywhere, in contrast to last year". Traill's Flycatcher: again quite common pan-regionally, in suitable habitat; high of 40 in THP Jun 24, with two Yellow-bellied and 35 Least Flycatchers there the same date. Olive-sided Flycatcher: two-five/day noted in various parts of THP Jun 3, 18, and 24; one Jul 13 at Rome (K. Thorp); it has not been found in the high-altitude bog areas south of Syracuse despite the presence of birdwatchers there on the alert for it.

Swallow colonies — Bank Swallow colonies not previously reported are in two sand banks near Rome (Aspinwall, and Ackley et al) and one near Phoenix (Rusk). Cliff Swallows appear on the upswing, with colonies not only in the Tug Hill country where they are usually common, but also at Cicero, near Skaneateles (Seaman), north-east of Rome — 90 nests on one barn east of Westerville (Aspinwall), and near Tully (50 birds observed Jul 16). Purple Martins occupied houses around Sandy Pond; the Erie Blvd. (Syracuse) house produced broods, and new houses erected in Baldwinsville "were pretty well filled" despite House Sparrow competition (Richardson).

Migrations — High counts of 1500 Bank Swallow Jul 23 at one time around a barn at HIGMA with a few Tree, Rough-winged, Barn, and Martins, and 1000 Bank Aug 6 at SP in three hours with lesser numbers of Barn and Martins, (both counts made on days of south breeze, the former nearly calm, whereas northwest winds produce the best counts) are not quite as high as last year's totals.

As last year, Tufted Titmice used the Biseedes' feeder in Baldwinsville thru the summer, and adults have been seen feeding young there for the second successive year (fide Richardson). Red-breasted Nuthatch, quite scarce during winter 1960-1961 and on the spring 1961 migration, were frequently noted in numbers from one-four in conifer areas this summer, as follows: THP, Rome Sand Plains, Brookfield, Bear Springs near Fulton (where they have been regularly found in winter), SP (Aug 13, possibly early migrants, as they are not known to have been there thru the summer), and at SSSP where a brood was raised in the nest hole discovered this spring, confirming the supposition that they breed at Selkirk. The SSSP nest, and a nest hole found again this year in the Rome Sand Plains, were both in aspen. Red-breasted Nuthatches have not been found recently at Labrador Pond, which appears a likely location for them except for the lack of much spruce. Brown Creepers were also noted again in the Rome Sand Plains, where they probably breed, as well as at Labrador Pond, TRGMA, and White Lakes near DeWitt (Rusk).

House Wrens appear to have had a successful season. Winter Wrens were as usual common in all areas of THP, even as far south as the Camden Woods. They were also noted in Morrisville and Peterboro Swamps. But most notable is one singing Jul 6 in the low-altitude white cedar swamp in the White Lake Woods (Rusk) where they winter; this location is comparable to the Camillus Valley one where the bird, however, was not noted this summer. The northern Winter Wren and the southern Carolina may soon be defending territories within earshot of each other, as the latter was noted this summer at Camillus Valley (where it probably bred); near Baldwinsville (Evans); at Ram's Gulch and at Clark's Reservation. Probably two different birds — these adjacent spots are both near White Lakes (Rusk); and even at SSSP (Evans); — all of which indicates that the Carolina Wren may again be becoming established in the Region, after the setbacks thought to be due to recent severe winters. The erratic Short-billed Marsh Wren was on location in the grass marsh at Sandy Pond — three singing males there (Scheider), and in the Dead Creek marshes near Baldwinsville — at least one bird (Rusk).

No Mockingbird was reported for the summer. Catbirds were again very common this year, and Brown Thrashers, never abundant, were present in the usual locations, including HIGMA (Bauer), Oakwood Cemetery in Syracuse, Labrador Pond.

Hermit Thrush numbers in the Rome Sand Plains were better than last year's with about 20 heard there Jul 2. Only 15 were noted in THP Jun 24 in comparison with 40 Swainson's there the same date, an unusual ratio for the area. Hermit Thrushes were reported from Brookfield Jun 25 and Jul 16 (Whites) but not from any

