

The EDITOR'S Page

There are on the mailing list in the files of The Kingbird more than 500 members. Listed among these are clubs, institutions and individuals.

How best to serve all of these through the medium of your magazine is the upper most problem of the editor.

Matters of scientific importance should hold top priority. Under this class and probably most important are the regional records, with authentic and accurate field notes holding close second place.

The editor, however, does not overlook the importance of the amateur, but still active member, who by his subscription and support to The Kingbird, has shown an interest in bird activities of New York State.

The policy shall be to give space to the entire membership in the available pages. Briefness in the records, without sacrificing accuracy and interest, field notes, accurate and in detail without emphasis on the anthropomorphic; and articles of scientific research and information that apply to the specific and general furtherance of the knowledge and activities of birds in New York State, all of these help to give you a magazine that you will care to support and read.

Whether written for the student, amateur or professional, accuracy and reliability shall hold priority. If we care to win and hold local and national acceptance and build The Kingbird into a periodical that shall last into the future.

Jim Meritt who in 1955 began writing the records for Region 8 and since has edited and summarized the regional records for The Kingbird has recently moved from New York State to New Jersey and under that new address has joined the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club. That club quickly recognized his ability and offered him the editorship of the "Cassinia". With the pressure of these new duties, he has resigned as regional editor. We have, thereby, lost a very able and supporting worker.

We give Jim our thanks for his past help with The Kingbird and congratulate him and wish him well as editor of the "Cassinia".

NELLIE G. VAN VORST

The Federation has lost a most loyal charter member. Nellie G. Van Vorst was afflicted by a stroke on November 8, 1961 from which she never recovered. Her death occurred on March 20, 1962.

From the Federation Organization Meeting in 1947 to its fourteenth Annual Meeting in 1961 Miss Van Vorst had kept a continued interest through her own membership and that of the Schenectady Bird Club, Inc. She had been the latter's only president throughout the years. Her willingness to co-operate in every way with the officers of the Federation will be remembered. Only a few days before she was stricken she attended to preparations for the forthcoming Federation gathering in Albany. She will be greatly missed when bird groups from all over the State come together for their Annual Meeting in May.

Minne B. Scotland

The treasurer has received from Schenectady Bird Club members and friends a sum of money in the amount of \$160. This sum shall be known as "The Nelle G. Van Vorst Memorial Fund" and has been placed in the savings account, with the provision that the principal and accumulated resources shall eventually be used toward the publication of the book "The Birds of New York State."

Lillian C. Stoner.