

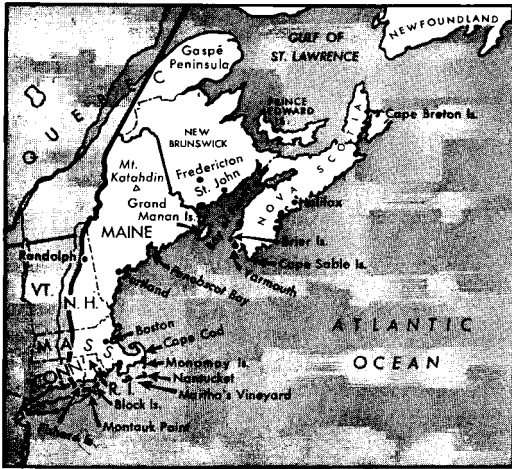
REGIONAL REPORTS

The Nesting Season

June 1, 1971 to August 15, 1971

NORTHEASTERN MARITIME REGION / Davis W. Finch

The nesting season's most notable events were several well defined cases of range extension (Great Cormorant, Little Blue Heron, possibly Glossy Ibis, Upland Plover, Willet, Black-legged Kittiwake, Com. Puffin, Razorbill, Fox Sparrow), though in some instances these "extensions" were in fact simply definite proof of breeding where it had previously been suspected. Also of interest were the numbers of Manx Shearwaters seen in the course of the season's many pelagic trips, and the presence in the Bay of Fundy of an as yet unidentified species of small black and white shearwater. The rarities were Sharp-tailed Sandpiper and White-winged Black Tern, both specimens.



LOONS, GREBE, TUBENOSES — In Massachusetts counts of 25 Red-throated Loons at Plum I. (TDC, fide RPE) and 14 off Plymouth Beach (KEH, fide KSA), both on June 1, probably represented late migrants. In the same state, an unusual summer record was that of a Red-necked Grebe which lingered off the Manomet Bird Observatory from June 4 through at least July 7 (KSA, et al.). Many observations of shearwaters and petrels are shown in Table I, and further data came from a hydrographic survey of the Flemish Cap, between 300 and 400 miles e. of St. John's, Nfld., conducted aboard the C.S.S. Baffin, July 15–Aug. 1. Several interesting observations of Cory's Shearwater were summarized

by Chris Leahy as follows: "Cory's Shearwater is considered to be rare on the Grand Banks, the normal extent of its range in the n.e. Atlantic generally put somewhat to the south. Therefore 21 birds July 15 along 46°00' N. and 47°00' N. between 43°00' W. and 44°00' W. are of interest, and one bird on July 17 at 48°25' N. 44°45' W. may well be the northernmost record for the species." Observers at Sable I., N.S. noted the arrival of Sooty Shearwaters May 26, and thereafter counts rose as high as 1000 on June 2 and 2500, June 10-14 (IAMcL). The continued increase of Manx Shearwaters was very apparent this summer, to the point where the birds seemed almost commonplace. Besides the 29 individuals of the table, there were single birds at Sable I. June 14 (JB, IAMcL) and near Machias Seal I., N.B. July 5 (WCR, EVT, et al.), 15 individuals on 6 dates in the course of the just-mentioned Flemish Cap survey (CWL), a total of 23 or so in separate observations in the vicinity of Grand Manan and Machias Seal I., July 26-31 (PG, RKE, et al., fide DSC), and 3 off First Encounter Beach at Eastham, Cape Cod, Aug. 15 (PKD, MLG, CAG). Even more interesting, if problematical, were the 3 (and probably 4) records from the "Bluenose" this summer of small black and white shearwaters identified, albeit with some doubts, as Audubon's. The first of these, not tabularized, was seen July 3 about 2 hours out of Bar Harbor, followed by those shown in the table. With Manx Shearwaters present for comparison, observers were impressed by the distinctive flight of the smaller birds, an extremely fast, shallow flap with very brief moments of scaling, very low over the water. But the species remains in doubt, since the slightly smaller, blacker Little Shearwater is distinguishable from the slightly larger, browner Audubon's Shearwater primarily by its white under tail coverts (in the most likely race, at least) and blue feet, differing from the dark under tail coverts and flesh feet of the Audubon's, and these are characters which require a closer look than is usually possible from the deck of the "Bluenose". Both the abundance of Manx Shearwaters this summer and the fact that the moot birds occurred in the cold waters of the Bay of Fundy (Audubon's being a warm water bird), suggest they were Little Shearwaters, a species for which the only 2 positive North American records are 19th century specimens from South Carolina and Sable I., N.S. To this it might be added that some authorities consider Little and Audubon's to be conspecific. At Appledore I. in the Isles of Shoals,

