

noticeably fewer than during the last two falls (Delafield). A Cardinal was a feeder visitor at Tupper (Delahanty), and this species was reported also by Delafield.

A note from Mrs. Delahanty reads: "On Oct 15 a Junco was observed feeding approximately 15 feet from kitchen window (feeding station). This bird had a charcoal head and cowl, rusty sides, and pink belly. The cowl was separate from the rusty sides, while the back was brownish with some charcoal. This individual was also observed by Miss Amstutz and two others. We hesitate to say "Oregon Junco", yet feel definitely it was not a Slate-colored since it was smaller even than the Slate-colored feeding with it. The coloring was so different it might have been a mongrel of some sort, but we cannot pin a definite label on it. Do Slate-colored Juncos ever show that much brown or rust?"

I am not familiar with the Oregon Junco, but I am sure Mrs. Delahanty would welcome correspondence from someone familiar with this species (Mrs. J. E. Delahanty, 19 Stetson Road, Tupper Lake).

At Saranac Lake there were very high migratory numbers of Slate-colored Juncos until Oct 21, with an apparent peak on Oct 16 (Delafield). There were several reports of Fox and White-crowned Sparrows. There were exceptionally good numbers of Song Sparrows at Saranac Lake. There was a flock of Snow Buntings at the Saranac Inn golf course on Nov 25 (Hart), and others of this species were observed at Raybrook (Keji).

Keeseville

REGION 8—MOHAWK - HUDSON

WALTON B. SABIN

Weatherwise this period started off with a bang. Over one-half of all the rainfall for this period fell in the two weeks from August 20 to September 2nd. Needless to say the remainder of this period was quite dry, to near normal for November. As far as temperatures were concerned, the period was warmer than the average. September was extremely warm, with the first 14 days being the warmest of record. November was near normal in almost every category.

As far as the birdlife was concerned there were no extreme rarities, in fact it was very normal in most respects. Although the warbler migration yielded practically all of the species expected, most observers felt that numbers were very low. Although the Carolina Wren has made no comeback since it was frozen out last winter, it is gratifying to see the number of reports of Tufted Titmice throughout throughout the Region. A mast and wild fruit crop failure throughout New York, New England and Eastern Canada has resulted in an invasion of finches and other species from the far north. Both Evening and Pine Grosbeaks were widespread, Boreal Chickadees, Pine Siskins, and Rough-legged Hawks less so, while Red Crossbills and Snowy Owls were reported only once or twice. With prospects of a high mouse population for the second consecutive year there should be an abundance of northern hawks and owls. This is partly borne out so far in the many reports of rough-legged hawks and to a lesser extent in the few reports of short-eared owls.

Loons—Ducks: Common Loons were first noted on Oct 28 at Saratoga Lake (Hallenbeck) and were still present at the close of the period. The only Red-throated Loon was seen at Round Lake on Nov 19 (Korns, Madison and Sabin). Horned Grebes were seen beginning Oct 28 at Saratoga Lake (Hallenbeck) and were present into Dec. Pied-billed Grebes were recorded at least to Nov 19 at Saratoga Lake (SBC field trip). Great Blue Herons were present throughout the period, being most common in late Aug. Common Egrets were seen Aug 24, 30, Sept 16 and 19, all at Vischer Ferry, never more than two birds (Brettle, Clark, Hallenbeck). A lone Little Blue Heron was observed near Westerlo on Sep 6 (Kent) for the only record this fall. Green Herons were present at least to Oct 8 at Black Creek Marshes (Hallenbeck). The only Black-crowned Night Heron reported was observed flying over Loudonville on Aug 24 (French). It seems peculiar to this reporter that this common species, which breeds here, is so seldom reported. American Bitterns were seen as late as Oct 14 at Chatham (Mapes). The elusive Least Bittern was observed Aug 24 and 30 at Vischer Ferry (Clark, Hallenbeck), none later. The fall migration of Canadian Geese began on Oct 13 (many observers) and continued strong for the next two weeks before it thinned out. Some flocks were seen heading south as late as Nov 27 at Chatham (Powell). The only Brant reported was a single seen at Saratoga Lake on Nov. 11 (Clark, Hallenbeck). Mallards and Black Ducks were present throughout the period with numbers building up in late November particularly in the Green Island area on the Hudson River.

