

Old Chatham and Tomh Res as usual, as well as from farther north. Brown Creeper: at Old Chatham all summer (ADBC); observed at Tomh Res (where it may breed) Aug 11 (PPW). Carolina Wren: no reports. Long-billed Marsh-wren: reported from most of the larger marshes in the region and from Pottersville (MK). Short-billed Marsh-wren: no reports. Brown Thrasher: seemed rather uncommon in most localities. Mockingbird: one was in Westerlo Jun 2 (MK) and a pr nested in Catskill (JHB). Bluebird: most observers agreed there was a slight increase in the breeding population over last year. **Blue-gray Gnatcatchers**: one pr was reported nesting at Catskill (JHB) for the first nesting record for this region in many years. Golden-cr Kinglet: one, Jun 23, Lisha Kill nr Schenectady (SBC) suggests the interesting possibility that the bird may be breeding farther south than previously suspected. Cedar Waxwing: became an abundant bird in the region late in the summer.

Vireos — Warblers: Worm-eating Warbler: at least three singing individuals were at Thacher Park Jun 1 (PPW) and another was a Crane's Hollow Jun 3 (BRS). Blue-winged Warbler: reported from nr Altamont (BW), Ghent (PE, GE) and New Concord (ER). An unusual sight at Old Chatham on Jul 21 was of 1 Golden-winged Warbler, 1 Blue-winged Warbler, 4 **Brewster's Warblers** and 1 **Lawrence's Warbler** perched together on a fence rail (H. Barton). Nashville Warbler: observed at higher elevations in the region in Jun- nr Westerlo (MK) and Berlin (PPW) as well as farther north. Myrtle Warbler: an early migrant appeared at VF Aug 10 (PPW, EH). Cerulean Warbler: bred at Gallupville as usual (G. Zimmer). Blackburnian Warbler: reported from Old Chatham and Berlin as well as more northerly points. Black-poll Warbler: late migrants were passing through Jun 1 (BRS, PPW). Prairie Warbler: reported nesting at Karner (SBC), Ghent (PE, GE) and New Concord (ER). Louisiana Water-thrush: reported from Red Rock (ADBC), Altamont (SBC) and Lisha Kill (SBC). Mourning Warbler: a female was observed feeding young nr Indian Ladder while a male sung from a thicket nearby on Jul 17 (BRS); this is the most southerly breeding record for this region in many years. Birds were also observed nr Corinth (GB). Yellow-br Chat: one was at Catskill Jun 23 (JHB).

Blackbirds—Sparrows: Bobolink: southward-bound migrants observed from Aug 2 (EH) through end of period. **Orchard Oriole**: one male was at Catskill Jun 1-23 (JHB). No other reports were received for the period. Evening Grosbeak: nested in numbers at Jenny L, northern Saratoga Co, (GB), but not in southern part of region as occurred last year. Both Grasshopper and Henslow's Sparrows seemed scarce to most observers. White-thr Sparrow: a number of individuals were singing in low-altitude areas south of their usual haunts into the summer: one was at Burnt Hills to Jul 5 (BRS), another at Catskill to Jun 10 (JHB), and another at Lisha Kill June 23 (SBC). A probable fall migrant or vagrant was at New Concord Aug 5 (ER).

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REGION 9 — DELAWARE - HUDSON

EDWARD D. TREACY

The weather bureau in New York City reported July as the eighth straight month of below average rainfall. August till the end of the period did not indicate any change in the pattern. Temperatures throughout the period were not extreme; to the contrary, they were average to below for the entire period.

Only one catastrophe came to your reporters attention, and that was of about 100 dead birds found July 9 along a portion of Rt. 9 in West, that had recently been sprayed. No other details were forthcoming.

Abbreviations used: First four letters of each county—ex. Rock—Rockland; WBC—Waterman Bird Club.

