

Chairman of the Conservation Committee of the Federation. He reciprocated, by instituting a system of conservation bulletins that proved invaluable to all the clubs.

In addition to being a member of the American Ornithologists Union, he was also active in Boy Scout and Girl Scout and YMCA programs.

He is survived by his wife, Anne Bevillard Mack, of Chicago. They were married on June 10, 1926, in New York City.

Fitting tribute, as significant of the very high regard and esteem in which his community beheld him, can be gleaned from the fact that the Board of Education of Amsterdam, New York, has changed the name of the school museum to, The Walter Elwood Museum.

Buffalo, N. Y.

CLUB NEWS AND NOTES

The Linnaean Society of New York has just published Volume 7 of its Transactions, "The Species of Middle American Birds", by Eugene Eisenmann (formerly President of this Federation). This 128 page work lists all of the species recorded from Mexico to Panama inclusive, giving their technical names, English names, and outlines of range, including a distributional bibliography of more than 200 items. It should become a basic working tool for those interested in the distribution of American birds.

The price is \$2, and the booklet can be obtained from the Secretary, Linnaean Society, c/o *American Museum of Natural History*, 79th Street at Central Park West, New York 24, N. Y.

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING — MAY 28, 1955

Elmira, New York

The Eighth Annual Meeting of the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs was called to order by President Harold D. Mitchell at 9:15 a. m. Twenty-six delegates representing 18 clubs answered the roll call.

The minutes of the last Annual Meeting were read and approved after addition of the resolution pertaining to the "forever wild" clause (of. Vol. IV, No. 5, p. 71 and 73).

Mr. H. Everest Clements, Treasurer, reported a balance on hand in the checking account, as of May 26, 1955, of \$927.18 and in the permanent fund \$728.31 making a total of \$1,655.49. Seven clubs sold Barton-Cotton, Inc. stationery for the Federation adding to the treasury \$144.80. The President commended Mrs. Dayton Stoner for bringing this source of revenue to our attention.

Mr. Stanley O. Grierson, Conservation Chairman, presented his report as follows: the Conservation Committee is opposed to the proposed dams in Panther Mountain, N. Y., and Dinosaur National Park, Colorado and are preparing pamphlets on this to be mailed to the members and clubs; it was also stressed that habitat preservation should be kept in mind. There was some discussion on the "forever wild" resolution. It was suggested to have a meeting after the papers session to further consider this. The result of this later meeting was that a motion was made by Miss Gertrude Webster who proposed that the members reaffirm the stand on the "forever wild" clause as taken last year. This motion was unanimously carried. The resolution as adopted by the Council in 1954 is as follows:

"Resolved, that the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs favor retention of Article XIV, Section 1, of the New York State Constitution which protects the forest preserve by requiring it to

be forever kept as wild forest land, without modification or amendment, and that the Conservation Committee be authorized to take such action as it deems necessary to achieve this result."

Miss Audrey L. Wrede, Chairman of the Membership Committee, proposed 29 new members. The Council voted to accept these members, bringing the total to 315 members and 26 clubs. Membership application blanks were distributed to the delegates for their clubs. It was also suggested that the increase in membership dues be again brought up for discussion in the member clubs and be acted upon before the end of the calendar year.

In the absence of Samuel R. Madison, Chairman of the Constitution and By-Laws Committee, Mrs. Dayton Stoner read the committee's report. The report recommended that incorporation under the Membership Corporation would be more advantageous than under the Education Law as had been proposed. A motion was duly made by Eugene Eisenmann, seconded and carried, that the Council authorize and instruct the committee to prepare a plan to incorporate the Federation under the Membership Corporation Law, and a draft of the necessary changes in the Constitution and By-Laws, and report to the President, with copies to be distributed to the member clubs for full study and consideration, so that delegates can be instructed to act upon it at the next annual meeting.

A suggestion that a change in the name of the Federation might be considered was discussed, and several names were proposed. Opportunity will be given each club to submit name changes to the chairman, Samuel Madison, not later than December 31, 1955.

