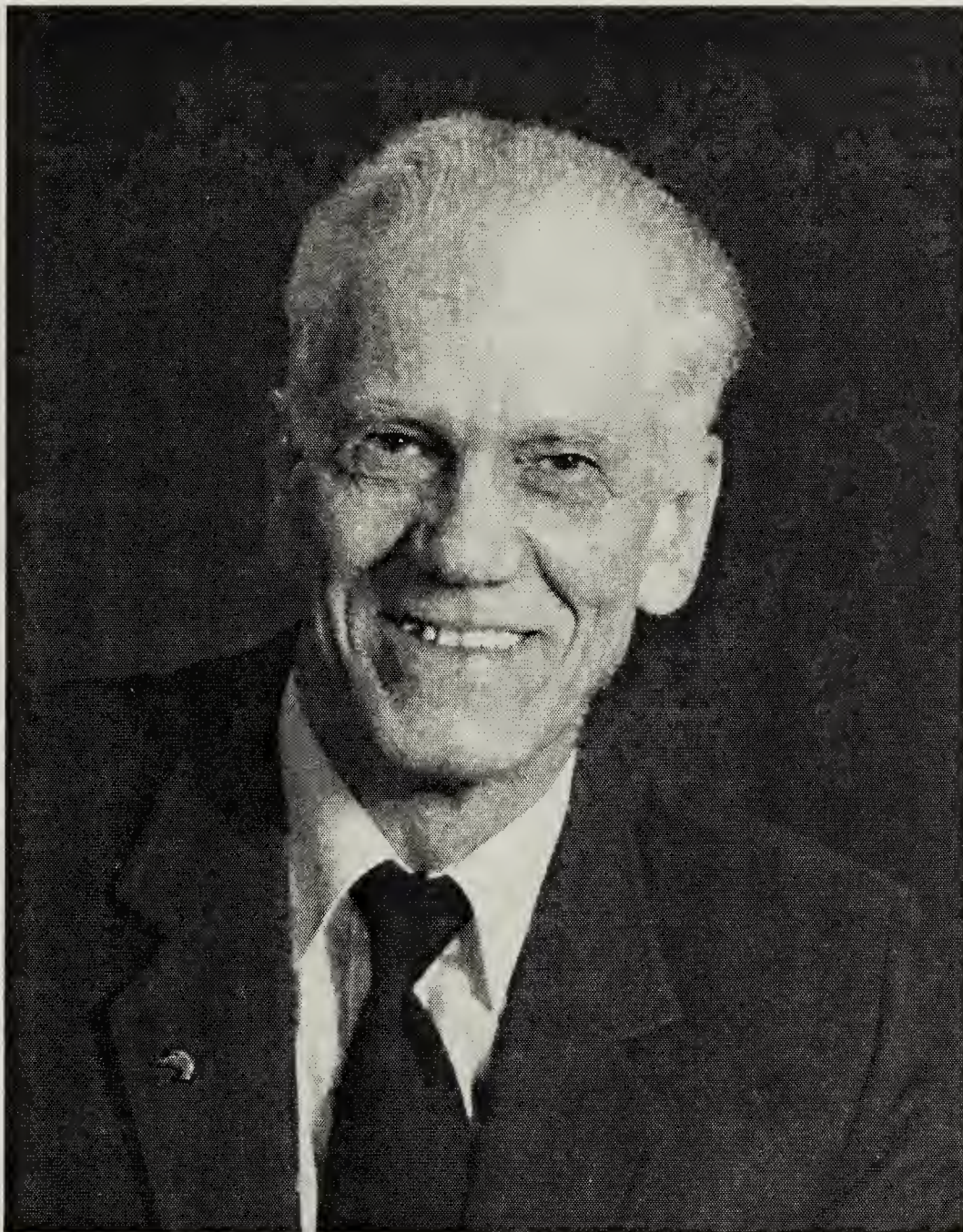

IN MEMORIAM

HERBERT CHARLES MOULDING, 1922-2005

C. STUART HOUSTON, 863 University Drive, Saskatoon, SK S7N 0J8



followed later in the day. His spending money derived from gopher tails, for which the municipality paid a one-cent bounty. No wonder that in adulthood he never once took a day of sick leave.