Contributors: BA — Bob Augustine; EB — Eugene Brown; RC — Robert Connor; ME — Martha Earl; FG — F. Germond; SOG — Stanley Grierson; MH — Marshall Howe; MH — Dr. Marjorie Hopper; TH — T. Haight; MI — Mort Isler; M & JK — Mary & Jim Key; AP — Anne Piper;

EP — E. Pink; VP — Vivian Parkhurst; WS — Wm. Strauss; OW — Otis Waterman; CY — Chan Young.

Loons—Ducks: Common Loon: An interesting report of one bird in winter plumage at Kays Pond, Pleasant Valley, Dutch from June 21—27 (WBC). The bird was captured and found to be far below normal weight range. It was released and disappeared. Pied-billed Grebe: Several reports throughout region, no young reported this year. Herons: Reported as few in Putn, but near normal elsewhere. Great Blue Heron: Three to five young reported at Tamarack Swamp nest site, Dutch (M & JK). Common Egret: Usual July influx of a few birds from the south. Black-crowned Night Heron: Two birds at Hawthorne, West from Aug 2 to the end of the period (BA). American Bittern: A nesting record from a swamp near Amenias, Dutch on July 6 (WS). Canada Goose: Well established nesting sites were occupied again this year in Dutch and Oran, but these are all too few. Blue-winged Teal: This rare summer resident occasionally nests in region. A pair with five young was seen near Pine Plains, Dutch on June 30 (VP). Wood Duck: Normal population.

Hawks—Owls: Turkey Vulture: Population continues to be high. **Goshawk:** First nesting record for Ulst. Two young birds taken alive at Fleischmanns (in the Catskills) and turned over alive to Dr. Heinz Meng who later found the nest in a Red Maple. It contained traces of squirrel fur and crow feathers. Sharp-shinned Hawk: None reported. Cooper's Hawk: Only one reported from Barrytown, Dutch on June 2 (OW). Red-tailed Hawk: Population down in Dutch, but not noticeably changed elsewhere. Red-shouldered Hawk: None reported. Broad-winged Hawk: Population normal. Usual breeding records. Marsh Hawk: None reported. Usually rare but regular locally. Osprey: One reported from Lake DeForest area of Rock on July 20 (MI). Sparrow Hawk: Numbers normal to slightly below. Bobwhite: Appears to be increasing slightly in Dutch since initial release by the Conservation Dept. in 1959. No such increase reported elsewhere. Virginia Rail: Breeding records from Ulst, Dutch and West are in good numbers for this furtive species. Sora: Largely unreported; one breeding record from Tri-Loba Hill Sanct. Katonah, West (SOG). **Purple Gallinule:** This species reported last spring at the home of Carl Breuninger in Pound Ridge, West remained till June 7. Common Gallinule: One pair reported nesting at Pine Plains, Dutch (VP). No other reports. Killdeer: Nesting reports indicate a successful season. Woodcock: Same as the previous species. Common Snipe: Reported from the Pine Plains area thru early Aug. Three or four birds observed there on Aug 12 (VP). Shorebirds: Extensive mudflats exposed at the north end of Croton Res., West brought in several species, some in great numbers, during the month of July (BA, MH). Among those observed there on July 21 were: Solitary Sandpiper—four; Spotted Sandpiper — 20-25; Killdeer — 40; Pectoral Sandpiper — 2; and about 300 Least and Semipalmated Sandpipers, the greater majority of which were Least. For most of the region, the shorebird migration was in full swing by mid-July, and continued well to the end of the period. Dowitcher: Rock had its fourth record of this species at Lake DeForest on July 20 (MI). Gulls: Most local species maintained good numbers along the Hudson. Laughing Gulls were scarce during the early part of the season, but picked up when a number of immatures moved in toward the latter part. Terns: None reported when usually a few Common can be expected along the Hudson. Cuckoos: A very good season for the Yellow-billed, and a better than average for the Black-billed. Owls: No noticeable change in numbers for any species; all too few for most. Barn Owl: One reported nesting near Monroe (ME).