of the other high areas southeast of Syracuse. The last spring migrant Swainson's was at Syracuse Jun 5 (late) (Rusk), and a notable report of this northern bird is one at Brookfield, in the southeast corner of the Region, Jun 25 (Whites). Still alarmingly scarce is the Bluebird: a request by Dr. Burt, thru his Syracuse newspaper column, for information, turned up only four nesting reports — from Syracuse, Berneville, Camillus, and Mt. Vision; in addition, five nestings are reported from around Oneida, a good Bluebird area (Ackley); there were ten birds from two boxes at Rome (Aspinwall) and one nest at Taberg, a usual location (Aspinwall); a male was seen carrying food at SP on Jun 4; and Bluebirds have been sighted at Marcellus and Skaneateles.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: two noted Jun 10 at Camillus Valley, where they breed, and one the same date at Pumpkin Hollow near Marcellus in willows along a creek, (Rusk), a location similar to the Camillus site; one noted in May HIGMA was unrecorded during the present period. Loggerhead Shrike: a pair at Skaneateles raised a brood (Seaman); the bird seen May 27 near Churchville, Oneida County, was not found subsequently, and this erratic species was otherwise unrecorded.

Vireos — Warblers: Counts of Yellow-throated Vireos were low, as last year, with highs of only four on Jun 10 and six on Jul 23 (the latter, at SP, possibly early migrants). Solitary Vireos summered at Brookfield, and at Redfield and other THP locations with a high count of 16 on Jun 24, THP. Red-eyed and Warbling vireos seemed normally common with highs of 38 of the former and 20 of the latter Jun 4 at SP.

Resident Warblers — In the following summary of locations and counts it is of note that most of the high counts of southern warblers are from Camillus Valley, long known to be one of the best local warbler areas, and that nearly all the maxima for northern warblers (all but the Nashvilles at Highland Forest) are from the Tug Hill Jun 24, when three observers walked 15 miles of tracks. The high tallies are certainly due to the intensive coverage there; nevertheless the experience of observers is that such high counts are not obtained elsewhere, given equal coverage. These 1961 THP maxima are comparable with the 1960 figures and those in the Field Note "Some Brief Tug Hill Plateau Observations" by Fritz Scheider, **Kingbird**, Jan. 1959, P. 110. Summering warbler locations and maxima follow.

Black-and-White: at Camillus Valley, SSSP, Camden Woods, Redfield, Morrisville Swamp, Brookfield, Sherrill, Rome Sand Plains, White Lakes, Labrador Pond (a pair), with high count of 18 on Jun 24, THP — making it one of the most widely distributed local warblers. Prothonotary: at least two singing males at Short Point Bay, Oneida Lake; the bird noted in May at HIGMA was unrecorded thereafter. Worm-eating: the Camillus Valley bird was not found after May 20, despite subsequent searches for it. Golden-winged: males found at two new locations in THP where it is extremely unusual — Boonville in the Mohawk River Gorge Jun 3 (Scheider) and near Redfield Jul 15 (Rusk) — as well as on the western outskirts of the Tug Hill near Centerville, where it has been noted other years — a pair thru the summer (Evans); also at the more expected locations of Camillus Valley and Cedarvale near Marcellus, at Mud Lake near Baldwinsville (Evans), and Jul 1 near Fairdale (Rusk), the last spot being a less distant extension from its usual Camillus — TRGMA area; numbers were down at Camillus Valley, with a high of only seven there Jun 10 (Scheider), where up to 25 singing males have been counted. Blue-winged: none seen at Camillus Valley. Brewster's: adult was seen feeding a young near Baldwinsville (Evans), a notable record. Nashville: one-three/day, THP; an unusual record of one in pine plantations on Nose Hill, Camillus, Jun 10 (Scheider) — unfortunately breeding was not subsequently confirmed; two at the Rome Sand Plains again this year; high of nine in the growing pine plantations of Highland Forest Jun 25 (Rusk); also near Centerville (Evans) and at Brookfield (Whites). Parula: again noted in THP (Scheider) — one on Jun 3 in the lower part of the THP (Scheider) is unusual; high of 50 in the Otisco Lake vicinity Jun 10.

Magnolia: at Highland Forest, Centerville, Brookfield, Redfield, Labrador Pond, and Cedarvale (an interesting location, in a white cedar grove); high counts of 55 Jun 3 and 24 THP. Black-throated Blue: common along a lumber road in Camden Woods Jun 11; also noted at Rome Sand Plains, Redfield, Centerville, and Brookfield: a pair with an immature at Labrador Pond Jul 16 (Estoff, Propst) establishes breeding there; high count of 60 Jun 24 THP. Myrtle: two at the Pine Grove, SSSP, Jun 4 (Rusk) and one there Aug 5 (R. Williams) points to breeding in this non-high but coniferous location; an adult with two immatures Jul 16 Brookfield (Whites)

