



Blue Jay Chatter

Mr. Arthur Ward, of Swift Current, recalled to me the original suggestion of Mrs. Isabel Priestly, that was communicated to a selected group of known ornithologists and nature enthusiasts in the province. She believed that "there is sufficient interest throughout the land to give expression to God's wonderful creation of nature's way. Will those interested please communicate with me at 40 Agricultural Avenue, Yorkton, about the desirability of forming a Society that would bring together the nature lovers of Saskatchewan and beyond its borders."



Ten years have come and gone since the first issue of the Blue Jay was turned out by hand and put together by a small group of enthusiastic naturalists who had faith in the vision of their leader. Time had justified that faith. There was and is an ever growing number of men and women in the West whose most cherished possession is their ability to appreciate the beauty of the prairie, the forests, the lakes, and to derive a satisfying pleasure from a study of the flowers, bird's and other animals that are so lavishly distributed throughout.

These are the people to whom Mrs. Priestly referred; these are the men and women who not only derive happiness from the gifts of the natural world, but who strive to conserve these, the greatest of all natural resources, so that others may enjoy them for years to come; these are the people who so generously record their observations, so that others may derive from their experiences some of the thrill, the joy and the contentment which is theirs.

This is not only our anniversary number, but our hope also is that it will be a "get acquainted" number. We want you to meet some of those, described above, who have been instrumental in making the Blue Jay what it is today. That is the reason for the photographs. I had hoped to get a picture of each director and official, but, as might be expected some were too self conscious to send their pictures. It is hoped, however, that through this medium, we will meet at a later date, not only them but many others who have consistently contributed to the columns of our little magazine.