

such compact flocks as were seen that winter. In all the fifty-four years since then, only an occasional pipit, or rarely more than ten, has been noted, for a single day only, in the dead of winter.

In recent years, pipits do not come to Orient in the abundance of fifty years ago. This is also true of the Horned Larks and Snow Buntings. The status of the Lapland Longspur, never a common species in Orient, has not changed. Of late years, the buntings have been scarce or even absent in winter more often than in former years. On several farms where the Horned Lark used to be common daily all winter into April and early May, they are now seen not at all for weeks at a time, or are seen in small, isolated groups of less than a dozen individuals at infrequent intervals.

Orient, Long Island, New York 11957

Minutes of the 18th Annual Meeting of the Council of The Federation of New York State Bird Clubs, Inc.

The 18th annual meeting of the Council of the Federation, held at Syracuse University, Syracuse, N.Y., was called to order at 9 A.M. on June 12, 1965 by the President, Mr. Robert Arbib. A quorum was declared with 37 delegates representing 28 clubs answering the roll call.

Minutes of the 1964 Council meeting were read and approved. The report of the Treasurer, Mr. Kenneth D. Niven, was approved. Mr. Niven read the auditors' statement of approval of the Treasurer's report.

The Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Frederick Marsi, reported that all clubs had been sent the required notice of the proposed by-laws amendment to raise individual and club dues, as well as a later reminder.

Mrs. Dorothy McIlroy, *Kingbird* Editor, mentioned her appreciation of the previous editor's work. She reported two changes: the new printer, in Ithaca, for *The Kingbird*; and the granting of second-class mailing privileges, which will result in great savings in postage, for which thanks are due the Ithaca assistant postmaster for his help and advice in this matter. Mrs. McIlroy also made two requests: 1) that contributors of data to the Regional editors send in their reports immediately at the close of the reporting-period, so that the Regional editors can send their reports in on time and *The Kingbird* appear on time; 2) that we all help in finding articles for *The Kingbird*. Dr. Edgar Reilly has offered to give a talk, on a month's notice, to any local club on how to write articles for *The Kingbird* and similar magazines. After January 1, 1965, zip-code will be required on *Kingbirds* as part of the second-class mailing arrangement; any subscriber whose zip-code does not appear on his *Kingbird* is requested to send his zip-code number to Mr. Niven or Mrs. McIlroy.

Mrs. McIlroy also requested that delegates advertise *The Kingbird* in their clubs; some local bird club members have not heard of it! At this point, the President commented that member-clubs should send in changes of officers as they occur, so the list will be up to date. He announced that from now on clubs will receive one *Kingbird* per 100 members, as was voted sometime past, and that Dr. Walter Gillespie of Wells College has agreed to take the job of *Kingbird* Business Manager.

Dr. Edgar M. Reilly, Jr., Chairman of the Publications and Research Committee, reported that the first 10-year *Kingbird* index is still available from him at the State Museum in Albany for \$1.00, and would be available that afternoon at the Federation meeting. He announced that a questionnaire is to be sent to member-clubs to ascertain who is doing research, banding, etc., locally—this information for the state book editor's use.

The State Book Committee report was read for Dr. Gordon Meade, Chairman, by Mr. Arbib. Fifty copies were printed of a brochure asking for funds for the state book. Replies from recipients of the brochure have all been negative so far, because a state bird book is outside the organization's field of interest or because their funds are already committed. The plan for next year is to have the editor of the state book, John Bull, apply for funds as an individual, as more effective than the Federation's applying. Mr. Arbib stated that there may be good news by fall on state book financing. Another possibility is state legislation to sponsor the book. John Bull, the editor, is already at work going over museum specimens.

Miss Elizabeth Manning, Chairman of the Bulletin Exchange Committee, reported that eighteen member-clubs are interested in exchanging their club bulletins. A list of their names is published in the May *Kingbird*.

In regard to bulletin exchange, Dr. Sally Hoyt Spofford, Chairman of the Bibliography Committee, announced that the Laboratory of Ornithology at Cornell will be glad to receive local club bulletins; the Laboratory now has facilities for displaying these and making them available. The Bibliography Committee, which prepares an annual listing of books and articles on New York State ornithology, requests that Federation members send in a card on any obscure reference they find, which the Committee might otherwise overlook. Two questions to consider are 1) whether a second cumulative bibliography of New York State ornithology should be published now or soon, and 2) whether local checklists should be included in the bibliography.

President Arbib reported on the 1965 Waterfowl Census, the summary of which is published in the May *Kingbird*, for Mr. John Mitchell, Chairman of the Waterfowl Count Committee.

