

## OBITUARIES.

JOHN EUGENE LAW, a Life Member of the American Ornithologists' Union, died at Glendale, California, on November 14, 1931. As many of our readers know, he had suffered from serious illness for many years and yet he bravely maintained his activities in ornithology and other lines in which he was interested, resting from them temporarily only when physical condition made it impossible to carry on. By sheer will power he accomplished results of importance where others would have succumbed, not only in carrying on laboratory work and sedentary bird study but also active field work, entailing hardship and privations which in his weakened condition he was often quite unfitted to endure. Those who were associated with him, especially in the field, can best appreciate the severity of his effort, and after a summer's vacation as his guest, at a delightful camp that he and his wife had established in the Chiracahua mountains in Arizona, the writer will always admire the courage with which he persisted in following out the work which he had laid out for himself and the cheerfulness with which he gave himself to the science to which he was so passionately devoted.

Mr. Law was born in Forest City, Iowa, on August 26, 1877, the son of John and Katherine E. Law. Later he removed to Perry, in the same state and in 1894 was one of the twenty young men who organized the Iowa Ornithological Association, others of the number being Dr. Paul Bartsch, the noted malacologist, Dr. R. M. Anderson, now of the Canadian National Museum and W. A. Bryan present director of the Los Angeles Museum—all three, like Law, becoming in time Members of the A. O. U. The next year he was chosen secretary of the Society and contributed notes to 'The Iowa Ornithologist', a small journal which it published for several years.

The family removing to California a few years later, he studied in the Law School of Stanford University and after graduation, in 1900, entered a bank at Pomona. Later he joined his father in the banking business at Hollywood where he served as cashier of the First National Bank from 1903 to 1911 and as president, both of this bank and of the Hollywood Savings Bank from 1911 to 1914, when he resigned on account of failing health and his long cherished desire to devote himself entirely to ornithology.

Law had joined the Cooper Ornithological Club in 1900 and at once became active in its behalf, managing in conjunction with Mr. Lee Chambers, the finances of the organization, preparing lists of members, and performing other routine matters which are very necessary to success but regarded as drudgery by most of those who come in contact with them. Much of the organization and policies of the Club apparently originated in his mind, as he was always planning methods for improving everything in which he was engaged, whether it were egg-blowing apparatus, bird traps or conduct of organizations.

He became president of the southern division of the Club and also of the Board of Governors and was most active on the occasion of the meeting of the A. O. U. in San Francisco, in 1915, in entertaining and caring for the eastern visitors during their short stay in Los Angeles, as well as at the meeting, which he attended, as he did also that at Philadelphia, in the following year.

With the development of bird banding, Law became intensely interested in this branch of bird study and edited a bird banding column in 'The Condor,' while he was responsible for organizing the Western Bird Banding Association, serving as president of this society, as also of the Los Angeles Bird Banding Chapter. Besides collecting birds, mammals and birds' eggs in southern California, he made several trips to the Chiracahua Mountains in Arizona and the Mogollons in New Mexico, part of the time in the interests of the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology at Berkeley, where he spent one or two winters. He was always a tireless collector and a most careful recorder of field notes which, like everything else he did, were always kept on a definite system.

Law naturally amassed a great amount of information and original data far in excess of his publications. What he did publish, however, was always worth while and was carefully thought out before being put in type. Most of his papers appeared in 'The Condor' and many of them were distinctly original either in subject matter or manner of treatment: notably those dealing with 'The Role of the Runt'; 'Spring Molt in *Zonotrichia*'; 'The Down Tree Progress of the Nuthatch'; 'The Function of the Oil Gland' etc. One of his last investigations was a study of feathers and molt by mounting the individual feathers on large cards in their natural relative position so that individuals in various seasons, or of different ages, could be readily compared and the differences brought out in a very striking manner.

Mr. Law became an Associate of the Union in 1907 and was elected a Member in 1916. He was deeply interested in its activities but being so far removed from the ornithological centers of the East, where most of the meetings were held, he was unable to take the active part in its work that he would otherwise doubtless have done. Although he worked in a quiet way and was known chiefly to those closely associated with him, American ornithology owes not a little to the energy and devotion of Eugene Law.

He is survived by his mother and his widow, the former Miss Laura Beatty, who accompanied him on most of his field trips and was a most helpful associate, always sympathetic with his interests and aims.—W. S.

JULIUS VON MADARÁSZ, a Corresponding Fellow of the American Ornithologists' Union since 1884, died at Budapest, Hungary, Dec. 29, 1831, at the age of 73 years. Born on May 3, 1858, in the Hungarian capital, the son of an old aristocratic family, he studied natural history in the university of his native city, where he obtained the degree of Ph.D. in 1881, his dissertation being an essay on the anatomy of the European *Titinica*.