Herb worked his way through University, earning 25 cents an hour as section crew on the Canadian Pacific Railroad, and for two summers, \$65 a month as a farm foreman. He obtained his diploma in Agriculture from

Herb Moulding was born in Hartney, Manitoba on June 29, 1922. His family moved to a dairy farm near Broadview, Saskatchewan when he was an infant. He learned responsibility early. At age six, he rose at 6 a.m., milked six cows, then took them half a mile to pasture and went on another half mile to school. The reverse pattern was

the University of Saskatchewan in 1942. His thesis was on the effects of irrigation and alkali on agricultural lands.

In April 1943, he travelled by train to Brooks, Alberta, to begin his lifetime employment with Ducks Unlimited (DU). He began by building dams with

a four-horse team. Each winter, however, he attended engineering classes and obtained his Bachelor of Engineering (Civil Engineering) degree from the University of Saskatchewan in 1947. During the winter of 1948-1949, he took courses in water management and wildlife administration at Fort Collins University in Colorado.

In 1950, Herb moved to Regina, where he was joined by Ritta, a nurse he'd met at the Grande Prairie, Alberta hospital, who became his wife of 35 years (she died in 1985). They had four children, Lynda, Gail, Patrice and Allan. During his first summer working for DU in Regina, he carried out 128 engineering reconnaissances of possible future waterfowl impoundments. In 1951, he became Saskatchewan Manager of DU, a position he held until 1973. As manager, he was responsible for hiring Saskatchewan's first two DU biologists, Bob Caldwell and Tom Sterling.

During the dry years of the 1930s and 1940s, the Saskatchewan government established a Conservation and Development (C&D) Branch within the Department of Agriculture, initially to conserve and develop water resources, but in the extremely wet years of 1954 and 1956, the focus of C&D turned mainly to drainage. As a result, many important wetlands disappeared. Herb applauded the formation of a Wetlands Stabilization Board by the Deputy Minister of Natural Resources, with representation of the Wildlife Branch and of Agriculture and Water Rights. For the first time, modest consideration was given to wildlife needs. Herb assisted this Board by interpreting aerial photographs, and by taking profiles of lake depths which he did drilling holes in the ice while

travelling in a propeller-driven iceboat. On Janzen Lake, he also reported on rain and snowfall, and the vegetation and slope of the surrounding land, in order to calculate the expected annual water runoff.

In 1961, Herb devised a wetland classification system, assisted with waterfowl crop depredation research, produced a brief for the new Qu'Appelle Basin Study Board, and influenced the decision to have wildlife's need for water legislated into the Water Rights Act.

As chair of the Regina Waterfowl Committee, which presented a brief to the Wascana Centre Planning Committee in the spring of 1961, Herb argued for the need to preserve the natural marsh on the southeastern outskirts of Regina. In appreciation of his forward-looking plan, most of which was implemented, the SNHS presented Herb with its Conservation Award that year. In 1963, Herb, Margaret Belcher and Bob Nero each received an Award of Merit from the American Association for Conservation Information.

Herb was president of the Regina Natural History Society, 1963-64, vice-president of the Saskatchewan Natural History Society (SNHS), 1964-65, and president from 1965 to 1967. He then chaired the Regina Waterfowl Park committee from 1967 until he was transferred to Winnipeg in 1973. He also represented the SNHS on the Qu'Appelle Valley Development Association. While in Saskatchewan, he served as a director of the River Development Association, the Saskatchewan Resources Development Association, the Water Studies Institute, and as secretary for the Canadian Society for Civil Engineering, Prairie Region. When Herb left Saskatchewan, DU

presented him with the “Super-Shoveler Award” “so he may always be prepared to shovel.”

Within DU, he helped transplant Canada Geese into southeastern Saskatchewan and adjacent Manitoba, areas where they were then rare. He directed projects to manage bulrush, which included burning and mowing, or transplanting into water bodies with insufficient vegetation. In addition, spike rush seeds were

harvested by combine and sago pondweed was moved in quantity to provide habitat and food for ducks.