Gadwell were reported Oct 20, 29, and Nov 5, all from Stony Creek Reservoir (Hallenberg, SBC field trip), maximum of three on the 29th. This is more Gadwall than are sometimes seen in a couple of years in this area. The only report of American Widgeon was when it was recorded at Stony Creek Reservoir on Sep 23 (Clark, Eddy, Hallenberg). Pintails were observed from Oct 20 through Nov 18, Green-winged Teal through Nov 15 and Blue-winged Teal through Oct 8. Shovelers were reported only on the joint ADBC-SBC field trip to Tuttle's Marsh in Columbia County on Sep 24 when six were seen. Apparently no Wood Ducks were present after Oct 12 when they were seen at Stony Creek Reservoir (Hallenberg, Clark). No Redheads or Ring-necked Ducks were reported this fall, and the only Canvasback was recorded Nov 5 at Vischer Ferry (Hallenberg). Lesser Scaup were observed between Oct 15 and Nov 11, and Common Goldeneyes from Oct 28 on. Bufflehead arrived on Oct 20 at Stony Creek Reservoir (Hallenberg). Oldsquaw were seen only on Nov 11 at Saratoga Lake (Clark, Hallenberg). White-winged Scoter arrived on Oct 12 at Stony Creek Reservoir (Clark, Hallenberg) and Common Scoter on Oct 15 on the Hudson River (?) north of Troy (SBC field trip). No Surf Scoters or Ruddy Ducks were reported. Hooded Mergansers were present into Dec while Common and Red-breasted Mergansers arrived on Nov 12 at Tomhannock Reservoir (SBC field trip) and Nov 11 at Saratoga Lake (Clark, Hallenberg) respectively.

Hawks — Owls: A late Turkey Vulture was noted near the Selkirk Interchange of the New York State Thruway on Nov 25 (Wickham). No Gashawks have been reported. The usual Buteos were reported plus the numerous reports of Rough-legged Hawks beginning on Oct 8 at the Black Creek Marshes (Hallenberg). An immature Bald Eagle was seen over East Chatham on Sep 4 (Reilly). Marsh Hawks were reported through the end of the period while the latest Osprey was noted on Sep 19 at Stony Creek Reservoir (Brettell, Hallenberg). No Peregrine Falcons were reported; however, one Pigeon Hawk or Merlin was seen at Chatham on Sep 13 (Radke). The latest date for Sora and Virginia Rail is Sep 17 at Black Creek Marshes (Sabin). Coot were still present Nov 18 at Vischer Ferry (Hallenberg), as were Killdeer on Nov 19 at Saratoga Lake (SBC field trip). Spotted Sandpipers departed on Oct 12 from Vischer Ferry (Clark, Hallenberg), while Greater Yellowlegs were present as late as Nov 13 at Lake Taghkanic (Brown). The only Lesser Yellowlegs reported this fall was seen Sep 9 on the Hudson River between Albany and Catskill (SBC field trip). Pectoral Sandpipers were first noted Aug 20 (SBC field trip) and departed Oct 22 (Hallenberg), both at Watervliet Reservoir. The only Least Sandpiper and Sanderling records were for Aug 30 and Aug 20 at Chatham (Radke) and Watervliet Reservoir (SBC field trip) respectively. Semipalmated Sandpipers, on the other hand, were seen from Sep 16 to Oct 18 at Vischer Ferry (Hallenberg). Herring and Ring-billed Gulls were reported in usual numbers. No other gulls or terns were reported. Yellow-billed Cuckoos and Black-billed Cuckoos were last seen on Oct 20 and 23 respectively in Columbia County (ADBC record). The resident Screech, Great Horned, and Barred Owls were regularly reported. No Barn, Long-eared or Saw-whet Owls were reported. The only Snowy Owl recorded had its picture in the local Amsterdam newspaper, Oct 24. Short-eared Owls have been reported only from the Delmar area where they were seen Nov 20, 26, and 30 (Fordham).

