

## OBITUARIES



JAMES SAVAGE (1869-1957)

JAMES SAVAGE, a Benefactor as well as a Life Elective Member of the A.O.U., and long one of the stalwarts of Niagara regional ornithology, died suddenly of a heart attack on the way to his Buffalo office the morning of February 7, 1957. Born in Buffalo February 28, 1869, before he was 20 he was cited as the authority for a number of important bird records in W. H. Bergtold's "A list of the birds of Buffalo and vicinity" (1889). A charter member of the Buffalo Ornithological Society, his records often appeared in *The Prothonotary*. He was also a member of the Wilson Ornithological Society, the National Audubon Society, and the Buffalo Audubon Society, of which he was honorary president.

Savage joined the A.O.U. in 1895, was elected to full membership in 1934, to the Council in 1941, and served as a Trustee from 1943 to 1949. He attended A.O.U.

meetings faithfully, and was Chairman of the Local Committee for the first Buffalo meeting in October 1949. A unique service to the Union is the series of motion pictures he took, starting over a half century ago with the Washington meeting in 1927, showing many of our members long since departed. Some of these are the only motion pictures taken of the meetings, and are now of considerable historic value. They were last shown at the Toronto meeting in 1967, and are now deposited in the Library of Congress.

In his early years after attending the University of Michigan, Mr. Savage practiced civil engineering, and in 1904 founded the Buffalo Crushed Stone Company, a successful firm with which he remained associated all his life. Active in both business and civic affairs, he was Secretary-Treasurer of the National Crushed Stone Association for many years, served as a Director of the Buffalo Athletic Club from 1936 to 1938, and as a Director of the Automobile Club of Buffalo from 1939 to 1941. A modest and unassuming bachelor, Mr. Savage left many friends who respected him for his high character and who cherished memories of pleasant days with him afield. He was an expert marksman and an enthusiastic trap and skeet shooter. He especially enjoyed duck hunting and went to Long Point, Ontario every fall for his favorite sport.

He and Elon Howard Eaton were great friends and often went afield together. Eaton relied heavily on him for information on the status of birds in the Buffalo area and included many of Savage's records in his "Birds of New York" (1910-1914). The two made a memorable trip to Florida together in February 1930, on which they listed a total of 217 species. Savage's camera records of a Glaucous Gull and a Lesser Snow Goose were the first records of these species for the state. He took many pictures of Whistling Swans he saw carried over Niagara Falls, some of which were published in the *Illustrated Buffalo Express*. His article on "The Whistling Swan on the Niagara River" was published by the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences. Among his other writings were three short notes in the *Auk* on rarities from the Buffalo region.

Throughout his life James Savage was a staunch and valued supporter of the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences, which administers the Buffalo Museum of Science, and served as a member of its Board of Managers continuously from 1895. He became its first vice-president in 1921, and later became a life member and benefactor. He was always vitally interested in the museum's ornithological activities, and he bought and presented to it the Howard D. Flint bird-skin collection. In addition to endowing the museum in his will, he left it his entire ornithological library and collection of negatives, photographs, and motion pictures. The new James Savage Hall of Zoology, which displays mounted birds and mammals of the Niagara frontier region, is named in his honor.—HAROLD D. MITCHELL.

HAROLD CHILD BRYANT, member of the A.O.U. since 1913 and Elective Member since 1918, died at Berkeley, California, on July 24, 1968 at the age of 82. He was born in Pasadena, California, on January 30, 1886. Academic milestones were: B.S., Pomona College, 1908; science teacher in a private school in Los Angeles (Yale School), 1908-1909; M.S., 1910; and Ph.D., 1913, University of California. While a graduate student he served at various times as University Fellow and Reader in Zoology, Field Assistant,

Museum of Vertebrate Zoology; Lecturer on "Native Birds and Mammals" on an Agricultural and Horticultural Demonstration Train; Fellow in Applied Zoology, State Fish and Game Commission Foundation at the University of California; and Demonstrator in the Agricultural Extension Division. During 1913-14 he was Assistant Curator of Birds in the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology. In 1914 he married Amy Morrish of Berkeley; they had four children.

From 1914 to 1930 Dr. Bryant was employed by the California Fish and Game Commission and placed in charge of the Bureau of Education, Publicity, and Research. In this capacity he served as editor of the department's periodical, *California Fish and Game*, which he helped establish. During this same interval he continued as an instructor and field trip leader for the U. C. Extension Division. He was co-author with Joseph Grinnell and Tracy I. Storer of the monumental book "The game birds of California" (1918). His own book "Outdoor heritage" appeared in 1929.

In the summer of 1919, C. M. Goethe of Sacramento hired Harold Bryant and Loye Holmes Miller of UCLA to conduct an experiment in nature-guiding at a mountain resort, Fallen Leaf Lake, near Lake Tahoe. Stephen T. Mather, first director of the National Park Service saw the program in action, was impressed by the enthusiasm generated, and arranged for the activity to be transferred to Yosemite National Park the following summer. Dr. Bryant continued this work each summer at Yosemite for several years. As the interpretive program spread and the need mounted for men trained in nature-guiding, Dr. Bryant organized the Yosemite School of Field Natural History in 1925 and served as its director until he went to Washington in 1930 to fill the newly-created position of Assistant Director and Chief of the Bureau of Research and Education of the National Park Service. For the next nine years he developed the interpretive program in the park system involving naturalist activities and museum exhibits. He stressed historical and scientific research in each park as a necessary first step to build up a fund of knowledge for the interpretation of the natural phenomena of the particular area to the public.

In 1939 Dr. Bryant broke away from the confinement of the Washington office and returned west as Acting Superintendent of Grand Canyon National Park. When, in 1940, two new national parks were established, Kings Canyon and Olympic, he was called upon to organize field operations in each. Late in 1941 when this job was done, he returned to Grand Canyon as Superintendent where he remained until his retirement in 1954. That same year he was given the Park Service's Distinguished Service Award.

Upon retirement, the Bryants moved to Orinda, California. In 1957 he directed the first Student Conservation Program, a summer workshop for college students in National Parks Conservation. This was held at Grand Teton National Park under the sponsorship of the National Parks Association. In 1958, in recognition of his long and influential career, Pomona College conferred on this distinguished alumnus the honorary degree of Doctor of Science.

In addition to his long affiliation with the A.O.U., he was a member of the AAAS, American Game Protective Association (Vice President 1921), American Nature Study Society, American Society of Mammalogists, Biological Society of Washington, California Academy of Sciences, Cooper Ornithological Society (President 1913), Cosmos Club of Washington, D. C., National Audubon Society, Phi Beta Kappa, Rotary Club, Save the Redwoods League (Member Board of Directors), Sierra Club (Honorary Member), Sigma Xi, Wilderness Society, and the Wildlife Society. A tribute and commentary on his career by Horace Albright appeared in the *National Park Courier* for August, 1968.—WILLIAM H. BEHLE.