

Blue Jay Chatter

Lloyd T. Carmichael, Editor



IT is my pleasure at this time to welcome to the Society between two and three hundred members who have joined with us in 1953, and to express the hope that their enthusiasm is not just a passing fancy, but that they will remain with us for years, that we may all derive joy from a mutual association, coupled with an endeavour to conserve those elements of wildlife which are the natural heritage of the prairie.

Each member of the Society has a definite function to perform. Not the least of these is sending accounts of nature observations or ideas in relation to conservation to the Editor's desk. The "Blue Jay" can only be as good as the number and quality of the contributions received by it. Do not leave this for the other "fellow" to do. That is your prerogative. Exercise it often. Send material to me anytime when the incidents, observations and ideas are fresh in your mind. And, please do not forget — clear photographs to illustrate your remarks are always welcome.

We are very pleased to know that the members of the Saskatchewan Archaeological Society have expressed their intention to affiliate with us, and to share with us their interesting and instructive articles which hitherto have been published in the "Spade and Screen." I feel confident that the tentative arrangements made between the Regina members of our executive, and the executive of the Archaeological Society will be approved and finalized at our annual meeting next October.

At this time I wish to thank Dr. George Ledingham for relieving me of the duties of Secretary and Treasurer. He took over this work shortly after the publication of our last issue and has carried on ever since. With the increasing numbers of members and the hours of extra time that it involved, I found that this work, coupled with that of the editor, was a little bit too much for one to do. At Dr. Ledingham's insistence, this arrangement is to be considered only a temporary one, until final arrangements are made at the Annual Meeting. By the time you get this copy Dr. Ledingham will be off for a two months' holiday . . . so send all money and subscriptions to my address as usual. All matter for publication will still be sent to my address, at 1077 Garnet St.

The committee in charge of the Brief to be presented to the Royal Commission of Agriculture and Rural Life, are to be congratulated on their twenty-five hundred word report which is just now being prepared in finished form. It deals in a most comprehensive manner with the major problems of rural life relevant to the work of this and affiliated societies. It is not only educational, but inspirational. It is my hope that mimeographed copies of this be prepared later and distributed to every member of our Society. Perhaps it would not be out of place to include the entire report in our next issue.