confirms breeding there, previously suspected; also noted near Boonville, in Highland Forest (where breeding was established in 1958), and in the Rome Sand Plains where they also probably breed (five on Jul 2 is a good count); high of 15 Jun 24, THP. Black-throated Green: widely recorded — at Brookfield, SSSP, Camillus, Ram's Gulch, Camden Woods, Morrisville Swamp, Highland Forest, Rome Sand Plains, Labrador Pond; high of 85 on Jun 24, THP. Cerulean: high of 20 in Camillus Valley; also at Pumpkin Hollow, three, Jun 10, and HIGMA — all sites in the Finger Lakes drainage axis; away from this area, a singing bird was noted at Tully Jun 10 and in Aug (Propst), the probable breeding location at Sherrill (of. Oct. 1960 **Kingbird** report) had two singing males this year, and a pair with one young was observed in the Canaseraga Creek Valley Jul 9 (Felle).

Blackburnian: one-four at Camillus Valley and the Rome Sand Plains; "more than usual" were at Brookfield (Whites) — Is this as the plantations grow taller? — None were noted in a day's warbler searching Jun 25 at Highland Forest where there aren't many tall spruces; Jun 24 THP high of 60. Chestnut-sided: to be found in suitable habitat just about everywhere in the Region, with notably high counts from all THP locations, the maximum 90 there Jun 24. Pine: only one per day noted at Rome Sand Plains — no evidence of breeding there this year; at least two pairs were at the Pine Grove, SSSP, this year, and young were being fed there Aug 5 (R. Williams). Ovenbird: high of 25 THP Jun 24, for this pan-regionally common breeder. Northern Waterthrush: one-six noted in wet low woodlands at Camillus Valley, Morrisville Swamp, Cicero Swamp, around Plainville, Rome Sand Plains, White Lakes, Green Lakes State Park, Labrador Pond, and SSSP; high count is 18, Jul 24 THP. Louisiana Waterthrush: a pair was found at Fish Gulf near Otisco Lake Scheider) and another pair along the stream at the Gully near Skaneateles (Seaman), both probably nesting; the Camillus Valley bird was not in evidence after this spring; careful searching of swift creeks and limestone glens south of Syracuse would probably discover more sites for these interesting warblers and establish breeding records.

Morning Warbler: noted at Centerville, Brookfield, south of Pixley Falls near Rome, at Hannibal, Labrador Pond, the usual Camillus Valley location, Morrisville and Peterboro Swamps, Sherrill, Highland Forest, and White Lakes — in fact, a singing male was delightfully present this season on a tangled slope in almost any local woods, and they were thought by several observers to be unusually common; the high count was 22, Jun 24 THP. Yellowthroats were ubiquitously common as usual, with the high 50 on Jun 24 THP, showing this area to be preferred locale for this numerous bird as well as for the less common northern breeding warblers.

Yellow-breasted Chat, present at Camillus since 1956, has apparently spread this year to new locations (though this observation may be partly artifact — the effect of more thorough searching for them by birdwatchers): in 1961 there were **five** Camillus stations (two nests found — Peakall and Spofford) and one each (singing males) at Marcellus (Spofford), Nedrow (fide Burt), and Plainville (Evans). Hooded Warbler: present at two locations at SSSP, in the western section of Camillus Valley, and at two sites near Martisco above Nine Mile Creek, one of which was also occupied in 1960.

Canada Warbler and Redstart were present in the usual numbers; a quantitative picture of their commonness in various parts of the Region can be given by citing several high counts: 45 and 30 respectively Jun 3, THP; 22 and 46 Jun 4, SP (may include some migrants); 16 and 25 on Jun 10, Camillus Valley; 28 and 24 on Jun 24, THP.

Migrant warblers — Last spring migrants in Jun: Tennessee Jun 4, Syracuse; Backpoll Jun 10, Camillus. First fall arrivals: Golden-winged Aug 14 SSSP. This species is seen annually in early Aug there but they have not been found in Jul. Are they local breeders?; Bay-breasted Aug 14, four, SSSP.

Backbirds — Sparrows: Bobolink: considered "common" at HIGMA (Bauer), north of Rome (Aspinawall) and near Boonville (Rusk) with 60 in about 10 miles at this last location Jun 18. The Western Meadowlark found by Scheider near Phoenix was still present there thru Jun, but no definite evidence of breeding was obtained. An Orchard Oriole was seen at HIGMA Jun 5 (Orcutt). At one home-garden bird sanctuary Cowbirds were noted to have parasitized Wood Pewee, Yellow Warbler, and Song Sparrow (Felle).

