

HUDSON-ST. LAWRENCE REGION / Ned R. Boyajian

December was generally open and mild, resulting once again in excellent Christmas Bird Counts. But from January on, winter really took hold. Record or near-record snows were recorded throughout the n. and central parts of the Region.



Topsham, Orange Co., Vt., for instance, had a record snowfall of 176 inches for the winter, Montreal had 155 inches and most places in central New York and New England, 24-60 inches. In the south, snowfall was relatively light, although sleet storms, followed by sub-freezing temperatures, encased the trees in thick ice and coated the ground with a hard crust of glazed, granular snow which persisted for days. Although these conditions doubtless contributed appreciably to the sharp reductions in wintering numbers noted in many areas, a paucity of birdlife was by no means all-prevailing. In fact, some species were present in greater-than-average numbers. Whether a species hung on or retreated varied widely from place to place, the determining factors apparently being frequency and/or duration of inter-storm thaws and consistency of food supply. Then too, some species were experiencing cyclical lows or highs having nothing to do with weather, which would certainly affect the absolute numbers present at any given place regardless of the percentage of the population present.

INVASIONS, TRENDS—Most of the species which exhibit marked population fluctuations, e.g., chickadees, nuthatches, winter finches, were notably down. The only eruptions of note occurred among King Eider, certain owls, and the N. Shrike, and for the most part were confined almost entirely to the north. The Red-bellied Woodpecker, Mockingbird and House Finch

pushed the perimeter of their respective safe wintering zones several notches further northward, and together with the Tufted Titmouse and Cardinal, continued to increase in numbers in areas where they were already established. Raptors remained generally scarce but at least showed no signs of an even further decrease. But certain species of waterfowl, notably Black Duck and the mergansers, continued to show a marked decline.

MIGRATION—On Feb. 27-28, southerly weather brought the first blackbirds to Berkshire Co., Mass. (RG), Walpole (fide VH) and Surry (MF) in Cheshire Co., N.H., and a marked upswing in the numbers of blackbirds migrating up the Hudson R. Valley at Alpine, N.J.; 357/hour vs 115/hour for 10 hours of previous observation, Feb. 1-26 (NB). It also doubtless accounts for the following very early migrants on Feb. 28: Turkey Vulture, 1, Middletown, N.Y. (JT), Red-shouldered Hawk, 1, Orient, L.I. (DP), Tree Swallow, 1, New Haven, Conn. (DF & NP) and 2, Alpine (NB). The next marked blackbird wave occurred on Mar. 16, with the wind again out of the southwest. Typical were 6300 birds in two hours at Alpine (NB).

LOONS, GREBES, CORMORANTS, HERONS—As was the case all fall, an unusual number of Red-throated Loons were found inland in December. Six were reported from the Hudson R.; 2 at Rhinebeck, N.Y., Dec. 4 (MK, CT & MV) and 4 different birds in Bergen Co., Dec. 1-12 (NB). In the Connecticut R. Valley there was 1 at Roxbury, Vt., Dec. 2 (fide VH) and 1 at West Lebanon, N.H., Dec. 1-6 (VHo). Another was present at Deschenes Rapids, Que., Dec. 14-29 (MB & RP, fide RF). Throughout the winter they outnumbered Com. Loons by 10-1 in e. Suffolk Co. (DP). A total of 5 Red-necked Grebes along the s. shore of L. I., Jan. 31-Mar. 28 (DF) was a good count for recent years. One of this species was also seen on the Hudson R. at Vanderburgh Cove, Dutchess Co., Mar. 30, where it is always rare (AJ & HM, fide EP & OW). An Eared Grebe at Oneida L., N.Y., Dec. 10-13 (FS, et al.) was the third record for the Oneida L. Basin, while 1 at West Haven, Conn., Mar. 21 (NP) was the fourth for Connecticut. On Feb. 12, an imm. Great Cormorant was seen at Charlestown, N.H. (WK) an usual location for this essentially coastal species. Two further sightings of late-lingering herons to add to those reported towards the end of the fall season were a Com. Egret at New Haven on Dec. 6 (RBe) and a Little Blue Heron at Jones Beach, L.I., Dec. 3. See also, the Long Island Christmas Bird Counts (infra "C B Cs").

