

## OBITUARIES

CLARENCE DUVAL BROWN, a member of the A.O.U. since 1937, died at Montclair, New Jersey, on June 29, 1956. He was born at Rutherford, New Jersey, on December 14, 1880, and joined the New York office staff of the Westinghouse Air Brake Company at the age of 17. He had been export manager of the company for many years when he retired in 1947 after 50 years of service. He served in the U. S. Army during World War I and attained the rank of captain.

Boyhood exploration of the Hackensack Meadows on hunting and fishing trips fixed a life-long interest in nature. Extensive travel for business reasons enabled him to obtain a rich background of field experience which he supplemented with the acquisition of an excellent library. About 1900 Brown collected specimens for the New York Zoological Society, his most notable find being a young Yellow-crowned Night Heron taken from a nest in the Hackensack Meadows, a breeding record not duplicated around New York City for over 35 years. His special interest in shore birds enabled him to contribute many notes to the late C. A. Urner's migration summaries of these species on the New Jersey coast.

He was among the first and most ardent students of hawk migration on Eastern ridges and still climbed to lookouts in the Kittatinny Mountains when well into his seventies.

"Brownie" served as president of the Montclair Bird Club, on the council of the Linnaean Society of New York, and was a founder of the Urner Ornithological Club of Newark and of the New Jersey Field Ornithologists' Club. Generous and self-effacing by nature, he preferred to contribute time and data to the projects of others, with the result that his only publications consisted of one article in 'Bird Lore' (1908) and papers and notes of a more local nature published by the Urner Club. Perhaps his most enduring contribution to natural science is the fine series of photographs appearing in 'The Ferns of New Jersey' by M. A. Chrysler and J. L. Edwards (Rutgers Press, 1947).—A. E. EYNON.

JOHN RUDY CRUTTENDEN, a member of the American Ornithologists' Union since 1940, died at Quincy, Illinois, on September 7, 1956. He was descended from an old family of Quincy where he was born on November 22, 1915. Following graduation from the Quincy High School, he attended the Gem City Business College and the University of Missouri.

He became interested at an early age in birds and their eggs, and in time became a highly competent oölogist. Accompanied by his wife, he made numerous collecting trips in the Far North, including five to Churchill, Manitoba. The last trip was to Arctic Alaska. The detailed data collected will be of great value to students of oölogy. An extensive correspondence was conducted with the leading oölogists of this country and Europe whereby he was able to obtain valuable sets by exchange. In 1952, he augmented his collection materially by purchasing the egg collection of the late Edward Arnold of Battle Creek, Michigan, and Montreal, Canada. The entire collection, representing 1185 species, is housed in a specially constructed museum on the family estate in Quincy, where it will be shown gladly to all interested people. Among the rare sets are those of Ross's Gull, Whooping Crane, American Knot, White-rumped Sandpiper, Sanderling, Eskimo Curlew, Passenger Pigeon, California Condor, Swallow-tailed Kite, Everglade Kite, Ivory-billed Woodpecker, Bachman's Warbler, and Connecticut Warbler. The raptors and shorebirds are unusually well represented.

As a final tribute to John, I wish to state that I have known him from boyhood.

During the past twelve years I have been with him on many collecting trips and found him to be very enthusiastic, whether he was collecting eggs of the Great Horned Owl when there was a foot of snow on the ground, climbing large elm or oak trees to the nests of the Eastern Red-tailed Hawk in the early spring, collecting eggs of the Double-crested Cormorant and Great Blue Heron among the old willow trees during highwater along the Illinois River, or dragging a grassy pasture in Missouri with a long rope to flush an Upland Plover from its nest, or digging to the nest of a Kingfisher from a high bank suspended by a rope, all are cherished memories. It was indeed a privilege and a pleasure to have known John as a friend, a scientist of remarkable personality and a lover of nature.—BYRON W. KNOBLOCK.

RALPH EMERSON DELURY, a member of the American Ornithologists' Union since 1920, died in Port Perry, Ontario, September 20, 1956. Interment was in Prince Albert. He was born in Manilla, Ontario, November 23, 1881. Following attendance at the Port Perry High School, he entered the University of Toronto, receiving his B.A. in 1903, M.A. in 1904, and Ph.D. in 1907. He also studied at the University of Chicago and was an assistant in physical chemistry at Princeton from 1906 to 1907. Primarily an astronomer, he joined the Dominion Observatory as Observer in 1907, and on his retirement in 1946, he held the title of Acting Director.

