

Expressions of Appreciation

I cannot express the depth of my gratitude to those of you who are carrying on with this publication. Having been so close to the "Blue Jay" from the moment of its "birth pains", shall we say, I feel safe in stating that I alone know what it meant to Mrs. Priestly and the amount of work and thought she put into it. If for no other reason than that, and there are numerous reasons for its continuation, I can only look on it as a "monument" to her and her love for Nature's finest, as well as the increased love of such things that broadened through the "Blue Jay" for all those who read it.

As all readers know, the "Blue Jay" was first published as a bulletin for the benefit of the members of the Yorkton Natural History Society. The interest taken in it and its circulation growth was a source of pleasant surprise to Mrs. Priestly. Naturally I felt a great deal of reflected pride in this myself.

From the time that its growth seemed a positive fact it was Mrs. Priestly's belief that it should become the official organ of a society of wider scope. There was no provincial organization and the formation of one seemed unlikely, hence her approach to the Provincial Museum for joint sponsorship in September, 1945. That her one-time dream is about to become realized is a great source of satisfaction to our children and myself.

Robt.J. (Bob) Priestly,
Regina.

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With the inauguration of the Saskatchewan Natural History Society and its assumption of the publication of the BLUE JAY, the members of the Yorkton Natural History Society extend best wishes to the new Society and pledge their support. Yorkton deservedly enjoys a measure of pride in the efforts of publishing the BLUE JAY in the past, but passes on the editorship with confidence to Mr. L. T. Carmichael with the desire that he should perpetuate the vital spirit and interest in nature possessed by Mr. Cliff Shaw and the late Mrs. I. M. Priestly.

Clive Tallant,
Vice-President,
Yorkton Natural History Society.

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In conservation alone, I feel as if little voices are calling to you, who seem to understand their plight. Many are seriously threatened with extermination and may be lost forever. Let us not be known as a generation of ruthless destructiveness but instead do everything in our power to save our beautiful native life. Through the medium of the BLUE JAY a great opportunity is given to you to present the true facts and appeal for justice. I am vitally concerned over the fate of the flora and fauna of our Prairies. However, I have great faith in humanity, and when the true facts are known by all, the public will cease destroying and start conserving.

John W. Kozier,
Manitoba Sanatorium,
Ninette, Manitoba.

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