

eager to eat. Redwing: a male near Point Peninsula Mar 17, many a few days later. Rusty Blackbird: reported Mar 25. Meadowlark: seen in two different places Dec 23; one at Red Mills Jan 15; several by the end of Mar. Grackles began to reach Watertown Mar 19. Cardinals seemed to be about as numerous as last winter. Evening Grosbeaks were present all winter, but in smaller numbers than two years ago. The Pine Grosbeaks were the most numerous and widespread in 25 years (Belknap); some were still around late in Mar. Pine Siskin: at a feeder in Watertown early in Jan, but no others seen. Slate-colored Junco: one at a feeder daily in Adams Center; another all winter at a feeder in Watertown Center; one in Watertown Mar 10, and several at feeders Mar 31-Apr 1. There seemed to be about as many Tree Sparrows as in other years. A White-throated Sparrow survived the winter near Watertown. At Adams Center a Fox Sparrow came to a feeder for several days in the middle of winter. At Potsdam a Song Sparrow came through the winter in fine shape, and in Watertown two were seen daily at a feeder. Lapland Longspur: a few reports of 2 to 7 birds, all in western Jefferson County. 173 Haley St., Watertown

REGION 7 — ADIRONDACK - CHAMPLAIN

THOMAS A. LESPERANCE

The past winter left the lowlands relatively free of snow most of the reporting period. The cold was prolonged and very intense, especially through February when lows of 25 to 30 below zero were recorded and endured, with slowly increasing levels through the first two weeks of March. Heavy snow accumulations were not general throughout the mountain areas, as was publicly manifested by the complaints of the ski resorts. Bird activity was spotty to none at all in the Champlain area and from all reports was none too prolific in other parts of the region.

As nearly as can be ascertained, the Junco sighted and reported last fall by Mrs. Delehanty was the Oregon Junco, Geoffrey Carleton going to great lengths to help in the identification of this particular individual through correspondence with Mrs. Delehanty.

I am in receipt of many notes for this area from visitors who are members of clubs in other regions. I am very obliged to them for these records. These unexpected notes are always welcome and often include those areas where otherwise there is no coverage. Such current notes are included below, with thanks to all.

Summing up the late fall-winter season, it is worth commenting on the scarcity of Crossbills and Siskins, the early arrival of Evening Grosbeaks, the increase of Pine Grosbeaks, and the general lack of "mast" in the seed and nut-producing trees and shrubs. Some of these conditions were first reported to me by Richard B. Fischer, Associate Professor of Nature and Conservation Education at Cornell, while he was deer hunting last fall, and subsequent reports have borne his comments out.

Loons — Ducks: 125 Canada Geese were at Tupper Lake Mar 30, and 25 on Mar 31 (Delehanty). There was a Lake Alice report Mar 9 (Sibley), and a large flock passed over Plattsburg on Apr 2 (Lesperance). The Wood Duck was at Lake Alice Feb 28 (Sibley) and the Ring-neck at Piseco River Mar 30 (Brockner). Common Mergansers and Common Goldeneyes were in open water of Chazy and AuSable Rivers Jan 7 to Mar 25. Common Goldeneyes were at Saranac Lake Feb 21 (Anderson, Delefield), and there were Hooded Merganser reports there Dec 31 (Hart) and Jan 6 (Anderson, Delefield).

Hawks — Owls: Cooper's Hawk: Feb 25 and Mar 31 near Chazy (Sibley). Broad-winged Hawk: Tupper Lake Mar 29 (Delehanty). Bald Eagle: Tupper Lake, Mar 31 (Delehanty); Port Kent (feeding on garbage) (Gurney); and Plattsburg City Beach (harassing gulls) (Lesperance).

Ring-billed and Herring Gulls were at Plattsburgh Mar 21 as the ice broke up (Lesperance). There was a Great Black-backed Gull there Jan 14. Killdeer: several reports late in period.

A Barred Owl was at Saranac Lake Mar 28 (Anderson, Delefield). The observers enjoyed fine views of this bird perched on a bare branch overhanging the Saranac River almost at the foot of Trudeau Road.

Goatsuckers — Shrikes: Hairy and Downy Woodpeckers: common in reporting areas. Pileated Woodpeckers: several near Augur Pond throughout period, and

one Mar 14 at Saranac Lake (Delafield). Northern Three-toed Woodpecker: one closely studied Feb 9 (Hart) along the Osgood River near Osgood Pond.

