

Western Tanager: a bird identified as a Western Tanager was seen at Black Lake in St. Lawrence Co. Jun 1 by Hubert Ives of Syracuse. It was a singing male described as having yellow underparts, brick-red head and wing-bars. Evening Grosbeak: reported in southern Lewis Co. and in St. Lawrence Co. A newspaper report says that Evening Grosbeaks were seen near the Fish Creek Club nine miles west of Constableville and that young were seen Jul 4. A female was seen near Highmarket Jul 27 (Gordon). A pair and four fledglings appeared in the yard of L. Blake near Potsdam in late Jul and she has seen them nearly every day. White-throated Sparrow: more numerous than last year near South Edwards, and are extending their breeding range to the south. One near Pleasant Lake in early Jul.

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REGION 7 — ADIRONDACK - CHAMPLAIN

This report is in the nature of a stop-gap and has all the disadvantages of being written from outside the region. After this issue the regional report will be written by Miss Harriet Delafield. Her address is Trudeau Road, Saranac Lake. The editorial board of 'The Kingbird' are grateful to Mr. Lesperance for his work in compiling the regional report from 1955 to 1963.

The highlights of the season included further occurrences of the Clay-colored Sparrow, sightings of a Golden Eagle, nests of Goshawk and Philadelphia Vireo and a report of several Towhees.

Initials of contributors: Miss A. Amstutz — AA; Miss H. Delafield — HD; Mrs. J. Delahanty — JD; Mr. A. Kemnitzer — AK; Mr. J. Keji — JK; Miss M. Rusk — MR; Mr. C. Ross — CR; Dr. F. Scheider — FS; Mr. & Mrs. Sheffield — MRS; Dr. W. Spofford — WS.

Loons — Ducks: Common Loon: two adults and one immature, Duck Pond, nr Saranac Lake Jun 29 (HD); four individuals seen in the Sabattis area, Jun 2 (MR, WS); two, Ray Brook, Aug 12 (JK). Canada Goose: birds liberated in Tupper Lake area had a good season and gosling were seen (AA). Green-winged Teal: female and brood seen nr Paul Smith (CR), believed to be the first breeding record for the area, although the species bred at Oseetah Lake in 1961. Ring-necked Duck and Hooded Merganser both had a good season in the Paul Smith area (CR) and a pair of Ring-necks were seen at Tupper Lake. All the records of Ring-necks are within the area indicated by Foley (Kingbird 13:79-84) as the breeding range of this species.

Hawks — Owls: Goshawk: two adults at nest, Ampersand area, Jun 4 (JD, B. Martin), young seen in nest later. One adult, two well feathered young on nest, Jun 29, Debar Game Management Area (HD). Sharp-shinned Hawk: one, Sabbittis, Jun 2 (MR). Bald Eagle: one, Tupper Lake, Jun 2 (JD), immature, Tupper Lake Aug 10 (B. Frenette); one, Ampersand Pond, no date (fide JD). Golden Eagle: single bird seen Jun 2 & 26, in northern Adirondacks (WS). Osprey: one active nest reported (fide JD); one, Ray Brook, Jun 28 (JK); one, Madawaska, Jun 29 (FS); one, Tupper Lake, Jun 4 & Jul 20 (JD).

Spruce Grouse: one, Madawaska, Jun 29 (D. Peakall); two young observed nr Paul Smith, Aug 8 (CR). Yellow-billed Cuckoo: observed in mid-June at Heart Lake (MRS) and also at Wilmington, Jun 29 (AK). Reilly and Parkes checklist (1957) states 'recorded once in Adirondacks' so that further observations, particularly of definite breeding, would be of great interest. Black Tern: recorded on several dates during the period at Tupper Lake (AA, JD). These records of interest in view of the present increase of the north-eastern portion of the breeding range of this species. Saw-whet Owl: group of five young seen on the Elk Lake-Ausable Lake divide, Aug 3 (G. Carleton, F. Schetty).

