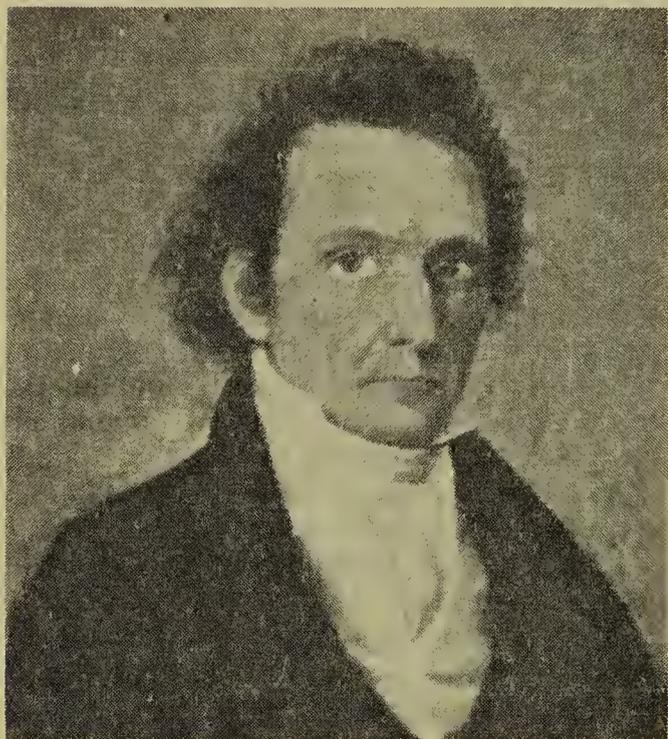


IN MEMORIAM



THE YEAR 1951 has been designated the Audubon Centennial in memory of John James Audubon who dedicated his life to the monumental task of producing 435 separate paintings of birds. They are an

enduring monument to his genius: but his name may outlive his works because it has become the symbol for love of nature, love of country.

To commemorate the centenary of the famous naturalist's death twenty-four of the most beautiful birds have been portrayed in full-color stamps and have been issued recently by the National Audubon Society. It is recommended that the centennial stamps be used to decorate letters, envelopes and packages in order that the Audubon paintings will receive during the centennial year the public attention they merit.

A set of these stamps has been sent to the Editor of the BLUE JAY. They are very beautiful. Proceeds from the sale of Audubon Stamps will be devoted to the conservation work of the National Audubon Society. They are being sold at a rate of two sets for one dollar and are available from the headquarters of the Society at 1000 Fifth Avenue, New York 28, N.Y.

Fall Migration of the Mourning Dove

In order to fulfill the urgent need for more information about the fall migration of the Mourning Dove, the Fish and Wildlife Service is appealing to all of its bird migration observers to pay particular attention to this species for the remainder of the summer and the coming fall.

Since the Mourning Dove winters, at least in small numbers, through a great part of its breeding range, there is relatively little information on file regarding the start of the fall migration, the peak of abundance in fall, and the departure of the last migrating individuals. This information is vitally important in regulating hunting in the states where the dove is a game bird.

If the Mourning Dove occurs in your neighborhood, along the route which you travel in going to work, or in areas which you have occasion to visit every week or so, the Fish and Wildlife Service would be most appreciative of any information which you may be able to supply on changes in abundance during the next four or five months. Changes in temperature and wind conditions at the time of population changes should be noted in detail. If it is at all possible to cover a certain route daily or weekly, and keep a record of the number of doves you see on each trip, this information, when combined with similar data secured by other observers, should give exactly the type of information which is needed to ensure the adequate protection of the species. Should you be unable to make regular observations, you can still contribute to the study by recording any changes in abundance that you notice at any time during this period.

Please mail your completed dove count form or other notes by December 1, or earlier if the migration is entirely over before that date. The data received from co-operators will be summarized, and a copy sent to all those who have contributed to the study.

Send this information to the *Blue Jay* and it will be all sent together to: Chandler S. Robbins, Biologist, Distribution and Migration of Birds, Branch of Wildlife Research, Patuxent Research Refuge, Laurel, Maryland.