

numbers throughout Region. Evening Grosbeaks were being noted flying over, and in hilly regions by mid-October, first came to feeders early November, but not in large numbers. Pine Grosbeak: first reports Nov 10. Common Redpoll: fairly large flocks Nov 1 on, feeding in tree-tops on seeds and buds, esp. birch. Pine Siskin: mid-October on, but in varying numbers in different parts of Region. White-winged Crossbill: small flocks from Nov 1 on, on road-sides and in hemlocks. Red Crossbill: no marked invasion yet. Vesper Sparrow: max 15 Oct 14 near Brooktondale, Tomp Co (HF). Oregon Junco: one, Nov 6, Elmira (ER). Lincoln's Sparrow: one, Sep 29, Texas Hollow (JBr); only one in Elmira tower kill this year. Snow Bunting: small flocks in Nov in northern parts of Region.

Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology, Ithaca, N.Y. 14850

REGION 4 — SUSQUEHANNA

LESLIE E. BEMONT

The fall weather seemed rather wet but according to Weather Bureau records it was wet only by comparison with the earlier months of the year. The latter half of August had well above normal precipitation, but total September precipitation was only a little heavier than normal and very unevenly distributed. October's precipitation was slightly below normal and November's was decidedly low. There were significant storms August 18 and 26, September 13 and 24, October 7 and 22 and November 17. The last one produced the only appreciable snowfall, but the ground was bare again within a day or so. Well below normal average temperatures were recorded August 29 to 31, September 27 and 28, October 4 to 6 and 28 and 29 and November 2.

As usual the fall waterfowl migration was only sketchily reported, most observers being too prudent to share prime locations with hunters. Also as usual, the best records of the hawk migration were through the efforts of one person at Skyline in Tioga County, the only known location in the Region where appreciable concentrations can be seen with any consistency. Mrs. Williams would welcome help at the appropriate seasons.

The shorebird migration was especially light, even for this Region, but the small land bird migration was roughly normal in volume. Sapsuckers, small flycatchers and the brown-backed thrushes seemed low in numbers, but Red-breasted Nuthatches, Bluebirds and both kinglets were quite numerous. Using the Myrtle Warbler as an indicator, vireo and warbler numbers were good. Magnolia and Wilson's Warblers were the only other species reported in good numbers but the identification problem makes species by species evaluation on the basis of negative results almost useless.

Winter finch prospects look promising. With the exception of the Red Crossbill, every species to be reasonably expected has been reported, but only Evening Grosbeaks and Pine Siskins in large numbers.

Rarities were Yellow-crowned Night Heron, Gray Jay and Golden Eagle.

Observers: LA—Mrs. L. Atkinson, LB—L. Bemont, DB—D. Bendle, MC—M. Cubberly, C, JD—C. & J. Davis, M, AD—M. & A. Davis, L, WD—L. & W. Dean, RD—R. Dirig, AE—A. Evelin, GF—G. Field, CG—C. Gerould, SG—S. Gorton, JC—J. Grant, JAG—J. A. Gustafson, MH—M. Hills, CH—C. Howard, PK—P. Kalka, FL—F. Linaberry, HM—H. Marsi, AM—A. Morey, FN—F. Newman, JO—J. Osadchey, RP—R. Pantle, FQ—F. Quick, MS—M. Sheffield, RPS—R. P. Sheffield, RS—R. Short, AS—A. Stratton, E, NW—E. & N. Washburn, DW—D. Weber, MW—M. White, R, SW—R. & S. White, EW—E. Williams, RW—R. Williams, HW—H. Wisner.

Abbreviations used: CC—Choconut Center; CVSP—Chenango Valley State Park; IH—Ingraham Hill; Res—Reservoir; Skan L—Skaneateles Lake; Sky—Skyline, Tioga County; WP—Whitney Point.

LOONS—DUCKS: Common Loon: first, Oct 16 Sky (RW); max 93 (52 in 1 hour) Nov 1 Sky (RW); two Nov 6 Pepacton Res (MC); calling Nov 28, Skan L (JG). Horned Grebe: one, late Aug Skan L (JO); migrants, WP from Oct 2 (SG) to Oct 24 (PK), and from several other localities between. Pied-billed Grebe: Sep 24 Greene (C, JD) to Oct 17 Norwich (R, SW); several other reports between. Green Heron: a rather late one, Oct 24 Sherburne (R, SW). YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT HERON: two, Oct 4 Endwell (PK), whitish crown, gray body, eye within black stripe, longer legs than Black-crowned—subadult by brown stripes on upper breast; second record for Region. American Bittern: one, Oct 24 Sherburne (R, SW)—only fall report.