Cardinal: now a common bird around Syracuse and in most parts of the Region, it definitely bred at SSSP this year — immature present (Evans) where breeding last year was suspected; the pair at Sherrill raised young for the second successive year, and a pair at Rome raised one young; a Cardinal was noted Aug 9 on the SP

dunes where it has been seen from time to time in the past year. Indigo Buntings were noted to be exceptionally common around Syracuse, with up to 20 noted in Oakwood Cemetery in early Jun, and 40 in the Otisco Lake vicinity Jun 10. Evening Grosbeaks were noted Jun 25 near Trenton, Herkimer County, feeding in cut grass along the roadside (Farnham) this is interesting as the location is not within the known Adirondack breeding range. Purple Finch: a male feeding an immature on the Forestry College campus, Syracuse, definitely established breeding (Rusk); these birds can probably be found breeding at a number of other locations not northern nor high, if there are spruce plantations as at the above site: they were noted during the period in numbers from one-ten at SSSP, Rome, Sherrill, Redfield, Labrador Pond, Morrisville, Boonville, and Highland Forest, with a THP high count of 36 on Jun 24. Pine Siskins, so numerous pan-regionally in late winter and spring 1961, were noted during the present period only in THP: four on Jun 3 and ten Jun 24. The last spring date for Red Crossbill, the other northern finch which appeared in flight numbers in the Region in early 1961, was Jun 9, one, Oakwood Cemetery (Rusk); no summering birds were noted in the Region this year.

Grasshopper and especially Henslow's Sparrows seemed quite widespread and in good numbers (though this is partly due to diligent listening for them in likely locations) — with eight and seven respectively noted in a few acres of dry weedy fields near Phoenix Jun 23 (Propst); both species were also present at TRGMA thru the summer, with an immature Grasshopper noted there Aug 12 (Rusk). Grasshopper Sparrow was also reported from near Skaneateles (Seaman) and Henslow's from Oneida (Rusk).

An immature Junco and an immature White-throated Sparrow were both seen at SSSP on Aug 12 (Rusk); these are probably locally reared birds. But a White-throated on the SP dunes Aug 13 is probably an early migrant. A White-throated present in Solvay in early Aug (McChesney) is hard to place. Noteworthy is that White-throats (one-two/trip) were heard singing for the second successive year in the white cedar swamps at White Lakes, a low area four miles from Syracuse (Rusk). A few comparisons of Junco and White-throated numbers in summering areas are interesting: both occur widely in THP but on average seven-eight times as many White-throats as Juncos are heard, due to the predominance of brushy over mature woods; a similar ratio was found at Morrisville Swamp, a boggy swamp with yew hummocks, the swamp bordered by mixed woods on steep slopes; at Highland Forest (high, with conifer plantations of various ages, grassy fields, and some wooded ravines) the ratio was reversed; finally at the Rome Sand Plains, mostly flat pitch pine-white oak woods with dried-up bog areas and a deep hemlock-bordered ravine, about 20 White-throated/day are tallied but no Juncos were noted on four trips this summer. It will be worthwhile to make further comparative counts in these areas to try to discover what is the critical factor in each case.

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REGION 6 — ST. LAWRENCE

FRANK A. CLINCH

June and the first half of July averaged somewhat cooler and wetter than normal. The last part of the period was warmer and drier than the earlier portion.

Reports indicate that the place visited most often by persons who wished to see birds was El Dorado. This is on the shores of Lake Ontario and is in the southern part of this region. El Dorado was visited by several persons on many days, especially during the first two weeks of August.

We were very pleased to receive one report from Rochester and others from Syracuse of observations made at El Dorado. We hope to receive more information from Region 5 observers and to be of help to the new regional editors there.

Loons — Ducks: Loons and Great Blue Herons began to appear at Lake St. Lawrence about the middle of June. No egrets of any kind were seen. Black-crowned Night Herons, both adults and immature, were at Perch Lake Game Management Area the last half of July, but it is not known that they nested there. There were Mallards and Black Ducks at several places, including Perch Lake and El Dorado. Six Green-winged Teal and 20 to 50 Blue-winged Teal were at El Dorado early in August.

Hawks — Owls: One Osprey nest was located in St. Lawrence County and another near the eastern edge of Lewis County, or perhaps in Herkimer County. One of these birds was shot. Wild Turkeys have been released in this region. One place