

CAPT. ALBERT MAITLAND JACOB

We are sorry to announce the death of Capt. Albert Maitland Jacob which happened on the 1st July, 1972 in his house at the small, attractive village of Fethard, County Tipperary, Eire. Capt. Jacob was a great friend of the Malta Ornithological Society and through his generosity, two Natural History Competitions were organised in 1968 and 1970 for the schools of Malta and Gozo.

I feel glad that I had the opportunity of meeting Bertu, as all his friends knew him, and his charming wife Dodo. I spent two days with them in March 1968 after I attended the "All-Ireland Conference on Bird Protection", at Malahide, near Dublin. During the short time I spent with him I came to know Bertu much closer as a conservationist. The first time I heard about him was in 1964 when his name was mentioned to me by Philip Brown, then Secretary of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds. In that year Capt. Jacob joined the M.O.S. as a life member and till his death his generous support for our Society was always forthcoming.

Albert Maitland Jacob was born in Liverpool in 1891 and educated at Clifton College, Bristol. After he left College he worked in his father's firm of Jacob Co. Biscuit Manufacturers, during which time he joined the West Lancashire Territorials. In 1913 he paid a short visit to Valletta when his

ship stopped for bunkering in the Grand Harbour. In the First World War (1914-1918) he saw active service in Northern France with the Royal Artillery where he was in charge of a Truck Mortar Battery and was promoted to captain.

After the war he became chairman of the Liverpool Company of Jacob's Biscuit Manufacturers and a few years later he moved to Ireland where he was also Chairman of the Dublin Company. In 1928 he married Dodo and at the age of 74 he retired from the family firm.

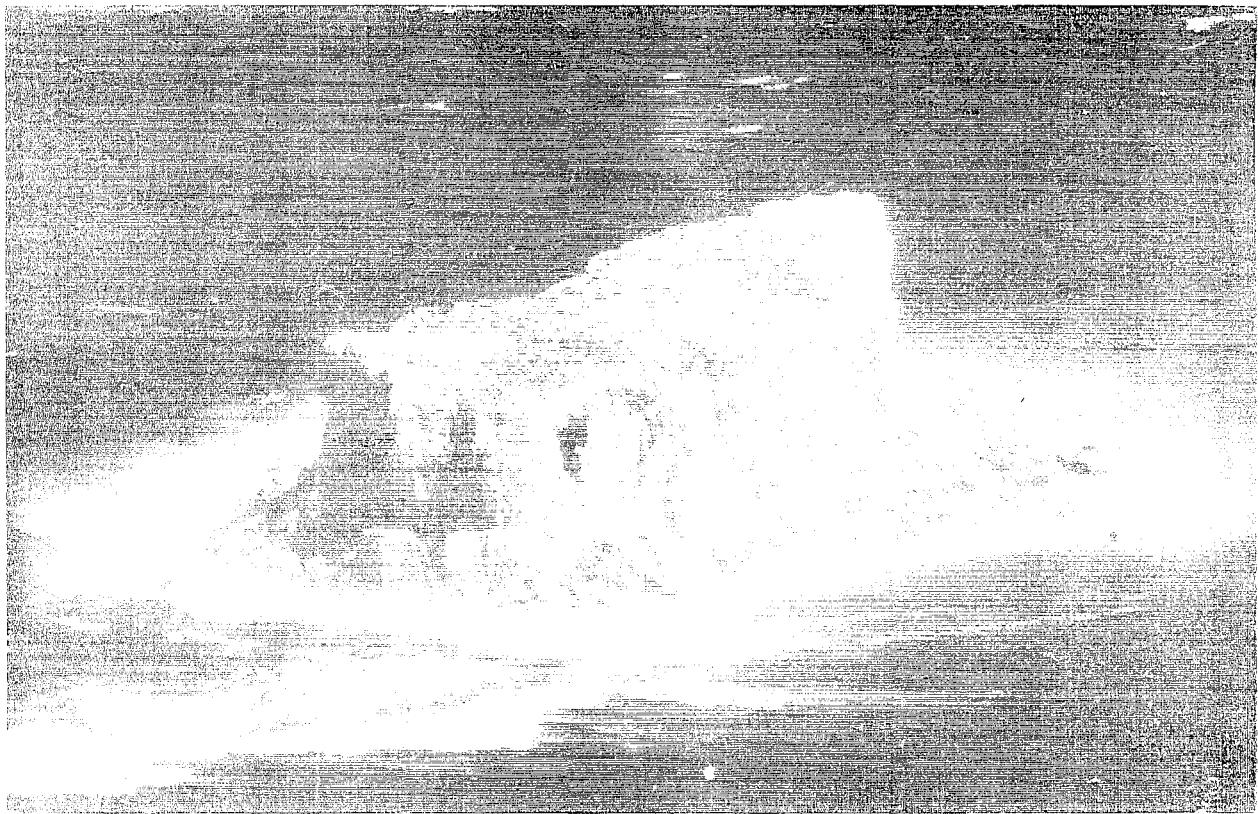
Bertu was an ardent naturalist and ornithologist and a great conservationist. He was a member of the R.S.P.B., the Preservation of Rural England, the Men of the Trees, The Organic Farming and Soil Association, the World Wildlife Fund and the British Trust for Ornithology. His knowledge of all things to do with nature was beyond belief and many years ago he foretold the ravages and destruction of the indiscriminate use of agricultural pesticides in the balance of nature.

Bertu died at the age of 81 giving untold support to the conservation movement and to the Societies in which he participated.

To his wife and family we give our heartfelt condolences. Though Bertu is no more, his great virtues of kindness and generosity will outlive his death.

J.M. ATTARD

The 1920 gold coin which depicts the Pine Rock Finch.



AERIAL VIEW OF FILFLA

(M.C.S. still has in stock a number of copies of a booklet by J. Sultana & C. Gauci entitled: BIRD STUDIES ON FILFLA. Copies are available from the Secretary at 25c each.

MALTA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Principles and Aims:

(a) The Society's main purpose is to initiate, foster and aid the study of avian fauna in accordance with strictly scientific methods, thereby helping to increase the sum of human knowledge on the subject.

(b) The Society solemnly affirms its belief in the conservation of nature and will pursue whatever actions it deems necessary to ensure adequate protection of wild-life, and to propagate these ideals in the Maltese Islands.

Membership:

Members can join the Society and participate in all its activities, provided they subscribe to the aims of the Society and further undertake to propagate its views, each in his own sphere of life thus spreading the Society's enlightened ideal and awakening a social conscience that will brook no further depreciation of the living resources of Nature, especially birds.

Membership Fees:

Life Member	£15
Members	75c
Young Member (under 17)	12c5

Anyone wishing to join the Society is welcome to write to the Secretary. The Society's Bulletin is sent free to members and illustrated talks, meetings and outings are held monthly except during the summer months.

Malta Ornithological Society Ringing Group:

The Society also has its Bird Ringing Group. This Group is engaged in studying the various aspects of Maltese Ornithology, and is staffed by qualified bird ringers holding a ringing permit from the British Trust for Ornithology. Ringing Secretary: C. Gauci, 1A1 Museum Road Rabat, Malta.

The Editor welcomes articles, letters and other features bearing on any aspect of the ornithology of the Maltese Islands and Mediterranean for publication in this bulletin.

The views expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the Editor nor the M.O.S.

