

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

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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

is on Wellesley Island where they can be seen at the State Park. These birds were reared in captivity and are anything but wild. However, it is said that the next generation will be wild.

The following birds were seen at El Dorado, except where another place is given: Semipalmated Plover (Jul 26 to Aug 13), high count 75; Black-bellied Plover (Aug 5 to 13), high 3; Ruddy Turnstone (Jul 25 to Aug 13), high 25, Aug 12-13; Common Snipe, one, Aug 12; Spotted Sandpiper (Jul 19 to Aug 13), high 150, Aug 8; Greater Yellowlegs (Jul 19 to Aug 10), high 50, Aug 10; Lesser Yellowlegs (Jul 26 to Aug 13), high 80, Aug 12; Pectoral Sandpiper (Jul 25 to Aug 13), high 80, Aug 8; White-rumped Sandpiper, one, Aug 13; Baird's Sandpiper, one, Aug 8; Least Sandpiper, high 300, Aug 8; Dunlin (Jul 26 to Aug 9); Short-billed Dowitcher (Jul 29 to Aug 8), high 2; Stilt Sandpiper (Jul 26 to Aug 13), high 4 on Jul 29; Semipalmated Sandpiper (Jul 25 to Aug 13), high 700 on Aug 10; Sanderling (Jul 19 to Aug 13), high 200, Aug 8; Wilson's Phalarope Aug 10 (Gordon, Listman) and Aug 12 (Rusk); Northern Phalarope Aug 10 (Starling, who gave detailed description). Miss Elitharp reported what may have been a Buff-breasted Sandpiper on Jul 25. Upland Plovers nested in suitable habitats in Jefferson and Lewis Counties.

Among other El Dorado birds were Bonaparte's Gull, 80 on Aug 13; Forster's Tern, one on Aug 10; Caspian Tern, Jul 25 to Aug 13; and Black Tern, six on Aug 13. There were large breeding colonies of Black Terns at the Wilson Hill and Perch Lake Game Management areas.

Allen and Belknap estimated the number of shorebirds at El Dorado on Aug 9 to be about 2,500 and so the totals for some species must have been greater than the figures given above. By the middle of August the mudflats along the shore had become dry in many places and there were not so many birds.

A few Black-billed Cuckoos were seen near Watertown. We saw four dead on the road which is more than we saw alive. Yellow-billed Cuckoos were reported in Watertown and at El Dorado, both in August.

Goatsuckers — Sparrows: Allen found several Whip-poor-wills near Edwards, St. Lawrence County. There were several Red-headed Woodpeckers, probably about the same as last year. Two birds nested near the Perch Lake Game Management Area, and one pair was seen feeding two immatures out of the hole on Jul 18. Traill's Flycatchers seemed common at breeding areas on Page Road, Tug Hill, on Aug 3. Olive-sided Flycatchers were seen at regular breeding stations near Michigan Mills, Tug Hill, Jul 12 and Aug 3 and 6.

Gordon and Mayhood found Short-billed Marsh Wrens near Beaver Meadows, south of Watertown, Jul 30 and believe they breed there. Gordon saw a Mockingbird near Watertown Jun 26. Local residents had seen one there several times. There were very few Bluebirds. Some were found feeding young in northern Lewis County. Several, perhaps a family group, were seen near Rices, south of Watertown on Jul 30. Mourning Warblers, seen Jul 12, again nested near Michigan Mills, Tug Hill. The only report of Cardinals came from near Henderson Harbor. Allen found a male and a female Evening Grosbeak near Wanakena Jul 12. Mayhood and Gordon saw Henslow's Sparrows near Watertown July 30. Swamp Sparrows appeared in regular breeding habitat, Page Road, Tug Hill, Aug 3.

Allen spent Jul 3 and 4 near Edwards and found the following birds in that area apparently nesting again this year: Crested Flycatcher, Olive-sided Flycatcher, White-breasted Nuthatch, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Wood Thrush, Hermit Thrush, Swainson's Thrush, Veery, Yellow-throated Vireo, Solitary Vireo, Black and White Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Blackburnian Warbler, Mourning Warbler, Canada Warbler, and White-throated Sparrow. White-throated Sparrows and perhaps Juncos also breed in the Tug Hill section.

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REGION 7 — ADIRONDACK-CHAMPLAIN

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Summer started late if warmth is used as the criterion. Nesting started as usual, but many birds were forced to brood almost continuously due to the prolonged rainy spell. Because of the late warming, insect life was in short supply and competition was keen. Lake Champlain maintained good levels for the first time in many years. Local duck populations were good, but scattered due to the availability of nesting sites with the increased rainfall.