

FEDERATION NEWS TREASURER'S REPORT

of the
GENERAL FUND

from January 1, 1954 thru July 31, 1954

Cash and Checks on Hand and in Checking Account*—1-1-54

\$867.17

Receipts

Membership Dues

New

Clubs -----	\$ -	
Individuals—Annual (34) -----	68.00**	
Sustaining -----	-	
Supporting -----	-	
Life (1) -----	***	
		\$ 68.00

Clubs

1954 Renewal Dues (22) -----	232.50
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Individuals

Dues in Arrears (3) -----	\$ 6.00	
1954 Renewal Dues—Annual (186) -----	372.00	
Sustaining (16) -----	80.00	
Supporting (3) -----	30.00	
Dues in Advance (4) -----	8.00	
		496.00

Organizations

New Kingbird Subscriptions (1) -----	\$ 2.00	
1954 renewal Kingbird subscriptions (4) -----	8.00	
		10.00

Other

From Sale of Kingbirds -----	9.20
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815.70

\$1,682.87

Expenses

Supplies -----	\$ 1.63	
Rubber Stamps -----	5.00	
Electrotypes -----	8.59	
Telephone -----	1.25	
Bond on Treasurer -----	12.50	
250 "Montezuma" Reprints -----	6.00	
Postage—1953 — \$2.14; 1954 — \$27.95 -----	30.09	
Checks -----	4.50	
Membership Bills -----	8.05	
Membership Cards -----	27.92	
Envelopes -----	38.25	
Letterheads and Copy Paper -----	54.16	
		\$197.94

Conservation Committee

Supplies (1953) -----	\$ 2.00	
500 "Cormorant" Reprints -----	10.00	
Postage—1953 — \$3.96; 1954 — \$5.90 -----	9.86	
Envelopes -----	1.74	
		23.60

The Kingbird

Kingbird Account**1953**

Postage -----	\$ 12.00
2,000 Mailing Envelopes -----	35.00
October Issue (450 copies) -----	156.00

203.00

1954

Postage -----	\$ 39.29
Rubber Stamp -----	.72
January Issue (450 copies) -----	125.00
May Issue (450 copies) -----	156.00
Freight -----	1.18
July Issue (450 copies) -----	140.00
Etching and Halftone -----	17.10
Freight -----	1.18

480.47

\$905.01

777.86

From Closing of Kingbird Checking Account ----- 2.31

Cash and Checks on Hand and in Checking Account* 7-31-54 ----\$780.17

* Lincoln Rochester Trust Company

** Includes the reinstatement of three former members

*** See Statement of the Permanent Fund

Permanent Fund (up to and including July 31, 1954)

	Received		
	Date	Amount	Balance
1952			
From H. Everest Clements — Life Membership	5-27-52	\$100.00	\$100.00
Rochester, New York			
From Miss Mabel L. Peck — Life Membership	11-10-52	100.00	200.00
Clayton, New York			
Interest from Amsterdam Savings Bank	12-31-52	1.45	201.45
Receipts for the Year 1952		\$201.45	
1953			
From Mrs. Dayton Stoner—Life Membership	2-27-53	\$100.00	\$301.45
Albany, New York			
From Harold D. Mitchell—Life Membership	5- 2-53	100.00	401.45
Buffalo, New York			
Interest from Amsterdam Savings Bank	12-29-53	8.59	410.04
Receipts for the Year 1953		\$208.59	
1954			
Interest from The Community Savings Bank	6- 1-54	\$ 3.08	\$413.12
of Rochester			
From Mrs. Henry F. Whitmore—Life Member	7- 1-54	100.00	513.12
Tarrytown, New York			
Accrued Bank Interest at 2½%	7-31-54	1.74	514.86
Receipts thru July 31, 1954		\$104.82	

H. Everest Clements, Treasurer
 1116 Sibley Tower Building
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 Telephone — Hamilton 6494

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING

Ithaca, N. Y. — August 28, 1954

The seventh annual meeting of the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs was called to order by President Harold D. Mitchell at 9:40 a. m. Twenty-nine delegates representing 19 clubs answered roll call.

The minutes of the last annual meeting were read and approved as read.

Stanley Grierson, chairman of the Conservation Committee, reported that on the accomplished side of the picture was the passing of the Cormorant bill. And so far the Echo Park Dam bill has not been passed. (See also Conservation News p. 73)

Miss Audrey Wrede, chairman of the Membership Committee, proposed 54 individual members and one club (Saw Mill River Audubon Society) for membership. The Council voted to accept these as members of the Federation. This brings the total membership to: 27 clubs; 289 annual members, 16 sustaining, 3 supporting, 5 life and 7 subscriptions or a total of 313 individual members.