He was long interested in ornithology and participated in securing spring migration records, taking the Christmas Census, and banding, from 1920 to 1945. At his residence, in 1926, he banded and measured more than 700 Redpolls. In his talks before the Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club on such topics as "Photographing the Birds" (1938) and "Some Aspects of Bird Banding" (1939), as well as in his published articles, he used his own pictures, as he was an excellent photographer. His papers, "Sunspots and Living Things" (Trans. 17th. American Game Conference, 1930), and "Arrival of Birds in Relation to Sunspots" (Auk, 1923), show a happy blending of interest in two sciences. Among other papers may be mentioned: "The Experimental Farm as a Bird Sanctuary" (Can. Field-Naturalist, 1925), and an account of one of the first breeding records of the Evening Grosbeak in Ontario (*Ibid.*, 1922).

Among the many scientific societies to which he belonged, were: American Astronomical Society; Optical Society of America; Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada; Royal Astronomical Society of Canada (President, 1936-38); Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society; Fellow of the London Chemical Society; Deutsche Astronomische Gesellschaft; Société Astronomique de France; American Society of Mammalogists; Cooper Ornithological Society; and Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club (Second Vice-President, 1936 and 1937).—HOYES LLOYD.

JOHN TOWNSEND SHARPLESS HUNN, a Life Member of the American Ornithologists' Union, elected in 1895, was born in Plainfield, New Jersey, on December 12, 1876. He continued to reside in the house of his birth until his death on October 2, 1954. In the 1880's this was a farm area, and he early developed an interest in the surrounding wildlife, especially the avifauna. About 1900, accompanying an ailing brother to the West, he discovered with delight the rich bird life of New Mexico, the seasonal movements of which were then little known, and made collections during two winters (1903-4 and 1904-5) in Silver City. He prepared his own skins with faultless care and these are still as well preserved as when they were made. In ensuing years, he traveled extensively in the West in connection with mining interests and always devoted every spare moment to its bird life. Important contributions of personal data were made to fellow ornithologists, especially on the

birds of Montana. In his native New Jersey he saw the rapid urbanization of farm and wilderness areas (including Dismal Swamp in South Plainfield, so well described by Negley Farson in 'The Way of a Transgressor') and noted in his journals such events as the appearance of the Starling (1912) and the attempts to introduce the European Goldfinch, which failed. In his later years, he regularly took part in the Audubon Christmas Count of the Raritan Estuary area which included both his home and a roost where, in a matter of minutes, scores of thousands of Starlings could be seen. In 1937 he helped to found the Urner Ornithological Club, of which he was an active member to the last. He was one of the three observers who first (1939) identified the Western Grebe in New Jersey, and in 1940 he added the Western Meadowlark to the state list. His publications were limited to the following notes in 'The Auk': 'Notes on Birds of Silver City, New Mexico' (1906); 'A Mockingbird at Plainfield, N. J.' (1930); and 'Western Meadowlark in New Jersey' (1941).—GILBERT CANT.

ROBERT WALCOTT, elected a member of the American Ornithologists' Union in 1924, was born in Cambridge, Massachusetts, October 17, 1874. He died on November 11, 1956. He was the son of Dr. Henry Pickering Walcott and the former Charlotte Elizabeth Richards. After attending the Browne and Nichols School, he graduated from Harvard *magna cum laude*. Following graduation he spent a year traveling in the Far East with his classmate Edward J. Holmes, subsequently the Director of the Boston Museum of Fine Arts. On his return, he entered the Harvard Law School, graduating in 1899. Although he lived in Cambridge and maintained a law office in Boston, he traveled extensively and was an adventurous explorer and mountain climber.

In 1906 he was appointed special justice of the Third District Court of Eastern Middlesex. His interest in the history and welfare of the community, the College, and the Commonwealth was expressed in many ways. A member of the Massachusetts Historical Society, he was president of the Cambridge Historical Society, the Cambridge Savings Bank, the Cambridge Hospital (later the Mount Auburn Hospital), the Cambridge Chamber of Commerce, the Harvard Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, the Trustees of Public Reservations, the Colonial Society of Massachusetts, and, for thirty-one years, of the Massachusetts Audubon Society. He served on draft boards in the two world wars. In 1917 and 1918 he sat in the Constitutional Convention as, to quote his own words, "the one Republican of the three district delegates in a field of eleven candidates that included two Harvard professors. My grandfather sat in that of 1853, his father in that of 1833, and his grandfather in the Convention that accepted the Federal Constitution."

Judge Walcott's life was worthy of the standards set by his forebears. The bond between him and his father was exceptionally strong. Dr. Walcott was a widower when Robert entered Harvard; rather than live alone in his big house fronting the Cambridge Common, he asked the boy to stay there with him through the four undergraduate years. Although Robert missed a good deal of college life, he gained in other respects. Dr. Walcott, the most influential member of the Harvard Corporation, was a man learned in the natural sciences. He encouraged the boy's early interest in the study of birds that William Brewster, the first president of the Massachusetts Audubon Society, had awakened. While Judge Walcott was president of the Society, he contributed to its monthly *Bulletin* short pithy paragraphs notable for their variety of curious knowledge and acute observation.—ARTHUR S. PIER.