A report by Fred T. Hall, Chairman of the Publications and Research Committee, was given as follows: Dr. Stephen Eaton, Editor of the *Kingbird*, tendered his resignation effective December 31, 1955. As yet the new editor has not been named.

Gerald Rising reported on the waterfowl census which was the major research project in operation during the year. This was compared with the serial duck survey conducted by the State Conservation Department.

The State Book Committee has lost its chairman, Dr. Gordon M. Meade who has left the state. Robert Arbib, Jr., was named as the new chairman. He reported that there has been brief consideration for chapters for the book. Member clubs are to receive the criteria that is to be published. Already the criteria has been published by the Linnaean Society. The major project for the year is to be a species questionnaire which is in the nature of a test. The member clubs are asked to return the ecological survey which was distributed last year. It was suggested that the committee distribute another copy to each club.

The report of the Bibliography Committee, whose chairman is Dr. Allen H. Benton, stated that the bibliography will follow the general style of the Zoological Record. It was suggested that the coverage of the first publication be 1910-1952 inclusive, thus spanning the gap between Eaton's "Birds of New York" and the 1953-54 lists in the *Kingbird* and that later lists be assembled every 5-10 years. It is hoped that a complete list be assembled on the file cards by 1956. It was decided that local club journals would be listed separately.

It was recommended that subscriptions to the *Kingbird* by individuals and libraries be pushed. Eugene Eisenmann suggested that the *Kingbird* be placed in a subscription agency. Miss Elizabeth Manning was requested to look into this.

The report of the Auditing Committee is to be published in the *Kingbird*. Robert McKinney, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, presented the following slate of officers, who were elected for 1956:

President—Dr. Peter P. Kellogg, Ithaca.

Vice President—Albert W. Fudge, Elmira.

Corresponding Secretary—Elizabeth S. Manning, New York.

Recording Secretary—Elizabeth A. Feldhusen, Saratoga Springs.

Treasurer—Allan S. Klonick, Rochester.

A resolution was made and accepted authorizing Dr. Kellogg and Mr. Klonick to take over the Treasurer's accounts in January, 1956.

The Council voted the following to the Nominating Committee for 1956:

Watson G. Hastings, Dobbs Ferry, Chairman.

Winston Brockner, Buffalo.

Mrs. William English, Amsterdam.

The following were voted to the Auditing Committee for 1956:

Mrs. Neil Moon, Rochester, Chairman.

Dr. Gerhard Leubner, Rochester.

In the absence of an invitation for the 1956 Annual Meeting, the present and future officers were instructed to select a place for next year's meeting.

A letter was read by Mr. Mitchell that had been written by him to Mrs. Walter Elwood, and her reply, concerning the death of Walter Elwood, April 28, 1955. It was voted to send \$25.00 to the Mohawk Valley Cerebral Palsy Association in memory of Mr. Elwood, who had expressed this wish in preference to flowers.

The members were told of the recent publication by Eugene Eisenmann referred to as Transaction 7, Species of Middle American Birds. This book is on sale and can be obtained from the secretary of the Linnaean Society, Miss Lois J. Hussey, American Museum of Natural History, West 77th Street, New York 24, N. Y.

There was much discussion regarding the Federation joining the Conservation Forum. It was decided that members of the Conservation Committee could join as individual members if they so desired to do so. Miss Mabel H. James explained the early history and purposes of the Conservation Forum.

A vote of thanks was extended to the Chemung Valley Audubon Society for their very kind hospitality.

Respectfully submitted,

ELIZABETH A. FELDHUSEN,
Recording Secretary.

YOUR PRESIDENT SAYS

Thanks are due to the very efficient local committee for a most successful and stimulating annual meeting at Elmira. From the time we arrived at the Mark Twain Hotel for our committee meetings on Friday, until we departed, following our box luncheon at Rorick's Glen on Sunday, our every want was anticipated and satisfied by our hosts.

Saturday's meetings and luncheon at the spacious Harris Hill Glider Base proved a happy choice of locations, as a constant breeze on the hilltop helped greatly to alleviate the otherwise oppressively hot day. Our group photograph, following the luncheon, turned out very well indeed. If you