Me., Oliver Hewitt heard the nocturnal calls of Leach's Petrels on several occasions this summer, but was unable to locate nest burrows. With the exception of the Massachusetts colony at Penikese I., this is farther south than the species has been known to breed.

CORMORANTS, HERONS, IBISES — A census recently conducted in Nova Scotia found 21 colonies of Great Cormorants in the province, 5 of them mixed with Double-crested. The southernmost colony, a clear case of range extension, was discovered June 22 on Blue Gull I. near Shelburne, and contained 400 nests (± 20), 5-10 per cent Great Cormorant (ARL). Two Green Herons were seen at Eel River Crossing, Restigouche Co., N.B. May 26, and 1 was there June 8 (J-PL, fide DSC); the species had not previously been reported from n. New Brunswick. Gould I., Sakonnet R., R.I. was censused, with an estimated 8 Little Blues, 25 Cattle, 7 Com. and 30 Snowy Egrets, and 60 Black-crowned Night Herons present June 27 (DLE, RLF, et al., fide SSD). Of particular interest this year were the breeding Little Blue Herons at Appledore I., the first breeding record for Maine. The estimated 30 pairs were said to have enjoyed a high degree of nesting success (OHH). A Snowy Egret wandered as far n. as Cape Breton, where it was seen at St. Ann's Victoria Co., June 21 (photographed, Dr. and Mrs. PJF). A few Louisiana Herons were found, single birds appearing in s. Maine at Wells Harbor, July 24 (HMC, DJA, et al.) and Scarborough, July 25 (Chester Littlefield, et al., fide CMP); farther south, 1 occurred at Plum I., Mass., June 12 (PSM, et al., fide RPE), and on the Connecticut coast, 2-3 birds remained at Barn I. in Stonington throughout June and July (GB, RCD, et al.). Three Black-crowned Night Herons were present at Dan's Head on Cape Sable I., N.S., June 1-5 (DWF, CDG, JRG). Rare elsewhere in Nova Scotia, this species seems to have become fairly regular in small numbers on "Cape Island". The northernmost Yellow-crowned Night Heron this summer was seen at Biddeford Pool, Me., July 24 (HMC, fide CMP), and the northernmost Least Bittern was roadkilled near Albert, N.B., Aug. 5 (FA, specimen to N.B. Museum). In Maine, Least Bitterns were again thought to have bred at Newcastle, Lincoln Co., where they were seen throughout the summer, with 4 on July 17 (KSA, SH, et al.), and a single bird was seen at Rockland, July 20 (Mrs. Judson P. Lord, fide CMP). Maine's flock of Glossy Ibises summering on the marshes at Scarborough attracted many observers. During August they were found to be roosting a short distance offshore on Bluff and Stratton Is. (FRH), giving rise to speculation that they might have bred there, though this possibility had not been investigated at this writing. No obvious young were reported, but counts of 12-15 during June and July increased to 32 by Aug. 11 (RSc) and 35 were flying to roost nightly later in the month (FRH). Glossy Ibises were also present in num-

bers greater than usual (for summer) in Massachusetts, with such counts as 4-6 at Marshfield, June 13 (RS, et al., fide RPE), 5 at Plum I., July 10 (WRP, et al., fide RPE), and 4 at Rowley, July 31 (WSE), and in Connecticut, 5 remained at Barn I. throughout June and July (RCD, et al.).

