

## EDITORIAL

The Thirtieth Annual Meeting of the Wilson Ornithological Club will be held jointly with the Ninth Annual Meeting of the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology in Madison, Wisconsin, April 21 to 24, 1949. Previous meetings have been held in the fall, but, following numerous requests from Members, the Council decided by mail ballot to hold the meeting in the spring. Technical sessions, demonstration sessions, popular sessions, and field trips are being planned by the combined Local Committees on Arrangements.

## OBITUARY

ALDO LEOPOLD, forester, ornithologist, and conservationist, died April 21, 1948, near Fairfield, Wisconsin. He was born at Burlington, Iowa, January 11, 1887. After graduating from Yale he served in the Forest Service until 1924, when he was appointed Associate Director of the Forest Products Laboratory at Madison, Wisconsin. In 1933, he became Professor of Wildlife Management in the University of Wisconsin. He wrote extensively on game birds and mammals and was the author of the first book on "Game Management."

LEON J. COLE, geneticist and ornithologist, died February 17, 1948, at Madison, Wisconsin, aged seventy. Born at Allegany, New York, he attended Michigan State College and the University of Michigan and earned the Ph.D. in zoology at Harvard. He had carried on field work in Alaska, Bermuda, Yucatan, Tortugas, and Europe. Ornithologists will always remember that it was he who (in 1901) first publicly proposed in America that birds should be banded and, during the following ten years, led the movement for organized bird banding.

## ORNITHOLOGICAL NEWS

Herbert Deignan, of the National Museum, is in Australia as ornithologist with a joint expedition under the auspices of the National Geographic Society and the Australian Government. Plans for the expedition included a survey of Arnhemland, northern Australia.

Seth H. Low has been transferred from his position as Manager of the Salt Plains National Wildlife Refuge to take charge of the bird-banding program of the Division of Wildlife Research, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Emerson Stringham (P.O. Box 986, Kerrville, Texas) is preparing a monograph on Alexander Wilson and is interested in procuring all books and papers by or about Wilson. He will be glad to hear from Members who wish to dispose of such books or papers or who know where they may be procured.

Frederick V. Hebard (1500 Walnut Street Building, Philadelphia 2, Pennsylvania) is making a study of "injury feigning" in all species of North American birds. He would like to receive detailed reports from Members on their own observations of such displays.

## THE LOUIS AGASSIZ FUERTES RESEARCH GRANT FOR 1948

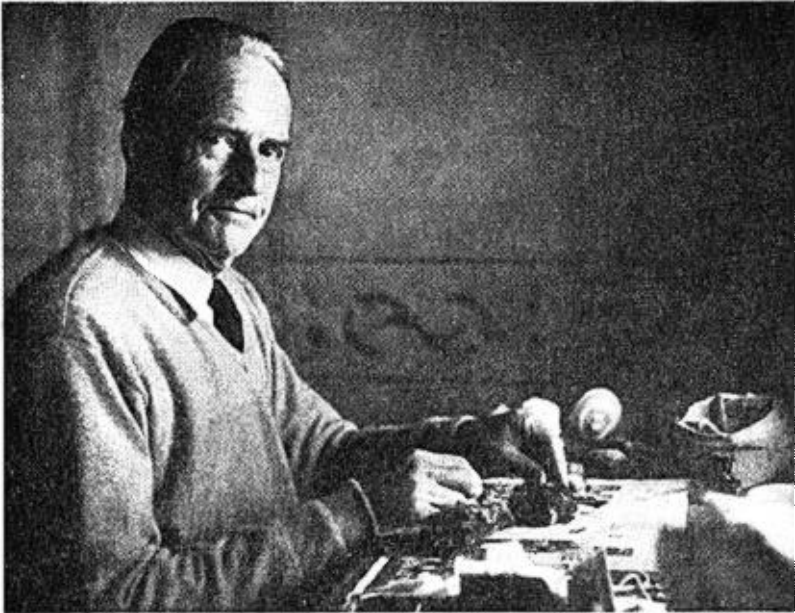
The Louis Agassiz Fuertes Research Fund was established to encourage ornithological research. The grant is designed to help students and amateur ornithologists in defraying the expenses of their research programs, particularly such items as travel, materials, and equipment.

One hundred dollars is given each year to the applicant selected by the Research Committee of the Wilson Ornithological Club on the basis of (1) merits of the applicant's project; (2) prospects of successful completion of the project; (3) ability of the applicant; and (4) financial need of the applicant.

All members of the Wilson Ornithological Club and all members of its Affiliated Societies are eligible for the grant.

Applications should be sent before October 1 to Dr. John T. Emlen, Jr., Chairman of the Research Committee (Zoological Department, University of Wisconsin, Madison 6, Wisconsin). Dr. Emlen will supply application forms on request, or the applicant may supply the following information in a letter: Name, address, and age; ornithological training and experience (but note that no formal training is required as a basis for eligibility); subject of investigation (title, objectives, and scope of project; plan of procedure; progress to date); supervisor or consultant, if any; ways in which the money would be used; financial need. A letter of endorsement by some well-known ornithologist or zoologist is desirable but not required. Applications which fail to win the grant in any given year may be re-submitted in following years if desired.

### NEW LIFE MEMBER



WILLIAM H. PHELPS, the leader in Venezuelan ornithology and Research Associate on the staff of the American Museum of Natural History, was born in New York City in 1875. While at Harvard he was active in the Nuttall Ornithological Club and spent the summer of his junior year in Venezuela collecting birds. The results of this expedition, written in collaboration with Frank M. Chapman, were published in the *Auk* in 1897. After graduation Mr. Phelps established himself in business in Venezuela. Forty years later, in 1937, he retired from business, built a museum in the garden of his house in Caracas, and devoted himself to the study of Venezuelan birds. The Museum has a staff of four: a Curator, his assistant, and two collectors. William H. Phelps, Jr., works with his father on the collection and for several years has led the more difficult expeditions. The Phelps Collection now comprises 43,000 specimens, and more than a hundred new birds have been described from it. Mr. Phelps' many papers on Venezuelan birds constitute a major contribution to South American ornithology.