

CLARK S. BEARDSLEE

The Niagara Frontier Region suffered an irreparable loss in the death of Clark Beardslee on September 26, 1957. He served with distinction as regional editor from our area for five successive years, and had also acted as local chairman of the midwinter waterfowl survey. Though a very busy man, Clark always felt that his bird study activities should be given prime attention, and therefore, he was usually very prompt in completing these painstaking assignments.

A native of Connecticut and a graduate of Yale University, Clark had come to Buffalo in 1921 and lived here ever since. He was one of the founders of the Buffalo Ornithological Society in 1929, and served as its president on three separate occasions. He was one of the Society's statisticians for over twenty years. Clark Beardslee conducted a number of courses in bird study at the Buffalo Museum of Science. He also served on the board of managers of the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences since 1948.

In observing birds, Clark kept careful notes which are of considerable scientific value and he often aided others to become more proficient in ornithology. He was an expert on bird songs and I was often amazed at his wonderful powers of hearing. I recall that on Goat Island in the Niagara River, in spite of the noise from the cataracts and the rapids, he pointed in the direction of a Brown Creeper which he had heard calling. We walked over 100 yards, on this and several similar occasions, before finding the bird. I look back with pleasure on the many field trips which Clark and I had together. On these I was always impressed by his knowledge of all the factors that enter into field identification.

Clark Beardslee and I have been working for years on an annotated check list of the birds of the Niagara Frontier Region and were awaiting the publication of the new A O U check list in order to finish our own check list so as to use the proper bird names. I am working hard to finish this, following the same style as we decided on in completing the bulk of the work which has already been finished.

No problem seemed too difficult for Clark to proffer his aid in solution, and he gave freely of his time to help others. His ready wit and keen sense of humor, plus the fact that he was loved by all, made his presence at our meetings an inspiration. It will indeed be hard to carry on without him.
—Harold D. Mitchell

THE VERIFYING ACCOUNT IN ORNITHOLOGY

CLARK S. BEARDSLEE

Editor's Note: *The Federation has lost one of its finest members. Clark Beardslee, regional editor for The Kingbird since 1952, died this past fall. Although I can speak of Clark only from my short association with him on this magazine, it was with a great sense of personal loss that I learned of his death from Harold Mitchell. As readers will agree after reading his summary of the verification problem, Clark represents care and thoughtfulness. Conservative by nature, but consistent and thorough, he has been a mainstay of this publication.*

Departing from a rule against reprinting articles published in other