Mr. Richard Sloss, Chairman of the By-laws Committee, read the proposed changes in Federation by-laws, which were sent to member-

clubs for consideration this spring: to raise member-clubs' dues to 15¢ per member; to raise the basic individual dues to \$5; to raise higher dues classes accordingly; and to establish a new dues class of student members at \$3. Mr. Sloss also read two further, corollary, proposals: that an active \$5 member can revert to \$3 if he returns to school, and that dues be waived during the time a member is in military service or on a scientific expedition. There was discussion of the proposed by-laws changes, including the corollaries, and of a suggested \$50 ceiling on club dues and minimum club dues. No motion was made on the ceiling or minimum; the original by-laws amendment with the two corollary proposals was passed.

After a coffee break, Mrs. Lillian Stoner, Chairman, made the report of the Nominating Committee. Since the Recording Secretary had received no additional nomination petitions, the slate presented by the Nominating Committee, of Dr. Allen H. Benton, State University College at Fredonia, for President; Mr. Watson B. Hastings, Dobbs Ferry, for Vice-President; Mrs. Frederick Marsi, Binghamton, for Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. R. Barrie Strath, Odessa, for Recording Secretary; and Mr. Kenneth D. Niven, Monticello, for Treasurer, was voted upon and elected.

Mr. Alfred Starling, Chairman, gave the Membership Committee report. He distributed a list of the proposed new individual Federation members, who were then voted into membership. Several delegates reported what they knew of the activities of the Auburn, Oneida, and Suffolk Bird Clubs, proposed as member-clubs of the Federation, after which these three new clubs were voted into the Federation. Mr. Starling suggested that every local club president or delegate should act as a member of his Membership Committee, and that a *Kingbird* flyer might be mailed out with each copy of the next local club bulletins to interest individuals in becoming Federation members.

Dr. Allen H. Benton, Chairman, made the report of the Finance Committee. The Committee's proposed budget was adopted.

The John J. Elliott Memorial Fund Committee report was given by Mr. Cornelius Ward, Chairman: the first Elliott award, of cash, for the best *Kingbird* article was to be announced later in the convention. Mr. Arbib explained that he had appointed Mrs. Alice Ulrich, as *Kingbird* editor in 1964, Dr. Edgar Reilly, as Chairman of Publications and Research, and Mr. Ward, as Chairman of the Elliott Memorial Fund Committee, as a judging committee for the award.

The report of the Conservation Committee was made by Mr. Maxwell C. Wheat, Jr., Chairman. He announced that Ruth Rubenstein was a member of the committee, and Mrs. Frederick Marsi and Ruth Williams, new members. There should be more year-round publicity on Federation conservation activities, he noted. A suggested program on pesticides for

local club use has been drafted. The Conservation Committee would like to hear ideas as to what sort of Conservation meeting to hold at next year's convention. The following resolutions proposed by the Conservation Committee were voted favorably by the delegates: 1) in support of the anti-pollution bond issue to go before New York State voters this fall; 2) to request the NYS Conservation Dept. that no timber cut in the Forest Preserve for fire hazard elimination, etc., be sold commercially (Here there was discussion of the "forever wild" concept vs. *any* management of the Forest Preserve); 3) in opposition to the U.S. Army Engineers' plan for dredging and building a hurricane barrier in the Town of Hempstead wetlands area; 4) to congratulate the Town of Hempstead on the conservation award given it for its activities in preserving its wetlands; 5) in support of Rep. Ottinger's Hudson Highlands National Scenic Riverway bill, which is backed by the two State senators through their bill which would protect the Hudson from its source; and in opposition to Con Edison's Pump Storage Plant on Storm King Mountain (the last, after discussion of the possible dangers to both wildlife and esthetic values; the delegate from the Edgar A. Mearns Bird Club reported that his club, nearest bird club to the proposed Pump Storage Plant site, had found no reason as a club to oppose Con Edison, as the plant would not affect wildlife, only esthetics).

The following Nominating Committee for 1966 was elected: Dr. David Peakall, Syracuse, Chairman, with Dr. Neil Moon, Rochester, and Mr. Harold Mitchell, Buffalo.

The Auditing Committee of Mr. Edward R. McBride and Mr. Jerome Kerner was re-elected for 1966.

Mr. Arbib stated that the Board of Directors will take into consideration a proposal to have a three-day annual meeting in 1966.

A motion of congratulation of Mr. Arbib, outgoing President, was passed.

The meeting was adjourned at noon.

Margaret S. Rusk, Recording Secretary, 805 Comstock Ave., Syracuse, 13210.

ELLIOTT MEMORIAL PRIZE

"The Elliott Memorial Prize shall be given each year at the annual banquet to that author of a paper published during the preceding year, in *The Kingbird*, deemed the most worthy by a panel of judges." (President's Page, *Kingbird*, May 1964)

President Robert S. Arbib announced at the annual banquet in Syracuse, June 12, that the first Elliott Memorial Prize of \$40 and a scroll had been awarded to Stephen W. Eaton for his article "The Wild Turkey in New York State" in the January 1964 *Kingbird*.