Whistling Swan: 15, Oct 28 Sky (RW), flying over. Canada Goose: heaviest flights from Oct 1 to 25; last, Nov 13, Sherburne (SG et al). Brant: three, Oct 27 Sky (RW), with Canada Geese. Snow Goose: one, Oct 27 Sky (RW) in small flock of Canada Geese. Green-winged Teal: max 35, Sep 25 Owego (MW, RW). Blue-winged Teal: 25–30, Oct 23 Cannonsville Res (HW), latest and best concentration. American Widgeon: Nov 28, Skan L (JG). Redhead: only small numbers. Canvas-back: only small numbers. Lesser Scaup: a few on Skan L in Oct (JO), only report. Common Goldeneye: Oct 17, CVSP (FL). Bufflehead: three, Nov 14 Owego (RW); four, Nov 17 Norwich (R, SW). Oldsquaw: one male, Nov 6 Pepacton Res at Andes (MC), the only one. Ruddy Duck: one female, Nov 19 Owego (RW), the only one. Common Scoter: one, all day Oct 5 Norwich (R, SW)—scoter shape, all black except orange on bill. White-winged Scoter: Oct 9 WP (SG, et al). Hooded Merganser: 13, Oct 28 Skan L (JO) and two late Nov reports. Common Merganser: 14, Oct 10 and 10, Nov 6 East Sidney Dam (HW); “lots” Pepacton Res (MC).

HAWKS—OWLS: Turkey Vulture: two, Oct 28 Sky (RW). Goshawk: one, Nov 26 near Homer (GF); second hand reports of fairly frequent sightings in Nov just east of Unadilla (HW). Sharp-shinned Hawk: max 13, Sep 11 Sky (RW). Red-shouldered Hawk: three, Oct 4 IH (CH); Oct 27 Owego (RW); the only fall reports. Broad-winged Hawk: max 190, Sep 11 Sky (RW); last date Oct 26, Sky (RW). Rough-legged Hawk: one, Oct 29, Sky (RW); one, Nov 30, South Owego (CG). GOLDEN EAGLE: one adult, Oct 27, Owego (RW)—“From the porch, with 20 x scope, I watched it in full sunlight for about 8 minutes circling about 200 ft. above the ground. I could see the golden sheen on the head down to the shoulders, the lighter base of the tail, the dark wing linings. Flight direction from north to southwest followed approximately the same route as the fall hawk flights.” Bald Eagle: three reports of imm birds in Owego area in early Sep (DB, RW, CG); an adult over Pepacton Res three times, Sep 6 to Nov 14 (MC); two, Oct 14 Cortland (FN). Marsh Hawk: several reports, in ones and twos, during Sep and Oct. Osprey: Aug 23, Chenango Forks (M, AD) and Owego (MW); last, Oct 3 at Owego, Union and Sherburne; fairly frequent reports between. Peregrine Falcon: two, Oct 28 Scott in Cortland Co (JO). Pigeon Hawk: one, Sep 11 and one, Sep 24 Sky (RW).

Bob-white: a pair, Aug 16 to 18, CC (MS, RPS). Turkey: Nov 30, Owego (CG). Virginia Rail: Sep 4, IH (CH). Common Gallinule: Oct 3 Endicott (FL). American Coot: seven, Vestal (CH), were there several weeks; five, Oct 24 Sherburne (R, SW), the last; two earlier Oct records. Killdeer: mostly gone after Nov 1; two, Nov 30, Norwich (R, SW). Common Snipe: at Sherburne to Oct 18 (R, SW). Spotted Sandpiper: Oct 13, Campville (RW, MW)—only fall report. Solitary Sandpiper: two, Aug 27 Newark Valley (LB). Lesser Yellowlegs: two, Aug 27 Newark Valley (LB), no others. Greater Yellowlegs: one, Sep 19 Sherburne (R, SW); Oct 6 Candor (DW); only reports. Least Sandpiper: one, Aug 18 Sherburne (R, SW), no others.

Short-billed Dowitcher: several, Oct 24 Upper Lisle (PK). Semipalmated Sandpiper: one, Aug 18 Sherburne (R, SW), no others. Herring Gull: reappeared in usual small numbers about Aug 15. Ring-billed Gull: Oct 9, WP (SG, et al); 300 plus, Nov 26 Cortland (JAG).

