

J. Southgate Y. Hoyt

New York State ornithology suffered a great loss in the death of Dr. J. Southgate Y. Hoyt on June 1, 1951, in Memorial Hospital, New York City. Dr. Hoyt was perhaps best known among professional ornithologists for his studies on the life history of the Pileated Woodpecker. His pet Pileated Woodpecker, "Phloeo", lived $9\frac{1}{2}$ years, and was the only such bird ever successfully raised in captivity. A note on longevity in this species in the current issue of "Bird-banding", written during Dr. Hoyt's last illness, represents the last of a number of ornithological papers, both in technical and popular journals.

Dr. Hoyt, 38, had been on the staff of the Laboratory of Ornithology, Department of Conservation, Cornell University. During the summers he was Director of Natural History at the Cold Spring Harbor Biological Laboratory, Long Island. He held the B. S. degree from Washington and Lee University, and the M. S. and Ph. D. from Cornell. He served for $3\frac{1}{2}$ years in the Medical Department of the U. S. Army, and was a member of over a dozen societies in the field of natural history, including the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs.

Within New York, Dr. Hoyt was widely known for his radio talks and extension lectures on bird life. He had built up a large collection of still and motion pictures, and his home in Etna is a veritable museum of natural history, constantly visited by local children. Many young people received their first knowledge of nature, and developed an enthusiasm for nature study through contact with the Hoyts. Dr. Hoyt was Scoutmaster of the local Boy Scout troop.

Dr. Hoyt's natural history interests were many and varied, and his was a contagious enthusiasm. His home, his laboratory and his fine library were always at the disposal of interested friends of any age. His activities continued almost unabated until the very last period of a long and painful illness, and his cheerfulness and courage were an inspiration to his many friends.

Dr. Hoyt is survived by his wife, Sarah Foresman Hoyt, and by two brothers. Mrs. Hoyt is planning to continue as much as possible of her husband's work; adding to his photographic collection, lecturing, and completing his unfinished writings.

WHEATEAR ON WESTERN LONG ISLAND

JOHN J. ELLIOTT

Allan D. Cruickshank in "Birds Around New York City", 1942, mentions the Greenland Wheatear, *Oenanthe oenanthe leucorhoa*, as an accidental visitor from the far north with Griscom listing three specimens taken on Long Island, the last near Jamaica in 1885. Two recent records are listed: one at Montauk, December 27, 1936 (L. Breslau) and another at Moriches Inlet, June 3, 1941 (R. Wilcox). These appear to be all the reports for the New York City region.

On a sloping hill of dirt, rocks and some newly seeded and maturing grass plots in the Glen Oaks Village development, near Little Neck, twelve-year-old William Schoeffel, accompanied by his father George Schoeffel,