

THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Well, Friends, my term as President is finished. This is my last President's Page. So rather than review the accomplishments of my administration (which in any case wouldn't take up much space) I would like to discuss some of the things I would *like* to have done, and which I hope will get done eventually.

1) I wish we had doubled our membership. I don't know how many New York residents are birdwatchers, but I daresay that not one in ten is a member of the Federation. We should be able to persuade more of them that the Federation is worthy of their support to the extent of \$5 per year. Which leads me to my second point.

2) I wish we had achieved better publicity. We now have a chairman in charge of publicity, so things should improve in this respect. It seems to me that if the accomplishments of the Federation were properly publicized, we would be bound to get additional members. The Annual Meeting ought to be good publicity in at least the newspapers of the city where it is held. Our activities on conservation matters should be more widely known.

3) I wish we could achieve more in research. Unfortunately, birding is fun, and many of us enjoy it so much we never get interested in serious research participation. I feel that there is room for more coordination of research in local clubs and in cooperation with the Federation.

If this seems vaguely familiar, it might be because these are more or less the same things I said, two years ago, that I hoped to do. I believe that the distribution and influence of the Kingbird has improved, though there is still room for improvement. I believe that our conservation efforts have been helpful in creating an intelligent approach to the natural resources of our state, though there remains much to do. Now let's all get behind our new President, Watson Hastings, and see if we can accomplish some of the things we have failed to do during the previous years.

Allen H. Benton

POSTER DESIGN PRIZE WINNERS

At the annual banquet Dr. Benton announced the winners of the prizes for the design of a wildlife sanctuary sign to be sold by the Federation for use by private sanctuaries.

The signs will be metal, 8 × 10 inches. The winning designs are shown on the opposite page.

First Prize: \$10 to Thomas Riley, Syracuse

Second Prize: \$5 to Jane Pearsall, Freeville