

CONSERVATION AWARD TO R. D. SYMONS

Robert D. Symons, Sifton, was chosen by the Executive of the Saskatchewan Natural History Society to receive its Conservation Award for 1965. Announcement was made at the Annual Meeting, upon which occasion it was pointed out that Bob Symons has, with his art work, books, and articles, and through personal contacts, provided an immeasurable source of inspiration for wildlife conservation. Bob Symon's love and respect for man and nature are well documented in his book: *Many Trails* (available from Box 1121, Regina).

In November 1954 he wrote the following, which we liked, at the end of a mimeographed pamphlet on the Cypress Hills in southwestern Saskatchewan:

"It has been well said that the culture of a country begins with its history, and so the study of Natural History leads us on to wider fields—for it is the birds and the animals, the hills, the creeks, the buttes, the grass and the shrubs which tie us to the past, and are our link with the days of long ago. The Meadow Lark sings as sweetly today, as it did when Sitting Bull crossed the border here. Pines are still growing that once looked down on the activities at Fort Walsh. The Purple Sage saw the steel being laid through Eastend, Robsart and Govenlock; and from a plane we can now look down upon the Bench that once knew nought above it but the soaring eagle.

"I realize I have not done justice to my subject, but we who have known and loved the great sweep of hills and plains, where the cloud shadows chase the quartering Coyote, where the dust devils whirl up from Montana—who love also the quiet forest waters, where the Wilson's Thrush plays his evening organ notes, and the Deer stare at their reflections—know too, that it is part of all we love, and it never can be written on paper as clearly as it is branded on our hearts."

CLIFF SHAW MEMORIAL AWARD TO MICHAEL GOLLOP

The award given annually by the Saskatchewan Natural History Society in memory of Cliff Shaw was presented this year to Michael Gollop for his article on TV tower bird kills. The award is made upon the recommendation of the Editor for an item of special interest in the *Blue Jay* magazine. Michael Gollop's study represented an important project undertaken by a young person of 14 years of age, and although he had assistance in preparing the article for publication the amount of work done for the project indicates a serious interest in natural history.

Cliff Shaw is especially remembered among SNHS members for his activities as President and Editor, and for the special interest that he took in young people's participation.

DON'T FORGET THE CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT 1965

Audubon Christmas bird count dates are Dec. 21, 1965 through Jan. 2, 1966. Please write for further information to Mrs. Mary Houston, 863 University Drive, Saskatoon.

S.N.H.S. NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Mr. James Slimmon, Saskatoon, has accepted the position of Editor of the Saskatchewan Natural History Society Newsletter. It is hoped that this mimeographed publication will greatly assist in furthering communication among the executive and members of the society. Newsworthy items of a personal nature, conservation activities, local society news, etc., should be forwarded directly to: Jim Slimmon, 2526 Hanover Avenue, Saskatoon.