

## EDITORIAL

In the course of the preparation of the current volume of *The Wilson Bulletin* several persons have given generously of their time in an advisory capacity. It is a pleasure to acknowledge the substantial aid of George A. Bartholomew, David E. Davis, Thomas R. Howell, S. Charles Kendeigh, Harold Mayfield, Robert Mengel, Van Nolan, Jr., Kenneth C. Parkes, George W. Salt, George M. Sutton, Harrison B. Tordoff, and Josselyn Van Tyne.

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## WILSON ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Monroe has appointed the following committee chairmen to serve during the year, 1955-56: *Research Grant*, Kenneth C. Parkes; *Membership*, John M. Jubon; *Library*, H. Lewis Batts, Jr.; *Conservation*, Robert A. Pierce; *Endowment*, Robert T. Gammell.

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### 1956 ANNUAL MEETING

Dr. Fred T. Hall, Director of the Buffalo Museum of Science, heads the Local Committee on Arrangements for the Thirty-seventh Annual Meeting, to be held at Buffalo, New York, from Thursday, April 26 through Sunday, April 29, 1956. An innovation planned for this year is a Thursday afternoon field trip to Niagara Falls for early arrivals. The Executive Council will meet Thursday evening. Friday and Saturday sessions will be for the presentation of papers. The Annual Dinner will be held Saturday evening, and there will be a field trip on Sunday. An information circular and call for papers will go out to the membership about March 1.

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### THE S. MORRIS PELL BIRD ART AWARD

An anonymous friend of the Wilson Ornithological Society has donated a small fund in memory of the late S. Morris Pell, a talented bird artist. From this fund grants of \$25 each may be awarded to deserving young bird artists, to be applied toward such purposes as the purchase of art materials or the financing of sketching trips. Applicants should send samples of their work together with a brief statement of background and training (both in art and in ornithology), and financial need, to Dr. Kenneth C. Parkes, chairman of the Research Grant Committee, Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh 13, Pennsylvania. There is no deadline for applications, and more than one award may be made in a given year.

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### LOUIS AGASSIZ FUERTES RESEARCH GRANT

In the March, 1947, issue of *The Wilson Bulletin* there appeared an announcement to the effect that an anonymous gift had been presented to the Wilson Ornithological Club with the purpose of inaugurating a series of annual research grants honoring the memory of the distinguished artist-naturalist Louis Agassiz Fuertes. From 1948 through 1955 (except 1953, when funds were not available), yearly awards of \$100 have been

made by the Club through a special Research Grant Committee appointed by the President for this purpose. The current Committee feels that the time has come for a review of the Fuertes Grant, listing the previous winners of the award and summarizing the criteria by which applications are judged.

Previous winners of the Fuertes Grant, with the subjects of their investigations, are as follows:

- 1948 Leonard R. Mewaldt, Montana State University. Life history of Clark's Nutcracker.
- 1949 Stephen W. Eaton, Cornell University. A comparative study of the genus *Seiurus*.
- 1950 (split award) Henry E. Childs, Jr., University of California. Population dynamics and life history of the Brown Towhee. Arnold J. Petersen, University of Wisconsin. Reproductive cycle in the Bank Swallow.
- 1951 Howard L. Cogswell, University of California. Territory size and its relation to vegetation structure and density among birds of chaparral.
- 1952 Robert W. Nero, University of Wisconsin. Territorial and social behavior of the Red-winged Blackbird.
- 1953 No award given.
- 1954 William C. Dilger, Cornell University. Isolating mechanisms and relationships of the thrush genus *Hylocichla*.
- 1955 Robert G. Wolk, Cornell University. Analysis of reproductive behavior in the Black Skimmer.

It will be noticed that all of the successful applicants to date have been carrying on their ornithological research as university students. *The Committee wishes to emphasize that such an institutional affiliation is by no means required of an applicant.* We wish, in fact, to encourage more applications from non-student amateur ornithologists who may be in a position to make an important contribution to our science.

The most important factor in the judging of applications is the potential contribution to ornithological knowledge inherent in the project submitted. Demonstrated financial need will also be taken into account. Problems in any aspect of ornithology will be considered, except that applications are discouraged for projects which are primarily concerned with wildlife management rather than with ornithology *per se*. It is felt that ample financial support from other sources is available for management projects.

In general, the most favored applicants are those whose researches are already under way. It is fairer both to the Society and to the applicants to award the \$100 to a person who has demonstrated that his project is practicable, and who will have a better idea of how to apply his funds than will one whose work is merely in the planning stage.

The Wilson Ornithological Society requests that at least a portion of the results of Society-sponsored research be submitted to the editor of *The Wilson Bulletin* for possible publication, unless prior commitments interfere.

Application forms for the 1956 Fuertes Grant may be obtained from the Chairman of the Committee. Deadline for applications will be April 1, 1956. The Committee's decision will be announced at the annual meeting at Buffalo on April 26, and published in the June issue of *The Wilson Bulletin*.

#### RESEARCH GRANT COMMITTEE FOR 1956

Kenneth C. Parkes, *Chairman*, Carnegie Museum,  
Pittsburgh 13, Pa.

John Davis, Hastings Natural History Reservation,  
Carmel Valley, Calif.

Eugene Eisenmann, Linnaean Society of New  
York, New York, N.Y.