Goatsuckers—Shrikes: Whip-poor-will: Population about the same as last year, perhaps a little better. Nighthawk: Numbers remain low. Early migrants were reported over Hawthorne, West on July 20, when four birds were observed (BA). Hummingbird: Numbers up over last year. Some birders reported as many as three or four birds observed in a morning. Belted Kingfisher: Reported as "very, very scarce" in Rock, and obviously low in numbers elsewhere in the region. Woodpeckers: No significant changes

reported in any species. Phoebe: Reported continually scarce in Rock. Traill's Flycatcher: Two pair nesting at Lake DeForest, Rock (MI); and again at Hawthorne, West for the third straight year (BA). Least Flycatcher: Reported last year as down in numbers in the West region; they are even lower this year. Only one pair known to have bred in the Hawthorne area (BA). Wood Pewee: Summer residents appear below normal in Dutch. Olive-sided Flycatcher: One observed in Armonk on Aug 6 (MH) might indicate summer residence as readily as early migration. Horned Lark: Martha Earl discovered two pairs nesting in the Goshen — Farmingdale area of Oran. Swallows: Most species reported in good numbers, with breeding highly successful. Migrants were obviously on the way south on July 31, with a number of Trees being reported from Dutch on that date (EP), and "hundreds" of Trees at Katonah, West the week of Aug 4 (SOG). Martha Earl thought the number of Barns and Cliffs was small in Oran, but this was not reported elsewhere. Bob Deed reports that Cliffs have appeared so regularly in Rock that they should now be classed as regular migrants. Dutch reports an interesting record of nesting Cliffs being driven out by English Sparrow at Upton Lake, and taking up residence at a farm a mile or two away where two or three pairs completed nesting (FG). Purple Martin: Has nested along the Hudson in Dutch for years. This year produced a new record inland at Briarcliff Farms near Pine Plains where five to seven pairs nested (TH et al). Migrants were observed in West on Aug 7 and in Rock on Aug 15. Corvids: Nothing unusual reported. Red-breasted Nuthatch: At least one and perhaps two were found during the summer at Westmoreland Sanct. near Armonk (MH). Brown Creeper: Breeding again in the areas reported last summer. House Wren: Has made a comeback from the low numbers of a few years ago. Carolina Wren: Only one comment received; that of a bird nesting in a Blue bird house at Katonah (AP). Long-billed Marsh Wren: Numbers are good throughout region. Short-billed Marsh Wren: At least three of this rare species were found singing at dusk along Lake Tiorati Road in Bear Mt. Park on May 18 (MI, RC). They are worth reporting even though they were found before the period began. Mockingbird: Continues to increase in numbers and range. Northern counties of Ulst and Dutch report nesting of one and two pairs, whereas Rock in the south reports a number of birds nesting in the Lake DeForest, Orangeburgh and Tappan areas. Hermit Thrush: Continues to breed sparingly in Dutch as far south as Mt. Beacon. One bird was heard singing at Pine Swamp in the Harriman Section of Bear Mt. Park on June 6 (MH, EB). Bluebird: Continues to be low. WBC has extended their nest box program resulting in slightly higher breeding for Dutch. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: Breeding again in the Stony Point region of Rock (MI); and a pair found at Briarcliff, West on July 21 probably bred (BA). Cedar Waxwing: Birds were observed breeding in the Blooming Grove area of Oran from June 3 to the end of the period (ME). Loggerhead Shrike: Observed nesting in Oran (ME).

Vireos—Warblers: White-eyed Vireo: None reported from most of the region, but at least five pairs bred in the New City area of Rock. Yellow-throated and Red-eyed Vireo: Down in numbers throughout the region. Warbling Vireo: Unreported. Warblers: Numbers generally normal in Dutch, to below normal in Putn except for a few species. **Prothonotary Warbler:** One bird at Nappanoch, Ulst on June 27 (CY). Brewster's Warbler: This hybrid continually observed throughout the period in Dutch; breeding not determined. Tennessee Warbler: An early migrant observed at Westmoreland Sanct., West on Aug 15 (MH). Cerulean Warbler: Only summer reports are of three pair at Cruger's Is, Dutch and another two or three pairs on Mt. Rutsen Rd. about three mi south of Barrytown. All were nesting birds (WBC). Bay-breasted Warbler: An early bird reported from Westmoreland Sanct on Aug 7 & 8 (MH). Northern Waterthrush: Dutch had reports thru the end of June, but no verified nesting. Canada Warbler: First migrant at Westmoreland Sanct on Aug 10 (MH). Redstart: Bob Deed reports them down in numbers in Rock, but Mrs. Mabel Little found them to be one of the few species of warbler in good numbers in Putn.