The council voted to call libraries and other groups which are not clubs or individual members, subscribers to THE KINGBIRD, rather than individual members.

H. Everest Clements, Treasurer, reported a balance on hand in the general fund (as of July 31, 1954) of \$780.17 and \$514.86 in the permanent fund — a total of \$1295.03.

The Council voted to accept the budget for 1955 as presented by the Finance Committee which is as follows: State Bird Book \$25.00, Kingbird \$680.00, Conservation Committee \$150.00, Membership Committee \$20.00, President \$10.00, Vice-President \$3.00, Recording Secretary \$10.00, Corresponding Secretary \$5.00, Treasurer \$75.00, Annual Meeting \$30.00, Publications and Research Committee \$25.00, Unallocated \$25.00 — a total of \$1058.00.

Fred Hall reported for the Publications and Research Committee. This committee feels that its most important work is that of the sub-committee of the State Bird Book Committee. This committee has prepared mimeographed proposed standards which are available to all regions and should be placed in use locally at once. This was done to standardize the work of the statisticians. It is also planned to prepare statistical record forms for State Bird Book use.

This committee requests all member clubs to send in a copy of each local publication for state bird book use.

The committee also proposed that a sub-committee, with Gerald Rising of Rochester as chairman, work with regional clubs in making a state waterfowl survey at the same time as the annual survey of the State Conservation Department is made. This project would act as a check and supplement the State and Federal aerial surveys, form a group project for all regions and accumulate data in a needed area of ornithology. It is planned to cover as much of the state as possible and to spot-check some areas now covered by the aerial survey to determine the value of this new census to the State and Federal Agencies.

The Publications and Research Committee reported that Dr. Stephen Eaton needs more papers for publication in *THE KINGBIRD* and especially reports of extensive data accumulated by a few years study of any interesting local area. It is an obligation of all members to support *THE KINGBIRD* in this manner.

President Mitchell proposed that everyone work on a coordinated record of the winter census for New York State.

The council voted to incorporate the Federation under the Board of Regents of the State of New York, and President Mitchell appointed a committee consisting of Samuel Madison (chairman), Mrs. Dayton G. Stoner and Guy Bartlett to take the necessary legal steps to have this accomplished. Such an incorporation would make dues and contributions tax exempt.

It was announced that the member clubs had ratified the following change in the Federation constitution:

Chapter V: Committees:

"All committees, except the Nominating and Auditing, shall consist of at least five members, but the exact number will be left to the discretion of the President, who shall bear in mind the type of activities carried out by each committee, and also select the members, insofar as possible, from different parts of the state."

In order to bring in necessary funds to meet budget expenditures Mrs. Dayton G. Stoner presented a plan whereby member clubs could sell Barton-Cotton notepaper and other wildlife illustrated items at a profit to their local club of \$19.00 per 50 items sold. By having an officer of the local club sign the club's orders to Barton-Cotton and state on the order that the order is to be credited to the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs the Federation will receive \$4.00 for every 50 items sold by a local club. The Council approved this plan for raising very much needed funds for Federation expenses.

Clubs are urged to write to Barton-Cotton, Inc., c/o Miss Ruth Boarman, 1102-28 N. Chester St., Baltimore 13, Maryland, for information and listing of items for sale.

The following officers were elected for the calendar year 1955: President — Harold D. Mitchell, Buffalo; Vice-President — Guy Bartlett, Schenectady; Recording Secretary — Miss Elizabeth A. Feldhusen, Saratoga Spring; Corresponding Secretary — Miss Elizabeth Manning, New York; Treasurer — H. Everest Clements, Rochester.

Robert McKinney of Rochester, Edward Seeber of Ithaca and Stanley Grierson of Katonah were elected as the 1955 Nominating Committee.

The Council elected Neil Moon and Gertrude Davis of Rochester as the Auditing Committee for 1955.

The Chemung Valley Audubon Society of Elmira invited the Federation to hold its eighth annual meeting at Elmira. The Federation was very happy to accept this invitation.

Because the morning meeting had to adjourn at 12:10 due to a scheduled luncheon hour, two items of business were carried over to the afternoon session. The following items of business are reported from the 1:30 p. m. session.

It was voted to accept the proposal of the Finance Committee to raise individual dues from \$2.00 to \$2.50 and to submit this proposal to member clubs for ratification.

A contribution of \$25.00 was voted to the Nature Conservancy to aid in the purchase of Dome Island. This is a small island in Lake George covered by virgin timber.

