

American Birds to Republish Series of Louis Agassiz Fuertes Paintings

For a number of years from 1906 on, there appeared in *Bird-Lore*, the magazine that sired both *AUDUBON* and *American Birds*, a series of full-color plates of birds painted by the great artist, Louis Agassiz Fuertes. These plates were reproduced in the less sophisticated methods of those earlier days, on yellowish paper, and in only about 45% of the full size of the original paintings. Most of those issues are now unobtainable, although the paintings have never been surpassed both for depicting the living bird and for their value in teaching identification. From earliest to latest they illustrate the dramatic development of Fuertes' art, although even the earliest are of high quality.

Many of the originals of these paintings are now framed and hung about the walls of the National Audubon Society's headquarters offices in New York. Some are locked away in storage. Perhaps a few have disappeared. But these paintings, of which four superb sparrow and longspur plates grace our own office walls, are available to us for reproduction today, and that is exactly what we are planning to do. Beginning with the November issue of *American Birds* we will run a series of full-page, full-color Fuertes paintings, one per issue, in a size and with a quality of color reproduction never before available.

We believe that these plates will surely become collectors' items, and because so many subscribers refuse to deface their issues of *American Birds*, we will make available reprints suitable for framing at prices to be announced. This exciting development originated with a suggestion by artist, Guy Tudor, to whom we all express our gratitude. But it is yet another benefit of our larger page size.

—The Editor