

30 Years Ago

With the July-August-September issue of the *Blue Jay* thirty years ago the second volume of the journal was completed, for at that time the *Blue Jay* year coincided with the Society's year, ending in October with the annual business meeting. In this issue, therefore, members were reminded that on September 25 their membership fees would be due — still a modest 50 cents!

It was also noted in the editorial that the *Blue Jay* had just been publicized in the *Regina Leader-Post* by Mrs. Flock, and it was hoped that her suggestion for the formation of more natural history societies in Saskatchewan would bear fruit. In the meantime, Mrs. Priestly was forging links with the local clubs by reporting their activities in the *Blue Jay*. The Regina Natural History Society, for example, was reported as holding "before breakfast" hikes, as supplying subscriptions to *Canadian Nature* to 12 schools, and as trying to arrange to purchase or lease

"Happy Valley", a coulee leading into the Qu'Appelle Valley, to make it a wildlife sanctuary.

As has been the case so often in the history of the *Blue Jay*, an effort had to be made to encourage a variety of observations, and it was hoped to start a new series of notes on unusual occurrences that would include plants and insects as well as the more popular birds! But there were, as usual, a good number of interesting bird notes. For one thing, a lively discussion was taking place over the choice of a bird emblem for Saskatchewan, and Mrs. Priestly reported an endless diversity of opinion on this subject. "The mallard, prairie chicken and meadowlark seem most favoured but even with these opinions differ. One member likes the idea of the prairie chicken because the latter has often provided a meal for the early settler while another member feels that to many people the mallard and prairie chicken are only looked on as something to eat and doesn't like either for this very reason!"

SASKATCHEWAN NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING — OCTOBER 18-19, 1974

The twenty-sixth annual meeting of the Saskatchewan Natural History Society will be held in the Moose Jaw Art Museum on October 18 and 19, 1974.

Registration: Friday evening, beginning at 7:30 p.m., and Saturday at 8:45 a.m. Fee for adults: \$1.00 (no charge for persons under 16). There will be an additional charge for the dinner to be paid at registration.

The Friday evening programme includes a film show (beginning at 8:15) and a coffee hour, arranged by the Moose Jaw Natural History Society.

Saturday activities begin with a bird trip from 7:15 to 8:15 (departing from Athabasca Street E., near the Library). The business session commences at 9:00 a.m., with an alternative field programme for junior naturalists, who will also lunch together at noon. For adult members we hope to have a luncheon speaker at an informal meal that all interested persons are invited to attend.

Saturday afternoon: resolutions and unfinished business, with the traditional Members' Show and other features. **ANY INTERESTED MEMBER IS INVITED TO SHOW 10 SLIDES** (Please leave these at the registration desk Friday night or early Saturday).

The annual dinner and presentation of awards will be held at Zion United Church Hall (on Main Street across from Eaton's) at 6:30 Saturday. At 8:00 p.m. an illustrated lecture, open to the public, will be given in the Art Museum by Dr. Rick Riewe, biologist from the University of Manitoba, on "The Ecology of the Inuit in the Eastern High Arctic".

RESOLUTIONS should be sent to the Resolutions Chairman, Dr. Ole Nielsen, 327 Poplar Crescent, Saskatoon, as far as possible in advance of the meeting (deadline for submission of resolutions, in writing, will be 10:00 a.m. Saturday).

Suggestions for NOMINATIONS for elected members of the Board of Directors should be submitted to the Chairman, Jim Wedgwood, 610 Leslie Avenue, Saskatoon.