

Hawk Lookout during this time, including Turkey Vulture, Sharp-shinned, Cooper's, Red-tailed, Red-shouldered, Broad-winged, Rough-legged and Marsh Hawks, Osprey, Peregrine Falcon and Sparrow Hawk.

Some of the other more interesting species seen were: Common Loon; 2 Red-throated Loon; 1 Common Egret; 2 Whistling Swan; 20 species of ducks; 1 Western Sandpiper in spring plumage with a Semipalmated Sandpiper and Dunlin for comparison; Caspian Tern; Great Horned Owl; 7 species of woodpeckers; Red-breasted Nuthatch; 1 Carolina Wren; Loggerhead Shrike; only Yellow, Myrtle, Pine and Palm Warblers and Yellowthroat; 2 Western Meadowlarks; 16 species of Fringillid including Evening Grosbeaks and 2 Red Crossbills.

Warren Lloyd, 1756 Ridge Road, Webster, N.Y. 14580

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Corrections or omissions should be called to the attention of the Bibliography Committee: Sally Hoyt Spofford, Chairman, John B. Belknap, Allen H. Benton, and Kenneth C. Parkes.

CONSERVATION AND POLITICS

MAXWELL C. WHEAT, JR.

The newest gimmick in political campaigning was reported in the June 15 issue of the Audubon Leader's Conservation Guide. It was a Birdwalk for Eugene McCarthy organized in East Hampton by wildlife writer Peter Mathhiessen. The price for watching birds in support of someone's presidential candidacy was \$15 per binocular squinter.

Birding had now been used for politics—but has politics been used very much for conservation? Used, that is, by conservationists? This extremely political year raises the question that has quite often been discussed, but mostly in secluded corners at conferences. Should conservationists become active in politics?

Incumbents and aspirants for Congress, the Legislature, a host of other offices as well as those for President will probably at some time this fall say something positive—and general—about conservation, just as they will about motherhood, fighting and sin. Conservation has been elevated into that “nobody is against it” league.

But where is the political leverage to implement these platitudes, particularly if no conservationists—or very few—can maneuver around in the swivel seats of some law making hall or scribble their signature on laws placed before them on wide, neat mayoralty desks? How many members of legislative or congressional conservation or related committees have merely inherited these posts by seniority or have been assigned them until something more to their interest opens up? How many county supervisors and municipal councilmen are conservationists? How many members of planning, zoning and other commissions (and I don't include the honorific advisory committees whose recommendations, other than planting some trees on Arbor Day, are magnanimously received and filed for future, *very future*, reference) are conservationists? The answers to these questions will provide a good estimate of how much power conservationists can exercise.

One of the most helpless experiences is to be politely, even enthusiastically, received at some hearing that can determine the fate of a particular pristine area and you know that the commission members have never sloshed into a bog while trying to get a closer look at a Rose