



# Blue Jay Chatter

*Lloyd T. Carmichael, Editor*

The fundamental aim of our Society is two-fold: first, to encourage us to develop an appreciation of wildlife by becoming more intimately acquainted with the rich and varied gifts of Nature, and second, to convince ourselves and others that the conservation of these gifts is essential to present and future happiness, to the maintenance of our way of life, and as an assurance that our children will be able to enjoy the rich heritage which is theirs by right of birth.

During his inaugural address in 1949, Governor Youngdahl of Minnesota had this to say:

“We rob the future by wasting today. Any way we turn we face the inevitable shortage of the means of survival at no distant date, unless we act vigorously to stop the depletion that is now going on. It is for us, in the present, to redeem the losses of the past and to guarantee the gains of the future. Thus we will prove ourselves good stewards of what God has given us and assume for ourselves and our children the means of a more abundant life.”

It is hoped that all BLUE JAY readers interested in conservation, will join in a crusade to carry this message to every corner of our province, and arouse our people to support an all-out program for the preservation of our remaining resources—soil, forests and wildlife.

Our particular field is the study of plants and animals, their intriguing habits and varied habitats, but we must bear in mind that our own welfare as well as that of all life depends also on the care, maintenance and conservation of soils, forests and water.

There are many among our members who are actively assisting this endeavour. Such men as C. Stuart Francis, of Torch River; Ralph Stueck, of Abernethy; Fred Bard, Director of the Provincial Museum; Arnold MacPherson, of Saskatoon; Judge McKim, of Melfort; Arthur Ward, of Swift Current; Dr. Stuart Houston, of Yorkton; Stanley Street, of Nipawin, and many others are, by their work and writings, setting an example for the rest of us to emulate.

I believe that the BLUE JAY has become a potent force for conservation in the province and that its influence in this respect will increase from year to year. That fact, alone, justifies its existence. As members of the Saskatchewan Natural History Society, it is not only a duty but a privilege and pleasure for each of us to assist in keeping inviolate those resources which have given us so much pleasure in life.

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The next issue of the BLUE JAY will be a very special one. It will mark the completion of ten years of publication. Special plans are being made to make this anniversary number the best yet. Determine to add to its interest by submitting your summer observations, illustrated by clear photos or drawings, if possible. Give us also your opinion of the value of the contribution that our little nature magazine has made and is making to our prairie life.