

DR. STONE, FAMOUS NATURALIST, DIES

Long Illness Causes Death of Authority on Birds

Dr. Witmer Stone, vice president of the Academy of Natural Sciences and for 51 years a member of its



DR. WITMER STONE

staff, died Tuesday at the Germantown Hospital following several months of illness. He will be buried Saturday following services at the Germantown Friends Meeting House, Coulter and Greene sts.

Dr. Stone, who was 72, was one of the most widely known naturalists in the country, and a leading authority on American bird life. A wild life sanctuary was named after him at Cape May Point by the National Association of Audubon Societies. His writings cover a wide field, including birds, mammals, reptiles, plants, butterflies and land molluscs. He was a member of 15 American and European scientific societies.

He was a past president of the American Ornithologists Union and the American Society of Mammalogists. Since 192 he was editor of "The Auk," leading ornithological journal.

In 1931 when Dr. Stone was curator of the academy's department of vertebrate zoology he was awarded the Otto Hermann medal of the Hungarian Ornithological Society, the highest honor conferred by that group.

Dr. Stone was a native of Philadelphia and a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania. Before the turn of the century he accompanied expeditions of the Academy of Natural Science to Bermuda and Yucatan.

He made his home at 452 Church st., Germantown. His wife, Mrs. Lillie M. Lafferty Stone, survives him.