

November 17, 1980

GETSCHER

Dear Dr. Kent: I don't think I have to tell you the weather conditions of this last period. I hear complaints from everywhere, it seems, about the lack of birds. I seem to have many, but just the usual kinds, the four woodpeckers, nuthatches, brown creepers, cardinals, jays, chickadees, robins, and the ever present house sparrows. These are at my feeder. I have more on the list.

I think you have heard me fuss about no one seems to think we have eagles here, so I am enclosing two articles for your perusal. I am lucky sometimes to have them rest in my yard for a bit. Then the other two news items are about the reason why we are not having the numbers of geese and ducks in the area.

I was gone most of the warbler migrating time. Tripped during first of September and again from the 20th of September to 6th of October at which time I visited Mass., Maine, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia on a birding trip.

Hope all is well with you. Hope you have great holiday season!

Jone

GETSCHER 11/19/80 Getscher

✓ Pelicans	Sept 9	Two flocks of about 100 in each. I heard of other flocks but I did not see them
✓ Cormorants	Sept 18	Three sunning themselves at barrow pits near our home
✓ Snow geese	Sept 9	Early arrival of two small flocks
Hawks	Oct.-Nov. to date	More hawks than usual, it seems: redbills, kestrels, harriers, roughlegs. On Nov. 12th at about 3:00 p. saw a gorgeous roughleg in melanistic phase with belly showing up darker. This was near Ottumwa, Iowa. One Cooper's here
Pheasant and Quail	fall	This spring pheasants were all over the place; trouble to keep from running over them, but this fall it is hard to find them (nothing to do with hunting season); and quail are down
Sapsucker, imm.	Nov. 15	at feeder
Crows	Nov. 11	long trailing flocks of crows migrating
Bluebirds	Sept. 30	small flock flew high overhead; and more on following days
Shrikes	all year	Very few; didn't see the #s I've seen other years
Blackbirds	Nov. 10	beginning about 3:30 p. and lasting for over an hour, streams of red-wings and grackles passed our house
Sparrows	Sept 28	saw the first Harris and white-crowned sparrows. Juncos had been in for a week or so