

COME TO BELOIT!

17th Annual Convention

May 4-6, 1956

For the first time in its history, W.S.O. will have its annual convention in Beloit, as guests of the Ned Hollister Bird Club and Beloit College. There are many good reasons for you to attend: making new friendships, renewing old ones, learning some of the new ornithological developments, studying birds in new areas, catching up on the newest ornithological literature, etc. Here are some highlights:

Banquet. Murl Deusing will be on hand to show his latest film, "Adventures in Africa" on Saturday evening, May 5. Former president J. J. Hickey will act as toastmaster.

Reception. The opening of the convention will be the reception on Friday evening, May 4, featuring the showing of some German ornithological films and a display of German ornithological books.

Papers. A variety of papers will be given on Saturday morning and afternoon by Howard Young, J. J. Hickey, B. L. von Jarchow, Laurence Jahn, John B. Miller, Jacque Vallier, Mrs. William Simmons, Mrs. L. M. Logemann, Carl Welty, Helmut Mueller and Gerald Vogelsang.

Field Trips. Field trips are scheduled for Saturday morning in the Beloit area, and for Sunday morning in and around Milton and the Lake Koshkonong region made famous by Kumlien and Hollister.

Supply Department. The W.S.O. Supply Department will be located at the Beloit College Chapel, and will be open at the following hours on Saturday: (1) during the registration hour, 8:00 to 9:00; (2) during the noon recess, 11:30 to 1:30; (3) following the afternoon session; and (4) after the evening program.

Business. The annual business meeting of the Society will be held on Saturday afternoon, following the afternoon session of papers.

Registration. Advance registration is necessary, both for the banquet and for a Saturday noon luncheon. Members have already received information about this. Registrations should be sent in immediately to Mr. Harold Liebherr, 1540 Jackson Street, Beloit.

IN MEMORIAM

WILHELMINA D. LA BUDDE

In the latter part of the last century there was born in the little post village of Millhome, Manitowoc County, Wisconsin one of our foremost women conservationists, Wilhelmina D. La Budde. She was laid to rest on December 1, 1955 at Elkhart Lake cemetery near her native home. For over a quarter century she was influential in leading individuals and groups in the support of conservation legislation, programs and projects of basic importance. Her efforts bore fruitful results not only in Wisconsin, but also in neighboring states and in the halls of the United States Congress.

As an organizer and Honorary President of the Woman's Conservation League of America which was founded in Milwaukee by Mrs. Albert F. Toepfer in 1941, Mrs. Edward La Budde wrote their Creed as "a part of our religion" including the following selected parts:

"We pledge ourselves to express our gratitude to the Creator, the source of all good, by doing everything we can to help conserve and perpetuate His handiwork. . . .

"We will raise our voices in protest whenever danger threatens so that these remaining treasures may be used with care and discretion, because upon their perpetuation depends the Life of a free and untrampled America. . . .

"We will constantly preach the Gospel of Conservation . . . in order that each succeeding generation . . . may be assured of some of the blessings which we of this generation are enjoying now."

Mrs. La Budde lived this Creed both before and after it was written. Early in her crusade she rallied the Wisconsin Federation of Women's Clubs, as their Conservation Chairman, to the support of a bill to require the teaching of conservation in Wisconsin schools. They honored her with an award after the successful completion of this campaign. She continued her conservation education efforts as County Chairman of the Federation of Women's Clubs and in many other ways.

Among the many other conservation projects supported by Mrs. La Budde and her colleagues were the following: the restoration of Horicon Marsh and Sheboygan Marsh, establishment of the Potter School Forest for Milwaukee County school children, establishment of the Kettle Moraine State Forest and two National Forests in Wisconsin, promotion of soil and water conservation, enactment of the general fishing license law and increased license fees to produce needed revenue, preservation of the porcupine from wasteful slaughter, encouragement of bird sanctuaries and Arbor Day observance, preservation of the wilderness values of the Flambeau River State Forest, selective harvesting and replanting of timber (and especially that on the Menominee Indian Reservation), humane treatment and conservative hunting of wild animals, prevention of the destruction of roadside beauty and cover through careless use of herbicides and waste disposal, wilderness preservation of the Porcupine Mountains in Michigan and the Quetico-Superior area in Minnesota, and sound conservation administration.

Besides the awards already cited, the Wisconsin Division of the Izaak Walton League honored her with their Charles E. Broughton Award and the Milwaukee County Conservation Alliance at their first annual Awards Banquet on December 3, 1948 presented her with their bronze plaque "for outstanding service to Wisconsin Conservation" and for her work in behalf of the porcupine, she received a medal from the Wisconsin Humane Society. She was also appointed by the Governor on the committee to select young Outdoor Americans in the IWLA program of 1954 and 1955.

Mrs. La Budde was one of the organizers of the Wisconsin Conservation League at the first meeting on June 14, 1940 and served for many years as one of their Vice-Presidents or as a Director. She was Legislative Chairman for the Woman's Conservation League of America for 13 years; Vice-President of the Forests Association; Director of the Milwaukee

Izaak Walton League Chapter and Chairman of the Indian Welfare Committee of their State Division and an elected delegate (the first woman member) from Milwaukee County to the Wisconsin Conservation Congress in 1937, 1938 and 1939.

It is impossible to recite Mrs. La Budde's numerous contributions to conservation through her dedicated active participation before public commissions, boards, legislative committees and the organizations she supported to multiply her effectiveness. Additional among these were the National Wildlife Federation, American Forestry Association, Wilderness Society, Quetico-Superior Foundation, and Friends of the Land. In Wisconsin, she also was a charter member of the Natural Resources Association and Wisconsin Conservation Education Association and promoted conservation programs through the League of Women Voters.

Mrs. La Budde was truly a leader in the conservation movement at a time of greatest need as will be witnessed by the many people who enthusiastically worked with her and who will continue their efforts for wise management of Wisconsin's natural resources. Among her most valuable attributes was her unflinching perseverance in spite of what might seem to be insurmountable odds. She always seemed to face the problem squarely with a deep faith and sincere conviction which brought respect even from her opponents. In the immortal words of Browning, her spirit might be expressed, for she

"Never doubted clouds would break,
Never dreamed, though right were worsted, wrong would triumph,
Held we fall to rise, are baffled to fight better,
Sleep to wake."

—Walter E. Scott

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THE 1956 MAY-DAY COUNT

The 1956 May-Day Count will be conducted in a somewhat different fashion than those of recent years. Instead of trying to get a picture of what the state migration pattern is like on one particular target date (which could be such a cold or stormy day that any results would be of little value), we shall be striving for a glance of what the peak of the spring migration is like in the various parts of the state. To this end the editors have selected a nine-day period, during which each individual or club should select the day when the migration appears most likely to hit its peak. For observers whose time is somewhat flexible this may mean delaying the setting of the exact date until advance weather reports indicate the probability of favorable weather and a wave on a certain date.

The period selected for 1956 is from Saturday, May 12 through Sunday, May 20. The area need not be limited to the strict 15-mile diameter used in the Christmas Bird Count, but should be limited to a single county or to some comparable geographical area where county lines are not feasible. Otherwise, it is well to duplicate Christmas Count procedures: stick to one calendar day, make it as full a day as possible, organize as many people into as many parties as possible, send full weather data along with list of species to the Associate Editor by May 27.