Horned Lark: two on Mar 1 at Saranac Lake (Delafield); first noted by Sibley between Chazy and Plattsburgh on Mar 10 in small flocks, then commonly until the end of the period.

Tree Swallow: Mar 28 and 29, two, Saranac Lake (Delafield); Mar 30, Reparius and Johnsburg (Brockner); Mar 30, Chazy (Sibley). Blue Jay: notably scarce in Saranac Lake area (Delafield). Black-capped Chickadee: generally normal. Boreal Chickadee: at least two regular feeder birds at Saranac Lake; one along Trudeau Road Mar 29 (Delafield). White-breasted and Red-breasted Nuthatches: normal in Saranac Lake area (Delafield). Brown Creeper: one Dec 31 Saranac Lake (Hart).

Robin: first at Tupper Lake on Mar 22, increasing to 50 there on Mar 29 (Delehanty); first at Chazy Mar 25 (Sibley); first at Keeseville Mar 30 (Lesperance); 14 on Mar 29 at Saranac Lake (Delafield). Eastern Bluebird: six at Keene on Mar 30 (Brockner).

Cedar Waxwings reported: March 17 at Tupper Lake (Delehanty). Bohemian Waxwing: a belated report of four at Tupper Lake on Nov 29 (Delehanty). Northern Shrike: very common in the Keeseville area throughout the period (Lesperance); seen at Tupper Lake on Jan 25, Feb 1 and 6 (Delehanty). Loggerhead Shrike: one at Tupper on Mar 29 (Delehanty).

Blackbirds — Sparrows: Eastern Meadowlark: Mar 11, four, good numbers thereafter, Saranac Lake (Delafield). Redwing: 105 at Saranac Lake on Mar 22 (Delafield); seen at Tupper Lake Mar 23 (Delehanty). Common Grackle: one wintered at feeder at Saranac Lake (Delafield), first migrants there Mar 28; six seen at Tupper Lake Jan 3 (Delehanty); first seen at Keeseville on Mar 24 (Lesperance). Cowbird: first at Keeseville Mar 11 (Lesperance); over 100 at Saranac Lake Mar 31 (Delafield).

Cardinal: one at feeder at Saranac Lake until mid-Jan (Delafield); another, a male, reported "close to kitchen window feeder" at Essex (Mason). Evening Grosbeak at Tupper Lake they were but "occasional all winter" (Delehanty); at Saranac Lake they were "notably scarce, with feeders deserted" (Delafield); Sibley complains of same situation at Chazy, but reports 10 there on Feb 25, and 30 on Mar 10 near Chazy Landing.

Pine Grosbeak: "good numbers" at Saranac Lake until the middle of Feb (Delafield); groups of from two to 12 at Tupper Lake from Jan 10 to Mar 25 (Delehanty); 10 near Malone on Jan 4 (Sibley); six near Chazy on Jan 6 and 13, and three near Chazy Landing on Mar 16 (Sibley).

Redpoll: small flocks at Saranac Lake in early Mar (Delafield); at Chazy small groups noted on Jan 13 and peaked to flocks of 100 or more by Mar 10 (Sibley); two on Feb 27 and 100 on Mar 26 at Tupper Lake (Delehanty). Pine Siskin: five on Jan 13 at Saranac Lake (Delafield).

Slate-colored Junco: low in numbers in some areas. Fox Sparrow: two at Saranac Lake on Mar 31 (Delafield). White-throated Sparrow: one at feeder all winter at Saranac Lake (Delafield). Song Sparrow: at Saranac Lake "back in good numbers by Mar 30" (Delafield); 78 reported Mar 30 at Lake Placid (Brockner); noted Feb 25 at Chazy (Sibley) and Mar 29 at Tupper Lake by Delehanty. Snow Bunting: "more than usual" in Saranac Lake area (Delafield).

Keeseville

REGION 8 — MOHAWK - HUDSON

WALTON B. SABIN

Except for February, this was a fairly mild winter. The coldest, snowiest weather of the winter took place during February, when on the 11th the temperature dipped to -18° (a new record for that date), and a total of 34.5 inches of snow fell during the month (the second heaviest February fall of record). The greatest snow depth of 17 inches occurred on February 24th and 25th. December was generally normal. January was near average except that snowfall was over a foot below normal and the ground was bare much of the time. February was colder and wetter by 3.2° and 1.45 inches, respectively. The last three weeks of March were very mild with the lowest temperature during this period of 23° on the 20th, and culminating with a high of 79° on the 30th (a new record for this date). Ice went out of the Hudson River in the Albany-Troy area on the 12th and