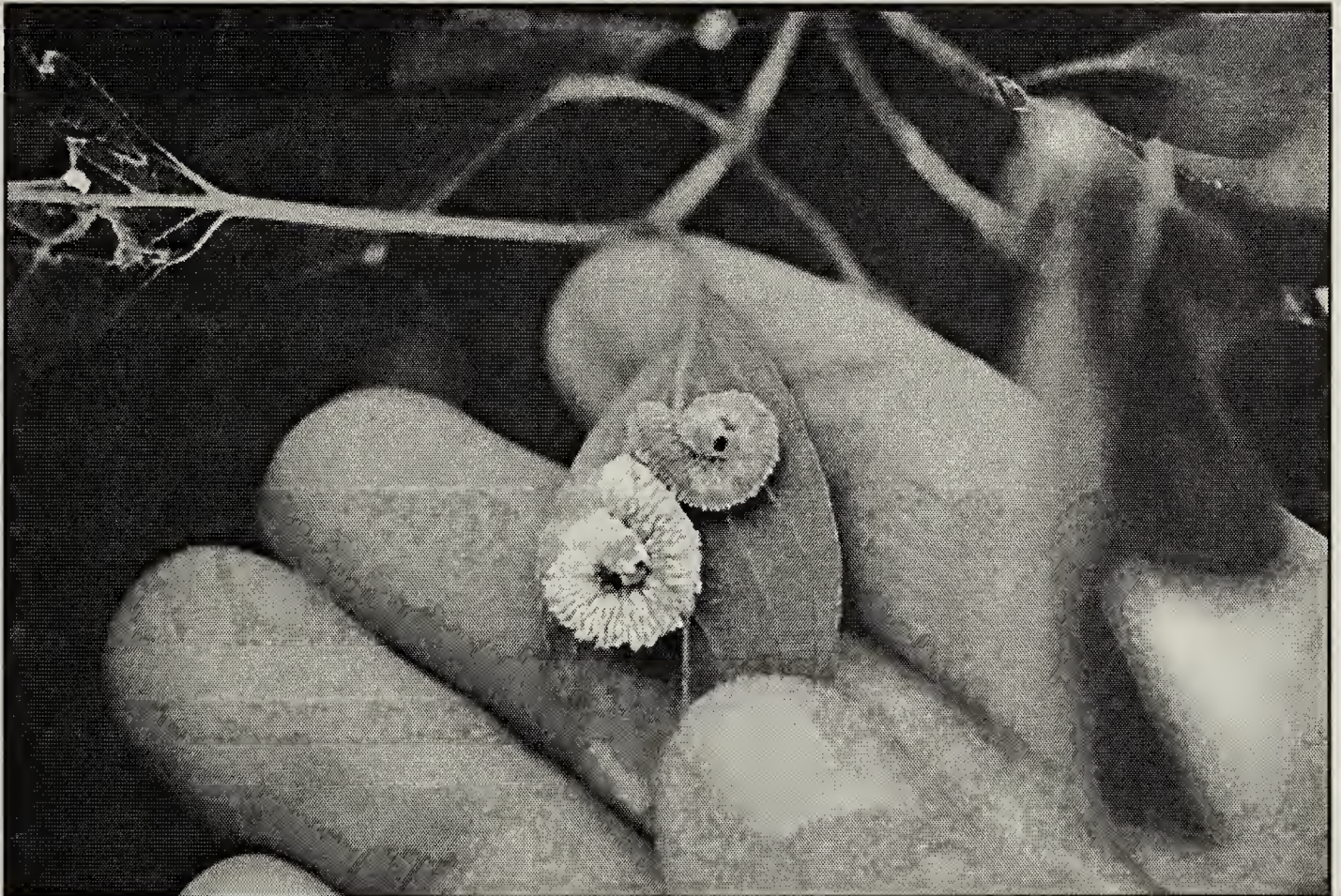
Herb retired from DU in 1986 and moved to British Columbia, but in April 2005 he returned to live in Saskatoon, where he died on July 24, 2005. Few engineers in any organization have made so many contributions to the environment as Herb did through his work with both government agencies and non-governmental organizations.



MYSTERY PHOTO

SEPTEMBER 2005 MYSTERY PHOTO

What are these powdery white coils on leaves of Red Osier Dogwood?
(Photograph taken in Maine on August 17, 2002.)



NAME OF THE BIRD PICTURED ON PAGE 118: Lark Sparrow

ANSWER TO THE JUNE 2005 MYSTERY PHOTO

Photographs by Bernie Gollop.