Goatsucker — Shrikes: Kingfisher: scarcer than usual, Saranac Lake (HD). An idea of the relative abundance of the various species of woodpeckers at Ray Brook can be obtained from the observations of Keji. He noted the Flicker on 34 days during the period, Pileated on 3, Sapsucker on

47, Hairy on 10 and Downy on 29. Tree Swallow: noted in good numbers in the Tupper Lake area (JD). Rough-winged Swallow: recorded at Heart Lake in mid-Jun (MRS).

The Winter Wren was noted as very scarce compared to 1962 by MRS during a trip in mid-Jun. However, many were noted at Tupper L (AA). Veery: reported in good numbers by several observers.

Vireo — Sparrows: Nest of the Philadelphia Vireo was found in the Lake Placid area (MRS). Full details are given in the field note section. Eighteen species of warblers were reported. Counts of singing males at Madawaska along one and one half miles of back road by FS on Jun 29 were as follows: Black and White 2; Nashville 15; Magnolia 7; Black-throated Blue 1; Myrtle 10; Black-throated Green 1; Blackburnian 9; Ovenbird 7; Yellowthroat 12 and Canada 3. At Ray Brook, Keji noted seventeen species, commonest were Redstart and Yellowthroat both noted on 23 days, Myrtle and Chestnut-sided on 19 days and Nashville on 10. However, neither Chestnut-sided or Redstart were as common as last year although both these species were noted as normal at Saranac Lake (HD). Keji noted Tennessee Warbler on Jul 17 and Aug 10; Parula on Jul 31 and Bay-breasted on Aug 10. At Tupper Lake, Black-throated Green and Black-throated Blue were noted almost everywhere (AA). Wilson's Warbler was noted at end of period, Tupper Lake (AA).

Evening Grosbeak: the impression is that this is now widely distributed as a breeding species. MRS noted it at five points during a trip in mid-June. At Tupper Lake both adults and immatures were noted at intervals (AA, JD, JK). It was seen and heard at Saranac Lake (HD). Red Crossbill: noted four times during the period at Ray Brook (JK) and at Sunmount in Jul (AA). Towhee: five singing males in the Wilmington area, Jun 28 & 29 (AK) is a surprising number for the central area. Not noted at Tupper Lake where breeding was noted last year (AA). Clay-colored Sparrow: singing males found at Lake Placid golf course, Jun 24 & 25 (HD, AK) and Wilmington, Jun 28 & 29 (AK). For previous records of this western species see Kingbird 4:117 & 12:139. Junco, Chipping Sparrow and White-throated Sparrow were reported in 'very good numbers' at Ray Brook (JK).

REGION 8 — MOHAWK - HUDSON

PETER P. WICKHAM

Although this summer was very near average in temperature, rainfall for the second successive year was extremely low. Precipitation at Albany totalled 2.94 in. during June, 0.31 in. below normal, and 1.20 in. for July, 2.29 in. below normal. At the end of August, precipitation for the year was 6.1 in. below normal.

The lack of rainfall again afforded unusual opportunities in the area for observation of plovers and sandpipers. Both numbers and species of this group were higher than last summer, and seemed to arrive even earlier. The most unusual species reported from the group was the Ruff. Additional species included Western Sandpiper and Dowitcher among many others.

Breeding marsh birds did not seem common. Pied-billed Grebes and Soras were not observed at all, and Common Gallinules seemed decidedly uncommon. Hawks appeared to be breeding in low numbers. Unusual or rare species reported during the period included Ring-necked Duck, Dowitcher, Western Sandpiper, Ruff, Black Tern, Red-headed Woodpecker, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (nesting), Brewster's and Lawrence's Warblers, Yellow-breasted Chat and Orchard Oriole.

Abbreviations used: L — Lake; Nisk — Niskayuna; nr — near; pr — pair; Res — Reservoir; Tomh — Tomhannock; VF — Vischer Ferry Game Management Area.

Observers: ADBC — Alan Devoe Bird Club; SBC — Schenectady Bird Club; GB — Guy Bartlett; JC — Juanita Cook; JHB — James Bush; HE — Hazel Eddy; PE, GE — Paul & Georgia Erlenbach; EH — Esly Hallenbeck; MK — Marcia Kent; ER — Eleanor Radke; BRS — Benton Seguin; BW — Beverly Waite; PPW — Peter Wickham.