WATERFOWL—A Brant, apparently crippled, was still present on L. Ontario at Lakeview, Oswego Co., N.Y., Dec. 18; a late date for the locality (GS). The Mallard and Gadwall continued to increase in the Region. For example, 86 Mallards were seen on the Pittsburg, Coos Co., N.H.

CBC, Dec. 30 (fide VH) while in the Oneida L. basin, 1388 were recorded on the N.Y. State Waterfowl Census, Jan. 9-17 (MR & CS). Both were all time highs for the respective localities. At Oswego, N.Y., 16 Gadwall were present through the season (GS) a good count for the area. Black Ducks, on the other hand, continued to decline. The Oneida L. Basin Waterfowl Census recorded only 247, the lowest ever. Post-CBC Com. Teal reports from L. I. were 1, Jan. 1 through March at Belmont L. State Park, L.I. (DP, et al.) and 1, Mill Neck, L.I., Feb. 11 (BS). A Eur. Widgeon wintered at Southaven, L.I. (DP, et al.) and Mar. 25-31, 5 others were reported on coastal ponds from Monmouth Co., N.J. to New Haven, Conn. Quite remarkable was the occurrence of 2 ♂ **Tufted Ducks** around New York City. One, present through most of February and March on the East R., was seen by numerous observers (DF, et al.). The other was recorded Feb. 8 at Oakdale, L.I. (DP). On a trip along the St. Lawrence R., Dec. 30-Jan. 1, 75 Barrow's Goldeneyes were seen between St. Simeon and Godbaut (ND, JD, RBn, JS, et al.). Single drakes of this species were also seen to the southward at Shark River Inlet, N.J., Mar. 21 (RRO) and at Fair Haven Beach State Park, Cayuga Co., N.Y., Mar. 18-20, where, during the same period, a ♂ Harlequin Duck was also present (GS). From 2 to 5 Oldsquaw on Pompton L., N.J., Mar. 20-22 (E&KA, RRO, et al.) was unusual for the location. They perhaps reflect a return flight of the unusual number which passed inland last fall. There was a marked invasion of **King Eiders** into the Region. At Montreal, 3 were present, Jan. 10-Mar. 27, the first wintering record for the area (SH, JS, TT, et al., fide MM) and at Oswego on L. Ontario 18 were seen on Dec. 27, with 7-16 present through January and February (GS). Along the coast, a total of about 30 were reported from New Jersey and Long Island. Hooded Mergansers were virtually absent on the lower Hudson R. in Bergen Co. during midwinter, only 1 being seen, Feb. 14 (NB) but were up somewhat on the Oswego R., Oswego, where 6-10 per day were seen. Normal counts are 2-4 per day (GS). A count of 25 on the Hudson R. in Dutchess Co. Mar. 27 during the spring flight, was also a good total for the area (R.T.W.B.C.). Puleston reported Red-breasted Mergansers low in e. L. I. and Com. Mergansers were everywhere down. In the Oneida L. Basin, winter maximum was 1000, Feb. 7 at Oswego; March maximum, 119, at Baldwinsville, Onondaga Co. (MR & FS); very few on the Oswego R. between Oswego and Phoenix, where normally 6-30 a day are counted (GS). All counts were considered extremely low by the observers. On the lower Hudson R. in Bergen Co., where winter counts usually are 25-100, only 2 were seen between late December and the return flight in mid-March. The latter was also quite poor, with a maximum of 34 on Mar. 20 (NB).

