

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE FEDERATION OF NEW YORK STATE BIRD CLUBS

The fourth annual council meeting of the Federation was held April 7, 1951 in the library of the Buffalo Museum of Science. Twenty-six delegates, representing fifteen clubs, answered the roll call. President Winston W. Brockner presided. He announced that the Northport Veterans Hospital Bird Club of Northport, L. I., had affiliated with the Federation. The council accepted the application of the Blue Heron Audubon Society of Stony Brook, L. I., with a membership of seventy-five active members. Applications for 149 individual memberships were also accepted.

Conservation chairman, Walter Elwood, submitted his report covering the major items of conservation interest in both State and National legislation. Mr. Elwood and his committee did a tremendous task in analyzing this legislation, writing letters and issuing bulletins. Samuel Madison of Delmar appeared at hearings in Albany in behalf of the Federation. Mr. Elwood's report provoked a discussion of the new State Law permitting the Conservation Department to authorize the destruction of birds and animals regarded as a nuisance. The council agreed that the effect of this law would depend on the judgment of the Department. In any event, the law cannot overrule the Federal Migratory Bird Laws.

In the report of the Research and Publications committee, chairman Hazel Ellis recommended three new projects. First is a suggestion from Dr. A. A. Allen that we start a census of the breeding warblers in the Adirondacks. The second recommendation calls for each affiliated club to prepare a map and information about birding areas in its section of the State. The third suggestion is for local groups and individuals to watch for indications of hawk migrations, extending the work of the Rochester and Buffalo Clubs.

As the work of publication has been turned over largely to Allan Klonick, editor of *The Kingbird*, Mr. Klonick submitted his own report. He stated that 2000 copies of the first issue of *The Kingbird* had been circulated free of charge in the affiliated clubs. Of the second issue, 1000 copies were printed and distributed to individual members, and the balance placed on sale at 60¢ a copy. Beginning with the third issue, the publication will be very close to the actual number of individual members whose \$2 annual dues include *Kingbird* subscription. Mr. Klonick urged clubs to promote individual memberships, stating that 500 would be needed to keep the *Kingbird* flying. He was highly commended by the council for the excellence of the publication.

Action concerning affiliating with the New York State Conservation Council was withheld pending further study. Local clubs were urged to consider the advisability of affiliating with local sportsmen's conservation councils.

President Brockner read his report, outlining the activities of the past year, and commending Allan Klonick for his work on *The Kingbird*, and Elwood, Madison and Eisenmann for their conservation work. He an-

nounced that Dr. Gordon Meade had been appointed chairman of a committee to explore the possibilities of revising the present state bird book.

The nominating committee presented the following slate of candidates: President, Eugene Eisenmann, New York City; Vice-President, Harold D. Mitchell, Buffalo; Recording Secretary, Albert W. Fudge, Elmira; Corresponding Secretary, Miss Louise Helfer, Watkins Glen; Treasurer, Mrs. W. B. English, Amsterdam. These candidates were elected to take office January 1, 1952.

An invitation from the Schenectady Bird Club to hold the 1952 annual meeting in that city on the weekend of May 24 was accepted by President Brockner.

Albert Fudge,
Recording Secretary