Mourning Dove: numbers seem low. Yellow-billed Cuckoo: last, Sep 26, Hancock (RD). Black-billed Cuckoo: last, Sep 25 Greene (C, JD); only 3 reports in Sep. Screech Owl: only 3 reports during period. Barred Owl: only reports, Candor (DW), Ludlow in Chenango Co (AS), Hancock (RD).

GOATSUCKERS—STARLING: Nighthawk: flocking over Endicott Aug 26 and 27; one, Sep 29, Endicott (LB), catching insects around lights at an athletic contest. Chimney Swift: irregular after Aug 29; six Oct 5 Cortland (FN). Ruby-throated Hummingbird: Aug 29, Hancock (RD), a pronounced wave; regular reports until Sep 29, Binghamton (RS). Belted Kingfisher: decidedly less numerous after Sep 26, although present to end of period. Yellow-shafted Flicker: irregular after Oct 15; Nov 6, CVSP (SG, et al). Red-headed Woodpecker: Oct 23, Owego (AE). Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: few reports; last, Sep 28 Owego (RW). Eastern Kingbird: regular at Oxford to Sep 11 (AS); two, Sep 23, East Homer (LA), only later report. Eastern Phoebe: irregular after Oct 10, last Oct 27. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: banded Sep 17, Binghamton (HM); Sep 21, IH (CH). Wood Pewee: Oct 5 Greene (C, JD). Olive-sided Flycatcher: Aug 16, CC (RPS); Sep 2, IH (CH). Tree Swallow: Oct 8 Owego (AE). Bank Swallow: Sep 15 Apalachin (MW, RW). Barn Swallow: Sep 23 Owego (AE). Cliff Swallow: 30, Sep 9 Norwich (R, SW), on telephone wires. Purple Martin: three, Sep 15 East Homer (LA).

GRAY JAY: two, Nov 25, Hancock (RD), seen separately—Blue Jay size, gray, white on top of head, no crest—field note requested. Tufted Titmouse: Nov 6, CVSP (SG, et al); Nov 18 and 19, Cortland (JG). Red-breasted Nuthatch: scattered reports in late Aug and early Sep; from Sep 18 to end of period seen regularly almost everywhere. House Wren: Oct 10 Sidney (FQ), only report after Sep 30. Winter Wren: Oct 4 Endwell (FL), the first of several reports in Triple Cities and Owego areas. Mockingbird: two, Aug 20 to Sep 16 and one to Oct 9, Oxford (AS); two, Sep 2 Owego (MH); one, Oct 2 Chenango Forks (SG). Catbird: Oct 13, IH (CH). Brown Thrasher: Nov 8, CC (MS, RPS). Robin: thinned out considerably after Nov 6. Wood Thrush: one, Oct 22, Cortland (AM), only one after Sep 26. Hermit Thrush: only fall records, Oct 3 Endwell (LB) and Oct 23 Binghamton (HM). Swainson's Thrush: several reports, Sep 5 to Oct 3. Gray-cheeked Thrush: three reports, Sep 5 Endwell (LB) to Oct 7 Binghamton (HM). Veery: Sep 3 CVSP (M, AD). Eastern Bluebird: good numbers all thru Oct; two, Nov 3 Owego (AE). Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: Sep 21, IH (CH); one, Oct 6 Newark Valley (L, WD). Golden-crowned Kinglet: 12, Aug 28 Pharsalia (R, SW); next report Oct 4. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: Sep 9 Chenango Forks (M, AD) to one, Nov 26 Homer (GF); most reports between Oct 2 and Nov 7. Cedar Waxwing: diminished numbers after Sep 26, then increased again during last week of Oct; 180 plus, Oct 31, CC (MS, RPS); numbers diminished even further by end of period. Northern Shrike: Nov 6, Candor (RP); two later records. Loggerhead Shrike: one, Aug 22, IH (CH), allowed approach to 15 feet in guarding a snake draped over a fence; one, Sep 3 Andes (MC). Starling: flock of 5000, Oct 14 Hancock (RD), unusual concentration in that area.

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Yellow-throated Vireo: last, Sep 19 Chenango Forks (M, AD). Solitary Vireo: Oct 13, IH (CH), only fall record. Philadelphia Vireo: Sep 24, Owego (RW). Warbling Vireo: last, Sep 6, Norwich (R, SW).

