

EDITORIAL

We are grateful to Roger Tory Peterson for his splendid painting of the Arizona Junco reproduced as the frontispiece of this number and of the sixtieth volume of *The Wilson Bulletin*.

Our Endowment Fund Committee has been working steadily to increase our roll of Life Members (whose payments are added to the Club's Endowment Fund), and the Committee had a remarkable report to make at the end of 1947. During the year the number of Life Memberships increased by thirteen, bringing the total to fifty-seven.

The 1947 Annual Meeting held in November at Columbus, Ohio—one of our largest and most successful—is described in later pages of this issue of the *Bulletin*. Members who failed to attend the 1947 meeting should begin now to plan for the 1948 meeting, which will be held in Madison, Wisconsin; those who participated in the 1947 meeting will need no reminder.

OBITUARY

HUBERT LYMAN CLARK died at Cambridge, Massachusetts, July 31, 1947, aged seventy-seven. A world authority on echinoderms, he was also an ornithologist of distinction whose some two dozen publications on birds include notable contributions to our knowledge of bird anatomy, distribution, and pterylography.

JOHN B. SEMPLE, trustee of Carnegie Museum and of Carnegie Institute of Technology, died on November 13, 1947, at Sewickley, Pennsylvania, at the age of seventy-nine. The published results of the several ornithological expeditions that Mr. Semple conducted to Canada, Mexico, and the Western States represent major advances in ornithological study.

ORNITHOLOGICAL NEWS

Robert W. Storer has been appointed Assistant Editor of the *Condor*.

We are sorry to report that the plan for distributing copies of the Aves section of the *Zoological Record* through an American agent—announced earlier in *The Wilson Bulletin* (September 1944)—has been abandoned. Copies can be purchased from the Secretary, Zoological Society, Regent's Park, London, N.W. 8, England.

The Louisiana Ornithological Society was founded on December 6, 1947. Officers elected at the initial meeting were: *President*, Earl R. Greene, of New Orleans; *Vice-President*, George H. Lowery, Jr., of Baton Rouge; *Secretary-Treasurer*, Gladys S. King, of New Orleans. One of the new society's chief objects is "to unite interests and activities of bird students over the state in gathering information on selected projects concerning bird life within its boundaries."

A COOPERATIVE STUDY OF NOCTURNAL BIRD MIGRATION

To the Editor of *The Wilson Bulletin*:

Studies in recent years at Louisiana State University have demonstrated the practicability and desirability of making counts at night of migrating birds by use of a small telescope focused on the moon. The number of birds seen in this measurable portion of the sky furnishes an index to the total number passing over a given observation station. The telescopic method also provides a means of computing the direction and altitude of flight. From these data it will be

eventually possible to determine to what extent night migrants follow set pathways, whether the flights are continuous in equal volume throughout the hours of darkness, and in what way certain meteorological conditions affect the density and direction of migration. However, large numbers of observations are necessary to obtain results of statistical significance. An intensive program of study in the spring of 1948 is being directed from Louisiana State University. Observation stations ranging from Florida to eastern Mexico and from the Yucatán Peninsula north to southern Michigan are already scheduled for operation. But many more such stations are urgently needed. Any Wilson Ornithological Club member with access to a spotting scope or a low-powered astronomical telescope who is willing to collaborate in this project, is asked to communicate immediately with George H. Lowery, Jr., Museum of Zoology, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Detailed instructions and data sheets will be provided at once so as to permit observations in the full moon period of April.

George H. Lowery, Jr.

THE LOUIS AGASSIZ FUERTES RESEARCH GRANT

LEONARD R. MEWALDT, who recently joined the Wilson Ornithological Club as an Active Member, has been chosen by the Louis Agassiz Fuertes Research Grant Committee to receive the 1947 grant. The grant will assist him in continuing an extensive study, begun in 1946, of the Clark's Nutcracker in Montana. Mr. Mewaldt has detailed observational data on the complete breeding cycle of this nutcracker from nest building through nest leaving, with photographs and kodachrome motion pictures of the brooding and feeding of the young. In addition, he is collecting during every month of the year material for a detailed study of the reproductive cycle, food habits, body weights, plumages, and parasites. Because Clark's Nutcracker nests only at higher altitudes, usually above 4,000 feet in Montana, Mr. Mewaldt's field work has involved regular drives into mountainous areas, with further climbs on foot. He expects to complete the nesting study for publication in 1948. Mr. Mewaldt is at present Graduate Assistant in Zoology at Montana State University.

NEW LIFE MEMBER



GUY EMERSON, Director and former President of the National Audubon Society, first became interested in birds at the age of ten through Reginald Heber Howe, of the Nuttall Ornithological Club, and since then has come to know the birds and birdmen of thirty states—in 1939 he recorded 497 species of birds. Meanwhile, he found time to earn election to Phi Beta Kappa, to become one of the leading bankers of the United States, to help edit the "Economic World" (1914-1916), act as director of a number of National economic committees and organizations and as President of the Association of Reserve City Bankers.

Among other honors and decorations he has received from foreign countries is the Ribbon of Chevalier of the Legion of Honor of France.