RAPTORS—Once again there was an unusual number of Turkey Vulture winter records. There were 2 at Van Cortlandt Park, New York City on the remarkable date of Jan. 26 (PL). Single birds, perhaps very early migrants, were seen Feb. 12, Mohansic State Park (DF) and Feb. 19, Hastings-on-Hudson (DPO) both in Westchester Co., N.Y. See also, **MIGRATION**, above. In addition, there was 1, Mar. 26 at Warren, Conn. (MH) where the species is somewhat unusual. Rough-legged Hawk counts were down in the Oneida L. Basin, to 9-13 in December, and a scattered few, in January-February (MR&CS; GS). Smith considered the deep snows a factor, though Rusk and Spies felt there had been sufficient thaws and floods to assure good hunting. At any rate it did not seem to be an "off" year for the species. For example, 15-20 wintered in the Overpeck-Hackensack Marsh system in n. New Jersey (NB, WD, et al.) a normal flight-year count. A Golden Eagle was seen, Feb. 8 at Oakdale, L.I. (DP). About 15 overwintering Bald Eagles were reported, approximately 6 adults and 9 immatures, distributed fairly evenly over the Region. An Osprey on Mar. 20 at Woodbridge, Conn. (NP) was rather early. Of some interest was a midwinter inland report of a Peregrine Falcon at Topsham, Vt., Dec. 31 (A&EM). Midwinter Pigeon Hawks were also reported, most surprising being 1, Feb. 6 at St. Justine, Que. (JW, fide MM). In addition, there was 1 at Montauk Point, L.I., Jan. 31 (DF) and 1, perhaps an early migrant, at Branford, Conn., Mar. 27 (NP).

GROUSE, TURKEY, RAILS, SHOREBIRDS—Ruffed Grouse were seen at Princeton, N.J., 1, Dec. 20 (WK1 & RB1) and on the Palisades at Alpine, 3, January through March (NB). Both are locations where the bird is quite unusual. Goodrich reported that many of the Turkeys released in Berkshire Co., Mass. had to be taken up by Conservation Department workers since the birds were not adapting to the wild. At present the success of the re-establishment program is uncertain. A Clapper Rail at Hammonasset State Park, Middlesex Co., Conn. on Jan. 23 (MH) was very unusual at that date. A remarkable number of late-lingering shorebirds were reported on CBCs. See S. Nassau, L.I., CBC, AB, 25; 194. Further reports, all notable for the unusual date at the respective location, include: Killdeer, 10 each wintering, Dewitt and Fayetteville, both Onondaga Co. (fide MR & CS); Black-bellied Plover, 1, Mar. 21, Brewerton, Onondaga Co., next earliest date, May 10, 1969 (CFa, fide MR & CS); Am. Woodcock, 1, through January, Foxton, Jefferson Co., Conn. (NP); Com. Snipe, 7, Dewitt, N.Y., a record winter count for the locality (fide MR & CS); Pectoral Sandpiper, 11, Nov. 2, Woodcliff L., N.J. (JI) and 1, Mar. 28, Milford Point, Conn. (NP); dowitcher (sp?) 2, Dec. 20, Hempstead Lake State Park, L.I. (AW&SS).

GULLS, SKIMMER—A Glaucous Gull at Littleton, N.H., Jan. 2 (RB) is worthy of note. Elsewhere, counts were about normal, e.g.: Montreal area, maximum 30, Dec. 5 (MM); s. coastal areas, 10-15 for the season. The Iceland Gull, which has been increasing steadily each winter in s. areas took a sudden spurt upward this year. In part this may have been due to the presence of individuals which normally winter further north. At Montreal, for example, none were seen after Dec. 5 (fide MM). Counts for the peak period, January-February, were: Coastal Connecticut, 15-26 (DF, NP, et al.); L.I., 15-20 (var. obs.); coastal New Jersey, 12-16 (U.O.C.); Overpeck-Hackensack dump complex, N.J., 15-20 (U.O.C.); scattered inland localities, 4-5. In late March coastal numbers dropped somewhat and inland reports jumped to 10-12, probably representing northbound migrants. For instance, from Mar. 28 through Apr. 24, 5 were seen migrating with Herring Gulls at Alpine (NB). In addition to the CBC birds, a Lesser Black-backed Gull was seen at Pt. Lookout, L.I. Feb. 3 (BS). At Winhall, Vt., a Herring Gull, overhead on Mar. 30, was an unusual sighting there (WN). A "Thayer's" type gull was again reported from the Montreal area, a detailed observation by veteran observers on Dec. 5 (MM, JS, et al.). A count of 3000 Bonaparte's Gulls at Fire Island Inlet, L.I., Mar. 12 (DF) was a good number for the area, especially since the species was rather scarce this winter. The Little Gull seems to be occurring with some consistency again; 5-6 were reported along the coast during the season. A Black Skimmer was seen in New Haven Harbor (DF) on Dec. 20, a very late date.