WATERFOWL, HAWKS, EAGLES — A count of 30 summering Brant at Napatree Point, R.I. July 31 (KPA, RLF) was high for the season, and reflects the species' increase in recent years. Three Gadwalls at Douglas, York Co., N.B. Aug. 7 (Dr. and Mrs. Marc Schneider, fide DSC) were unusual, these birds being rare anywhere n. of Massachusetts. In Nova Scotia, adults and 2 broods of Wood Ducks were found near Brooklyn, Hants Co., July 14 (PRD). These birds are scarce and local breeders in the province. A δ Canvasback was present at Eel River Bar, N.B., May 20-21 (J-PL, fide DSC); the report is unusual both for date and locality, the very few published New Brunswick records being for the fall. Two ff King Eiders at Pond Cove, Brier I., N.S., July 23-24 (ELM) probably represented the first summer record of this species in Nova Scotia. The only other King Eider reported after early June was an imm. δ at Plymouth, Mass., Aug. 12 (PKD, TSG). A Rough-legged Hawk, unusual in summer anywhere in the Region, was seen at Harvey, Albert Co., N.B. June 22 (DSC, et al.), this being about the 7th summer record for the province. The only Golden Eagle reported in the Region was an adult in the White Mts. at Crawford Notch, N.H., July 3 (PSM, CWL). At Quabbin Reservoir in Massachusetts, where Bald Eagles have been occurring regularly in winter, 3 were found June 29 (CAG, et al.). The Quabbin area is sufficiently extensive and wild that eagles might conceivably nest there, and the birds' presence in summer is suggestive. A pair of Marsh Hawks raised 3 young on Block I., R.I. (Mrs. F. D. Lapham, fide SSD). These birds are now scarce or absent as nesters in s. New England, but a bit less scarce on the islands. The only Peregrine Falcons reported were single birds at Wells Harbor, Me., June 9 (PWG) and at Miscou Point, N.B., Aug. 3 (NM, fide DSC).

RAIL, GALLINULE, COOT — A Black Rail was heard in the Lighthouse marsh at Monomoy, Mass., calling steadily at 10 p.m. June 9 (WB, PB, fide RPE). This is only the second reliable record of the species in the Region in the last 4 years. A Purple Gallinule remained July 1-18 at Broad Cove, Lunenburg Co., N.S. (SJF, BH, EHC). This was the species' 3rd occurrence in Nova Scotia in the last 4 years, and the 8th in the Region for the same period. In New Brunswick, an Am. Coot on a beaver pond at Dawsonville, Restigouche Co., June 8 (DSC) was one of few records for the n. part of the province.

SHOREBIRDS — As noted in the previous report, the nesting of Am. Oystercatchers on Monomoy

this season was unsuccessful, and the chicks that hatched at Tuckernuck in June soon vanished, probably devoured by Herring Gulls (EA). On Martha's Vineyard, however, a pair at Cape Poge succeeded in raising 2 young (EMS, et al., fide ARK). A 4th modern breeding record of Semipalmated Plover in New Brunswick was obtained at Waterside, Albert Co., June 27, when Dr. M. F. Majka found 3 adults and a young bird about two-thirds grown (fide DSC). New Brunswick added a species to its list of nesting

birds when **Upland Plovers** were proven to breed on the broad fields at Salisbury, Westmoreland Co., where breeding was strongly suspected last year and even previous to that (see AFN 24:663). A young chick was found June 19 (photographed, DSC, ET), and other young subsequently discovered proved there to be at least 2 nests. Eighteen or more Uplands were present on these fields during July. In York County, Me., Uplands bred successfully at their traditional site in Dayton, where 22 adults and young were counted on

