

IN MEMORIAM: TERENCE M. SHORTT, 1911-1986

JOHN CRANMER-BYNG

27 Idleswift Drive, Thornhill, Ontario L4J 1K9, Canada

Terence M. Shortt, Elective Member of the A.O.U. since 1939, died at Toronto on 28 December 1986. Born of Irish ancestry on 1 March 1911 in Winnipeg, Manitoba, he attended the Winnipeg School of Art before joining the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto in 1930. Terry was promoted to artist-ornithologist in 1939 and chief of biology display in 1949. During his 46 years at the museum he took part in more than 30 expeditions to collect material for dioramas. He retired in 1976.

Terry specialized in bird portraits, and his watercolor sketches of nearly 2,000 species have been exhibited widely. He also illustrated 26

books, including F. H. Kortright's "Ducks, Geese and Swans of North America," in which downy young of these birds were depicted for the first time (1943); L. L. Snyder's "Arctic Birds of Canada" (1956); J. P. MacKenzie's "Birds in Peril" (1977); and C. Hume's "From the Wild" (1986). Terry wrote and illustrated two books, "Not as the Crow Flies," a narrative of his expeditions (1975); and "Wild Birds of Canada and the Americas," with the notes, observations, and sketches of a field artist (1977). Terence Shortt played an important role in the advancement of ornithology as a field observer and as an artist of outstanding perception and achievement.