DOVES, PARAKEET, OWLS, WOODPECKERS—A Mourning Dove was seen at Quebec City on the very late dates of Dec. 21-25 (FB, fide GH). Further examples of the continued increase of this species in regard to both numbers and tendency to overwinter were: 43 at Charlestown (WK) and 20-50 at Walpole (DB) both in Grafton Co., N.H.; and 268 at 28 feeders in north-central L.I. during January (LLAS). Monk Parakeets seemed to cope well with New York City's winter weather. At Pelham Bay Park, N.Y., 3 were seen Dec. 6 (DPo) 3 others intermittently during February at Alpine (NB) and there was 1 at Randall's Island in the East R on Mar. 14 (DF). At Cap Tourmente, Que., far beyond the normal range of the species, a Barn Owl was picked up dead on Dec. 20 (ML) and another seen, Dec. 22 (RO). Snowy Owls continued low in numbers. About 10 for the season were reported from Montreal (fide MM) and the Oneida L. Basin (MR & CS), and only 3 from Hull, Que. (RF). Elsewhere there was 1 in Dutchess Co., Dec. 27 (FG), 1 at Milford Point through January and February (CH, MH, DT, et al.), 1 through most of the season at Jones Beach (many obs.). Of considerable interest was an eruption of *Strix* owls in Quebec. A total of 28 Barred Owls were re-

ported for the season in the Hull-Ottawa area and Great Gray Owls were reported as follows: One, Montreal, 1, Feb. 21 (JBo, et al.); 1, Ile Perrot, Mar. 27 (RS, fide MM) and 2, Alymer, Mar. 23-Apr. 5 (DB, MB, DL & RL). One of the latter species penetrated as far s. as Schenectady, N.Y. It was present Feb. 24-Mar. 19 during which time it was banded and photographed (WM & RY). Several wintering congregations of Long-eared Owls were noted in southern areas, but most were not noted until the onset of really cold weather in January. There were 10, Dec. 26-31 at Fairfield, Conn. (CH). Others were: 20, Princeton, N.J. (WK1 & RB1); 24, North Arlington, N.J. (IB, RK, et al.); 12, Kearny, N.J. (RK) and 24, Troy Meadows, N.J. (RK). An active nest of this species was discovered at Caldwell, N.J. in March (CM & TS, fide RR). Single Hawk Owls were recorded at Hull, Que., Jan. 1-11 and Breckenridge, Que., Jan. 23-Feb. 23 (fide RF). The northward spread of Red-bellied Woodpeckers in winter penetrates further each year. During December several were reported in unusual locations in the Syracuse area, such as downtown city streets. For the rest of the season, Oneida L. Basin reports averaged 1 per day for favored localities (GS). In Dutchess Co. 1 was present through the season at East Park (TG), 1 through February at Hillside L. (EPa) and there were 3 other reports of birds present for a day or two (TH; WS, fide OW).

