

YOUR PRESIDENT SAYS:

As the Federation enters upon its eighth year, it is well to review certain of our immediate aims.

First and foremost, we must all aid Miss Audrey Wrede, our very efficient Membership Committee Chairman, to attain a goal of 400 individual members. If this can be accomplished, our immediate financial worries will be over. We should also be on the outlook to aid in the formation of new bird clubs, particularly in areas not now represented by another club.

Secondly, we should lend our support to Stanley Grierson and his Conservation Committee by contacting our legislators on matters which the committee will bring to our attention from time to time.

Thirdly, we should give Stephen Eaton more papers for publication in the *Kingbird*. He is doing an excellent job, but must have your support. He should have many articles as a backlog to choose from for each issue.

Fourthly, we should all start to keep records with extreme care, keeping in mind the criterion for acceptance of records and other data which has been prepared by Dr. Gordon M. Meade and his State Book Committee. Remember to get all possible verification of sight records of rare species or even of common species on unusual dates. Try to plan, when possible, to take your summer vacation in areas not well covered in our State. You can help greatly by reporting on the breeding birds of such a region. In this connection it is contemplated, at the forthcoming annual meeting at Elmira, to set up at least two areas where breeding bird censuses will be taken. This will, we hope, take the veil of mystery from this type of census, and show you how relatively simple and interesting it is to aid in recording such data for use in our new State Book.

The cooperative winter waterfowl survey, under Gerald Rising's leadership, will be completed before this copy goes to press. This should be a yearly project.

Fifthly, provide notes for Dr. Peter Paul Kellogg to use in his weekly radio broadcast. Unusual bird observations, as well as conservation, refuge or club news of interest might well be acceptable. Please write to our Radio Editor, Mr. Edward Seeber, c/o Ithaca College, Ithaca, New York, who will arrange the copy to submit to Dr. Kellogg.

Sixthly, each club should contact Miss Audrey L. Wrede, 3109 Beverly Rd., Brooklyn 26, N. Y., advising her of the dates of the club meetings, also address and telephone number of Program or Field Trip Chairman or others who may be contacted by Federation members from other clubs when in the vicinity. See, for example, Buffalo Audubon Society and Buffalo Ornithological Society data in this issue.

Lastly, if you desire to participate more actively in Federation activities, as a committee member, please let me know at once.

May I take this opportunity to thank our retiring Recording Secretary, Frances H. Irving, for her outstanding work during her term of office. She has been of great help to me.

Also I wish to thank Miss Helen Foster, who recently retired as Circulation Manager of the *Kingbird*, for her selfless efforts to keep up the mailing list and to get the *Kingbird* into the mails promptly.

HAROLD D. MITCHELL.