

MEMORIAL

to

RUTH McCORMACK COPELAND

Died

June 19, 1964

To see one of God's beautiful birds and to see someone enjoy them as much as Ruth McCormack Copeland did, was to see the sun rise on the morning dew. Ruth Copeland has long been active in the Alabama Ornithological Society as a warm and perceptive charter member, with a deep and dedicated love which, indeed, cannot be equaled. Her knowledge and faithfulness was a mere love of nature as God has given it to us. She was intensely interested in the growth of the Society and the broad programs of conservation which the National Audubon Society embraced. Ruth was also a member of the Birmingham Audubon Society and was treasurer for twelve years. Her knowledge of birdlife was greater than most realized. With her keen vision and remarkable memory, it was rewarding to be with her "in the field". In March, 1963, we entered the "Garden" in Mobile, and soaring so gracefully high above the tree tops was the Swallow-tailed Kite. Ruth saw the bird and her delight was that of a child as we watched the most graceful bird afloat, soaring beyond our vision. Ruth went about in her quiet way, learning, growing and contributing to the Society. Even those who never knew her will feel the benefit of her knowledge and enthusiasm in the future. Many will miss Ruth as a member of the Alabama Ornithological Society and the Birmingham Audubon Society, but most of all as a true, warm friend.