

PRESIDENT'S PAGE

This page, as we analyze those of the past, has been informative, stimulating, thought provoking and sometimes controversial. If the page is worth printing, it should embody some one or all of these themes. However, at this time I feel that it is imperative that I present a different thought. The reader can consider it an appeal or an admonishment. To get to the point, the fact of the case is that the "Kingbird" can hardly be called a journal or bulletin when all it contains are some regional field notes, valuable as they may be. The Editor has informed me that in putting the July issue of the "Kingbird" together there is a complete absence, with the exception of the reports mentioned (and not all of them), the 1970 Bibliography and a few notices of material of any nature whatsoever. This is appalling!! In an organization such as ours, with all of its talented members and the potential talents which must exist, it is almost unbelievable that it should be necessary to actually have to beg for, or request material for publication. This of course, is not the duty of the Editor. This predicament is even more unbelievable when one considers the fact that serious interest in all sciences has been growing by leaps and bounds especially during the period of our existence. The "Kingbird" too, should continue to grow, but without a ready supply of material this is impossible. In this, the Federation's 25th year, we should be achieving new heights and not relaxing in our efforts toward growth and becoming more effective. Articles of general interest are just as welcome as scientific papers. Your notes or observations on the habits or unusual behavior of a common bird will be of interest to all birders. Don't be modest. You can write if you try and someone is certain to be interested in what you have to report.

In closing, it might be fitting to remind the older members and to restate for the benefit of the newer members the hopes and aspirations of one of our esteemed charter members, Winston W. Brockner, who was president of the Federation in 1950, the year the "Kingbird" was first published. I quote excerpts as follows: "I most sincerely hope that this bulletin will continue to grow. It will become what you, the readers make and want it. It will depend upon the cooperation of each and every person in the state who reads this publication. How we grow and what we can do depends upon you." Need I say more??

Kenneth D. Niven