KINGBIRD, RAVEN, CHICKADEES, CREEPER—A very late W. Kingbird seen Dec. 3 (AW) through Dec. 13 (JSm) at Jones Beach, was picked up dead on Dec. 27 (AW). Just before this reporting period began, on Nov. 22, the first **Ash-throated Flycatcher** recorded in New York State was discovered by Sid Bahrt in Larchmont, photographed and observed at leisure (also by RA & HT) disappearing when a cold wave moved in Nov. 24. Com. Ravens were reported as more numerous than usual in the Gatineau Hills of w. Quebec (RF) where an active nest was found in mid-March at Lucerne (RP, fide RF). There were also 3-4 at Winhall, Vt., Feb. 19 through 22 (WN) and 34 were recorded on the Pittsburg, N.H. CBC, Dec. 20 where the average for the past 19 years has been 4 (fide VH). Black-capped Chickadees were distributed rather erratically: "low" Dutchess Co., N.Y. (fide EP & OW); 1-3, at feeder infrequently, Schenectady (RY). But a feeder survey in the Oneida L. Basin the first week of March yielded 735 per every 100 reports, more than twice the average March total (BB, fide MR & CS). In e. Bergen County January-February counts were about average, e.g., 26 in 60 acres, w. slope of Palisades; 48 in four miles, e. slope of Palisades (NB). Boreal Chickadees were generally scarce everywhere. For example, none for the season at Hull, Que. (fide, RF); 1-3 at Bethlehem, N.H. during the winter (MF, fide VH) and only a few scattered reports for other northern localities. Counts of 7 winter-

ing Brown Creepers at Montreal, Que. (fide MM) and 2-4 around the Macdonald farm at Topsham, Vt. (A&EM) were indicative of generally high wintering counts of this species in the north. Earlier in the season, 1 was also seen at Quebec, Que., Dec. 15; a very late date (GH).

WREN, MOCKINGBIRD, THRUSHES—A House Wren was seen at Pleasant Valley, N.Y. on the very late date of Dec. 1 (CT & MV, fide EP & OW) and another of this species was present continuously from September through March at a backyard feeder in Princeton (KB, fide RBI). Good indications of the stability of the Mockingbird on L.I. were a total of 14 at 13 feeders during January in north-central areas (L.L.A.S.) and 10 from various places on the s. shore through the winter (RM). Despite the foul weather an unusual number of Robins were reported in n. areas. Quebec: 6, St. Simeon, 10 Godbout, 1-2 at many intervening points, Dec. 31-Jan. 3 (JS, et al.); 1, Quebec City, Jan. 23 (GH); 8 at Mount Royal, Montreal and 20 at Hudson, both on Feb. 8 (fide MM). Oneida L. Basin: average, 15-30 per day through the season at South Onondaga (GS) with a maximum there of 72 on Dec. 16 (MR & CS). A Hermit Thrush which wintered at the Larsen Sanctuary, Fairfield, Conn. until Feb. 3 (CH) was also quite unusual. There were 3 reports of **Varied Thrush**: Westhampton, Mass., Dec. 22 through February (JL); Charlestown, N.H., Dec. 19-Jan. 13 (EF, fide WK) and Katonah, N.Y., most of March (DF, et al.).

KINGLET, PIPIT, WAXWING, SHRIKE, WARBLER, ICTERIDS—At Portneuf, Que., where it is quite rare in winter, a Golden-crowned Kinglet was present from Jan. 9-16 (GH). A Water Pipit at Lakeview, N.Y., Dec. 19, was a late record by a month (MR). Bohemian Waxwings were quite scarce. A count of 15 on the Hull-Ottawa C B C, Dec. 27, was the season high for that area, while at Montreal, only 1 was seen, on Jan. 22 (AK, fide MM). N. Shrikes on the other hand, were exceptionally numerous throughout the north. During December, 11 were reported around Quebec City (COQ) and 8 in w. Mass. (BNWM). In the Oneida L. Basin, counts were: Dec. 18, Jan. 42, and Feb. 22 (MR & CS). New Hampshire also had a major invasion (fide VH) though only 1 or 2 were reported for the portion of the state within the Region. At Princeton, where the species is rare at any season, an unprecedented total of 3 **Orange-crowned Warblers** was present, Nov. 25-Apr. 2 (RBI, et al.). One of this species was also seen at Montauk, L.I., Dec. 5 (MB, JI & TP). Another remarkable count from Princeton was a total of 7 Baltimore Orioles, including 6 at one feeder, December-March (RBI; CF). The **Boat-tailed Grackle** that has appeared for several years at Far Rockaway, L.I. was present again from late February through mid-March (JB, et al.). Other blackbird reports of note were a Red-winged Blackbird at Villeneuve, Que., Dec. 1 (CS); a wintering Rusty Blackbird at Stissing, N.Y.