TABLE I
Observations of Pelagic Species

	June 2. Bay of Fundy—"Bluenose" between Bar Harbor, Me. and Yarmouth, N.S. (one way, DWF)	June 6. Jeffries Ledge, off Isles of Shoals, N.H. (RWS, A.S.N.H.)	June 12. "Bluenose" (round trip, WCR, RWS, EVT)	June 15. "Bluenose" (round trip, MB, JMI, et al.)	June 20. Cutler, Me. to Machias Seal Is., N.B. (A.N.C., fide CMP)	July 3. Nantucket, Mass. (RS, et al, fide RPE)	July 4. Cabot Strait—North Sydney, N.S. to Port-aux-Basques, Nfld. (one way, BM)	July 10. "Bluenose" (round trip, EWP, RWS, EVT)	July 11. Rockland, Me. to Matinicus Island (RWS, A.S.N.H.)	July 15. Cabot Strait (one way, BM)	July 15. "Bluenose" (round trip, WCT)
Fulmar	—	—	—	—	—	—	15	—	—	12	—
Cory's Shearwater	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Greater Shearwater	—	—	1	2	—	5	6	44	—	260	115
Sooty Shearwater	19	8+	109	20	2	24	9	7	3	115	9
Manx Shearwater	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	4	—	—	4
Little/Audubon's Shearwater	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
shearwater species ?	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Leach's Petrel	28	—	57	46	—	—	5	275	—	12	37
Wilson's Petrel	1	700	8	55	8+	5	35	229	2	60	94
petrel species ?	—	—	—	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gannet	1	1	2	3	—	2	—	1	—	3	1
Red Phalarope	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	6	—	—	2
Northern Phalarope	—	25+	—	7	—	—	—	10	1	—	—
Pomarine Jaeger	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Parasitic Jaeger	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
jaeger species ?	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Skua	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Black-legged Kittiwake	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	—
Sabine's Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—

July 24 (DJA). York County was also the scene this summer of New England's first nesting **Willetts** in about a century. This occurred in the Granite Point marshes in Biddeford, where adults and a small chick were found on July 8 by Chester Littlefield. Other observers found 4 young birds there on July 23 (RWS, EVT). Furthermore, at Goose Rocks marsh (where nesting almost certainly occurred last year, see AFN 24:663) and Marshall's Point, two sites in Kennebunkport less than 3 mi. down the shore from the Granite

Point area, Mr. Littlefield found Willets whose behavior strongly suggested that they too were nesting. While the Granite Point birds were the first known to breed in Maine, it seems reasonable to guess that the species is in fact now reclaiming a part of its former range, the gap between Long Island and Nova Scotia, from which it was long ago extirpated. Without doubt the rarest bird of the season was a **Sharp-tailed Sandpiper** (*Erolia acuminata*) discovered by Karsten-Hartel on Plymouth Beach, Mass., June 30,

TABLE I
Observations of Pelagic Species—Continued

Date	Location	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Species
July 16.	Cuttler, Me. to Machias Seal Is., N.B. (St.J.N.C., fide DSC)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Fulmar
July 17.	Rockland, Me. to Matinicus Island (A.N.C., fide CMP)	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Cory's Shearwater
July 17.	Bay of Fundy—"Princess of Acadia" between Saint John, N.B. and Digby, N.S. (one way, DSC, et al.)	6	3	43	41	75	148	59	35	269	17	35	—	Greater Shearwater
July 18.	"Princess of Acadia" (round trip, DSC, et al.)	1	3	81	42	25	16	2	10	12	—	6	—	Sooty Shearwater
July 19.	Off Monomoy, Mass. (JH, WW, et al., fide RPE)	—	1	—	4	1	2	1	2	2	3	2	—	Manx Shearwater
July 24.	"Princess of Acadia" (round trip, ET, et al., fide DSC)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Little/Audubon's Shearwater
Aug. 8.	"Bluenose" (one way, RW)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	shearwater species ?
Aug. 12.	"Princess of Acadia" (one way, MM, fide DSC)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	Leach's Petrel
Aug. 12.	"Bluenose" (one way, KPA)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	41	Wilson's Petrel
Aug. 14.	"Princess of Acadia" (one way, DSC, et al.)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	petrel species ?
Aug. 14.	Stellwagen Bank, off Rockport, Mass. (RPE, B.B.C.)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Gannet
		1	2	35	30	—	13	—	3	—	2	—	—	Red Phalarope
		—	—	—	—	—	—	319	—	—	—	—	—	Northern Phalarope
		—	8	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	120	Pomarine Jaeger
		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	Parasitic Jaeger
		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	jaeger species ?
		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Skua
		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Black-legged Kittiwake
		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Sabine's Gull

