

IN MEMORIAM

JUDGE L. T. McKIM

In this issue of the **Blue Jay** we pay tribute to an enthusiastic Saskatchewan naturalist, Judge L. T. McKim of Melfort, who died a year ago, in May, 1955. Many **Blue Jay** readers knew Judge McKim personally, and many more knew him through notes and articles contributed to the magazine. In fact, when the **Blue Jay** was first published in 1942, Judge McKim was Honorary President of the Yorkton Natural History Society that sponsored it.

Judge McKim came with his family to the prairies in 1883. On their Manitoba farm, the McKim boys drove five miles to school, and along the way they marked the spots where birds were flushed from their nests. Later, at Deloraine, near Whitewater Lake, there were even more opportunities for watching birds. Ducks and geese gathered here in great numbers in migration. Market hunting still flourished in these days, and Judge McKim has often told of a butcher shop window piled high with geese of several varieties, bearing the sign, "Take your Pick, 25c."

After graduating in law from the University of Manitoba, Louis Mc-

Kim moved to Melville. He remained there for 36 years until his appointment as Judge of the Judicial District of Melfort. It was at Melville that he first started a serious study of wildlife, and for over 25 years he kept bird lists for this area. Many of his records were used by Isabel Priestly and Stuart Houston in compiling the list of the Birds of the Yorkton District (**The Canadian Field Naturalist**, Vol. 63, No. 6).

Judge McKim's interest in birds took other active forms. For years he kept as pets injured birds that were brought to him, a Cedar Waxwing or a Mourning Dove or a Purple Finch. He participated in the Melville sportsmen's experiment in raising pheasants, and when he moved to Melfort in 1945 he set up his own aviary. As a speaker and writer he tirelessly presented the concepts of wildlife conservation. In 1950, this selfless work was recognized when Judge McKim was elected president of Ducks Unlimited (Canada). For his compassionate understanding of the world around him and his contributions to it, the **Blue Jay** salutes the memory of Judge McKim.

North American Co-operative Bird Migration Study – 1956

We hope most of our members will take part in this year's bird migration study—in co-operation with bird watchers across the continent. In addition to the first seen dates, make note of any heavy migration waves for the species involved. When possible, give number of individuals seen on the first seen date and number of individuals seen with the peak migration wave for that species. The species chosen are fairly common and easy to identify, so that everyone can take part. These records will be summarized for the **Blue Jay** and then forwarded to Audubon Field Notes and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Don't delay. Send spring migration dates now to Dr. G. F. Ledingham, Editor of the **Blue Jay**, 2335 Athol St., Regina for the following species: Whistling Swan, Canada Goose, Mallard, Pintail, Marsh

Hawk, Killdeer, Wilson's Snipe, Mourning Dove, Nighthawk, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Flicker, Eastern Kingbird, Eastern Phoebe, Barn Swallow, Purple Martin, Crow, Catbird, House Wren, Brown Thrasher, Red-eyed Vireo, Black and White Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Myrtle Warbler, Ovenbird, Redstart, Red-winged Blackbird, Baltimore Oriole, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Goldfinch, Slate-colored Junco, Chipping Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, and White-throated Sparrow.

We would like dates also, for any of the following species, less commonly seen in Saskatchewan but being included in the co-operative migration study in the east: Chimney Swift, Crested Flycatcher, Eastern Bluebird, Scarlet Tanager, Indigo Bunting.