

## THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

This copy of *The Wilson Bulletin* should reach you in March, but, publisher's deadlines being what they are, the President's Page is being written on the first day of the new year. Time and occasion make it proper that we look at what is ahead for The Wilson Ornithological Club.

Our next major event is, of course, the Thirty-second Annual Meeting at Davenport, Iowa, on April 26-29. Only once before, in 1929, has the Club met in Iowa, the meeting of that year having been in Des Moines. Not since the Minneapolis meeting of 1940 has the Club assembled on the banks of the Mississippi. This year we return to the great central river of the continent, in good time to see some of the spectacular migration along the Mississippi fly-way. A full program of outstanding papers, social events, and field trips is already assured.

Plans for the 1952 meeting are well advanced. Subject to ratification by the Club, this will be in late April at Gatlinburg, Tennessee, the gateway to Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The Gatlinburg meeting should have many of the informal features which were afforded at Jackson's Mill, West Virginia, in 1950. Certainly the Club will not have met in more attractive surroundings. Chuck-will's-widows and Sycamore Warblers nest near the Park entrance. On Clingman's Dome, more than 5000 feet above Gatlinburg, is the last south-eastern extension of the alpine spruce-fir forest, with its Olive-sided Flycatchers, Brown Creepers, Golden-crowned Kinglets, and Winter Wrens. Visitors will live with the unbroken sweep of Mt. Leconte, 6500 feet high, directly before them.

Once again many of our younger members are, or soon will be, in the armed services. Older Club members have the opportunity to repeat, and to expand, a service which was so much appreciated by members in service during World War II. Many a man in uniform found pleasure and profit in his free time because some bird student nearby offered guidance and transportation in acquainting him with local ornithology. If you are in a training center in this country, your officers urge that you use the Club's facilities for getting in touch with nearby field students. We will gladly give you names and addresses of members who may be in your vicinity.

During World War II it was a constant surprise, and a source of gratification, that so many members in service asked that their copies of the *Bulletin* be sent to the far corners of the earth where our forces were engaged. *The Wilson Bulletin* was a tie with home, and a symbol of more normal times and interests. Once more we offer this small service to members in uniform. No matter how often your address may change, we shall try to see that the continuity of your interest in the Club is unbroken.

*The Wilson Bulletin* is, of course, the Club's lifeline. The Editor is always happy to receive articles and notes of general interest, as well as attractive and scientifically significant illustrative material. For lack of funds there awaits reproduction in our pages a magnificent kodachrome by Hal H. Harrison of a Wilson's Warbler at its nest. Perhaps you would like to contribute to the publication in color of this highly appropriate subject.

In keeping with the season as this is written, your President wishes for all of you a busy and productive New Year.

MAURICE BROOKS