* Almost certainly Little/Audubon's

and collected the same day (Joseph A. Hagar, specimen to M.C.Z.). Except for a bird collected in Florida, Oct. 1, 1967 (AFN 22:29), there are no other East Coast records of this species, which nests in n.e. Siberia. A Least Sandpiper nest with eggs was found at Conrad Beach, N.S., June 3 (IAMcL). While Leasts breed regularly on Sable I., there are only a handful of breeding records for mainland Nova Scotia, and this was thought to be the first nest discovered there, as well as a first nesting record for Halifax Co. Two breeding plumaged Curlew Sandpipers were discovered simultaneously July 10, in Nova Scotia at Pond Cove, Brier I. (ELM) and in Massachusetts on Monomoy (Mr. and Mrs. CAG, MLG, Donna Keefe), the latter bird remaining to July 13. A Marbled Godwit at Newburyport, Mass. June 27 (James Baird, fide RPE) was very early indeed, perhaps belonging in the "straggler" category. The higher late summer counts of Hudsonian Godwits, a species now clearly increasing, were 30 at Plum I., Mass., July 31 (WSE), 66 on Monomoy, Aug. 7 (MLG, CAG), 29 at Prout's Neck, Cumberland Co., Me., Aug. 11 (RSc), and 45 at Bathurst, N.B., also on Aug. 11 (CM, fide DSC). Five Ruffs appeared along the New England coast, all in the brief period July 15-25, as follows: a Reeve on Plymouth Beach, Mass., July 15 (Helen and Daniel Carmichael, fide KSA), and single Ruffs on Cape Poge, M.V., July 15-16 (ELC, ARK, EMS), along the Kenduskeag River in Bangor, Me., July 19 (EVT), at Plum I., Mass., July 25-26 (WRP, et al.) and at Quonochontaug, R.I., July 25 (LSB, SSD). Wilson's Phalaropes seem increasingly frequent as spring migrants, and besides those of the previous report, single birds were seen in New Brunswick at Eel River Crossing, May 14 (J-PL, fide DSC), the first to be reported from the n. counties, and at Saint John West, June 10 (CLJ, fide DSC), these being only the second and third spring records for the province; a 3rd individual was seen at Monomoy, June 9-10 (WB, PB, fide RPE).

JAEGERS, GULLS — In addition to the jaegers shown in Table I, 2 Pomarines were seen near Machias Seal I. July 22 (WCT) and another in Grand Manan Channel, July 26 (PG, fide DSC). On the New Hampshire coast, an ad. **Pomarine** complete with twisted middle retrices was closely observed from a fishing boat just outside Hampton Harbor June 15 (ACB), this being the first satisfactory state record. The only Long-tailed Jaegers reported were 8 individuals seen on 5 dates during the Flemish Cap survey, which also recorded 54 Skuas on 16 dates (CWL). The Skua seen by David Christie, et al., from the "Princess of Acadia" on July 17 was at 44°51' N. 65°51' W., i.e. distinctly on the Nova Scotia side of the crossing, and so missed being a first record for New Brunswick. However the qualifications were met by a Skua seen a short while later between Grand Manan and Machias Seal I. July 31 (RKE, David Ives, Ron. D. Weir, fide DSC). A few imm.

Glaucous Gulls remained along the Region's coasts during midsummer, in New Brunswick at Saint John, June 11 (DSC) and Cape Enrage, June 22 (MM, et al., fide DSC), and in Massachusetts at Plymouth Beach, July 8 (CAG, et al.) and Nauset, Aug. 3 (KPA). An ad. Lesser Black-backed Gull of the slaty-backed *graellsii* race was seen at 48°05' N. 46°11' W. on July 28, during the Flemish Cap survey (CWL). In recent years there have been a surprising number of similar pelagic sightings of this species in the North Atlantic. A breeding plumage Black-headed Gull was still present in the harbor at Newburyport, Mass. June 12 (PSM), and a winter plumaged bird on Cape Breton at Glace Bay, Aug. 5 (RW) may have been a summering bird or, conceivably, an early fall migrant. A Laughing Gull as far north as Eel River Bar, N.B. June 24 (J-PL, fide DSC) was unusual, and ad. and imm. Little Gulls at the same place June 17 were only the second and third birds of this species recorded in the province (J-PL, fide DSC). A few other Little Gulls were found in Massachusetts, an imm. in Newburyport Harbor, June 14-17 (JMI), an ad. in Chatham, July 17 and for some time thereafter (WRP, fide RPE) and 2 adults at Newburyport, Aug. 4 (KPA), one of which was still present Aug. 8 (PKD, SLE). On June 7, Tony Lock discovered a colony of **Black-legged Kittiwakes** on Green I. off Cape Gabarus, Cape Breton, counting 77 nests and guessing there to be about another dozen. This was a first breeding record for Nova Scotia, and the most southerly colony known. The Sabine's Gull included in Table I was considered to be a second-year bird, showing a smudgy head, dark gray mantle, obvious white triangle on the rear edge of the wing, and very dark primaries. The absence of a dark bar on the nape was also noted (KCE, CMP, RWS, et al.).