(TH, fide EP & OW) and single wintering Com. Grackles at Deschenes, Que. (RF) and Portneuf, Que. (GH).

WINTER FINCHES—All species were very scarce during the entire period, September through March. Some went entirely unrecorded in certain localities and at best there were seldom more than a handful of individuals of one or two species together anywhere at the same time. Pine Grosbeak: high count was a report of 15-70 a day, Dec. 31-Jan. 3, St. Simeon to Godbout, Que. (JS, et al.). Only sporadic sightings elsewhere, for example: 8, Jan. 1, Quebec City (GH); 4-5 scattered individuals, n. New England. Most southerly report was 4, Mar. 7, Hyde Park, N.Y. (AJ). Evening Grosbeak: Distribution patterns and migratory dates much the same as past several years but numbers slightly to markedly reduced. For example: migration, Alpine, N.J., fall, 8-12 per day, spring, 2-6, irregularly, compared to fall, 20-60 a day, spring 6-10 a day, in 1969-70 (NB). Wintering bird counts: 12-82 a day, Littleton, N.H. (RB); 50 a day, Plainfield, Washington Co., Vt. (GM); 5-40 a day various s. areas (var. obs.). Com. Redpoll. Groups of 1-10, occasionally 20-50, were reported from various n. areas during the winter, but seldom more than one or two reports from the same locale. Virtually absent southward, 1-5 birds from 6-10 locales. But on Feb. 14, two flocks of 50 and 20 each were seen flying south down the Hudson Valley at Alpine (NB). Pine Siskin: during December, status in the north much the same as Redpoll though frequency and numbers somewhat higher, e.g., several reports of from 1 to 50. Virtually unrecorded in the south. January through March, very scarce in the north, but a scattering of sightings, usually 1-5 birds, in the south. Crossbills: very few, even in the north; mostly scattered individuals, rarely 2-5, of one species or the other but very seldom both together. Virtually unrecorded southward, although on Feb. 14, 3 Red Crossbills were seen at Seymour, Conn. (NP); the same date as the Redpolls at Alpine.

OTHER FINCHES—Many high counts of Cardinal were reported. Typical were 70+ wintering in the Connecticut R. Valley of New Hampshire between Hanover and Walpole (DBr, WK, WE); 408 per 100 feeders on the February feeder survey of the Oneida L. Basin (BB, fide MR & CS); and 103 at 29 feeders in north-central L.I. (LLAS). House Finches wintered in a number of northern localities, e.g., 8, Oakwood Cemetery, Syracuse, December through March (GS); 100+ through the winter in Dutchess Co. (fide, EP & OW). Am. Goldfinches appeared quite late in s. areas and in reduced numbers. Puleston reported that on e. L.I., the usual mid-autumn concentrations at the edge of the salt marshes did not occur this year, while further w. on the Island, they did not appear in any numbers on the outer beaches of Nassau Co. until early December (AW). The reason apparently was that many birds

