

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A.O.S. congratulates Dr. Wilson Gaillard who has organized the first A.O.S. Chapter in Mobile. A future hope is that there will be more chapters over the state. Of important news also is the addition of so many new members, many of which are Mobilians.

At the fall business meeting on Dauphin Island, A. O. S. voted to request that the Alabama State Department of Conservation provide protection for nesting shorebirds, waterbirds, and for other waterfowl on Coffee, Cat, and Marsh Islands during the nesting season from March 1 to August 31. This endorsement was sent by your president on November 8, to the Director of the Alabama Department of Conservation. A reply was received November 14, stating that generally the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service assumed the responsibility for such issues. Further groundwork toward securing protection for these islands during the nesting season will be required.

The committee on constitutional changes will report in a written notice to the membership thirty days prior to the spring meeting. The present constitution can be found in Vol. III, 1955 No. 1 & 2 of Alabama Birdlife. If you have any suggestions, please address them to the chairman, Miss Clustie McTyeire, 1804 Arlington Avenue, Bessemer, Alabama.

The spring meeting will be in the Birmingham area, with a tentative date of April 28, 29, 1962. Keep this date open on your calendar.

The fine cooperation and response of members has been a welcome experience.

--HARRIETT WRIGHT

(Ed. note)--As we go to press we learn with deep regret that Dr. Wright has suffered a heart attack while on vacation in Florida. He is now at the Baptist Memorial Hospital in Jacksonville, Florida. We are all hoping to welcome the Wrights back to Birmingham by about the middle of January.

DAUPHIN ISLAND MEETING

The Alabama Ornithological Society held its semi-annual meeting at Dauphin Island on October 28 and 29, 1961. Thirty registered on Saturday morning, and 45 participated during the 2-day period. Fourteen new members joined.

The business meeting was held Saturday, after a dinner at the Marina. The President, Mrs. D. O. Wright, presided. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. The Treasurer's report announced a balance of \$74.54, and a membership total of 110. Dues for 1962 are due.

Dr. Gaillard discussed a proposed bird sanctuary on Coffee, Cat, and Marsh Islands to protect birds during the nesting season. He made a motion that the society go on record as favoring the move to set aside these three islands in the Mississippi Sound between Dauphin and the mainland as bird sanctuaries with no trespassing signs to prevent disturbing the birds during their nesting season. Blanche E. Dean seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried.

The President was requested to write the State Conservation Department in regard to this motion. The text of this letter is with the original minutes.

Clustie McTyeire, chairman of the committee to study the constitution, reported on the work of the committee, discussed some of the recommendations for changes, but advised that the study had not yet been completed. Proposed revisions will be submitted to the membership in writing before the Spring meeting.

The President announced that with the treasury so low, Alabama Birdlife would have to be published in some other way, which was to be left to the discretion of the editor.

The President stated that the spring meeting will be in Birmingham the last of April or the first of May. She appointed the following committee: Jim Keeler, Chairman, Blanche Chapman, and Julian Dusi.

Julian Dusi proposed that Dr. Henry Good be made an honorary member of the Society. His motion was seconded by Dr. Wright, and unanimously carried.