TERNs, SKIMMER — An ad. Gull-billed Tern on Cape Cod at Nauset July 25 (photographed, MLG, CAG, et al.) was only the second to occur in the Region in the last 4 years. On Machias Seal I., breeding Arctic Terns were estimated to number 1500 pairs July 5 (WCR, EVT). The 75+ ad. Least Terns at the colony at Wells Harbor, Me. were about double the counts there of the past two seasons. A smaller colony somewhat farther n. at Pine Pt. in Scarborough was said to have suffered from human disturbance this year (CMP). One individual of this species wandered n. to Bass Harbor, Mount Desert I., where it was seen Aug. 3 (WCT). Many Royal Terns were reported in Massachusetts during July, at least 22 individuals at 6 localities, and an unusually high count of 9 was made at Monomoy July 10 (MLG, CAG, et al.). In the same state, 1-4 non-breeding Black Terns were seen frequently throughout June and July both at Plymouth Beach (KSA) and at Bird I. in Buzzards Bay (ICTN, fide KSA). The Region's largest colony of these birds, at Big Timber L., N.B.

was estimated to comprise 50 pairs when visited June 27 (JGW, fide DSC). The **White-winged Black Tern** that was noted in the last report as occurring May 23-26 at McGowan's Corner, N.B., was rediscovered July 6 nearby at Portobello Stream, and collected July 10, furnishing a first Canadian specimen (PAP). A more detailed account will be published elsewhere. Black Skimmers apparently did not nest in Massachusetts this season.



White-winged Black Tern, Portobello Stream, N.B.
Photo by Davis W. Finch.

ALCIDS—Another discovery in Nova Scotia was that of 2 pairs of Com. Puffins (nests found) and a pair of Razorbills (nest not found) on Pearl I. in Mahone Bay (ARL). Previous to this, the province's only known colony of these two species, in recent times at least, had been on the Bird Is., Hertford and Ciboux, in St. Ann's Bay. At the latter colony, 200 Puffins were found Aug. 3 (RW). At Machias Seal I., N.B., estimates of nesting Alcids made July 5 were 1000 pairs of Puffins and 50 pairs of Razorbills (WCR, EVT). As has regularly occurred in recent years, a few Com. Murres, this year 12 or so, among them 2 or 3 in the "ringed" phase, were also present in this colony, and were seen to engage in bill-scraping and other behavior associated with breeding, but as in the past, breeding did not take place. An unusual summering Thick-billed Murre was seen at Matinicus I., Me., June 13, and on the same occasion "several hundred" Black Guillemots, indicative of a marked increase there (CMP).

OWLS, GOATSUCKERS—On Nantucket, Barn Owls were reported to be "having a hard time", being treated as pests and driven out of nesting sites at the Naval Facility and elsewhere. Two

very young owls were removed from a nest June 10, and the nest site boarded up, according to Edith Andrews. The Norman Bird Sanctuary in Middletown, R.I. was obviously a wiser choice of nest site, and a pair of Barn Owls raised 6 young there, photographed July 6 (DLE, et al., fide SSD). A Snowy Owl that lingered in New Brunswick as late as June 22 was seen being mobbed by terns at Kouchibouguac Beach, Kent Co. (R. J. Whitman, fide DSC). Two or more Short-eared Owls were present throughout June and July on Monomoy, and may have nested (MLG, CAG, et al.), and a nesting of Saw-whet Owls was reported from Chappaquiddick, M.V. (EMS, fide RPE). At the same place, the Chuck-will's-widow that returned this year called regularly from late May to July 15 (EMS, fide ARK), and another of these birds was seen at Mount Auburn Cemetery in Cambridge, Mass., June 2 (RS, fide RPE).

