

THE NEW EDITOR — J. B. GOLLOP

by JAMES A. WEDGWOOD*

With the March issue J. Bernard Gollop became editor of the *Blue Jay*. It is my pleasure to introduce Bernie to the readers.

Dr. Gollop, an ornithologist, is a Research Scientist with Canada Wildlife Service and can be found — when not attending a meeting or in the field — in the Prairie Migratory Bird Research Station at Saskatoon. Enter his office and you will see a man at a slightly cluttered desk, surrounded by books, journals, maps, charts, and photographs. He will be looking at you with intent, friendly eyes. One glance around the room will leave no doubt as to his work and his interest: practically everything is about birds.

Projects on which he has been or is engaged include waterfowl censuses, crop depredation, distribution and mortality of mallards, and mallard population predictions. Field work has given him acquaintance with much of the southern portion of the three prairie provinces and North Dakota. Other studies have taken him to the nesting grounds of Ross' Goose in the Arctic, and to closer points such as The Pas, Meadow Lake and Last Mountain Lake. A field trip of a different sort was a survey of bird research stations in Western Europe.

In addition to scientific papers for the North American Wildlife Conference and the International Ornithological Conference, Bernie has written articles for the *Canadian Field Naturalist*, the *Minnesota Naturalist* and the *Blue Jay*. Our own journal has carried a number of his contributions over the years. Bernie is the author of the bird section in the *Atlas of Saskatchewan*. Active in the Mississippi Flyway Council Technical Section, he is a member of the Canadian Society of Environmental Biologists and has served on the executive of the Saskatoon Natural History Society.

An organizer of a bird survey of 100 townships around Saskatoon, he provided the initiative and leadership that made it a success. In addition, for five years he was editor of the *Saskatoon Bird Review* which recorded the results of the survey; by the time it was finished, it required the handling of over 30,000 observations on birds turned in by several score naturalists. It is nothing for Bernie, a man of great energy and drive, to be out at dawn to find a flock of unusual sandpipers, do a morning's work in the office, make an inspection trip in the afternoon to a project, then go for a casual birdwatching drive in the evening with Maddie, his wife. They met, by the way, in a bird club in Montreal and came West in 1947. Their son Michael quickly became a competent naturalist in his own right; his first article appeared in the *Blue Jay* when he was fourteen.

In naturalist circles Bernie is held in high regard for his generosity in helping people. Be he acquaintance or stranger, the person who calls in bafflement about the identification of a bird receives prompt assistance and suggestions. Express an interest in behaviour or populations or migration or any other feature of bird life, and Bernie will go to no end of trouble to put one in touch with articles, magazines and books on the subject.

Every executive member was acutely conscious that appointing a new editor would be the most important action the Board would take during its term. Bernie, quite aware of the implications of the editorship, agreed to assume the trust only after considerable thought and many discussions with persons acquainted with the journal one way and another. The Board is confident the trust is in good hands.