Even before completing his studies, von Madarász, in 1880, joined the scientific staff of the Hungarian National Museum and remained in charge of the Bird Department for the next thirty-five years. When assuming his duties, he found there but a small collection of native birds, and it speaks volumes for his zeal and curatorial ability that, on his retirement, the Museum could boast of some 70,000 bird-skins from all parts of the world. Unlike his predecessors, Madarász did not confine his studies to the ornithology of his own country, but paid considerable attention to foreign regions. His ornithological contributions, numbering 141 titles,<sup>1</sup> cover a wide field, relating, as they do, to taxonomy, faunal reports, anatomy, life-history, and descriptions of new species. Most noteworthy are "Magyarország Madarai," a monograph of the birds of Hungary, published in parts from 1899 to 1903; "The Birds of Cyprus," 1904; and several memoirs on the ornithology of New Guinea, based on the collections of S. Fenichel and L. Biró. He also published numerous papers on birds from eastern Africa, central Asia, Ceylon, and tropical America. Altogether, Madarász is responsible for the description of 121 new birds, the types of which are all in the Hungarian National Museum, including several striking novelties, such as *Pucrasia meyeri*, *Tetraophasis szechényii*, *Pitta reichenowi*, *Leucosticte margaritacea*, *Otus cypricus*, and *Grallariola rara*. He was also the first to distinguish the Yellow-sided Vireo from the Tres Marias Islands, *V. flavo-viridis forreri*. Enthusiasm for his favorite science induced him to found the "Zeitschrift für die gesammte Ornithologie," which was issued at his own expense and at considerable personal sacrifice in four volumes from 1884 to 1888. Madarász was one of the principal organizers of the 2nd International Ornithological Congress at Budapest in 1891 and took an active part in the exhibitions and excursions arranged on that occasion.

While primarily a cabinet ornithologist, he was a good field-man, too, and besides numerous trips to various parts of Hungary, undertook two voyages to the tropics, in 1896 to Ceylon and in 1910 to the Sudan, returning with rich collections. Madarász was also an excellent draftsman and a bird-artist of no mean talent, and after his retirement from the Museum in 1915 he devoted most of his time to painting. Personally he was of a kindly disposition, ever ready to help people in distress and to encourage young ornithologists. His good nature endeared him to whoever came in contact with him and facilitated his efforts to raise funds for the acquisition of material or for financing expeditions in behalf of the National Museum. The fine bird collection thus built up at Budapest through his unselfish interest will serve to perpetuate his memory in the annals of Hungarian science, and his charming personality will long be remembered by his many friends, both at home and in foreign lands. Madarász was one of the first Corresponding Fellows elected by the

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<sup>1</sup>A complete bibliography of his writings from his own pen may be found in "Köcsag," vol. 4, 1931, pp. 81-85.

American Ornithologists' Union. He was also a Foreign Member of the British Ornithologists' Union, and several species of birds from Africa and New Guinea have been named for him in recognition of his services to ornithology.—C. E. HELLMAYR.

ALBERT HARTSON BOIES, a former associate of the American Ornithologists' Union, 1890-96, was born in Hudson, Mich., Feb. 22, 1844. Major Boies was the son of Curtis Hooker Boies and Sarah Jones Boies who came from Stamford, Massachusetts and settled in Hudson in 1838.

From 1861 to 1864, he was a member of the famous Old 4th Michigan Infantry that took part in forty-five battles. During the war, Major Boies took part in twenty-one battles and was wounded four times. At Malvern Hill, he was shot below the heart and left for dead but regained consciousness and walked twelve miles to Harrison's Landing. At Gettysburg, he was wounded and taken prisoner by the Twenty-fourth Georgia troops but escaped.

During the Spanish-American War, he again enlisted and was commissioned Major of the Blue and Gray Legion.

Upon the entrance of the United States into the World War, Major Boies again enlisted and was assigned to recruit duty. Thus he served in all three wars, a record achieved by only two other men.

Major Boies was a keen naturalist and devoted the spare moments of his busy life to the pursuit of his hobby. In 1868 he collected in South America. In 1873 he again collected in South America. In 1874 he collected in Arkansas. For some twenty years he was an inspector of government works, the duties taking him to all parts of the United States giving him many opportunities for the pursuit of his studies.

He published a number of ornithological papers. The most important was his "Catalogue of the Birds Ascertained to occur in Southern Michigan etc.," privately published in 1875. "The Birds of Neebish Island, St. Mary's River" appeared in the Bulletin of the Michigan Club, Vol. I, pp. 17-20, 27-29. This paper listed 149 species and was based on observations while inspector of the St. Mary's River Channel, 1892-4.

In 1879 he married Elisebeth Schuyler Jones who died in 1912. Major Boies died, at his home in Hudson, December 20, 1930. Burial was in the Maple Grove Cemetery, Hudson, Michigan.—LEONARD W. WING.

DANIEL CHESTER FRENCH, the well-known sculptor and an Associate of the American Ornithologists' Union since 1922, died at Stockbridge, Mass., Oct. 7, 1931, at the advanced age of 81. He was born at Exeter, N. H., April 20, 1850, the son of Henry Flagg and Anne Richardson French. After spending a year at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology he studied under Dr. William Rimmer in Boston and Thomas Ball in Florence, and later received honorary degrees of A.M. from Dartmouth in 1888, Yale in 1913, Harvard in 1917, and Litt.D. from Columbia in 1913.