Goatsuckers — Shrikes: No departure date for Whip-poor-will is available at this writing. Nighthawks, however, were last seen on Sep 22 at Albany (Sabin). A Ruby-throated Hummingbird was seen Oct 3 at Nassau and another Nov 1 at Catskill (Greene County Bird Club record). Kingfishers, Flickers and Pileated, Hairy, and Downy Woodpeckers were present throughout the period. No Red-headed Woodpeckers were reported. Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers were present at least to Oct 17 in Columbia County (ADBC record). Kingbirds left Sep 24 from Columbia County (SBC-ADBC joint field trip) and Crested Flycatcher Aug 27 from Black Creek Marshes (Hallenberg). An extremely late report (unconfirmed) on this last species comes from the Catskill area where one was seen Nov 9 (!) (GCBC record). Phoebees were present as late as Oct 23 near Westerlo (Kent). Yellow-bellied Flycatchers were observed Aug 30, Sep 6, 7, and 13, the last record occurring at Ghent (Erlenbach). Traill's Flycatchers were not reported after Sep 9 at Red Rock (Smilow) and Least Flycatchers were not reported at all. Wood Pewees departed Sep 9 along the Hudson River (SBC field trip) and Olive-sided Flycatcher on Sep 24 from Canaan (Gokay). Horned Larks continue in permanent residence. Cliff Swallows were not seen after Sep 9 along the Hudson River (SBC field trip). Departure dates on all other swallows went unreported. Apparently this will be known as the year of the Boreal Chickadee invasion, if current observations continue. This species was first

reported Oct 29 near Rensselaerville (Kent). It was subsequently reported Nov 21, 27, and 29 from Columbia County in the general area of Chatham (Reilly, Radke, and LaPointe respectively). Tufted Titmice were very widely reported, with a general influx in Nov. Red-breasted Nuthatches and Brown Creepers were reported within normal limits and continue to be present. The last House Wren was seen Oct 8 in Columbia County (ADBC record). Winter Wrens were reported from Sep 17 at Old Chatham (Burland) to Nov 21 at Castleton (Cook). The last Long-billed Marsh Wrens and Catbirds were seen Oct 7 at Vischer Ferry (Clark, Hallenbeck). Brown Thrashers stayed on until Oct 17 in Columbia County (ADBC record). The only Mockingbirds reported were Nov 4 at Ghent (Erlenbach) and Nov 22 in downtown Hudson (Reeve). Robins are still present, but in reduced numbers. A very late Wood Thrush was observed Nov 18 at Melrose (Yunick). Hermit Thrushes apparently went through the region from Oct 12-25 since no other dates were reported. Swainson's Thrushes were last seen on Oct 15 at New Concord (Radke), but Gray-cheeked Thrushes were seen only on Sep 6 and 7 at Loudonville (French). Veeries were last reported Sep 18 in Columbia County (ADBC record). Bluebirds were present throughout the period, but mostly few in number. Golden-crowned Kinglets were noted from Sep 20 at Nassau (Shineman) to Nov 27 at Loudonville (French). Ruby-crowned Kinglets were seen first on Sep 21 at Ghent (Erlenbach) and last on Oct 31 in Columbia County (ADBC record) and Schenectady (Eddy). Water Pipits were recorded from Sep 26 to Oct 19 at Ghent (Erlenbach). Cedar Waxwings were reported throughout the period from many places. No Shrikes were reported up to Nov 30.

