

OBITUARIES

RUDOLF BENNITT, an Associate of the A. O. U. since 1932, died February 2, 1950, in Columbia, Mo. He was born at Springfield, Massachusetts, on December 22, 1898, and attended Boston University, receiving the degrees of Bachelor of Science in 1920 and Master of Arts in 1921. For further graduate training he went to Harvard University as a Thayer Fellow and worked with Dr. G. H. Parker, completing his Doctorate of Philosophy in 1923. He was married in the same year to Ruth Eunice Eynon.

After acting as instructor at the Marine Biological Laboratory at Woods Hole he served two years as Assistant Professor of Zoology at De Pauw University and three years at Tufts College. He came to the University of Missouri in 1927, where he remained until his death 23 years later. Since 1944 he held the title of William Rucker Professor of Zoology.

Abandoning his first interest in the physiology of crustacea, he published his first ornithological paper in 1932, 'Check-list of the birds of Missouri' (Univ. Mo. Studies, 7 (3): 1-81). From this time on he devoted his entire efforts to the field of conservation. In 1937 he served as first president of the Wildlife Society and with Werner O. Nagel published, 'A Survey of the Resident Game and Furbearers of Missouri' (Univ. Mo. Studies, 12 (2): 1-215). As a teacher of ornithology, ecology, and conservation courses, and as first chairman of the Missouri Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit, his influence will long be felt in Missouri and elsewhere.

In spite of a busy life as teacher and administrator, he published frequently in journals devoted to conservation and made important contributions to our thinking concerning Bob-whites, Pheasants, and Prairie Chickens (see Trans. N. Amer. Wildl. Conferences). His most important work, 'Some Aspects of Missouri Quail and Quail Hunting' reports ten years of research and is being published posthumously by the Missouri Conservation Commission as Number 2 in their technical series (1951).—**WILLIAM H. ELDER.**

EDGAR BURKE, an Associate of the A. O. U. since 1942, was born February 3, 1890, in Hamburg, Germany, where his father was U. S. consul. He attended the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York City. For several years he was resident surgeon at Bellevue Hospital, New York, then Surgical Director and Assistant Medical Director of the Jersey City Medical Center. Burke was a skilled fly fisherman and author of 'American dry flies and how to tie them.' He was also an ardent wildfowler and upland gunner, contributing several chapters to 'Duck shooting along the Atlantic tidewaters.' He was also interested in archaeology and assembled a notable collection of pre-Columbian artifacts. Highly successful in raising homing pigeons, he provided the U. S. Signal Corps in World War II with some of their finest birds. He also had Pheasants, Cockatoos, Parakeets, and Ring-necked Doves. An accomplished artist, he furnished several paintings for ornithological books and the beautiful plates of flies in 'Salmon in low waters' by Richard C. Hunt. Death occurred at Norfolk, Connecticut, December 6, 1950.—**A. W. SCHORGER.**

HENRY WARD CARRIGER, an Associate of the American Ornithologists' Union, died as the result of an accident in Red Bluff, California, October 1, 1949, at the age of 75. He was crossing Main Street about dusk the previous evening when he was struck by an automobile driven by a 14-year-old boy and died in the hospital seven hours later.

He was born in Sonoma, California, June 12, 1874, and made his home in Oakland. His occupation was that of traffic manager for a coffee company, but he was retired at the time of his death. Carriger became interested in birds at an early age and was

an active and energetic observer. He joined the Cooper Ornithological Club in 1899 and was elected an Associate of the A. O. U. in 1913.

His publications comprised about 20 brief notes, dealing mainly with nesting habits of birds, and were contributed between 1899 and 1931 to 'The Condor,' 'Nidologist,' 'Oologist,' and 'Osprey.' Several of them were published in cooperation with Milton S. Ray, J. R. Pemberton, and W. E. Unglish. His most extended paper, published with Pemberton, a 'Partial List of the Resident Land Birds of Monterey County,' including notes on about 100 species, appeared in 'The Condor' in 1915. Surviving members of his family include his wife, Carolyn, his son Gerald, and four married daughters.—T. S. PALMER.

EDMONDE SAMUEL CURRIER, an Honorary Life Associate (1894) was born at Keokuk, Iowa, June 21, 1868, and died at Portland, Oregon, April 25, 1949. His early education was received in Iowa.

During his early boyhood he developed a keen interest in birds and started a collection of eggs in the lake country of Iowa. Shortly after he reached the age of 20 he came west and settled in Tacoma, Washington, where he lived for several years, all the while continuing his interest in birds, and building up his collection of nests and eggs. In 1905 he moved to Portland, Oregon, and established a general merchandise business which developed into one of the most enterprising department stores in northeast Portland.