He maintained studios in Washington, D. C., 1876-78, in Boston and Concord 1878-87, and in New York in subsequent years. He executed a number of statues and works of art which received wide approbation, among the most celebrated being the 'Minute Man of Concord,' a bronze statue at Concord, Mass., unveiled the day before his 25th birthday; and the marble statues of Lincoln in Lincoln, Nebr., and in the Lincoln Memorial at Washington, D. C. He also executed statues of Rufus Choate in the court house at Boston, John Harvard at Cambridge, Mass., Thomas Starr King at San Francisco, Calif., George F. Hoar, at Worcester, Mass., Governor James Oglethorpe at Savannah, Ga., Lewis Cass in the Capitol, and Herodotus and 'History' in the Library of Congress at Washington. The bronze doors of the Boston Public Library, the groups of Europe, Asia, Africa, and America in front of the New York Customs House, and the Dupont memorial fountain in Washington were also designed by him. He was a member of the National Commission of Fine Arts from 1910 to 1915, a trustee of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, a member of the National Sculpture Society, the Architectural League, the American Academy of Arts and Letters, and a chevalier of the Legion of Honor of France.

Daniel Chester French's contribution to ornithology was a peculiar one and due chiefly to his personal interest in William Brewster. He and Brewster were contemporaries and friends. When the Brewster memorial fund was established in 1919 French not only took a deep interest in it and contributed the design for the Brewster Medal but shortly after became an Associate of the Union. The recurrent biennial awards of this medal will serve to keep before the public the memory of these two friends who gained fame in such widely different fields.—T. S. P.

CHARLES ELIOT UNDERDOWN, a Life Associate of the A. O. U. since 1923 died, after a short illness, of pneumonia, on February 21, 1932, at the Harvey Memorial Hospital, at Harvey, Ill.

Mr. Underdown had been since early boyhood deeply interested in ornithology. He was born in Philadelphia, October 21, 1907, and attended the Oak Lane Country Day School and later the University of Pennsylvania. He joined the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club in 1923 and at once became actively interested in the meetings and the field trips, seldom missing any of the club activities, and adding much to the pleasure of his associates by his cheerful, generous disposition.

For two years he served as an aid in the ornithological department of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, where he rendered valuable service in cataloguing and arranging the study collections. About a year ago he became an assistant in the ornithological department of Field Museum, Chicago, where he was making excellent progress in his chosen field. He had published a number of notes in 'The Auk' and 'Cas-

sinia' and had ready for the press a paper on the genus *Chlorospingus*, at the time of his death.

Mr. Underdown took the greatest interest in the annual meetings of the Union attending those in Philadelphia, Charleston and Detroit where he made a wide acquaintance among the younger generation of ornithologists as well as the older members, whose advice he always treasured. In his untimely death, almost at the beginning of his career, we lose a bird student who gave promise of excellent work in the field of technical ornithology. His funeral services took place in Germantown, Philadelphia, and he rests in South Laurel Hill Cemetery.

He is survived by his parents, his father, Henry T. Underdown, being also an Associate of the Union and Treasurer of the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club.—W. S.

ARTHUR THOMAS GOODSON, an assistant in the Zoological Museum at Tring, died at Tring, England, Oct. 5, 1931, at the age of 58. He was the son of James and Fanny Goodson and was born at Tring, Sept. 11, 1873.

He joined the staff of the Museum June 1, 1893, and during his long connection with the institution acquired a wide knowledge of birds and was exceedingly helpful to those who had occasion to consult the collection. His duties included labeling and determining collections as they were received, attending to the loan of specimens, and assisting the ornithologist in charge. It is said that much of the credit for the order and arrangement of the collection was due to him. He had a fund of reliable and accurate information regarding birds, excellent judgment, and in working over new material frequently found differences overlooked by other ornithologists. Unfortunately he published comparatively little, but among the more important of his papers were 'Notes and Descriptions of South American Birds' and 'Further Notes on South American Birds,' 1917, and 'Notes on Pigeons,' 1918, all published with Dr. Ernst Hartert in 'Novitates Zoologicae.'

Goodson's work is commemorated in the names of several birds—*arthuri* in *Pachycephala pectoralis arthuri* and *Pitohui cristatus arthuri*, and *goodsoni* as a subspecific name in the genera *Dendrophassa*, *Edolisoma*, *Hypotaenidea*, *Lorius*, *Macropygia*, *Pachycephala*, *Pinarolestes*, and *Sericornis*.—T. S. P.

*Stolzmann's Full Name.* Since the publication of the notice of Stolzmann in 'The Auk' for January 1932, pp. 145-146, a letter has come to light, written about a year before his death. This letter, in French, contains the statement: "My full name is Jean Stanislas Stolzmann. I was born at Warsaw, Poland, November 19, 1854."—T. S. P.