Vireos — Sparrows: Yellow-throated Vireos were present until Sep 16 at Vischer Ferry (Clark, Hallenbeck). Solitary Vireos and Red-eyed Vireos departed Oct 4 from Loudonville (French). The last Warbling Vireo was seen Sep 17 at the Black Creek Marshes (Hallenbeck). The only fall arrival dates for warblers were as follows: Bay-breasted and Connecticut—Aug 19—southern Rensselaer County (ADBC records); Prairie—Aug 27—Castleton (Cook); Northern Waterthrush—Aug 20—Canaan (Gokay); Black-capped—Aug 29—New Concord (Radke); and Canada—Aug 16—Loudonville (French). Fall departure dates were: Tennessee—Sep 24—Ghent (Erlenbach); Nashville, Parula, and Black-poll—Oct 8—Castleton (Cook); Magnolia and Cape May—Oct 29—Burnt Hills (Foote); Black-throated Green—Oct 11—Castleton (Cook); Myrtle—Oct 31—Schenectady (Eddy); Black-throated Blue—Oct 8—Loudonville (French); Blackburnian—Oct 9—Canaan (Gokay); Bay-breasted and Connecticut—Sep 28—Old Chatham (Reilly); Palm—Oct 3—Catskill area (GCBC record); Mourning—Sep 16—Vischer Ferry (Hallenbeck); Northern Yellowthroat—Oct 15—Schaghticoke (SBC field trip); Black-capped—Sep 6—Schenectady (Eddy); and Redstart—Sep 19—Loudonville (French). Bobolinks were last reported Aug 30 from Vischer Ferry (Hallenbeck). Meadowlarks, Red-winged Blackbirds, Common Grackles, Brown-headed Cowbirds, Cardinals, and Goldfinches were all present throughout the period. The last Baltimore Oriole reported was seen Sep 18 in Columbia County (ADBC record). Rusty Blackbirds arrived Sep 16 at Old Chatham (Reilly) and were present to at least Nov 6 at Scotia (Hallenbeck). Scarlet Tanagers, Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, Indigo Buntings, and Rufous-sided Towhees were last seen Sep 30, Sep 24, Oct 6 and Oct 5 respectively, at Loudonville (French). A wandering Evening Grosbeak was observed Aug 19 at Slingerlands (Sabin). The main force of this species however did not arrive for another month when they were widely reported after Sep 21 at New Concord (Radke). Purple Finches were common after Sep 5 at Loudonville (French). Pine Grosbeaks invaded this region beginning Nov 11 near Westerlo (Kent). Only one report of Redpolls has been received. This was of a small flock Nov 18 at Melrose (Yunick). Pine Siskins were seen Oct 29 at Stony Creek Reservoir (SBC field trip), Nov 19 at New Concord (Radke) and Ghent (Erlenbach) and Nov 20 at Burnt Hills (Foote). Red Crossbills were reported only twice, Nov 10 and 19 at Hillsdale (French). Savannah and Vesper Sparrows were last seen Oct 19 in Columbia County (ADBC record). No departure dates were reported for either Grasshopper or Henslow's Sparrows. Southbound Slate-colored Juncos were first reported Sep 25 at Ghent (Erlenbach), Tree Sparrows Oct 16 at Rd Rock (Smilow), White-throated Sparrows Sep 16 in Columbia County (ADBC record), White-crowned Sparrows Sep 27 at Castleton (Cook), and Fox Sparrows Oct 10 in Columbia County (ADBC record). Chipping and Field Sparrows were last reported Oct 20 and Nov 12 respectively from Loudonville (French), White-crowned Sparrows Nov 10 at Ghent (Erlenbach), and Swamp Sparrows Oct 5 at Loudonville (French). Lincoln's Sparrows apparently migrated through unnoticed. Snow Buntings arrived Oct 23 at Melrose (Yunick) and were fairly widely distributed during November.

652 Kenwood Ave., Slingerlands