

# EDITORIAL NOTES AND NEWS

**Raney Award** APPLICATIONS are solicited from young ichthyologists for grants to be awarded from the Raney Fund for Ichthyology. This fund is used to provide support to young ichthyologists for museum or laboratory study, travel, field work, or any other activity that will effectively enhance their professional careers and their contributions to the science of ichthyology.

Applicants should be members of ASIH and should be enrolled for an advanced degree or have completed a doctoral degree within the last three years. Applicants who do not meet these basic requirements may be considered for an award under exceptional circumstances if their careers are judged to be in a developmental stage. The currently available funds of approximately \$1,500 will be awarded on the basis of both merit and need.

Applications for the Raney Award and letters of recommendation are due no later than 1 February 1975 and should be sent to: Robert H. Gibbs, Jr., Chairman, Raney Award Committee, Department of Vertebrate Zoology, U. S. National Museum of Natural History, Washington, D. C. 20560. The original and two copies of each application should be submitted. The application should consist of no more than two single-spaced, typewritten pages and must include: 1) The name, address and telephone number of the applicant; 2) The institutional affiliation; 3) The academic degree being sought and the year of its expected completion, or the highest degree and its year of award; 4) The name of the applicant's current or most recent major professor; 5) A concise description of the general research objectives pertinent to this application; 6) A short statement of the way in which the award would be used to enhance the research; 7) Sources of partial support for the research and pending applications for support from other funds; 8) An outline budget; 9) The names and addresses of the two persons who have agreed to recommend the proposal (see below).

Two letters of recommendation from per-

sons familiar with the applicant and his research must be solicited by the applicant. If the applicant is a student, a letter from his current major professor is required. For those who have earned the doctorate, a letter from the major professor is desirable, but not required. Both letters should be from reputable scientists, preferably ichthyologists, and should include statements concerning: 1) The competence of the applicant; 2) The significance of the applicant's research; and 3) The desirability of and need for the funds being requested by the applicant. The original and two copies of each letter should be sent by the recommending scientist directly to the Committee chairman.

It is expected that awards will be made by 1 March 1975.

**Jasper J. Loftus-Hills** JASPER J. Loftus-Hills, 28-year-old Australian biologist of extraordinary promise, was killed in the early morning hours of 11 June 1974, on Texas Highway 21 near Caldwell. Loftus-Hills was struck by a hit-run driver while standing with his tape recorder near the open door of an automobile after a night of field work. He was finishing his third year of research in the United States after completing a PhD degree with Murray J. Littlejohn at the University of Melbourne. His 16 published titles include works on auditory function, acoustical behavior, hybridization and reproductive isolation in frogs and crickets.—RICHARD D. ALEXANDER, *Museum of Zoology, The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104.*

**Herpetological Reprint** RAYMOND Cowles and Charles Bogert's Preliminary Study of the Thermal Requirements of Desert Reptiles has now been reprinted by the Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles, together with a preface by Harvey Pough that summarizes recent literature on the topic.