remained in the north. There, unusually high numbers were reported all winter from most localities. For example: Plainfield, Vt., 400, Jan. 1, good numbers through March (GM); Winhall, Vt., 10/25 a day (WN); Topsham, Vt., 1-20 a day (A&EM); Berkshire Co., Mass. (RG) and w. N.H. (VH), "good numbers". A remarkable total of 7 Rufous-sided Towhees were seen in early January at Skaneateles, N.Y. (HA, fide, MR & CS) and another of this species was recorded at Outremont, Que., Feb. 6 (AC). The second winter record of Savannah Sparrow for the Oneida L. Basin was for 1 which spent Feb. 1-Mar. 15 in a grain elevator on an exposed pier in Oswego Harbor (FS). Three Oregon Juncos were reported during the post-CBC period. One wintered around Syracuse, being seen at various localities Jan. 1-Apr. 2 (FS, et al.). Another was reported from Pompey Township, Onondaga Co. Mar. 27-28 (FL), and a third was seen at Princeton, Jan. 16 (PK, RBl, et al.). Most remarkable of the above average number of White-crowned Sparrows on the CBCs were the 3 at Hull, Que. (fide RF) a new record for the locality. Also of interest were 2 Field Sparrows at Charlestown, N.H., Dec. 31 (WK).

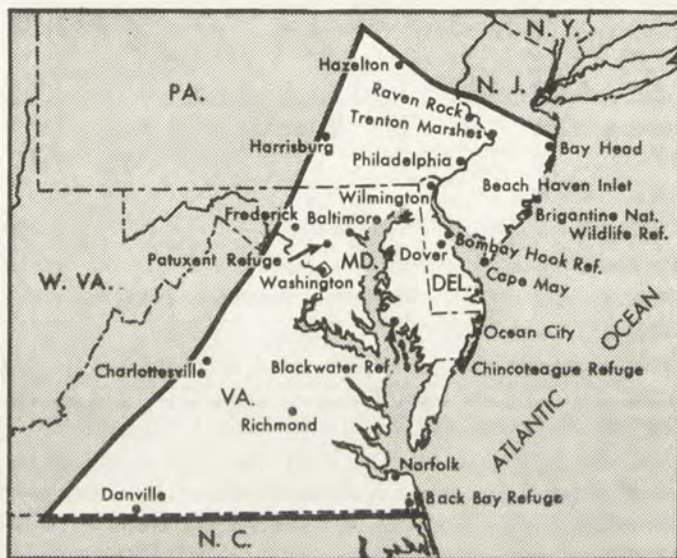
CORRIGENDA—AB, 25: 35. For Peter Del Vecchio, read Philip Del Vecchio. Inadvertently omitted from the Fall Season report was reference to the excellent migration studies being done at the recently established Ottauquechee Valley Environmental Analysis Center, Vermont. Their report, obtainable from the director, Richard Farrar, contains some especially interesting data on post-breeding dispersals.

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MIDDLE ATLANTIC COAST REGION / F. R. Scott and David A. Cutler

The above-normal fall temperatures, which continued to the end of December, abruptly changed to a very cold January. Although February averaged somewhat above normal, subnormal temperatures again returned in March. Heavy precipitation occurred only in February, the other winter months being fairly normal or deficient. Snowfall was unusually light, and the most widespread storm spread only up to 9 inches over the Region on Dec. 31 and Jan. 1.



Weather effects on birdlife were fairly predictable, with a large number of late fall transients occurring into the winter and a very slow start-up of the spring migration. After two successive winters of heavy flights of northern finches, only a few showed up this year. There was the usual sprinkling of western strays.

PELAGIC BIRDS—A Com. Loon was found inland at Lynchburg, Va. on Dec. 20 (RSF) and another at Little Falls, near Glen Echo, Md. on Jan. 2 (HSG). Red-throated Loons remained in good numbers with counts of 200 at Back Bay Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, Va. on Dec. 5 (MAB & RSK), 150 at Ocean City, Md. on Dec. 29 (fide CSR), and an amazing 5000 estimated at Wallops I., Va. on Mar. 10 (CRV). Single Eared Grebes were reported at Barnegat Light, N.J. on Jan. 24 (WM) and at Ocean City on Mar. 14 (CWC, DS & JWkr), and a W. Grebe was found at Barnegat Light on Jan. 23 (IB, RK, WM & WW). One of