Currier was a member of the Cooper Ornithological Club, Pacific Northwest Bird and Mammal Society and the local Audubon Society. For many years he cooperated with the U. S. Biological Survey in reporting bird migration data. He published only a few short notes on birds.

The surviving members of the Currier family, Mrs. Alice H. Currier and sons, Robert H. and John E. Currier, have donated the entire collection of nests and eggs, the ornithological library and personal field notes to the Zoology Department of the University of Portland, Portland, Oregon, where it will be known as the Edmonde Samuel Currier Collection.

As a fellow worker in ornithology, "Ed" Currier was most cooperative. His field notes and his collections were freely made available to others interested in birds. His passing left a host of friends who will always remember his congenial nature, his enthusiasm, his energy and liberality. To have known him as a co-worker in ornithology and as a friend was a real privilege.—STANLEY G. JEWETT.

CHARLES WILLIAM GUSTAVE EIFRIG, elected an Associate of the American Ornithologists' Union in 1901 and a member in 1929, died in Windermere, Florida, November 1, 1949, at the age of 78. He was born in Doebeln, Saxony, Germany, September 23, 1871. At the age of seven, he emigrated with his family to Freedom, Pennsylvania, where he completed his elementary school training. He graduated from Concordia College, Fort Wayne, Indiana, in 1892 and from Concordia Theological Seminary in 1895. During the following 14 years, he was the pastor of Lutheran churches in McKee's Rock, Pennsylvania, Cumberland, Maryland, and Ottawa, Canada. Valparaiso University conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Science, *honoris causa*, in 1943.

In 1909, Dr. Eifrig was appointed to the faculty of Concordia Teachers College, then at Addison, Illinois. This institution was transferred in 1913 to River Forest, Illinois, and he went with it, remaining there until his retirement in 1942. He was married to Marie Meyer at Fort Wayne, Indiana, on October 2, 1895, and they had seven children.

Dr. Eifrig was an active member of the Wilson Ornithological Club from 1907 on and was president of the Illinois Audubon Society, 1930-41. He was also a member of the American Society of Mammalogists, the Chicago Ornithological Society, the Kennicott Club of Chicago, and the Illinois Academy of Sciences. He was an enthusiastic and active field naturalist and made a collection of birds, many of them mounted. This collection is now the property of Saint Mary of the Lake Seminary at Mundelein, Illinois.

Dr. Eifrig published a considerable number of papers on birds, seven of which are mentioned in my 'Bibliography of Birds.' He also published two elementary textbooks (Rand, McNally & Co.) having the title *Our Great Outdoors*; one of these, published in 1928, was on mammals, and the other (1930) was on fishes, amphibia, and reptilia. It was reported that he had a manuscript for a third book, on birds, awaiting publication at his death. For many years, he contributed monthly articles on nature to various Lutheran magazines.—R. M. STRONG.

ARTHUR HUDSON HELME, a Life Associate elected in 1888, was born in Miller Place, New York, November 20, 1860. He was educated at Brown's Business College, and New York University from which institution he received a degree in veterinary science. Many years ago he sold his veterinarian business and turned his hobby of ornithology into a profession. He was an expert taxidermist and worked at the Brooklyn Museum and the American Museum of Natural History, New York. The latter has his notes covering a period of about 60 years. His notable collection of birds and mammals was disposed of prior to his death, but his widow, Martha L. Helme, still has his collection of eggs. Helme was descended from colonial stock, on his mother's side from Stephen Hopkins, a signer of the Mayflower compact, and on his father's from Thomas Helme who held various town and county offices from 1680-1710. Death occurred at Port Jefferson, New York, November 20, 1947.—A. W. SCHORGER.

FREDERICK ARNOLD HEMPHILL, elected an Associate of the A. O. U. in 1929, died in Elizabeth, New Jersey, March 1, 1949. He was born in this city August 31, 1890. After attending Amherst College, he graduated from the New York Law School in 1915 and specialized in realty law. He was a member of the New Jersey Bar Association and the Union County Bar Association of which he was Secretary for a period. He was also a member of the National Audubon Society. His interest was primarily in oölogy and he contributed several articles to the 'Oologist.' His collection of approximately 300 nests and 400 sets of eggs was presented by his wife, Ruth F. Hemphill, to the New Jersey College for Women, New Brunswick, N. J.—A. W. SCHORGER.

ARDELLE EMERY HORNBACK (Mrs. Alvan A. Hornback), an Associate of the A. O. U. since 1949, died in a hospital at Joliet, Illinois, August 18, 1950. She was born in Monroe Township, Mahaska County, Iowa, February 13, 1882. Following attendance at Drake and Iowa Wesleyan universities, she taught school until her marriage in 1904. She was very active in civic affairs during residence at Napierville and Plainfield, Illinois. Due to her great interest in birds she contributed a column on conservation to the Plainfield 'Enterprise' and was instrumental in founding Junior Audubon Clubs. She was a member of the National Audubon Society, Wild Flower Preservation Society, and the Wilderness Society.—A. W. SCHORGER.

