

HERBERT WILLIAM BRANDT

1884-1955

Dr. Herbert W. Brandt, an ornithologist of note, died suddenly on March 8, 1955, at Homestead, Florida, while engaged in field investigations in that area.

Born October 28, 1884, Dr. Brandt graduated as a mining engineer from what is now the Case Institute of Technology. He was introduced to the study of bird life on a mineral survey trip to Mexico early in his professional career; from that time birds were his absorbing avocation. His chief interest was in the home life of birds; every occupied nest he discovered was carefully studied. He took voluminous and accurate field notes and collected information which was subsequently utilized by A. C. Bent in the latter's **Life Histories**.

In addition to a number of short papers and notes, Dr. Brandt's published writings include three well-known books. **Texas Bird Adventures** dealt with his experiences in the Chisos Mountain region, **Alaska Bird Trails** was an account of a joint expedition with the United States Biological Survey to the Hooper Bay region of Alaska, and **Arizona Bird Life** dealt with the natural history and ecology of the birds of southeastern Arizona.

Dr. Brandt visited all of the important bird areas of North America and worked in Mexico and Chile as well. He possessed the finest collection of birds' eggs in private hands, all personally taken, and had an extensive series of bird-study skins. The University of Alaska awarded him its first honorary Doctor of Science degree in recognition of his work on Alaskan birds.