WOODPECKERS, FLYCATCHERS, SWALLOWS—In Massachusetts, 1 or 2 Red-bellied Woodpeckers were found at Milton, June 13 (RS, fide RPE), and another in Dover, June 21 (Mrs. Richard Leach, fide RPE). Single Red-headed Woodpeckers were found at Magonk Point in Waterford, Conn., June 1 (GB, fide RCD), at Orr's I., Cumberland Co., Me., June 23 (Mr. and Mrs. Clark Bryson, fide CMP), and at Milton, Mass., June 27 (RS, fide RPE). Both these species are very sparsely distributed in New England, particularly at this season. Two Great Crested Flycatchers were found at Upper Wedgeport, Yarmouth Co., N.S., June 26-27 (Mr. and Mrs. David Henry, CDG, JRG); these birds are rare and local summer residents in the province. A pair of E. Phoebes was present near the mouth of the Beccscie R. on Anticosti I., P.Q., June 24-July 1 (LHM, et al.). These birds, convincingly described, were well outside the breeding range of the species, and constituted a first record for Anticosti. At the same place, a Least Flycatcher present June 29-30 was thought to be the second record for the island (LHM). In Devil's Hopyard State Park in East Haddam, Conn., where Acadian Flycatchers have bred for the last 4 summers, the nest was discovered June 23 (RTL, fide RCD). As usual, it was near the end of a low, horizontal hemlock branch. Although there were sightings of single Rough-winged Swallows at 4 localities in New Brunswick May 22-Aug. 10 (v.o., fide DSC), the birds were not found breeding in the province this year. An interesting report of this species was that of 2 seen in the Bay of Fundy from the "Bluenose", between 20 and 30 miles off Yarmouth, N.S., Aug. 12 (KPA). Purple Martins were reported to have had good nesting success at 4 colonies in Middleboro, Mass., where 750-800 were counted in August (DWB).

WRENS, SHRIKES, VIREOS—An unmated House Wren sang behind the New Brunswick Museum in Saint John from June 3 to mid-July (DSC),

and near Westfield, Kings Co., a pair built a nest in a birdhouse in late July, but abandoned it almost at once (Mrs. C. M. McJunkin, fide DSC). While it has always been rare in the province, this species is now thought to be even less frequent than in the period 1920-1950. Another House Wren was found in Nova Scotia near New Ross, Lunenburg Co., June 16 (AJE, fide PRD). A **Bewick's Wren**, the first known to occur in Maine, was discovered by Roger Foxall on July 2 in the Ship Harbor area of Acadia National Park, Mount Desert I. A careful description noted the striking white eye-line, dull brown back, whitish underparts from throat to under tail coverts, and the species' characteristic long-tailed and slim proportions. Surprisingly, the bird was found to be still present in the same area more than a month later, on Aug. 5 (WCT) and Aug. 7 (EVT). Two Long-billed Marsh Wrens were found singing June 27 at Little Timber L., N.B., where they are at the very limit of their range (JGW, fide DSC). Short-billed Marsh Wrens reappeared as nesters in the Region, 4 or 5 birds being found in Massachusetts in a remote part of the Quabbin Reservoir area (CAG, et al.). The only breeding of **Loggerhead Shrike** to be recorded in the Region in recent years occurred in Newburyport, Mass., where a nest with eggs was discovered in late April or May (photographed, Richard A. Forster, JFK, fide RPE).

WARBLERS, MEADOWLARK, SPARROWS—The northernmost White-eyed Vireo of the season was a singing bird at North Hampton, N.H., June 6-7 (EWP, et al.). The species has never been found to breed in the state. The status of Warbling Vireo in New Brunswick was clarified this summer by the discovery of 1 or more singing birds—believed to have previously been overlooked—in Moncton, Newcastle, Lakeville Corner, St. George, Salisbury, and Sussex (DSC, et al.). This species had hitherto been considered as more or less limited to the Fredericton area. A Golden-winged Warbler at Otter Cove, Acadia Nat'l Park July 24 (Don Bradburn, fide WCT) was believed to be a 4th record for Mount Desert I., and for the second successive year, a Lawrence's Warbler was found at Chilmark, M.V., July 15-16 (ARK), while another was seen at the Kimball Sanctuary in Charlestown, R.I., Aug. 2 (CW, fide SSD). Again this summer a ♂ W. Meadowlark was present at Dayton, Me. (not "Dalton" as in AFN 24:664), first noted on July 23 (RWS, EVT). The typical song was heard, as well as the "chuck" note. At Martinique Beach, Halifax Co., N.S., Ian McLaren found 2 ♀♀ Ipswich Sparrows mated with Savannah Sparrows this summer. Three such cases of hybridization were previously known from Sable I., but these were the first to be recorded on mainland Nova Scotia. In New Hampshire, the first Henslow's Sparrow to occur in recent years was found singing in Whiteface Intervale between North Sandwich and Wonalancet, Carroll Co. Aug. 2 (Robert S. Ridgely).