AUSTIN ROBERTS, Corresponding Fellow of the American Ornithologists' Union, elected in 1920, met his death, May 5, 1948, in an automobile accident near Lusikisiki, Pondoland. The son of Archdeacon Alfred Roberts, he was born in Pretoria on

January 3, 1883. Due to an unusually successful collecting trip in Portuguese East Africa in 1908, he was appointed Curator of birds and mammals in the Transvaal Museum, Pretoria, in September, 1910. He continued to serve in this capacity, though at the time of his death he carried the title of Senior Assistant.

Roberts took part in 46 expeditions and was a very capable field naturalist, being equally at home with birds and mammals. He published 117 papers on birds and mammals, approximately 75 of which were on birds. Of his important publications, mention should be made of: 'The Grass Warblers of South Africa (*Cisticola* and *Hemipteryx*),' Ann. Trans. Transvaal Mus. 1913, 3: 227-266; and 'Birds of South Africa,' (1940), the seventh being the last edition. Prior to death he had completed the manuscript of a book, 'The Mammals of South Africa,' and had made considerable progress on a voluminous treatise on South African birds.

He served as President, Secretary, and Co-editor of the South African Ornithological Society, the founding and growth of which were due largely to his efforts. Among his honors were: British Empire Member of the British Ornithologists' Union (1930); Senior Captain Scott Memorial Medal of the Biological Society (1938); Medal and Grant of the South African Association for the Advancement of Science (1940).—A. W. SCHORGER.

LEONARD CUTLER SANFORD, of New Haven, Connecticut, a patron of ornithology in the grand sense of the word, died at his winter home in Florida on December 7, 1950.

He was born in New Haven on September 19, 1868, was a Yale graduate, and a successful and gifted surgeon. His abiding interest throughout life, however, was ornithology. In his early years he began to build up what became a virtually complete, well-chosen, and extraordinarily beautiful collection of study skins of North American birds, which now forms part of the resources of the American Museum of Natural History.

Dr. Sanford became an Associate of the A. O. U. in 1902 and a Life Associate in 1919. He was much more than a hobbyist, because his knowledge of the birds of the world was in some ways extraordinarily extensive. He was also the principal author of a book written primarily for sportsmen, namely 'The Water-Fowl Family,' by L. C. Sanford, L. B. Bishop, and T. S. Van Dyke, a volume of 598 pages published by the Macmillan Company in 1903.

In February, 1921, he was elected a Trustee of the American Museum of Natural History, a capacity in which he served for nearly 30 years. From long before that period, however, he had begun to develop as the most effective individual in the history of the world for promoting large-scale ornithological activities. He acquired for the Museum very many examples of extinct birds and of rare species and genera. He persuaded Frederick F. Brewster, of New Haven, to finance the South American ornithological circumnavigation of the late Rollo H. Beck, which continued from 1912 to 1917, and the scientific results of which have been published in part in R. C. Murphy's 'Oceanic Birds of South America' (1936). Through Dr. Sanford's influence, the late Harry Payne Whitney made a princely gift that led to the building of Whitney Memorial wing, which houses the department of birds in the American Museum. Mr. Whitney's interest and support were further held by Dr. Sanford throughout the many years of the Whitney South Sea Expedition, which probably represents the most extensive piece of ornithological field work that has ever been undertaken. Subsequently, and again through the persuasiveness of Dr. Sanford, Mrs. Whitney and her children purchased for the American Museum the collection

of birds of the world, numbering 280,000 specimens, which the late Lord Rothschild had assembled in his private museum at Tring, Hertfordshire.

Dr. Sanford was a man of such unique personality that he will always be remembered by his friends as an unforgettable character, somewhat apart from the ordinary run of mankind. He could be extremely winning, and yet his terrific drive and single-track purpose for the ends of the Museum's department of birds were at times something almost to be dreaded. His zeal derived from his sporting instinct no less than from scientific interest. He seemed to enjoy the rivalry with other individuals endeavoring to build up museums containing the most representative collection of the world's avifauna, and it gave him and his associates endless satisfaction that he won out over all competitors.

Dr. Sanford's will included a generous bequest of funds to the American Museum of Natural History. His tangible memorial is the Sanford Hall of Biology of Birds in that institution, a feature of which is his handsome head in bronze, the sculpture of Joy Buba.—ROBERT CUSHMAN MURPHY.