

David, N. and M. Gosselin. 1978. The spring migration's March
 American Birds 32: 981-983.

Golden Plover in the Sorel Is., May 25 (RC et al.). A pair of Upland Sandpipers returned to Ste-Flavie, Rimouski Co., May 25 (JL); two birds were also present at LaPocatière May 28 (PB). Two hundred Purple Sandpipers were observed Apr. 25 on I. Rouge, at the mouth of the Saguenay R. (JLD). Twenty White-rumped Sandpipers at Baieville May 21 was a high number for the spring migration (BB,MM). At St-Sebastien a Stilt Sandpiper appeared Apr. 29 (FB,MG), obviously a record early arrival for a species almost never recorded in spring. A Willet at Yamaska May 18 (MBu) was the only one reported this season, and a bright rufous ♂ Ruff was present at Cacouna May 15-21 (JLD,MG,m.ob.).

GULLS THROUGH OWLS — Rarer gulls included a Laughing Gull Apr. 22 (DR) at Québec City, and a Little Gull May 19 (RS). An estimated 4000 Black-legged Kittiwakes were present at Corrossol I., Mar. 16 (PD); this represented the earliest record ever published for the species! A single kittiwake was also at Ste-Catherine, Orford Co., Apr. 15 (YA). Beauharnois saw an Arctic Tern May 14 (BB,MM), and Québec City a Caspian Tern May 25 (AP). A surprising find, in view of date and locality, was of a Dovekie discovered independently from the Rivière-du-Loup ferry May 24 (CD) & 31 (JL). Synchronized with an outbreak of tent caterpillars, the Yellow-billed Cuckoo appeared along with its more numerous Black-billed relative; it was seen on Mt-Bruno May 23 (RJ) and Mt-Royal May 24-29 (JDJ,JHo). The only Great Gray Owl of the winter turned up at Ste-Anne-des-Plaines Mar. 12 (JM); Boreal Owls appeared in the Gatineau P.P., Mar. 5-6 (m.ob., fide IJ,PJ), and L. St-Charles Mar. 18 (JG).

WOODPECKERS THROUGH WARBLERS — A wintering Red-bellied Woodpecker (mentioned in our previous report) left Alcove sometime in March (fide IJ,PJ). A small colony of Red-headed Woodpeckers was relocated near Breckenridge May 28 (MoB). The only Willow Flycatcher of the season was at Sabrevois May 27 (BB,MM). A Com. Raven positively identified near St-Lambert Mar. 21 (fide BB) was one of the very few ever reported near Montreal, and a White-breasted Nuthatch at Arvida May 16 (NB) was equally exceptional. The following reports from Charlevoix County may indicate that the Wood Thrush breeds sparingly in that area: single birds at Baie-St-Paul and St-Urbain May 25, and another at St-Joseph-de-la-Rive May 30 (HM). Frozen E. Bluebird eggs near Hudson Apr. 25 (JW) showed how cold "spring" was. Single Blue-gray Gnatcatchers were at Old Chelsea May 9 (MBo), Rigaud May 13 (GH), Mt-Royal May 13 (MA) & 21 (PC), and Léry May 14 (fide BB); a pair was seen building a nest on Mt. Bruno May 24 (BB,MM), providing a second regional breeding record. The pattern of occurrence of this gnatcatcher is similar to that of the Cerulean Warbler and it is almost certainly a rare but regular breeder on the Monteregian Hills (see AB 30: 816). A Golden-winged Warbler reappeared at Philipsburg May 20 (fide MM), and a survey of the colony near L. Philippe, Gatineau P.P., produced six males and one female May 28 (MoB). The first regional Golden-winged x Blue-winged Warbler was a "Lawrence's"-type found on Mt-Royal May 26 (BB,FH).

S.A.
 Paul Aird (Faculty of Forestry and Landscape Architecture, University of Toronto) discovered a singing ♂ Kirtland's Warbler in a wetland near Québec May 27. The bird was apparently unmated and it was discovered that it had been banded as a nestling in 1974 (in Michigan, of course). With the hope of finding a breeding population in Canada, Aird initiated last year's survey of jack pine stands in Ontario and Québec. In 1977, an unmated male had also been found on the grounds of the Canadian Armed Forces Base at Petawawa, Ont. (Nature Canada 7:26).



Kirtland's Warbler, May 29, 1978, western Ontario
 Photo/ J.D. Lafontaine.

A ♂ Prairie Warbler, the sixth since 1966, was covered on Mt-Royal May 20 (LS) and found next day (MA).

ICTERIDS AND FRINGILLIDS — Two N. were spotted at Rimouski May 24 (JRP), close to an old nest and the northernmost ever reported in the Province! Two Com. Grackles on Anticosti (PR) were probably overwintering birds. Four

May 31, 1978: Quebec region.

... were being monitored at Hudson in May while Aylmer had one pair plus a single bird

S.A.
 Another chapter of the story of the expansion of House Finches in the Northeast was written by Joan Baugh, keenness prevailing over experience, identified a pair at her feeder in St-Lambert Apr. 18. These birds were seen frequently by many observers until the end of the season. Diagnostic photographs were taken (ph. on file, Nat. Mus. of Canada - BB), providing documentary evidence for this third annual report. Breeding was suspected, as the male fed the female and was observed in courtship display.

...ed that the 1977-78 winter population of Hoary Redpolls was at its maximum in March in the St-Lawrence Valley. Figures provided by the C.O.Q. showed that the species was seen on 50% of the days (an unprecedented high for 1971-1977, 20.9%). As can be expected, Hoary Redpolls were reported in all areas. A possible colony of Song Sparrows was investigated near Aylmer

DELAWARE REGION
 O. Paxton, P. A. Buckley, and A. Cutler

A cool, wet spring. Snow did not clear the interior until late March, and upland snow melted only at the end of March. April was dry and May was both cool and wet. Temperatures about 5°F below normal in Philadelphia for the first half of May, and a near-record 8.05 inches of rain in New York City.

