

YOUR PRESIDENT SAYS:

Our Federation showed its strength a few weeks ago by helping to cause the recent reversal in the voting of the New York State Senate regarding protection of the Great Horned Owl. It therefore remains on the protected list for at least another year. We believe this is largely due to the deluge of letters and telegrams protesting the decision already passed by the Assembly, to take it off the protected list.

Intense interest in the proposed bill to protect the Golden Eagle is also evinced by our conservation committee and vigilance is the keyword toward all other legislation which may shrink or destroy wild tracts or convert them from their present ever wild status.

Strong on conservation was our past president, Mrs. Frances H. Irving, and chairman Joseph A. Blake, Jr., carried our conservation banner to lead state organizations during his years in office. Mr. Blake was forced to resign and Maxwell C. Wheat, Jr., of 333 Bedell Street, Freeport is our new chairman since January 1. Other chairmanship changes will show up on the back cover of the May Kingbird.

No doubt we can feel assured that we will progress favorably under these committee changes and sincerely hope that our past chairmen will continue their deep and sincere interest and support. It is also to be hoped that through the tenure of your president's occupancy in office that finances will increase to the extent desirable for at least a 56 to 64 page Kingbird, as written materials have built up. Actually we need a great many more new members. We have much to offer: a fine publication, a tremendously cooperative editor in Mrs. Alice E. Ulrich, cordial and extremely friendly conventions, unbounded enthusiasm in the future and strong convictions of a great Creator who has blessed us with this fine country, its wildlife and still abundant wild lands.

John Jackson Elliott

JOHN T. NICHOLS

By JOHN J. ELLIOTT and JOHN W. TAYLOR

John Treadwell Nichols, foremost authority on Long Island birds, was born at Jamaica Plain, near Boston, Massachusetts, June 11, 1883. His interest in birds around him began at the early age of eight and after sixty-seven years of continuous study he died in his sleep on November 10, 1958 in his seventy-sixth year. He had been living at his home at 116 Ninth Street, Garden City, Long Island.

His parents, John White Treadwell Nichols and Mary Blake (Slocum) Nichols, moved to New York City when he was two years of age. He, with his family, spent summers in the Rockaways from 1890 to 1900 and while there he studied shore and water birds, getting up early and searching the beaches for an hour or two before commuting to New York City. He was educated in several private schools and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree from Harvard in the class of 1905.

He visited Museums abroad and took two long oceanic trips on the square-rigged "Nuanu", the first in 1900-01. The ship left the East River, New York City docks for a trip to Hawaii, 41 days of which it fought headwinds off South America's Cape Horn. Another trip around the Horn was made in 1906. On these he collected specimens of albatrosses and