Warblers—Tennessee: Sep 18, Candor (RP). Nashville: one, Sep 24 Hancock (RD), fluttering at a window at 11:00 p.m.; last Oct 3. Parula: Sep 24 Owego (RW). Yellow: last, Sep 4 South Owego (AE). Magnolia: Sep 2, IH (CH) to Sep 22, Owego (RW) in reasonably good numbers. Cape May: Sep 19 to 26, Chenango Forks (M, AD); one record between from elsewhere. Black-throated Blue: Sep 18,

Chenango Forks (M, AD). Myrtle: Sep 9 to Nov 13 in good numbers; only later record, Nov 30, IH (CH). Black-throated Green: to Sep 29. Blackburnian: to Sep 29. Chestnut-sided: to Oct 2. Pine: Sep 24 and 29, Owego (RW). Palm: one, Oct 3, WP (E, NW). Ovenbird: to Oct 2. Connecticut: one, Sep 18 Binghamton (HM); Sep 24 Owego (RW); one, Oct 3 Endwell (LB, MS, HM). Mourning: Aug 22, CC (MS, RPS). Yellowthroat: to Oct 13. Wilson's: from Sep 1 Binghamton (HM) to two, Oct 15 Owego (RW) in surprisingly good numbers. Canada: to Sep 19. American Redstart: a late one, Oct 2 Homer (JAG).

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: Eastern Meadowlark: common to Nov 9. Red-winged Blackbird: common to Oct 27. Orchard Oriole: Oct 9, IH (CH). Baltimore Oriole: Sep 27 Owego (AE); the only report after Sep 15. Rusty Blackbird: Oct 20, IH (HM). Common Grackle: common to Oct 31. Scarlet Tanager: Sep 29 Owego (EW).

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: to Sep 23 Sidney (FQ). Evening Grosbeak: Oct 9 Candor (RP); very frequent reports to end of period, in flocks of up to 60. Purple Finch: only scattered reports of small numbers. Pine Grosbeak: Nov 3 Chenango Forks (M, AD); seen fairly frequently in flocks of a dozen or less. Common Redpoll: Nov 14 South Owego (MW, CG); just a few reports. Pine Siskin: Oct 2 Conklin Forks (PK); quite frequent reports to end of period, sometimes in very considerable numbers. American Goldfinch: common to end of period. White-winged Crossbill: Oct 31, Candor (DW); reported all during Nov, becoming more numerous in the last five days. Rufous-sided Towhee: last, one Nov 1 Homer (JAG). Vesper Sparrow: fairly frequent reports to Oct 19; Nov 15 Newark Valley (MW, RW). Slate-colored Junco: common from Oct 1. Tree Sparrow: Oct 29, Andes (MC) and Binghamton (HM). Chipping Sparrow: to Oct 30, CC (MS, RPS). White-crowned Sparrow: Aug 30 Chenango Forks (M, AD); no more until Sep 29, Norwich (R, SW); fairly numerous but gone after Oct 30. Fox Sparrow: Oct 2 Conklin Forks (PK); small numbers to Nov 21. Lincoln's Sparrow: one, Sep 2 singing at Andes (MC); one, Oct 4 Conklin Forks (PK); 5 other reports between. Snow Bunting: 60, Nov 22 IH (CH), only report.

710 University Ave., Endwell, N.Y. 13763

REGION 5 — ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

Fritz Scheider

A wonderful fall migration! Cool, dry weather thru late August to mid-September brought desultory migrant movement with better-than-average flights on August 26, September 2, 9 and 12. After the passage of a strong cold front on September 16-17, waves of warblers and vireos, with lesser numbers of thrushes and flycatchers flooded the woods, especially along Lake Ontario and immediately south of Syracuse, into early October. Notable waves occurred September 17-20, 23, 30, October 7, 9 and 10. During October, wet, warm and windy, flocks of sparrows, kinglets, icterids, and winter finches enlivened the now moist farmlands, weedy fields and hedgerows. Each passing cold front brought more and more winter birds, especially finches. Windstorms on October 3, 23 and 31 created havoc, but also produced some of the most exciting waterfowl watching in a decade (See Brant, Jaegers). A severe freeze (17° above) November 1 and 2 triggered the exodus of dabbling ducks, shorebirds, sparrows and icterids, and a 4-6" snowfall November 15-16 terminated many local landbird concentrations (Horned Lark, Robin, Pipit, residual icterids, late sparrows). The remainder of November, still wet, warm and windy, provided delightful days rich with winter finches, numerous mouse-raptors, and a scattering of half-hardies,