Blackbirds—Sparrows: Blackbirds generally on the increase for most

species: Bobolink: Good numbers locally in their usual breeding areas. Eastern Meadowlark: About the only member of the family that did not show an appreciable increase. Red-wing: Flocking observed in the West area as early as July 10. Orchard Oriole: Fred Hough reports at least three breeding pair within a few miles of each other in Ulst. The only other report is of an immature bird at Pound Ridge, West on June 9 (BA). Grackle: Mr. & Mrs. F. H. Lent of Katonah reported observing birds of this species on several occasions going through "anting" movements with dog repellent pellets they had spread about their property. Indigo Bunting: Far and above last years population for the whole region. Purple Finch: Scattered nesting reports from Dutch, Oran and Putn. **House Finch:** Continued reports throughout summer from South Nyack might indicate breeding. Numbers continue to increase in the Hawthorne area of West (BA). Savannah and Grasshopper Sparrow: Nesting reports from Oran (ME) and West. Henslow's Sparrow: A singing male of this rare species was found just south of Letchworth Village, Rock on June 1 & 2 (MI). Vesper Sparrow: Breeding records made by Martha Earl in Oran. Slate-colored Junco: A good summer record of an immature bird near Armonk, West on Aug 6 (MH). Could indicate breeding in the area. Jim and Mary Key found a nest of this species with two young at Dover Plains, Dutch at an elevation of 1,500 ft. This is the most southerly nesting record for this county, and at the lowest elevation. White-throated Sparrow: Found singing at Pine Swamp, Bear Mt. State Park on June 6 (MH).
Pellwood Lake, Highland Falls.

REGION 10 — MARINE

PETER W. POST AND GUY A. TUDOR

The spring migration was a protracted one with migrant orioles, thrushes, and flycatchers still moving along the coast on the extremely late date of June 16 (JM, *Linnaean News-Letter*, 17(3) May 1963).

During the first three quarters of June the temperature in New York City averaged below normal. This was more than compensated for, however, when the mercury soared well over the 90 degree mark for five consecutive days during the period from June 24th through the 28th, tying the record for the maximum number of consecutive days of this occurrence for June. The monthly average temperature was 70.9 degrees (0.5 degrees below normal). The precipitation for the month averaged 2.72 inches (.59 inches below normal). This in no way compensated for the near drought conditions which prevailed during the spring. As a result, several species of waterfowl seem to have been affected.

Roy Latham, of Orient, reports that most of the summer residents there (Wood Thrushes, Ovenbirds, and Black-billed Cuckoos, as well as many other species) are "still reduced in numbers," while Redstarts, Blue-winged, and Black and White Warblers no longer nest in the area. Is this due to insecticides? Dennis Puleston also reported "a very uneventful breeding season" for L. I.

What is apparently the first record for eastern North America, a Red-billed Tropic-bird (*Phaethon aethereus*) was pick up dead in early June. This bird was presumably carried north by a tropical disturbance, which, according to the United States Weather Bureau, originated about May 31st in an area of squalls extending from 200 miles SSW of Jamaica, across Cuba, and through the eastern and central Bahamas. First called a tropical disturbance on June 1st when over the extreme NW Bahamas, this storm traveled up the Atlantic coast and finally "petered out" over northern Maryland on June 3rd.

The shorebird migration began, as usual, during the last week of June and by mid-July was well underway with 20 species present on the Moriches flats July 13 (PP, GT). A total of 27 species of shorebirds was reported from L. I. during July.