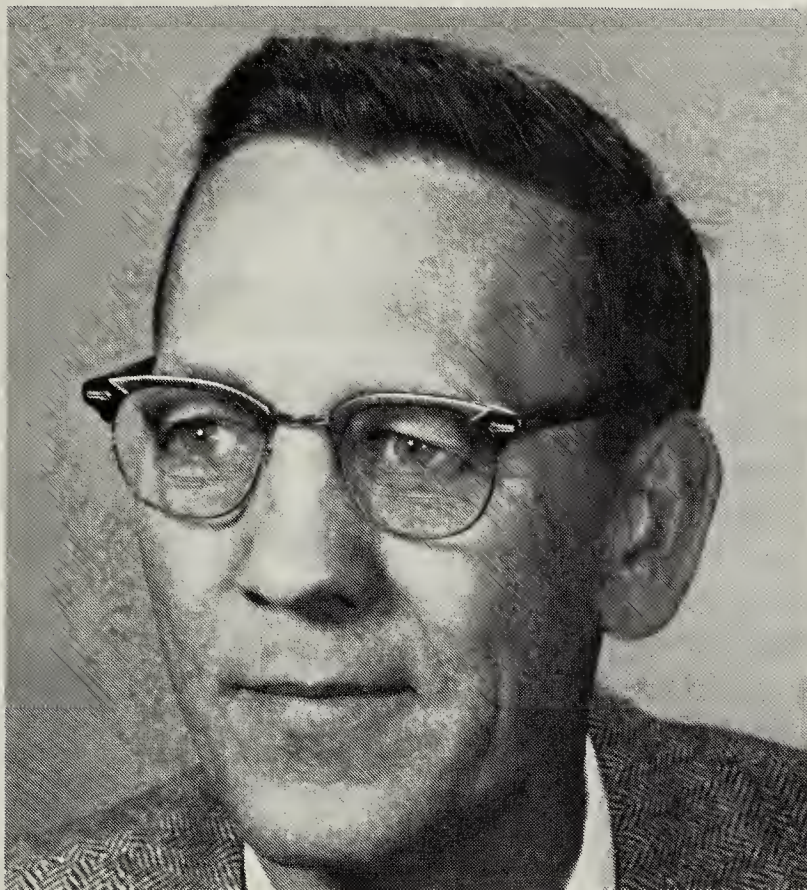


DOUGLAS E. WADE (1909-1987)



Friends of Doug Wade will be saddened to learn of his death on 15 September 1987 at the age of 78. Doug and his wife Dorothy had just arrived at their home in Oregon, Illinois, from a natural history outing when he suffered a stroke. He died shortly thereafter.

Born and raised in Beloit, Wisconsin, Doug became one of Aldo Leopold's earliest students, graduating in 1938 from the University of Wisconsin with a master's degree in wildlife management. Later, while Naturalist-in-Residence at Dartmouth College, New Hampshire, Doug produced an excellent film on the Peregrine Falcon — good evidence of his abiding interest in wildlife conservation and education. As an Associate Professor of Zoology and Wildlife Management at Clemson College in South Carolina, he was in charge of a 30,000-acre Land Utilization Area. He served on the South Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

with responsibility for state conservation education programs. Later, he worked in Iowa as Editor of the *Journal of Soil and Water Conservation*, published by the Soil Conservation Society of America.

Doug served actively in The Wildlife Society (treasurer and vice-president); Conservation Education Association (director); Society of Interpretive Naturalists, Great Lakes Region (program chairman); American Nature Study Society (president); and Ogle County Environmental Education Council (member, steering committee). He was a charter member of The Wilderness Society, and he held membership in Zero Population Growth, Sierra Club, Nature Conservancy, Friends of the Earth, Wisconsin Botanical Society and others.

Doug and Dorothy and their son Alan came to live in Regina in May 1960 after he was appointed Head of the Information

and Education Division of the Saskatchewan Department of Natural Resources. His influence and performance in that position may be judged by noting that during the next four years canoe routes were established in the north, together with descriptive pamphlets; nature trails were developed in the Cypress Hills; outdoor education became an active field in the province; and *wilderness* became a component in park planning.

For four years the Wades enthusiastically explored Saskatchewan, photographing and reporting their appreciation of northern forests, lakes and streams, southern prairies and wetlands, badlands and urban natural areas. During this period Doug published 10 articles and 11 book reviews in the *Blue Jay*, and edited or inspired a dozen or more other published items on natural history in the province. Doug's interest in nature extended to a multitude of services to the Saskatchewan Natural History Society. He and Dot contributed freely to a variety of committees and activities.

A lot of people were disappointed when the Wades left Canada to move to Illinois in September 1964. Shortly thereafter, in recognition of his contributions, he was given the Conservation Award by the Saskatchewan Natural History Society, at the Annual Meeting in Regina. A statement I was privileged to read on that occasion noted that the award was: "given to Douglas E. Wade for his devoted interest in natural history and conservation. Professionally and personally, Doug Wade maintained a firm and committed stand on conservation matters, the kind of attitude from which the whole community and even the land itself benefits."

In the fall of 1964 Doug joined the faculty in the Outdoor Education Department of Northern Illinois University, at the Lorado Taft Field Campus, Oregon. Located in a forested area high above the

Rock River in northwestern Illinois, the campus is renowned for its work in outdoor education and Doug fitted in well. On one of my visits there, Doug pointed to a group of harvestmen or daddy-longlegs on the damp, shady side of a building. He had his students recording the movement of harvestmen in relation to weather, thus learning about ecology right on the doorstep of the lab. This was so typical of Doug. I can recall him giving a lesson in outdoor education on the gravel playground at a Regina school, drawing the attention of kids to the weeds growing there, helping them to notice the natural world at their feet.

In Illinois, Doug was back in familiar country, exploring the landscape with his students, ranging out from the wooded hills across the intensively cultivated landscape. Aided by the botanical skills of Dot — collaborator on many projects — Doug renewed his efforts to preserve native prairie remnants, an interest held for more than 50 years since his student days at the University of Wisconsin. Doug is credited with helping to save the important Nachusa Grasslands and, especially, the Pine Rock Nature Preserve, and he was a founder of the Ogle County Prairie Preservation Society. For 10 years after his retirement in 1977, Doug and Dot devoted themselves to learning to propagate native prairie plants, supplying seeds to help restore prairie. Together they successfully propagated more than 300 species. Their son Alan is now managing a similar operation near Rochester, Minnesota.

Friends of Doug Wade will be pleased to know that a memorial fund has been established in his honor. Contributions will be applied toward the purchase of the Colwell tract at Nachusa Grassland and are being accepted by the Ogle County Prairie Preservation Society, Oregon Public Library, Oregon, Illinois. 61061 — Robert W. Nero, Box 14, 1495 St. James Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba. R3H 0W9