

pursued with an intensity and meticulousness that kept him from larger contributions to ornithology. These interests ranged from a carefully prepared collection of butterflies that he kept in a basement room (his "understudy") reached by a concealed trapdoor, through the construction of numerous tidal pools (named after family and friends) that could be viewed from a lovely summerhouse (the "Copecabana") at his Woods Hole home, and to a large collection of antique sewing birds, a device clamped to a table to provide a "third-hand," for which he carefully prepared a taxonomy.

Manton Copeland's role in biology was small; doubtless he saw it no differently. However, he was a delightfully colorful and interesting man who enriched the lives of his numerous friends to a degree that anyone might envy.—RAYMOND A. PAYNTER, JR.

LEONID ALEKSANDROVICH PORTENKO was born in the town of Smela, near Kiev, Ukrainian S. S. R., on 11 October 1896; he died in Leningrad on May 26, 1972. He was elected a Corresponding Fellow of the A.O.U. in 1961 and an honorary member of the Deutsche Ornithologen-Gesellschaft in 1963.

A pupil and disciple of M. A. Menzbier, Prof. Portenko became an illustrious teacher who was proud of the students he trained in ornithology. He was very active afield, from Kirgizia, the Ukraine, and northern Urals northward to Novaya Zemlya, the Taimyr Peninsula, and Wrangel Island, and eastward to Anadyrland and the Chukotsk Peninsula. During World War II, when most of the staff of the Zoological Institute of the Academy of Sciences in Leningrad was evacuated to Tadzhikistan, he remained in the besieged city to take care of the collections.

Portenko published over a hundred papers and books on ornithology. Of major importance to students of North American—and especially Alaskan—ornithology is "The birds of the Chukotsk Peninsula and Wrangel Island," part 1 (in Russian) (1972, Leningrad, "Nauka" Publ. House, 423 pp., illus.) It covers loons through shorebirds and was reviewed briefly in *Bird-Banding* (1972, 43: 307). According to Prof. A. I. Ivanov, who provided some of the above information, Portenko had completed work on the second (final) part of this work and it is scheduled to appear in 1973.—RALPH S. PALMER.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Sir:

To a questionnaire asking for information on their employment situation sent last fall to some 70 women ornithologists, 7 of them outside the U. S., 27 responded. Two of these women are not employed because they have children at home, four are over 65 years of age, and the rest are employed. When asked whether they felt they had been discriminated against because of being women, their replies varied. Several said they had always been treated fairly and a few added that women should not make themselves "unhappy" by "wanting money" or "dominance." The majority said that hiring practices were discriminatory, salaries lower, and promotions slower for women than for men. On a more subtle level, they discussed general psychological putdowns and restrictions to job opportunities in towns where their husbands are employed.

SUMMARY OF 27 RESPONSES FROM WOMEN ORNITHOLOGISTS¹

Age category	Number of responses	Number employed	Average number of publications since 1965 ²	Average number of years of college teaching experience
21-35	8	7	4.1	2.5
36-50	8	7 ³	9.4	3.5
51-65	7	7	4.6	16.8
Over 65	4	0	3.3	0

¹ Eighteen Ph.D., 3 M. S., 3 B. S., 3 not stated.

² In the past 2 years I have received reprint requests from 38 institutions that begin with the printed salutation "Dear Sir." How about "Dear Colleague"?

³ The unemployed woman in this category shared with her husband the Brewster Award for 1972.

My conclusion is that women ornithologists are being affected by discrimination in employment at least to the same extent as women scientists in other disciplines. Women with advanced degrees in ornithology want to work and are working. But, there is a feeling among some women as well as some men that it is unbecoming for women to ask for equal pay and rank for equivalent work. Reviews of nationwide statistics on employment of women scientists are available from the Scientific Manpower Commission, Washington, D. C.

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NOTES AND NEWS

The American Ornithologists' Union will hold its 91st Stated Meeting 8-12 October 1973 at Provincetown, Cape Cod, Massachusetts, at the invitation of the Nuttall Ornithological Club, which will celebrate its centennial at that time. A Circular of Information providing details of the meeting and a formal call for papers will be circulated to the A.O.U. membership. Chairman of the Committee on Program at Annual Meeting is Dr. H. Lewis Batts, Jr., 2315 Angling Road, Kalamazoo, Michigan 49001. Cochairmen of the Local Committee on Arrangements are Richard T. Darby, 36 Prospect Street, Sherborn, Massachusetts 01770 and Dr. Norman P. Hill, 2308 Highland Avenue, Fall River, Massachusetts 02720.

The Marcia Brady Tucker Foundation, upon the recommendation of Mrs. Carll Tucker, has made funds available to assist a few promising young ornithologists to attend the annual meeting of the A.O.U. at Provincetown, Massachusetts on 8-12 October 1973. Any member of the A.O.U. may nominate candidates for these awards. It is not required that recipients present papers at the meeting, but they are encouraged to do so. The size of each award will depend upon personal need, distance to be traveled, and funds available.

Letters of nomination should be sent to DR. WILLIAM L. THOMPSON, *Chairman of the Committee on Student Awards, Department of Biology, Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan 48202*. They should include: (1) name, age, and address of nominee; (2) education and experience of the nominee; and (3) statement by the sponsor on the capabilities, special interest, and financial need of the nominee. Closing date for nominations is **15 May 1972**.