

THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

The Wilson Ornithological Club is deeply indebted to Dr. Josselyn Van Tyne for his services as Editor of 10 volumes of *The Wilson Bulletin*.

In order to edit this journal, while at the same time carrying on his official routine at the University of Michigan, evenings and holidays were sacrificed and opportunities for original research were curtailed. There was always an endless stream of letters to be answered, manuscripts to be edited, and proofs to be read. In fact, at no time during his 10 years of office was he completely free from the responsibilities which the *Bulletin* entailed.

Edited by him were 40 numbers (No. 1 of Vol. 51 through No. 4 of Vol. 60) with pages totalling 2,847. Altogether they contained 175 papers and 252 general notes representing many aspects of research and observation in ornithology and overlapping fields. Several of the papers proved to be among the most important contributions yet made to biological literature.

In the years of his editorship a number of innovations appeared in the pages of the *Bulletin*. Reviews of all books, monographs, and other publications of similar scope were assigned to persons best qualified to speak critically and constructively. Thus the 168 reviews printed were notable for their usefulness to authors and readers alike. For the convenience of students and research workers, a bibliography (*i.e.*, a list of recent literature of value to ornithologists) was instituted, then later extended and classified according to subject matter. Reprints of this list were made available at cost. Handsome frontispieces became a regular feature; of the 29 published, 8 were in color. A section on conservation, brief biographies and photographs of new life members, and lists of new acquisitions to the Wilson Club Library were additional innovations.

Today the Club has twice as many members as it had 10 years ago. Such a remarkably rapid growth is in no small measure a tribute to the excellence of the *Bulletin*.

Obviously the Club's indebtedness to Dr. Van Tyne cannot be met by words and tokens because his task has been a thankless one. We can only say that we are immensely appreciative of each moment devoted to the pages of the *Bulletin* and that we are extremely proud of the result.

OLIN SEWALL PETTINGILL, JR.