The bird remained until Aug. 8 (VHH, RWS, et al.) but disappeared shortly thereafter when the field was mowed. The discovery on June 9 of a **Fox Sparrow** nest on Guilford I. off Sheet Harbour, Halifax Co., N.S. was thought to constitute the first positive breeding record for the province, although for some time breeding has been suspected on islands nearby off Harrigan Cove (R. Kenyon Ross, fide ELM).

SUB-REGIONAL EDITORS, CONTRIBUTORS (both in bold face), observers and other abbreviations—**Dennis J. Abbott III, Kenneth P. Able**, Ford Alward, **Kathleen S. Anderson, Edith Andrews**, Priscilla Bailey, Wallace Bailey, Maurice Barnhill, Larry S. Benjamin, Grace Bissell, Arthur C. Borrer, Jean Boulva, **Dorothy W. Briggs**, Harold M. Card, Edward L. Chalif, **David S. Christie**, Eric H. Cooke, T. Dennis Coskren, **Severyn S. Dana, George G. Daniels, Robert C. Dewire, Phyllis R. Dobson, Paul K. Donahue**, R. Kenneth Edwards, Kimball C. Elkins, David L. Emerson, **William S. Emerson, Ruth P. Emery**, Anthony J. Erskine, Stephen L. Everitt, **Paul J. Fellers**, Richard L. Ferren, Davis W. Finch, **Roger A. Foxall**, Sylvia J. Fullerton, **Constance D. Gallagher**, J. Roswell Gallagher, T. Scott Gamwell, **Murray L. Gardler**, Paul Germain, **W. Earl Godfrey, Carl A. Goodrich III, Patrick W. Grace, Madeleine Grumbach**, Frederick R. Hamlen, Jeffrey Harris, Karsten E. Hartel, **Vera H. Hebert, Oliver H. Hewitt**, Sibley Higginbotham, Barbara Hinds, **Nick J. Inicky, Sarah P. Ingalls, John M. Irvine, Jr., Cecil L. Johnston, Allan R. Keith**, Joseph F. Kenneally, Jr., Reynold T. Larson, **Christopher W. Leahy, Jean-Paul Lebel, Charles Leck, Anthony R. Lock, Bruce Mac-tavish**, Christopher Majka, Mary Majka, **Ian A. McLaren, Paul S. Miliotis, Eric L. Mills**, Nettie Moore, **Laura H. Moseley**, Ian C. T. Nisbet, **Christopher M. Packard, Gary E. Palmer, Peter A. Pearce, Wayne R. Petersen**, Elisabeth W. Phinney, **William C. Russell, Robert Scully** (RSc), E. Manning Sears, **Robert W. Smart, Robert Stymeist** (RS), **Edward V. Thompson, William C. Townsend**, Eric Tull, **Dallas Wait, Richard Webster**, William West, James G. Wilson, Charles Wood, **Joseph Zeranski**; Audubon Naturalist Council (Maine), Audubon Society of New Hampshire, Brookline (Mass.) Bird Club, (Harvard) Museum of Comparative Zoology, Saint John (N.B.) Naturalists' Club, v.o. various observers.—**DAVIS W. FINCH, Knoll Creek Farm, Route 376, Hopewell Junction, N.Y. 12533.**

HUDSON-ST. LAWRENCE REGION / Ned R. Boyajian

Following an unseasonably cold spring, moderate to severe drought conditions prevailed over much of the Region until broken in August by heavy rains. At Topsham, Vt., for example, the last frost was June 11; only 1.55 inches of rain fell in June; there was no measurable precipitation