Respectfully submitted,

Francis H. Irving
Recording Secretary

CONSERVATION NEWS

At the annual convention of the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs held at Ithaca, N. Y., the Conservation Committee recommended at its meeting on Friday evening, August 27th, that the Forever Wild clause of the New York State Constitution as applied to the New York State Forest Preserve be retained.

Within the State, there are groups including the New York State Conservation Department, who are advocating changes in the laws applicable to the forest preserve. The Conservation Committee of the Federation decided that every effort should be made to oppose certain of these changes. At the Council meeting on the following day, August 28th, this resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED that the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs favors the retention of Article XIV, Section I, of the New York State Constitution which protects the forest preserve by requiring it to be forever kept as wild forest lands, without modification or amendment, and that the Conservation Committee be authorized to take such action as it deems necessary to achieve this result.

The Committee also unanimously decided to carefully study the impact of the domestic dog on wildlife. The State of Connecticut within the past year has passed restrictive legislation putting the burden of responsibility for a dog's actions on the owner. The Conservation Committee chairman would appreciate hearing from individuals and clubs about any cases involving damage to any type of wildlife caused by dogs in the State. All dogs in the field or woods should be regarded with suspicion as to their activities, and case reports should be reported.

The use of B-B guns was also discussed along with pole traps. It was decided that since New York State Law prohibits hunting by anyone under fourteen years of age, that we already have a most effective law to curb small boys from damaging wildlife with B-B guns. Violations should be immediately reported to the nearest New York State Conservation officer.

The Committee wishes to further study the pole trap situation and would like to hear from members and clubs regarding areas where pole traps are used.

Stanley Oliver Grierson,
Chairman Conservation Committee

WATERFOWL COUNT

At the August meeting of the Federation the Publications and Research Committee decided to organize a statewide census of waterfowl. This census, to be taken January 15 through 23, 1955, will be supervised by a working committee in Rochester.

The census is to be taken at the same time as The New York State Conservation Department's aerial duck count so that we can supplement their count and at the same time evaluate many of the results of the Federation count.

Choice of the date for the census was difficult because several groups in the state already take censuses at other times. The Buffalo group counts waterfowl in the Niagara Frontier Region in spring and fall; Long Island has been covered in the past usually on a date earlier than the committee's selection; The Cornell Field Ornithology Club has covered the Finger Lakes Basin in February. Since none of these dates fall at the same time it was decided to select the same date as the Conservation Department's Count. This date coincides with the Fish and Wildlife Service's Atlantic Seaboard Count. It falls during the period in New York State in which (1) the population of ducks is fairly static and (2) many smaller water areas are frozen forcing ducks to congregate in areas more accessible to observers.

Although not finally set at this time the procedure for the census will probably be as follows: Special forms for tabulating results of the count will be sent in quantity to Regional Editors of *The Kingbird* who will in turn forward them to certain observers in their regions. The results of the census should be forwarded to the Regional Editors who in turn will forward them to the committee in Rochester. The observations will then be organized for summarization in *The Kingbird*.

The committee in charge of the Census requests that clubs publicise the census and that both club and individual members of the Federation co-operate with the Regional Editors to see that their area is adequately covered.

Gerald Rising, Rochester, N. Y.

YOUR PRESIDENT SAYS . . .

The turn-out of over two hundred members and guests at our annual meeting at Ithaca was very gratifying to your officers. Many of those who attended indicated that they had a most enjoyable week-end. The highlights of the meeting were Dr. Allen's outstanding pictures of the bird life near Churchill on Hudson Bay and the sound recordings by Dr. Kellogg. We wish to again thank the Laboratory of Ornithology of Cornell University, the Cayuga Bird Club, the Cornell Field Ornithology Club, and the Local Committee for their very efficient handling of the many details of the meeting and for their wonderful hospitality.

Following a delicious early breakfast at Dr. Allen's home on Sunday morning, we started our trip to Montezuma Refuge with some misgivings, as it rained rather hard for nearly an hour. However, it soon cleared up and we were rewarded by a sight of many species, including approximately seventy American Egrets, a Whistling Swan, Bald Eagle, Osprey, and a variety of woodpeckers. Among the latter were Pileated, Red-headed and Red-bellied, the last named feeding young at a nesting hole.

We were pleased to receive the invitation of the Chemung Valley Audubon Society to hold the 1955 meeting at Elmira. The date has tentatively been set for the week-end of May 28 to 30. Please mark your calendars now and plan to attend this meeting.

HAROLD D. MITCHELL